



**Anthony Roberts**  
Minister for Planning  
Minister for Housing  
Special Minister of State

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **A VIBRANT NEW TOWN FOR THE ILLAWARRA**

Residents of the Illawarra will soon have greater housing choice, employment opportunities, environmental protection and more open space for the region after an amendment to the Wollongong Local Environmental Plan (LEP).

This will establish a vibrant new community named Yallah Marshall Mount, about 3.5km south of Dapto.

“This will be a significant boost to the local community, creating a great place to live and work,” Minister for Planning and Housing, Anthony Roberts, said.

“The Department of Planning and Environment has rezoned 1,000 hectares of land from rural to a mix of residential, business, environmental, open space and industrial zones to create this exciting new community.

“It is important that, with any new community, sufficient infrastructure is in place, so as part of this rezoning, new and upgraded roads will ensure good connection to the regional and state roadways.”

Mr Roberts said education requirements were currently being considered as part of the planning for the broader West Dapto Release Area and for the adjoining Calderwood Release Area.

Parliamentary Secretary for the Illawarra and South Coast, Gareth Ward, said the rezoning would facilitate exciting new business and employment opportunities for the region.

“The new town centre in Yallah Marshall Mount will be a significant boost for the Illawarra region, generating new jobs and homes once established,” Mr Ward said.

“The location for the new town was strategically identified by council as an urban release area suitable for residential and commercial development and to provide more open space and parks for the local community.”

Wollongong City Council publicly exhibited the planning proposal between March and May 2014, and received 17 submissions from the local community.

The feedback, including traffic impacts and environmental protection provisions, was considered by the Department. The concerns were addressed through ongoing consultation with various local and state government agencies including council, Roads and Maritime Services and Office of Environment and Heritage.

The establishment of this new town centre is supported by the Illawarra Shoalhaven Regional Plan which was launched in November 2015. The regional plan aims to provide a vision and direction for land use in the area, including planning priorities and decisions which address future needs for housing, jobs, infrastructure and a healthy environment.

Council will prepare a Development Control Plan for the site before any development can occur and this will include access arrangements and the provision of open space.

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