Plan approved to support growth in Bombala

The NSW Government has worked closely with Bombala Council to deliver updated planning controls which will support growth in the shire.

The Bombala Local Environmental Plan (LEP) formalises key industrial areas and provides for residential expansion of the township, while recognising the importance of agricultural land to the region.

The plan was approved by the Department of Planning and Infrastructure under delegation from the Minister and was prepared in a collaborative approach between the NSW Government and Bombala Council.

The Bombala LEP is one of five new LEPs approved by the NSW Government in regional areas in the past fortnight, along with plans for Boorowa, Jerilderie, Corowa and Gunnedah.

The LEP includes the reclassification of public land to allow for the highly anticipated Platypus Men’s Shed to be progressed, subject to development approval.

The department's Director-General Sam Haddad said the department provided $70,000 to assist the council to prepare strategies and complete mapping for the new LEP.

“This LEP updates the existing planning controls and brings them into the standard LEP template, to provide greater consistency in the types of zones that apply across other local government areas in NSW,” Mr Haddad said.

Four additional sites have been listed as local heritage items, in addition to the heritage sites already listed under the previous LEP:

- St Matthias Church in Bombala;
- St Phillip’s Anglican Church in Delegate;
- Crankies Plain Bridge; and
- Bombala Railway Station and Yard Group.

Bombala Council General Manager, Don Cottee, said the reclassification of land under the LEP allows for a streamlined approach to Council’s planning, making it better equipped to meet community needs.

In addition, electronic data mapping in the plan will integrate into Council’s new business technology system.

“Collaboration with the department, as well as assistance from Zenith Town Planning was instrumental in developing the LEP,” Mr Cottee said.
“I’d like to acknowledge the hard work of all involved.”

Mr Haddad said other features of the new LEP include:

- The protection of important agricultural land which has historically been important for the local economy; and
- Protection for land with important environmental values, as well as rivers and streams that are important for water supply, recreational fishing and tourism.

“The new LEP has provided a framework for the council to continue to modernise its planning controls and also strikes a balance between promoting growth, protecting rural industries and conserving Bombala’s unique environmental attributes,” Mr Haddad said.

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