



# **CATCHMENTS TO COAST COMMITTEE MEETING**

**14 June 2023**



# COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN 2018-2028

**ONE – CENTRAL COAST IS THE COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN (CSP) FOR THE CENTRAL COAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA**

**ONE – CENTRAL COAST DEFINES THE COMMUNITY'S VISION AND IS OUR ROADMAP FOR THE FUTURE**

**ONE – CENTRAL COAST BRINGS TOGETHER EXTENSIVE COMMUNITY FEEDBACK TO SET KEY DIRECTIONS AND PRIORITIES**

One - Central Coast will shape and inform Council's business activities, future plans, services and expenditure. Where actions are the responsibility of other organisations, sectors and groups to deliver, Council will work with key partners to advocate on behalf of our community.

Ultimately, every one of us who live on the Central Coast has an opportunity and responsibility to create a sustainable future from which we can all benefit. Working together we can make a difference.

## RESPONSIBLE

**WE'RE A RESPONSIBLE COUNCIL AND COMMUNITY, COMMITTED TO BUILDING STRONG RELATIONSHIPS AND DELIVERING A GREAT CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE IN ALL OUR INTERACTIONS.**

We value transparent and meaningful communication and use community feedback to drive strategic decision making and expenditure, particularly around the delivery of essential infrastructure projects that increase the safety, liveability and sustainability of our region. We're taking a strategic approach to ensure our planning and development processes are sustainable and accessible and are designed to preserve the unique character of the coast.

 **Good governance and great partnerships**

**G2** Engage and communicate openly and honestly with the community to build a relationship based on trust, transparency, respect and use community participation and feedback to inform decision making

There are 5 themes, 12 focus areas and 48 objectives

### COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN 2018-2028 FRAMEWORK

All council reports contained within the Business Paper are now aligned to the Community Strategic Plan. Each report will contain a cross reference to a Theme, Focus Area and Objective within the framework of the Plan.

The infographic details the following structure:

- THEME: BELONGING**
  - Focus Area: OUR COMMUNITY (C1-C4)
  - Focus Area: COMMUNITY CONNECTION AND LOCAL IDENTITY (D1-D4)
- THEME: SMART**
  - Focus Area: A GROWING AND COMPETITIVE REGION (C1-C4)
  - Focus Area: A PLACE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PEOPLE (D1-D4)
- THEME: GREEN**
  - Focus Area: ENVIRONMENTAL WELL-BEING FOR THE FUTURE (C1-C4)
  - Focus Area: INCREASED RAIN WATER RESILIENCE (D1-D4)
- THEME: RESPONSIBLE**
  - Focus Area: GOOD GOVERNANCE AND GREAT PARTNERSHIPS (C1-C4)
  - Focus Area: BELONGING THROUGH INFRASTRUCTURE (D1-D4)
  - Focus Area: SAFETY AND WELLBEING (E1-E4)
- THEME: LIVEABLE**
  - Focus Area: RELIABLE PUBLIC TRANSPORT AND CONNECTIONS (C1-C4)
  - Focus Area: SAFE AND HEALTHY LIVING (D1-D4)
  - Focus Area: WELL-BEING AND HAPPINESS (E1-E4)



# Meeting Notice

**The Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting  
of Central Coast Council  
will be held Remotely – Online,  
on Wednesday 14 June 2023 at 2.00pm,  
for the transaction of the business listed below:**

## **1 Procedural Items**

- 1.1 Introduction: Welcome, Acknowledgement of Country, Apologies, Disclosure of Interest..... 4
- 1.2 Previous business: Confirmation of minutes, review action log ..... 5

## **2 Reports**

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- 2.4 Hardys Bay Stormwater Outlet/ RSL Creek .....35
- 2.5 General Business.....36

Luke Sulkowski  
**Chairperson**

## **1.1 INTRODUCTION: WELCOME, ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY, APOLOGIES, DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST**

Chairperson

### **Acknowledgement of Country**

*We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we live, work and play.*



*We pay our respects to Elders, past, present and emerging and recognise their continued connection to these lands and waterways.*

*We acknowledge our shared responsibility to care for and protect our place and people.*

