



THE SHOOTERS' PARTY

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MEDIA RELEASE DECEMBER 4 2007 WE WANT TWENTY MILLION DOLLARS TO RELOCATE ANZAC

The Shooters Party today served a letter of demand on the Federal and State Governments, calling for at least \$20 million to be made available to relocate the various ranges from the Anzac Complex at Malabar.

The State Government has confirmed that it will co-operate with the Federal Government to close the historic Anzac Range, and let the land on the Malabar headland revert to parkland. The Shooters Party has expressed its implacable opposition to the idea, because of the iconic history of the Anzac Complex, and the difficulty of locating suitable land for the relocation. However the Party has been told that the situation is non-negotiable, and so it is moving to try to protect the interests of licensed shooters who will be moved off the Anzac complex.

This afternoon, the two Shooters Party members in the NSW Parliament, Robert Brown and Roy Smith met the Premier, Morris Iemma, and handed him a joint letter asking for urgent confirmation that sufficient land and money will be available from Federal, State and local governments, to ensure a smooth transition of facilities.

Robert Brown said the joint Federal-State announcement had come as a shock to the shooting community, which has been using the Anzac complex since 1888. The State agreement to the closure had come without warning, and had been unexpected, because the Minister of State in the previous Liberal Federal Government had notified clubs on the complex that a new licence would be given to allow them to remain there. However this had never been signed.

“We approached the Premier as a matter of urgency, and with some angst, to discuss the future of the complex” Mr Brown said “and we made it clear that we expect all three levels of Government involved in this to provide, between them, the land, money and other resources which will be needed. We believe at least \$20-million will be needed at today’s values.”

The Shooters Party MLC’s asked that any relocation be carried out in the same way as the recent successful development of the Hilltop Regional Shooting Complex, in the Southern Highlands.

Roy Smith said that while the Shooters Party had expressed the total opposition of the entire shooting movement to the closure of Anzac, it recognised that the matter was now a fait accompli; and so the urgent need was to ensure that Anzac would remain operational until a replacement location was ready, to ensure a seamless transition.

“It’s not what we want, but in the circumstances, we have to get the best possible result from this disastrous decision” Robert Brown said “ and try to protect the interests of the legitimate shooting community.”

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