HOUSING BOOST & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION IN NEW PORT MACQUARIE LEP

The NSW Government has approved a new council-wide local environmental plan (LEP) for Port Macquarie-Hastings, as part of a Statewide program to modernise and simplify these plans.

Minister for Planning, Tony Kelly, said the Port Macquarie-Hastings LEP combines three existing LEPs into one, which makes it easier to access local planning information.

“The new LEP largely incorporates existing planning controls with some changes,” the Minister said.

These include:

- Rezoning 11 hectares of land at Dunbogan to allow residential land release of approximately 100 lots (subject to further assessment) in line with the Mid-North Coast regional strategy;
- Providing a map of known koala habitat areas where landowners will need to ensure their developments are consistent with any adopted koala management plan that applies to the land; and
- Providing a map of coastal erosion risk areas at Lake Cathie where development proposals will need to deal with coastal hazard issues.

Mr Kelly said now the council had completed this LEP, it could now focus its attention on finalising a series of proposed land releases in the council area in line with the Mid-North Coast regional strategy.

“As part of the implementation of new standard template LEPs, all maps associated with the LEPs would now be available online alongside the LEP text on the NSW legislation website,” the Minister said.

“To assist in preparing the draft LEP, the council received $100,000 in financial assistance from the Department of Planning under its Planning Reform Fund.

“This is the 30th LEP in the state which has been finalised using the NSW Government’s new standard template, which provides consistent zone names and development definitions to make them easier to understand and implement.”