



Around the grounds...

2/12/2016

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Industry News

New strata laws now operating



Just a reminder that not only did the new Acts take effect from 30 November but the new Strata Schemes Development Regulation 2016 also commenced. All together the Strata Schemes Development Act 2015 ('the Act') and the Strata Schemes Management Act 2015 and the Regulation brings major reform to the NSW strata laws.

Remember if you need any assistance NSW Fair Trading is only too willing to give you advice and support.

In addition, the office of the Registrar General has released a circular about the key changes that were made to the Regulation after all submissions regarding the draft were closed earlier this year. We have posted the circular on our website [here](#) that explains those changes.

New publication from Fair Trading

SCA (NSW) Members manage 75% of lots in NSW



Did you know that as at 30 November there were 815,509 strata lots registered in NSW? That's an increase of 7,133 lots since we last brought you the strata data in September and includes all forms of strata title - residential, commercial, utility, car spaces etc.

What members may not know is that collectively you manage 596,346 lots which is 73 percent of the total lots in NSW.

We are proud to represent our strata manager members who manage almost three quarters (75 percent) of strata titled properties in this state. With these sorts of numbers behind us, together with strata owners as members, we have a strong voice when it comes to dealing with all levels of government.

We will be using this messaging going forward so please feel



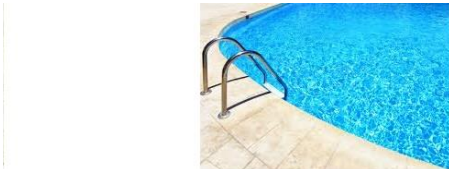
NSW Fair Trading has released a new publication called Strata Living (not be confused with our own newsletter Strata and Community Living).

The document is a go to guide about strata in NSW and provides simple and easy to read information such as how a strata scheme operates, what a strata managing agent does, what a building manager does, owners corporation responsibilities and more.

There is also a section about living in a strata scheme which looks closely at by-laws as well as the many other aspects of strata living.

You can access Strata Living [here](#) or through our [website](#).

Govt Response to Independent Review of Swimming Pool Regulations



The NSW Government has released its report into the effectiveness of the swimming pool barrier regulatory framework following an independent review which commenced in 2015.

The report made 62 recommendations which the Minister for Local Government, Paul O'Toole says are currently being considered.

In the meantime, the Government together with the Royal Life Saving Society NSW, is running an awareness campaign about the dangers of leaving children unsupervised around swimming pools. You may have already seen some TV advertising.

Here is a [link](#) to all the information about the review, the recommendations and the Minister's media release.

free to reference it in any of your communications with your various stakeholders.

City of Sydney Round 4 Grants | Applications close 3 Jan 2017



Environmental performance - Building operations grant

Provides support for buildings in the Sydney area to reduce water consumption. Solutions include sub-meters and water monitoring devices to track water use, identify water leaks and reduce water consumption costs.

For information about this grant please [click here](#).

Environmental performance - Ratings and assessment grant

Supports organisations and residential apartment communities to undertake energy ratings and audits for the first time. The cost of first-year energy assessments can be a significant barrier to organisations and this funding seeks to address this cost.

Successful applicants must commit to implement efficiency recommendations up to a certain value.

Funding is available in 3 categories:

- NABERS energy ratings.
- Energy audits.
- Residential apartments water and/or energy assessments.

For more information please [click here](#).

Please note that these grants are for projects occurring **1 April 2017 - 30 March 2018**. For any enquiries please contact the City of Sydney Grants team on **92659333** or communitygrants@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au

NCAT Getting Ready for the New Strata Laws



NCAT
NSW Civil &
Administrative Tribunal

As of the 30th of November 2016, all strata applications will be listed for hearing before a Tribunal Member. Applications under the previous Act were generally determined on the papers.

This major change to NCAT's dispute resolution processes will provide a faster, simpler and clearer process for dealing with strata disputes.

The new Act also gives the Tribunal a number of new powers. These include making orders to comply with by-laws and imposing higher financial penalties on those who do not abide by the by-laws.

Any applications received **before 30 November 2016** will be dealt with under the old *Strata Schemes Management Act 1996*.

Applications received **on or after 30 November** will be dealt with under the new Act.

Visit the [NSW Fair Trading website](#) for detailed information about the strata law changes.

Real Estate Review

Send your feedback by 5 December



The NSW Government has announced a review of the Real Estate and Property Services Industry by releasing a Reform Paper.

To find out more about the reforms visit the [NSW Fair Trading](#) website or download the [Reform Paper](#).

To **have your say** you must provide your feedback by **Monday the 5th of December 2016** via email policy@finance.nsw.gov.au

SCA (NSW) represents our members on the Fair Trading Real Estate Reference Group. Please also provide your **feedback to Rachel Lynn, General Manager SCA (NSW)** by email rachel.lynn@stratacommunity.org.au

Strata Reform | Strata Managing Agents involved in Business Development - Beware!



Under the Strata Schemes Management Act 2015 (SSMA 2015) one of the new features relates to a restriction on the appointment of strata managers who are connected with the developer of the strata scheme.

For further information and to view the relevant parts of the reform [click here](#).

Upcoming Events

SCA (NSW) 2017 Events



Save the Date

SCA (NSW) is pleased to announce the dates for our upcoming Sailing Day and Strata Owners day. Make a note on your calendar now and stay tuned for further details.

SCA (NSW) Sailing Day - Friday, 10 February 2017

SCA (NSW) Strata Owners Day - Saturday, 25 March 2017

For any enquiries please contact us at events.nsw@stratacommunity.org.au

Upcoming Education

New Legislation Seminar Roadshow

Video Available



From various locations between Tweed Heads and Wollongong with approx 1500 registrations from strata managers, owners and suppliers the SCA (NSW) New Legislation roadshow has concluded.

If you missed out on one of these sessions you can now purchase a video recording of our speakers from our Sydney session. For \$25.00 we will send you the video recording on a USB with accompanying presentation slides.

Contact us

Level 1, 2 & 3 Accreditation for Strata Managers



This is an excellent way of standing out from the crowd.

Gaining any level of accreditation demonstrates to your stakeholders that you are a professional in your field.

For more information please click [here](#) or email accreditation.nsw@stratacommunity.org.au.

To apply please click [here](#) to complete the application form.

on marketing.nsw@stratacommunity.org.au to place your order.

Are you interested in becoming a SCA (NSW) Trainer?

CPD Online



SCA (NSW) offers members and non-members the opportunity to fulfill their CPD requirements online via E-Learning.

Read the materials, complete the assignment, submit for marking and provided you pass, then you are compliant for another year.

The price is \$139.00 for SCA (NSW) members and \$245.00 for non-members. This price includes GST.

Click [here](#) to get started now.



SCA (NSW) is looking to expand its pool of educational trainers.

We are looking for individuals who are passionate about cultivating skills and knowledge within the strata industry. You will be providing complete training and sharing your expertise in ways that motivate those who wish to enter the industry or further develop their skills.

SCA (NSW) will cover costs in completing Certificate IV Training & Assessment for those who are interested in becoming a certified SCA (NSW) trainer.

[Click here](#) to contact us with your expression of interest.

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