## 1.2 PREVIOUS BUSINESS: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES, REVIEW ACTION LOG

Chairperson

### Attachments

**1**  MINUTES - Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting - 29 March 2023 D15608465  




Central Coast Council  
Catchments to Coast Advisory Committee  
Meeting

Held in the Committee Room and Remotely - Online

29 March 2023

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## MINUTES

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### Attendance

#### Members

Doug Darlington  
Laurie Lewington  
Mike Campbell  
David Mylan  
Ian Carruthers  
Marlene Pennings  
Samantha Willis  
Graham Hankin  
Michael Kip

#### Status

Apology  
Absent  
Present  
Absent  
Present  
Absent  
Present  
Present  
Apology

#### External agencies

Angela Halcrow  
Paul Donaldson  
Andrew Jones  
Chris Drummond (left 3.41pm)  
Tony Gaston (left 3.42pm)  
Heiko Loehr

Present  
Apology  
Apology  
Present  
Present  
Present

#### Staff

Luke Sulkowski, Unit Manager Environmental Management  
James Lawson, Section Manager Environmental Infrastructure  
Peter Sheath, Section Manager Bushfire and Flood Risk Management  
Ben Fullagar, Section Manager Catchments to Coast  
Toan Dam Senior Coastal Planning Officer Catchments to Coast  
Rachel Callachor, Meeting Support Officer  
Parissa Ghanem, Team Leader Floodplain Management  
Phil Foster, Flooding and Drainage Engineer  
Nick Tarasenko, Coastal Management Officer Catchments to Coast

#### Status

Present  
Present  
Present  
Present  
Present  
Present  
Apology  
Apology  
Apology

**Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Advisory Committee Meeting 29 March 2023 contd**

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The Chairperson, Luke Sulkowski, declared the meeting open at 2.00pm

**Procedural Items**

**1.1 Introduction: Welcome, Acknowledgement of Country, Apologies, Disclosure of Interest**

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The Chairperson read an Acknowledgement of Country statement.

The Chairperson advised that Michael Alsop has resigned from this Committee.

Michael was appointed Knowledge Expert to the Catchments to Coast Committee in 2017.

The Chair acknowledged Michael's ongoing commitment and service to the Committee.

Apologies received and members absent without apology were noted. The chairperson called for any disclosures of interest. No disclosures were received

The Chair provided an explanation regarding the change in the agenda format of the meeting papers, with the inclusion of written reports distributed prior to the meeting. It was noted that meeting timing was not on the agenda - likely to include this again going forward. Member of the Committee provided feedback in support for the change in the papers, stating that having this information in advance gave a good run into the meeting.

**1.2 Previous business: Confirmation of minutes, review action log**

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The group confirmed the minutes from the previous meeting as noted below, which were distributed to members via email and uploaded to Council's website:

[Catchments to Coast Advisory Committee Minutes – 14 December 2022](#)

Query regarding the recommendation in relation to flooding gauges that went to Council. This will be discussed in General Business and queries addressed by Peter Sheath.

The action log was reviewed with updates recorded (see page 9) .

**Reports**

**2.1 Update on Coastal Management 2.13pm**

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Presentation by Ben Fullagar, Section Manager Catchments to Coast and Heiko Loehr from Bluecoast Consultants.

Provided update on the current status of the project and detailed information regarding Coastal inundation simulator.

**Query** from Committee member – How are hazards classified? For example, 'Probability' factors.

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**Response** – Hazard exposure is identified – for example assets – and the different likelihoods. Undertake a risk assessment and capacity for the asset to adapt to the hazard, or how much damage can be sustained, both from a safety and financial view.  
 Using details in Council’s asset database.  
 Can then look at the holistic risk.

**Query** from Committee member regarding sea level rise projections. Former-Gosford City Council had a sea level rise projections policy. Query regarding the projections used. Will the reports articulate the origin of the sea level rise information, highlighted this is of importance for transparency for Community.  
 Additional query regarding timeframes: 2050 and 2100  
 There was previously a 50 year horizon in the hazard mapping.  
 Q re: intermediate period – 30 yrs and 100 yrs.

Response: Sea level rise: Drawing on the IPCC report data. Publicly available tool from NASA - using information and imagery from Newcastle and Sydney as the closest mapping points. IPCC is taking a probability approach, which covers likelihood. The calculations are also being undertaken for all years: Immediate – 2040 – 2050 – 2170. 50 year timeframe.  
 This will inform planning controls and will work with Strategic Planning section of Council in the future.

