

## War of words

Nov 05, 2009 at 11:13 AM



Shadow Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, Brad Hazzard, speaking with HR Manager of Corinthian Doors, Mark Grundy, and Secretary of the Dunheved Business Park Committee, David Trist, last week.

It has the potential to become the leading business precinct in western Sydney, but the Dunheved Business Park has become victim to a war of words between the State Labor Government and the Opposition.

Shadow Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, Brad Hazzard, believes the precinct is being neglected by Labor, but the Government says it is misleading to suggest the potential of the area is being ignored.

Meeting with representatives from the Penrith Valley Chamber of Commerce and business owners in the Dunheved area last week, Mr Hazzard toured the area, saying he was appalled by the State Government's inability to put plans in place. He called on Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, Kristina Keneally, to work with Council and the community to make solid progress.

"Penrith City and indeed the whole of the western suburbs would benefit from finding good employment land opportunities in the Dunheved Business Park," he said.

"You can't drive around this place without understanding that there is so much more that can be done here and if you can get 4,500 to possibly 6,000 local people to enjoy an improved quality of life working closer to home but also getting them off the motorways, then that's a plus for everybody.

"This needs to be one of the highest priority areas for potential job sites."

Dunheved Business Park Committee secretary, David Trist, presented Mr Hazzard with a number of problems needing immediate attention including wider roads to allow for large-scale machinery and equipment, power and drainage issues and measures to deal with the effects of the new bus depot.

State Member for Londonderry, Allan Shearan, said any development of the area would need to be in partnership with Penrith City Council.

Around \$500,000 in State Government funding has been provided for Council to undertake strategic planning studies and a new Local Environment Plan.

Council had sought Government funding for a Masterplan but was unsuccessful.

“Council has started dialogue with the Penrith Valley Chamber of Commerce to discuss the best way forward to develop infrastructure priorities, funding options and appropriate implementation responses,” a spokesperson said.

**- Stacey Hicks**