

Minister assures small business of attention

By **SUSANNE SCOLT**

SMALL business owners, local members of parliament and local council members gathered at the Belmont Business Enterprise Centre on Wednesday to listen to Federal Small Business Minister Brendan O'Connor give an address on the Government's position on small businesses.

Attendees had the opportunity to ask the minister for advice and share current concerns regarding their own businesses.

Mr O'Connor spoke about his optimism for the economy but said that small business confidence was lower than it should be.

He also said he would continue to address the difficulties small businesses faced in getting credit from large banks.

Kart World Belmont's managing director Eric Purvis, who attended the event, agreed that obtaining loans for small businesses was difficult.

"We took over Kart World in 2006 and have spent a fair bit of time, effort and money on the place which has really increased the revenue and value," he said.

"I think they should re-investigate the Commonwealth Development Bank which was a division of the Commonwealth Bank before it was privatised that assisted business proprietors and helped businesses grow.

"They should also considering standardising forms across all the banks so you are not filling out the same information several times".



BEC chief Carol Hanlon with Small Business Minister Brendan O'Connor. Picture: Elle Borgward d378373

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