

# Media Release

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Approved by: Cr J Medcalf, Mayor of Lachlan Shire Council, Chair of Centroc

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## Centroc push for less red tape for the region

Centroc says that planning guidelines are commonly developed with a metropolitan focus and do not necessarily apply to regional and rural environments. An Inland Code State Environmental Plan will help councils when preparing environmental planning instruments for new development in existing areas or land release areas, to revitalise town centres and respond to climate and water security challenges.

“We know the Inland Code is somewhere in the bureaucracy and we need it to be approved. We worked in good faith with the State Government for better outcomes for our communities. The intent of the changes were to increase the number of developments, considered to be low impacting and straight forward,” said Cr Medcalf

“These are things like dwellings, sheds and farm buildings that could be undertaken as exempt or complying development.” said Cr Medcalf

Planning criteria including building height, building setbacks, maximum floor area, maximum site coverage, garage requirements and car parking was to be altered so that more dwellings and outbuildings that can be undertaken as complying development.

The benefit of increasing the number of low impacting development that can be undertaken as a complying development means more efficient, cheaper, faster and easier approval process for all stakeholders, in particular the applicant and council.

“It would enable Councils to dedicate greater resources to assessing more complex applications rather than having to assess lower impacting development. ” said Cr Medcalf

“The template approach designed to manage urban growth in metropolitan Sydney has not worked for this region.” said Cr Medcalf

Changes were also proposed to increase the number of agricultural buildings, including; farm buildings, stockyards and silos/grain storage bunkers that could be undertaken as exempt development.

“These changes would particularly benefit the agricultural sector. These types of agricultural developments which would have to meet specific criteria could be undertaken without the need to obtain an approval from Council” said Cr Medcalf

**ENDS**

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**For media comment please contact Ms Jenny Bennett 0428 690 935**