



SHOP TALK

ISSUES AND NEWS AFFECTING THE AUSTRALIAN SHOPPING CENTRE INDUSTRY

SHOPPING CENTRE
COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA

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FAIR WORK OMBUDSMAN NATIONAL CLEANING FOLLOW-UP CAMPAIGN

As previously advised ([Shop Talk 13/12/12](#)) the Fair Work Ombudsman has commenced a [national follow-up campaign in the cleaning industry](#) to educate employers and employees about their obligations and entitlements at work. In June the FWO begins its audit of compliance with the *Cleaning Services Award 2010* and the *Fair Work Act and Regulations*. This will commence with a webinar, to be held at 2pm (EST) Tuesday 14 May, which will provide an overview of the campaign, the award, national employment standards and self-help tools and resources. Registration for the webinar is available [here](#). This FWO campaign relates to the entire cleaning services industry in Australia, not just the cleaning services sector of the shopping centre industry.

BAKERS DELIGHT, WITH OVER 700 STORES, WANTS MORE GOVERNMENT REGULATION

Bakers Delight property head, Gerry Gerrard, regularly complains about landlords' alleged unreasonable rent demands and the need for even greater lease regulation by governments. Mr Gerrard, who is something of a spear carrier for the Australian Retailers' Association (which usually argues for less business red tape, not more), was in the media again last week. Funnily enough, other prominent retailers have also been in the media about rents lately, but they have been boasting about the rent reductions they've been able to negotiate. These retailers don't seem to need the government to hold their hands in their business-to-business dealings. It is absurd that a company the size of Bakers Delight – with over 700 stores here and overseas; a large slice of the Australian bread market; and real negotiating clout – should have the protection of retail tenancy legislation. There is no retail tenancy legislation in the other countries in which Bakers Delight operates but, in Australia, Mr Gerrard apparently wants even more government protection and more costly business red tape.

SA GOVERNMENT IGNORES REVIEW OF TRADING HOURS CHANGES

Not surprisingly the South Australian Government has announced it will make no changes to the discriminatory public holiday trading arrangements it legislated in 2012 ([Shop Talk 12/4/12](#)). The Government has ignored the findings of the SA Centre for Economic Studies in the [Review of Changes to Shop Trading Hours Act 1977](#) and the [Review of Changes to Holidays Act 1910](#) ([Shop Talk 13/12/12](#) & [31/1/13](#)). The Review found only a small proportion of respondents to a survey expressed a preference for shopping in the CBD while a significantly higher proportion expressed a preference for shopping in the suburbs. Similarly, while the Review found strong retail sales on public holidays in the Adelaide CBD, much of these retail sales were simply transferred from retailers in the major suburban shopping centres, particularly those closest to the CBD. Similarly the Government has ignored the Review's findings that the direct costs to taxpayers, community organisations and businesses of the part-day public holiday changes was \$2.54 million, costs which will increase by nearly \$1 million in 2015.

NRA YOUNG RETAILER OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS CLOSE NEXT MONTH

Nominations for the *National Retail Association Young Retailer of the Year Awards* close on 24 May. All entrants will receive a complimentary ticket to attend the event's workshop on Wednesday, 31 July at Melbourne's Hilton on the Park. The winner will join senior level retail executives on Westfield's 2014 World Retail Study Tour. Click [here](#) for an Entry Kit and further information. The Shopping Centre Council is a sponsor of these awards.

RETAIL WORLD CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN MELBOURNE ON 13-14 MAY 2013

This year's [Retail World Conference](#), is in Melbourne on 13-14 May. Registration details are [here](#).