Tuesday, 10 December 2013

**Have your say on planning changes for Sport and Rec Centres**

The NSW Government has today called for feedback on proposed changes to create consistent and rigorous controls for the State’s Sport and Recreation Centres.

The Department of Planning and Infrastructure released draft new planning controls for 11 Sport and Recreation Centres across NSW.

“Sport and Recreation Centres are important State assets that have been hosting school camps and other outdoor recreation programs since the 1940s,” Acting Department Director-General Richard Pearson said.

“However, there is currently an inconsistent approach to what is permitted across these centres in local plans.

“These changes represent a responsible approach to managing these important centres and mean that each centre can offer the facilities that best meet the community’s needs.

“The changes will outline what uses are permitted in these centres.

“In general, most new uses will require lodgement of a development application.”

The council will typically exhibit the application and then subject it to a detailed assessment, including for any potential environmental or local amenity impacts.

Under the proposed changes, any proposal for a new facility at a centre would need to be made by or on behalf of the Department of Education and Communities or State Sporting Venues Authority – the Government agencies responsible for the centres.

This will ensure that any new proposal needs to first be supported by the NSW Government and be in the public interest.

The proposed changes identify a range of facilities that would be permitted in all centres, including:

- Recreational facilities
- Function and information and education centres;
- Eco-tourist facilities;
- Food and drink premises, kiosks and markets;
- Camping grounds;
- Entertainment facilities; and
- Water recreation structures.

The 11 Sport and Recreation Centres across NSW are located at:

- Berry on the South Coast;
- Broken Bay on the Hawkesbury River;
- Milson Island on the Hawkesbury River;
- Borambola near Wagga Wagga;
- Jindabyne in the South East;
- Lake Ainsworth on the North Coast;
- Lake Burrendong in the Central West;
- Lake Keepit near Tamworth;
- Myuna Bay on Lake Macquarie;
- Point Wolstoncroft on Lake Macquarie; and
- Sydney Academy at Narrabeen Lakes.

The proposed *State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) Amendment (Sport and Recreation) 2013* can be viewed at [www.planning.nsw.gov.au/proposals](http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/proposals) and will be on exhibition until 31 January 2014.

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