4 May, 2010

PLAN FOR THE FUTURE OF WEST DAPTO FINALISED

Approval has been given to the West Dapto LEP 2010 which rezones land to cater for 6,900 dwellings and more than 330 hectares of key employment land.

Minister for Planning, Tony Kelly, said West Dapto was the priority land release area identified in the Illawarra Regional Strategy and this LEP is a crucial step in providing for the future housing and employment needs of the region.

“Ultimately the West Dapto release area will be home to around 16,000 new dwellings, with the first two stages being covered by this LEP,” the Minister said.

The rezoning is supported by the NSW Government’s recent announcement of a $26 million interest free loan to Wollongong City Council to accelerate the provision of key road infrastructure for the West Dapto release area.

This was the largest allocation of funding to any council in the state under the Government’s $179 million Local Infrastructure Fund.

Member for Shellharbour, Lylea McMahon, said the plan would fuel the ongoing growth and development of the region while protecting West Dapto’s valuable environmental assets.

“This plan is the result of a great deal of hard work by Council officers in conjunction with the Department of Planning and will be a major boost in terms of housing and jobs growth in the Illawarra,” Ms McMahon said.

“The plan also respects the area’s high value natural environment and waterways, which of course is a fundamental factor in why people want to and will continue to live here.

“With the Minister’s recent approval of a $315 million health precinct at Penrose, the framework is now in place for a vibrant and prosperous future for West Dapto.”

The final two stages of the overall release area as well as the Yallah-Marshall Mount and East Horsley areas will be the subject of future rezoning as demand progressively arises.