Tuesday, 8 July 2014

Shaolin Tourist & Residential Development referred to independent Planning Assessment Commission

The proposal for a new temple and tourist and residential development at Comberton Range in South Nowra will be determined by the independent Planning Assessment Commission (PAC).

The Department of Planning & Environment has completed its assessment of the project after it was publicly exhibited for six weeks between November and December 2012. Government agencies and authorities provided 15 submissions, and 49 were received from the public.

The proponent has responded to the issues raised in the submissions in a “Response to Submissions” report, available on the Department’s website.

The Department has proposed a number of measures, including ones proposed to protect surrounding watercourses and wetlands, and reduce the heights of some structures.

The proposal represents an investment of around $370 million into the Shoalhaven Local Government Area. The Department was satisfied that the proposal fits within the objectives of the NSW South Coast Regional Strategy.

As more than 25 submissions objecting to the project were received, the independent PAC will make the final determination, at arm’s length from Government and with additional public consultation.

Should the project be approved by the PAC, construction will still require Development Approval from Shoalhaven Council.

Further information on the project, including the department’s assessment report and recommended approval conditions, can be viewed at www.majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au

Information on the independent PAC can be viewed at www.pac.nsw.gov.au

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