**Coastal Management Program (CMP) Update – provided by Ben Fullagar**

Updates provided on the following CMPs:

- Open Coast CMP
- Coastal Lagoons CMP
- Tuggerah Lakes CMP
- Lake Macquarie – Central Coast Council resolved to support and endorse the proposal put forward by LMCC and the involvement by CCC. A report will go to LMCC in May for further progression.
- Hawkesbury Nepean CMP

Open Coast CMP – Timeline and overview of the work detailed in the Draft Operational Plan and the community engagement proposed via Your Voice Our Coast, as well as drop-in sessions. Work will continue throughout 2023/2024 to achieve certification.

The Committee requested more engagement, including capacity to be engaged via workshops during Stage 3 of CMP process.

Staff mentioned recent success of focus groups on the Tuggerah Lakes Entrance Management and that a similar model is proposed, and will commence shortly, for focus groups in regards to the development of a wrack management strategy.

Overview of Tuggerah Lakes Coastal Process and Socio Economic Assessment – completed work, work underway and the next steps.

Community focus group has 3 working group sessions.

1. Management issues and priorities



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2. Draft list into long list

3. Short list for working group

Good knowledge sharing by a group of passionate people. A good model for going forward.

14 pop-up sessions over past 4 weeks. Grant based funding.

Council was a Winner of Keep Australia Beautiful Award – Sustainable Communities – Tuggerah Lakes.

Update regarding monitoring of The Entrance Channel, MHLFIT tool.

In accordance with the adopted MHLFIT Tool, the channel has just changed status to “Heavily restricted”, which does not mean any immediate works are required, but would justify berm management in the event of a forecast 1.3m AHD lake height (unlike other coastal lagoons on the Central Coast, and elsewhere in NSW intervention at The Entrance for Tuggerah Lakes occurs based on forecast rather than actual levels, and prior to full closure).

Council is monitoring in accordance with the procedure, but is also currently planning berm management/ dredging works for access and amenity which are likely to commence in May 2023. A surveyor has just been awarded a contract to undertake a hydrographic survey of the channel area to better guide works.

Council has an extension to the end of the financial year for the NSW Government Better Boating Program funding for the dredging program. The grant authority has indicated to Council staff that further extensions into 2023/24 could be considered if required.

**Wamberal Seawall update**

Council staff have been working with Wamberal Protection Association (WPA) – residents group progressing seawall development application, with Council to enter agreement with WPA as a partnering landowner on Wamberal Beach. Council staff supporting delivery of this project in partnership with the WPA will not participate in development assessment, with strict protocols being established to ensure Council’s role as a proponent and assessor remains separated.

Final Wamberal Advisory Taskforce meeting held 1 March 2023.

Engagement will still continue outside of the taskforce.

**Ettalong Dredging update**

Maritime Infrastructure Delivery Office (MIDO) last held consultation meeting in 2022.

Potential sites for dredging identified and discussions are on-going.

**Progress of Terrigal and Coastal Lagoon Sewer System Audit and Repairs**

Update provided

**Question** from Committee member re CMP’s – suggestion that this section of Council’s website updated as it shows 2021 as completion date. Agreed.

**Response:** YourVoice OurCoast (YVOC) Website to be updated with current timeframes and

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information for CMP's.

**Query:** Is there a way that the Committee / Advisory group members can share views and comments overall, and interact with each other for the CMP process?

**Response:** Options to be explored regarding other opportunities for communication and collaboration for the group outside of the meeting format.

**Query:** Regarding endangered soft corals and the potential affect that dredging at Ettlaong has on this.

**Response:** Agreed that this is an issue – documentation produced by MIDO will need to address these issues and Council staff can share any information made available and distributed to the committee representatives.

**Query:** Is there an opportunity to distribute presentations to Committee Representatives further in advance of the meeting?

**Response:** Options will be considered to distribute the presentations prior to the meeting to give the Committee members an opportunity to review the information being presented.

**Query:** Land and Environment Court has overturned a Local Planning Panel (LPP) decision to refuse a swimming pool consent along the coastal building line. How does Council plan to respond?

**Response:** DCP will be updated for consistency across the Central Coast and to remove any ambiguity. This is a work in progress as there will be a changed DCP, which will then to be exhibited for 28 days. Proposed timeframe is March 2024.

