

SHOPTALK

ISSUES AND NEWS AFFECTING THE AUSTRALIAN SHOPPING CENTRE INDUSTRY

8 MARCH 2019

AUSTRALASIAN PERFORMING RIGHT ASSOCIATION - ACCC RE-AUTHORISATION

The ACCC is considering an application for reauthorisation from the Australasian Performing Right Association (APRA) to continue its arrangements for the acquisition and licensing of performing and communication rights in music. Authorisation is being sought for four years. An initial round of consultation closed in February, to which the Shopping Centre Council lodged a submission. This highlighted our concerns with the proposed reauthorisation including the potentially concentrated (monopolistic) nature of the arrangement and future fees for music licenses whereby the potential market power of the OneMusic arrangement could be abused. The current application comes alongside the launch of OneMusic Australia; a joint initiative between APRA AMCOS (Australasian Mechanical Copyright Owners Society) and the Phonographic Performance Company of Australia (PPCA). Subject to re-authorisation, as APRA is an operator of OneMusic, any conditions of APRA's re-authorisation will apply to OneMusic's activities. The ACCC's draft determination is due in April, which will be open to consultation, with a final determination due in June/July.

QUEENSLAND'S VALUER-GENERAL RELEASES PROPERTY MARKET MOVEMENT REPORT

Queensland's Valuer-General Neil Bray released the latest Property Market Movement Report 2019, on 4 March 2019. The report follows a state-wide market survey and consultation with local government and industry, and 18 local government areas (LGA's) have been valued in accordance with the Land Valuation Act 2010. The 18 LGA's receiving new valuations Brisbane, Burdekin, are: Cairns, Etheridge, Gympie, Ipswich, Lockyer Valley, Logan, Longreach, Moreton Bay, Noosa, North Burnett, Redland, Somerset, South Burnett, Sunshine Coast, Weipa and Western Downs. The report shows that commercial land values have increased in all but five LGA's. The largest increase occurred in Etheridge (28.1 per cent) and the largest decrease in Longreach (45 per cent). The new valuations will take effect on 30 June 2019 for local government rating, state land tax and state land rental purposes.

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LATEST ABS RETAIL TRADE FIGURES INDICATE SLOWER GROWTH

The latest release (January 2019) of the monthly ABS Retail Trade data indicates that the overall month-on-month (m-o-m) trend estimate increased by 0.1 per cent, equal to (a revised) 0.1 per cent in the prior corresponding period (pcp). In trend terms, Retail Turnover increased by 2.8 per cent year-onyear (y-o-y), down from (a revised) 3.1 per cent in the pcp. In seasonally adjusted terms across the six ABS retail categories, the strongest growth was recorded for 'Other' retailing on a m-o-m basis (0.7 per cent), whilst 'Food' retailing was the strongest performing category on a y-o-y basis (4.1 per cent). Seasonally adjusted Retail Turnover increased by 0.1 per cent in the month of January 2019, up from -0.4 per cent in December 2018. On a y-o-y basis, Retail Turnover increased by 2.7 per cent, down from 2.8 per cent in the pcp. According to the 'experimental estimates of online retail turnover' (explained here), online retail turnover decreased by 23.1 per cent on a m-o-m basis in January 2019, whereas 'traditional' retail (total retail turnover less online retail) decreased by 22.1 per cent over the same timeframe, noting that this data is in original (nonseasonally adjusted) terms. Year-on-year online retail growth (21.1 per cent) has fallen back to 2017 levels, whereas 'traditional' retail growth (2.4 per cent, y-o-y) has increased over the same timeframe. According to the latest ABS statistics, online retail accounts for 5.6 per cent of retail turnover. The strongest jurisdictions in seasonally adjusted terms were Tasmania (up 5.3 per cent to \$5.2 billion) followed by Victoria (up 5.2 per cent to \$83.7 billion) and the ACT (up 3.7 per cent to \$5.9 billion).

SAVE THE DATE: 2019 SCCA MARKETING AWARDS GALA DINNER ANNOUNCED

The Shopping Centre Council is pleased to announce that this year's SCCA Marketing Awards Gala Dinner will be held on Wednesday 16 October 2019 at the Ivy Complex, George Street, Sydney. Nominations will open on 1 July 2019 and close on Monday 5 August 2019. More information on the nomination process, including the Call for Entries Booklet, will be released shortly via the Awards <u>website</u>.

PREVIOUS ISSUES

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