

13 July 2010

## Mayor meets with Minister over Jerberra Estate

Shoalhaven City Mayor Councillor Paul Green has met with the NSW Minister for Planning Tony Kelly on the issue of rezoning Jerberra Estate.

Clr Green said the discussions were fruitful and the Minister has agreed to work with Council to address the rezoning issues as well as the issues of illegal dwellings in the Estate.

“The Minister outlined some options that could address those environmental legislation requirements for the land to be rezoned,” Clr Green said.

“The Minister said an existing interdepartmental working group will meet with Council next week to develop the two options for the Estate and these will be presented to landowners.”

These options – Community Title and Biocertification for Jerberra Estate – may see the existing individual lots in the Estate given over to common ownership of a protected environmentally significant area and the remaining land reallocated among all landowners in the estate.

Council has been investigating the rezoning of Jerberra Estate for a number of years and has been actively working with State government departments for a resolution to the issue.

Council is working to help pave the way for residential rezoning of Jerberra estate which would achieve a balanced outcome of some residential development together with the conservation of the environmentally significant areas within the estate.

Clr Green said that for these options to be successful all landowners in the Estate would have to work together to develop the proposal.

Meanwhile, Council has extended the deadline – until Friday 16 July – for landowners to respond to Council’s solicitors on their timetable to vacate the illegal dwellings on their properties.

The deadline applies to 15 landowners who have built and occupied illegal structures on their properties without Council approval and without Building Code of Australia compliance. Council has no legal ability to approve dwellings on Jerberra Estate due to the current zoning, and understands the impact of its stance on the Estate’s residents.

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