MEDIA RELEASE

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SHELLHARBOUR COUNCIL ASKED TO EXPLAIN LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE CHARGES

Shellharbour City Council has been asked to justify its proposed local development contributions plan, to ensure consistency with a Land and Environment Court decision earlier this year.

Council was due to consider the proposed amount of local development contributions on Tuesday. If adopted, the plan would set the level of contributions towards local infrastructure – like roads, drainage and open space – across the local government area.

Minister for Planning and Infrastructure Brad Hazzard wrote to the council today to request that the council demonstrate that it had taken into account the Land and Environment Court decision of 15 August 2013 on development contributions for Calderwood.

The judgement, handed down by Senior Commissioner Tim Moore and Commissioner Susan O’Neill, set the amount for local infrastructure contributions for residential dwellings in stage 1 of the Calderwood development, west of Albion Park.

The judgement also included guidance on how local infrastructure contributions should be calculated for the remainder of the 700 hectare Calderwood site.

“As a party to the court proceedings, I want to be absolutely certain that any local infrastructure contributions plan adopted by Shellharbour City Council is prepared in accordance with the court decision,” Mr Hazzard said.

“The NSW Government is committed to delivering housing and ensuring that infrastructure contributions do not adversely impact on housing affordability or prevent that housing from being delivered quickly.

“The Calderwood site will play a key role in providing much-needed housing for the Shellharbour local government area, with a concept plan approved for around 4,800 homes across the site.

“It is important we get on with providing housing for the growing Illawarra region,” Mr Hazzard said.

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