

## **ESTABLISHMENT OF IDAC**

**October 2008**

The Shoalhaven Business Chamber welcomes the decision by the Shoalhaven City Council at its meeting last Tuesday evening to initiate the Industry Development Advisory Committee (IDAC).

There has been much political comment and debate on this matter over the last few weeks, following the cancellation of the Industry Development and Employment Committee (IDEC) at the first meeting of the new Council on 30 September. Now the decision has been made to replace IDEC with a new group, the Chamber President Tony Emery says "it is time to get on with meeting the objectives of Industry Development in the region which will bring Employment and growth to the Shoalhaven."

Mr Emery added, "This decision provides a strong direction of where the new Council wants to focus its attention during the next four years. However, strong direction is one thing implementing that direction is another, and it was pleasing to read the emphasis the Mayor placed on working closely with Shoalhaven Businesses in his Mayoral Minute proposing the establishment of the IDAC."

The Shoalhaven Business Chamber is the peak representation group for businesses in the Shoalhaven, representing more than 250 businesses, and Mr Emery said "the Chamber is keen to be involved and strongly represented on the IDAC."

"However, the Chamber believes it is important that the members of this new committee are there to achieve and to act on behalf of the broader Shoalhaven community. Vested interests, whether they be political or commercial, should be left at the door, and the items discussed be brought to fruition rather than just headlines."

The expertise to drive Industry Development and Employment exists in the people of the Shoalhaven, they just need the right platform and support to make it happen. The IDAC structured and implemented in the right way can achieve this goal, and the Shoalhaven Business Chamber will give it full support.