

SHOP TALK

ISSUES AND NEWS AFFECTING THE AUSTRALIAN SHOPPING CENTRE INDUSTRY

FRIDAY 15 DECEMBER 2017

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2018 GOLD COAST COMMONWEALTH GAMES TRADING HOURS APPLICATION APPROVED

In a welcome decision, the Queensland Industrial Relations Commission (QIRC) has [granted](#) the application by the National Retail Association (NRA) for extended trading hours for exempt shops during the 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games. The determination allows for extended trading hours across the Gold Coast Local Government Area and Brisbane CBD (postcode 4000) from 3 April to 17 April 2018 (one day before the Opening Ceremony, and two days after the Closing Ceremony). This decision also sends a positive message in relation to the 'special event' provisions under the new trading hours legislation, which passed Parliament in August ([Shop Talk 25/8/17](#)). The Shopping Centre Council of Australia supported the NRA's application.

NATIONAL CITIES PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK DASHBOARD LAUNCHED

Last week, the Federal Government launched the first National Cities Performance Framework ([Shop Talk 21/7/17](#)). The so-called [Dashboard](#), which was announced by Assistant Minister for Cities and Digital Transformation, the Hon Angus Taylor MP, is [said](#) to assist the Government to "better target cities policy and investment, including through City Deals". The Framework compares 22 locations, including capital cities and major regional towns, by using two key comparison tools; (1) performance indicators which measure how effectively a city is performing against the Government's 'Smart Cities' policy priorities, and (2) context indicators that highlight certain characteristics of cities. There are 46 indicators across areas of jobs, housing, infrastructure and investment, liveability and sustainability, innovation and digital opportunities, and, governance, planning and regulation. Most of the data is collated from the ABS, with some 2016 Census results included. We continue to be reasonably sceptical about this issue, including with regard to accountability and its application. We will continue to monitor the Government's cities agenda, including the current *Parliamentary Inquiry into the Australian Government's role in the development of cities* ([Shop Talk 4/8/17](#)).

VICTORIA STATE TAXATION AMENDMENT BILL PASSED PARLIAMENT

Yesterday, the Victorian Parliament passed the [State Taxation Acts Further Amendment Bill](#), which, among other things, includes changes to the *Valuation of Land Act* ([Shop Talk 1/12/17](#)). Subject to a transitional period, this will affect statutory valuations, with the key changes being: (1) an annual (rather than bi-annual) valuation process, and (2) a centralised process under the Valuer-General (rather than through local councils). The changes are scheduled to commence on 1 January 2018.

QUEENSLAND STATE ELECTION: RE-ELECTED GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES NEW CABINET

Following Queensland Labor's recent [re-election](#), the Premier, the Hon Anastacia Palaszczuk MP [announced](#) her new-look Cabinet this week, with a number of key announcements and changes relevant to our industry: Deputy Premier, the Hon Jackie Trad MP, has been appointed Treasurer and Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships (critical in relation to the land tax changes announced during the election campaign); the Hon Grace Grace MP was re-appointed as Minister for Industrial Relations; the Hon Cameron Dick MP was appointed Minister for State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning; and the Hon Shannon Fentiman MP was named Minister for Employment and Small Business, as well as Minister for Training and Skills Development.

SAVE THE DATE: 2018 SCCA MARKETING AWARDS GALA DINNER CONFIRMED

The Shopping Centre Council is pleased to announce that the 2018 SCCA Marketing Awards will be held on Wednesday 17 October from 6pm at Doltone House, Jones Bay Wharf, Sydney. Nominations for 2018 will open on 1 July. More information, including the 2018 Call for Entries Booklet, will be released in the new year. For more information, including a full list of our 2017 winners, please see the Awards [website](#). To check out some of the photos from the evening, please see the Awards [Facebook page](#).

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