**Recommendation**

*That the Committee note the report.*

Actions included and updated in *Action log*.

**2.2 Update on Flood & Stormwater Management 3:10pm**

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Presentation by Peter Sheath, Section Manager Bushfire and Flood Risk Management

Topics covered:

- Online mapping – flood related data on Council's online mapping page has now been shifted to a single location.  
this includes layers such as: 1 in 100 year flood events  
H1 – H6 – Hazard mapping – overview of the levels
- Flood precinct
- Flood emergency response
- DCP and LEP updates and outcomes of public exhibition  
Special flood consideration clause and changes which came into effect in January 2023. An outcome of the flood enquiry last year. Restriction on development that is

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not sensitive or hazardous on land. Is going to be in LEP so the DCP has to cater for that.

- 'Understanding and Managing Flood Risk' – Flood risk management guide FB01. Overview of key constraints that flood places of land. Will look to use this information to inform DCP. Overview of DCP Draft Flood Planning Constraint Categories. Seeking to capture constraints for land use planning for DA and Complying Development applications.
- Draft *Consideration of Climate Change Flood Risk Policy* – update regarding policy development. Includes vulnerability, tolerability and aspects such as flood insurance. Documents will be able to be provided once fully drafted. Overview of sea level rise and rainfall intensity components.
- Update of status of grant funded projects
- Update on Long Jetty Boardwalk – Educational signage

**Query** – Noted the flood plain management project is a large project. Request for a copy of the 'Understanding and Managing Flood Risk' – Flood risk management guide FB01.

**Response** – Document to be distributed to Committee members.

**Query** – Draft Climate Change Flood Risk Policy - Will this go on community consultation? Further enquiry whether the same sea level rise data is being used across this policy work? How does this align with Council's climate change policy.

**Response** – Confirmation that the policy will be exhibited and that policy work will align with a whole of Council approach.

**Query** – Will this risk hazard assessments be applied when rezoning land?

**Response** – Yes, it this will be used, in conjunction with Ministerial Directions documents.

**Query** – What are the options available to Council in LEC matters/cases?

**Response** – It is intended that the DCP provide scope under the planning controls.

Angela Halcrow provided further comment regarding LEP changes – These are risk based decisions, not only flood plain / levels. Change to LEP would be state wide and is an mechanism to inform the DCP.

**Recommendation**

*The Committee note the report.*

Actions included and updated in *Action log*.

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**2.3 Update on Coastal & Catchment Operations 3.55pm**

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Presentation by James Lawson, Section Manager Environmental Infrastructure

Topics covered:

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- Wrack collection undertaken by Council's contractor and reporting on monthly collection levels
- Little Tern breeding program at Karagi Point. Fencing, signage and monitoring along with fox control program.
- Loggerhead sea turtle nest at Shelly Beach – overview of work undertaken and cross agency involvement. Background regarding the environment for the nesting and Thanks given to all volunteers and various Council staff involved, including the Beach team and E&P.

**Query** – Maintenance of Canton Beach - Query in relation to the area of beach which is being maintained, area of up to 300m – consideration of a smaller areas?

**Response** – Smaller areas not considered at present. Work and ongoing maintenance of beach itself scheduled to occur before Easter. Council is awaiting further advice from the state government in regards to a grant application for rectification of the retaining wall with a grant application lodged mid 2022. New signage is also proposed for this area to advise the status of the retaining wall and raise awareness of uneven ground presented by the current infrastructure.

**Recommendation**

*That the Committee note the report.*

Actions included and updated in *Action log*.

**2.4 General Business 4:00pm**

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**Query** – River gauge levels re Yarramalong. Assessment over past ~20 years, which was used to form the levels agreed upon. The gauges do not list the trigger points indicated in the amended Interim Entrance Channel Management Procedure.

**Response** – Streamflow gauges installed/monitored by WaterNSW – these provide a 'rating curve' and estimation is provided regarding the flow of the river, predominately used for water supply. It is accurate for the flow measurement only within a certain range, but the river height is measured and monitored in a different way and can be measured beyond this range. For the purposes of lake level heights, and Entrance Channel management, the river height data is all that is required, so these gauges are sufficient.

Update from the Chair regarding the proposed Central Coast Conservation Fund Policy and internal restriction for acquisition of Davistown Wetlands, presentation was provided by Larry Melican at Committee meeting last year.

