Tuesday 3 March 2015

**Council to finalise West Byron Development Control Plan**

The Department of Planning and Environment today announced that it has handed back planning powers to Byron Shire Council for the finalisation of the West Byron Bay Development Control Plan (DCP).

The announcement follows public exhibition of a Draft DCP in November 2013, through to January 2014.

“In November last year, we said it was always our intention to have Byron Shire Council as consent authority for all development applications for the rezoned land,” a Department spokesperson said.

“Today’s announcement takes this one step further and acknowledges that Council is best placed to finalise the Development Control Plan for West Byron Bay.

“We are asking the Council to finalise the Development Control Plan which allows them to determine the detailed controls which will apply across the site, including those relating to environmental protection, traffic management, and urban design.

“Byron’s natural environment is unsurpassed, the rezoning decision ensures about 40 per cent of the site is now reserved for environmental management and conservation, an increase from the previous proposal.

“On top of the initial economic benefits like local construction jobs, the Government’s $10.5 million investment in a road bypass of Byron Bay town centre will help reduce local traffic congestion.”

Any development must include an effective koala management plan before a development application for koala habitat land can be determined.

For more information visit [www.majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au](http://www.majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au)

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