

MEDIA RELEASE

NAMBUCCA SHIRE COUNCIL

SECONDARY DWELLINGS (GRANNY FLATS) PERMISSIBLE IN RURAL ZONES

A recent amendment to the Nambucca Local Environmental Plan 2010 will allow rural landholders to consider building a secondary dwelling (also known as a granny flat) on their property.

Mayor Rhonda Hoban said, "The amendment provides for housing diversity and choice in our shire which needs to maximise housing options to support our changing demographics."

"With one of the coast's fastest growing ageing populations, the amendment will provide affordable alternative accommodation for ageing rural property owners who need assistance to manage properties, but wish to retain their rural lifestyle. It will also provide an affordable retirement solution as rural property owners may be priced out of the coastal village market. It provides older community members with an opportunity to 'age in place', if they so choose."

Mayor Hoban also highlighted other potential benefits of the amendment including:

- the provision of space for additional family members or generational farm transition;
- the provision of additional low cost accommodation for other people;
- the creation of opportunities to supplement rural income by renting out the second dwelling;
- an opportunity for seasonal accommodation for farm workers, particularly where the scale of the farm does not warrant other forms of housing.

Mayor Hoban said to ensure that the new housing option meets the intent of its title - a 'granny flat'- there are restrictions on the size of any proposed second dwelling. Accordingly, this new option may not suit every personal circumstance but other options are available, such as attached dual occupancies. Any person considering alternative forms of housing should contact Council staff to discuss the best type of dwelling for their particular needs or alternatively visit Council's Website, www.nambucca.nsw.gov.au for additional information.

For more information on the amendment, contact Mr Grant Nelson, Strategic Planner, on 6568 0248.

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GENERAL MANAGER
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