Chair called for any final feedback from any representatives, noting it was presented to the COSS committee this week. It is proposed that a further report on this matter will go to Council in May 2023.

**Query** – Status of the fencing for Little Terns – noting it is still installed.

**Response** – The fence may be removed in the event of east coast low, or dredging programs to be undertaken. Risk based assessment based on either of these occurrences, in

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conjunction with whether leaving the fencing up on a permanent basis gives less of an opportunity

It was noted there was a numbering discrepancy in the action log, whereby numbering has missed item 25. Confirming there was not an action at number 25, this was an error in the numbering sequence. Will renumber previous 26 as 25 and continuing numbering in sequence.

Actions included and updated in *Action log*.

**The Meeting** concluded at 4:13pm.

**Next Meeting:** 14 June 2023 at 2:00pm

Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Advisory Committee Meeting 29 March 2023 contd

Action Number	Meeting Date	Action	Responsible Party	Action Update	Status
36 (Tuggerah Lakes)	27/02/2019	A presentation on the Stormwater Management Plan currently under review for the Porters Creek Wetland catchment to be provided at a future meeting	Section Manager Flood Planning and Strategy	2/6/21: Update on Porters Creek Wetland to be standing item on agenda until further notice 8/12/21: No further updates currently from last meeting. Proceeding with trying to get costing prepared for options. Regarding recent motion to remove buffer zones, there were restricted activities in buffer zone, and these have now been removed so activities (mowing) can take place, but must still occur within SEPP. 2/3/22: No further update – cost estimate of works underway 10/05: PS – No further update – cost estimate of works is still underway Investigation regarding funding nexus, Dev. Contributions Plan, revegetation strategy 17/11/22 Council has recently completed the Porters Creek Wetland & Catchment Stormwater Modelling, Revegetation Plan and Monitoring Plan (Cardno 2022). The plan shows that the proposed revegetation will provide little reduction in stormwater flows entering the wetland from developments. Therefore Council is currently investigating other potential	Completed

**Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Advisory Committee Meeting 29 March 2023 contd**

<b>Action Number</b>	<b>Meeting Date</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Responsible Party</b>	<b>Action Update</b>	<b>Status</b>
				stormwater management opportunities for the wetland. Until such time as a new stormwater management strategy is developed & adopted, all new development will be assessed in accordance with Council's LEP, DCP and Civil Works Specifications. 14/12/22: Update provided at Item 8.	
42 (Brisbane Waters)	24/11/2020	Update on Wamberal Seawall Advisory Taskforce to be standing item on future agendas, with Project Manager to attend meetings.	Section Manager Catchments to Coast	2/6/21: Update on Wamberal Seawall Advisory Taskforce to be standing item on agenda until further notice 1/6/22: It was noted that another meeting of the Advisory Taskforce was to be arranged in the coming weeks. 10/08: standing agenda item. 14/12/22: Update provided at Item 7.	Ongoing  29/3/23 – Update to be provided as a part of report/discussion at today's meeting. To be removed from action log going forward as the Taskforce is to be wound up.
8	22/09/2021	Updates about Airport Masterplan and related matters to be communicated to members as part of ongoing consultation.	Unit Manager Economic Development and Property	Response from Unit Manager Economic Development and Property emailed to members 14 February 2022 10/05/2022: PS – a verbal update will be provided at the next committee meeting. Any further	Pending – presentation will be requested.  29/3 – No further

**Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Advisory Committee Meeting 29 March 2023 contd**

<b>Action Number</b>	<b>Meeting Date</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Responsible Party</b>	<b>Action Update</b>	<b>Status</b>
				updates can be directed to the EPD section (via the AG) 10/08: Update to be provided during the Action Log item at the next meeting.	update on this item.
13	8/12/2021	Staff to get advice from Water and Sewer about works in Avoca Lagoon and report back to members when appropriate.	Section Manager Catchments to Coast	Update to be provided at 2 March 2022 meeting 10/05/2022: BF – a verbal update will be provided at the next committee meeting. Any further updates can be directed to the W&S section (via the AG) 1.9km of sewer re-lined in the Avoca area. 14/12/22: Update provided at Item 7.	Ongoing  29/3/23 – Included on meeting agenda today. (Presentation by Ben Fullagar)
14	08/12/2021	Staff to bring updates on relevant policies and DCP review to group when available.	Section Manager Flood Planning and Strategy	DCP review is still deferred. Update to be provided at 2 March 2022 meeting 2/3/22 – Peter Sheath advised Planning team can't provide update on DCP currently, but Flood Planning team are focusing on updating Flood Policy 10/05: PS – nothing further to report, quick verbal update 1/06: No finalised policies or DCP chapter. Drafted flood policy update – reviewed and additional information. New Sea Level Rise policy. LGA wide chapter in Development Control Plan to be developed. Public exhibition will occur for any policies.	Ongoing  29/3 – Included on agenda today (Peter Sheath)  Query re: re-occurring item or whether it can be completed off the action log. Advice that a further update is anticipated at the



**Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Advisory Committee Meeting 29 March 2023 contd**

<b>Action Number</b>	<b>Meeting Date</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Responsible Party</b>	<b>Action Update</b>	<b>Status</b>
					next Committee meeting.
17	02/03/2022	Info from MIDO regarding scope of dredging works to be shared with members	Section Manager Catchments to Coast	10/05: BF – will reach out to MIDO to get an update (website with contact details). AW to follow up the process for circulating information to members prior to the meeting (and then for the meeting itself) 10/08: BF to follow up circulation of information via the AG. 14/12/22: Update provided at Item 7.	Ongoing  29/3 – Update as included on agenda at today's meeting.
21	02/03/2022	Update on draft Flood Policy to be provided at next meeting	Section Manager Flood Planning and Strategy	10/05: PS – defer item/update to the following meeting – verbal update to be given 10/08: Update to be provided during the Action Log item at the next meeting.	Update to be provided with DCP update.  29/3 – Peter Sheath to provide update - item on agenda at today's meeting and further update to be provided at the next Committee meeting

**Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Advisory Committee Meeting 29 March 2023 contd**

<b>Action Number</b>	<b>Meeting Date</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Responsible Party</b>	<b>Action Update</b>	<b>Status</b>
					regarding the work undertaken / progress of the Policy.
24	7/09/2022	Michael Campbell – Request for Jess Preston to attend December Meeting, Ben Fullagar to make contact with Jess Preston.	Ben Fullagar – Section Manager Catchments to Coast	Information on Tuggerah Lakes Riverine and Catchment Health Monitoring Program report was provided by Vanessa McCann, Team Leader Estuary Management to address questions from Michael Campbell.	Completed
25	14/12/2022	Copy of <i>Tuggerah Lakes Riverine and Catchment Health Monitoring Report for Central Coast Council</i> to be distributed to Advisory Group members.	Ben Fullagar – Section Manager Catchments to Coast		29/3 – Confirmation that this has been distributed. <b>Completed.</b>
26	29/3/2023	Options in relation to CMP engagement with Community members. Discussion of preferences, time and availability, online, focus group workshops, community drop in sessions – or 'all of the above'?	Ben Fullagar - Section Manager Catchments to Coast	To be clarified by SM Catchments and Coast at next meeting	
27	29/3/2023	Distribute Link to committee members for Community Focus Groups for the Wrack Management Strategy when it opens.	Ben Fullagar - Section Manager		

**Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Advisory Committee Meeting 29 March 2023 contd**

<b>Action Number</b>	<b>Meeting Date</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Responsible Party</b>	<b>Action Update</b>	<b>Status</b>
			Catchments to Coast		
28	29/3/2023	YourVoice OurCoast (YVOC) website to be updated with current timeframes and information regarding CMP's.	Ben Fullagar - Section Manager Catchments to Coast		
29	29/3/2023	Options to be explored regarding other opportunities for communication and collaboration for the group outside of the meeting format in relation to CMP process.	Luke Sulkowski Unit Manager Environmental Management		
30	29/3/2023	Options to be explored in relation to distribution of the presentations prior to the meeting to give the Committee members an opportunity to review the information being presented.	Luke Sulkowski Unit Manager Environmental Management		
31	29/3/2023	A copy of the ' <i>Understanding and Managing Flood Risk</i> ' – <i>Flood risk management guide FB01</i> to be distributed to Committee members.	Peter Sheath Section Manager Bushfire and Flood Risk Management		

Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Advisory Committee Meeting 29 March 2023 contd

