

Wednesday, 12 October 2011

NSW planning system review heads to NSW South Coast/ Monaro

A comprehensive two-month listening tour across NSW, being held as part of the NSW Government's planning system review, will soon head to the State's South Coast/Monaro area.

The review is being led by former NSW Environment Minister Tim Moore and former NSW Public Works Minister Ron Dyer.

Mr Moore said more than 150 meetings with stakeholders and the community were being held, including community forums in at least 44 locations over a two month period. Over 50 stakeholder meetings have already been held around Sydney.

The seventh week of the Statewide tour will begin with two community forums in Nowra on Monday, 24 October. The review will also be holding forums in Batemans Bay (Tuesday), Merimbula (Wednesday), Cooma (Thursday) and Queanbeyan (Friday).

"We will be traversing all corners of the State to listen to the community as part of the most comprehensive review of the NSW planning system in 31 years," Mr Moore said.

"This is a once in a generation opportunity for people to have their say about a planning system which affects every parcel of land in the State.

"We urge people to come along and tell us what they think should be the principles and objectives that should form the bedrock of this planning system."

Two public information sessions are being held in each location:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>Time</u>
Monday, 24 October	Nowra	Shoalhaven Ex-Servicemans Club	3:00 – 5:00pm 6:00 – 7:30pm
Tuesday, 25 October	Batemans Bay	Batemans Bay Soldiers Club	3:00 – 5:00pm 6:00 – 7:30pm
Wednesday, 26 October	Merimbula	Merimbula RSL Club	3:00 – 5:00pm 6:00 – 7:30pm
Thursday, 27 October	Cooma	Cooma Ex-Services Club	3:00 – 5:00pm 6:00 – 7:30pm
Friday, 28 October	Queanbeyan	Queanbeyan Kangaroos Rugby League Football Club	3:00 – 5:00pm 6:00 – 7:30pm

There is no need for people to pre-register.

Mr Dyer said the tour of NSW followed on from a Ministerial planning forum held in Sydney in July, which officially launched the consultation phase of the review. Videos of the forum can be accessed from www.planningreview.nsw.gov.au.

“We recognise that the areas we will visit during this week will have their own unique needs and issues, which should be reflected in a new planning system,” Mr Dyer said.

“I encourage everyone to come along and provide input into how our planning system can best deliver for the people of NSW.”

After the listening and scoping stages are completed, the next steps will include:

- The preparation of a Green Paper – outlining options in regard to the future planning system and the basis of a legislative scheme.
- A White Paper – setting out the Government’s new framework for the NSW planning system, including new draft legislation which will re-write the current Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

Further information is available on the planning system review website www.planningreview.nsw.gov.au. Notes from each community forum will be posted on the website.

NOTE TO MEDIA:

Interviews with the planning review panel, Tim Moore and Ron Dyer, can be arranged on request.

All media are invited to attend the community forums, along with interviewing the panel chairs before or after the event. To organise interviews, please call 04 0785 7271 and we'll put you in contact with the panel chairs.

Media and members of the public can also follow feeds on Twitter and Facebook – more details are at www.planningreview.nsw.gov.au

Media contact: Stephanie Karamanoglou, 0407 857 271