

CAMDEN COUNCIL

Media Release



11 November 2015

MINISTER FOR SMALL BUSINESS VISITS CAMDEN

Mayor of Camden, Cr Lara Symkowiak recently hosted a visit from the Minister for Small Business, the Hon John Barilaro MP with the State Member for Camden Chris Patterson, to meet with members of the local business community.

Cr Symkowiak welcomed the visit and said it was an important opportunity for business owners and operators to speak with the Minister about small business.

“Camden Council is committed to fostering and supporting economic growth. Council has taken an active role in economic development and has developed a range of initiatives to support small business and growth and investment in our region.”

“Camden is the fastest growing area in NSW. It is important for us to identify and embrace opportunities to support small businesses. It has been a year since Council has signed up for the ground-breaking Small Business Friendly Councils Program in partnership with the NSW Business Chamber.”

“Small business is the powerhouse and engine room of the Australian economy. I am proud of the achievements we have made through this program and look forward to Council providing continued support to this important business sector.”

“In September this year, Council and Western Sydney University signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the view to working towards the future establishment of a LAUNCH PAD Smart Business Centre in Oran Park Town. This is a great step forward and will help build knowledge based capacity that will generate investment and interest in our region, helping to secure more employment opportunities for our residents.”

“Council has also made a significant investment in the Camden Town Centre to ensure that it prospers as we grow and has the right infrastructure for it to remain competitive with other retail centres in our LGA.”

“I would like to thank the State Member for Camden, Chris Patterson for his help in arranging the visit.” Cr Symkowiak said.

Camden Council's achievements through the Small Business Friendly Councils Program include:

- Development and implementation of an **on-time payment policy** to pay small businesses within 30 days of receipt of an invoice
- Inclusion of a user-friendly **development application package and guide** for local business owners on our website
- **Business Month** events program
- Progress towards the **Camden Region Economic Taskforce** which will play a key role in maximising economic development opportunities associated with growth in the region
- Host to the **Greater Western Sydney SBFC Conference**
- Inclusion of a **Business Page** on our website

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