Action Number	Meeting Date	Action	Responsible Party	Action Update	Status
32	29/3/2023	Further update and report regarding maintenance work at Canton Beach to be provide at next Committee meeting.	James Lawson Section Manager Environmental Infrastructure		
33	29/3/2023	Final request for Committee members to provide any feedback on the proposed Central Coast Conservation Fund Policy and internal restriction for acquisition of Davistown Wetlands.	Committee Membership		



**Item No:** 2.1  
**Title:** Update on Coastal Management  
**Department:** Environment and Planning

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14 June 2023 Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting

Reference: F2021/00832 - D15566273  
Author: Ben Fullagar, Section Manager Catchments to Coast  
Manager: Luke Sulkowski, Unit Manager Environmental Management  
Executive: Alice Howe, Director Environment and Planning

### **Recommendation**

*That the Committee note the report.*

### **Report purpose**

To provide an update on Council's coastal and estuary management activities and programs.

### **Executive Summary**

The report outlines Council's progress on the following:

- Overview of May 2023 swell and tidal event – by NSW DPE
- Overview of the recently completed Environmental Restoration Fund grant projects
- Progress on Coastal Management Programs (CMPs)
- Wamberal seawall updates including Taskforce activity (action 42)
- Update on Community and Stakeholder Reference Group (CFG) for the Wrack Management Strategy
- Update on coastal and estuary monitoring
- Info from Transport for NSW – Maritime Infrastructure Delivery Office (MIDO) regarding scope of Ettalong dredging works (action 17)
- Update from Council's Water and Sewer directorate on works in Terrigal and Lagoon catchments (action 13).

### **Overview of May 2023 swell and tidal event – by NSW Department of Planning and Environment**

*(Presentation by DPE's Chris Drummond – Senior Coast and Estuary Officer - pending confirmation of availability).*

### **Overview of the recently completed Environmental Restoration Fund (ERF) grant projects**

Council has recently completed three Environmental Restoration Grant funded projects:

- Tuggerah Lakes restoration project;
- Green and Gold Bell Frog project; and
- Clean4Shore project.

A presentation including photos of the completed projects will be provided to the Committee.

### **Update on Coastal Management Programs (CMPs)**

An update on progress for the following CMPs will be presented during the committee meeting:

- Hawkesbury Nepean CMP (with five other partner councils);
- Open Coast CMP;
- Coastal Lagoons CMP;
- Tuggerah Lakes CMP; and
- Lake Macquarie CMP (with Lake Macquarie City Council).

### **Wamberal seawall updates**

Council is continuing to assist with development of a Wamberal seawall solution. This includes working with residents as a partner and public land owner for preparation of a development application for terminal protection works. Council will also assess the application once submitted. Appropriate probity controls have been established to manage these different roles.

Although the last meeting of the Wamberal Seawall Advisory Taskforce was held on 1 March 2023, Council is continuing to work with NSW Government agencies as part of development and assessment of the development.

### **Update on Community and Stakeholder Reference Group for Tuggerah Lakes CMP Wrack Management Strategy**

In May Council sought expressions of interest from members of the public to participate in the Community Focus Group for Wrack Management and ultimately help provide input into a new wrack management strategy. The first meeting is scheduled for the 14 June 2023. Council has engaged consultants Alluvium to facilitate the reference group meetings and

## **2.1 Update on Coastal Management (contd)**

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develop the new strategy. The new strategy will be developed collaboratively with a range of stakeholders including regulatory authorities, experts, and the community to ensure a considered approach to wrack management.

### **Update on Coastal and Estuary Monitoring**

Council undertakes a range of environmental monitoring of the region's estuaries and coastlines. These include:

- Aerial monitoring via drone, satellite and aerial photography;
- Surface monitoring via fixed cameras, Coastsnap and mobile phones; and
- Water quality monitoring – Beachwatch, audits and new MER program for 2023/24.

A presentation of the range of monitoring and outputs will be provided at the committee meeting.

### **Information from Transport for NSW - Ettalong channel dredging works (action 17)**

Transport for NSW Maritime Infrastructure Delivery Office (MIDO) is progressing the planning for dredging of the Ettalong channel later in 2023. Council is working to assist MIDO with information for the preparation of the Review of Environmental Factors. This includes identifying potential nourishment locations to assist with beach erosion at Ettalong. Council staff will provide an update from MIDO at the committee meeting.

### **Update from Water and Sewer on works in Terrigal and Lagoon catchments (action 13)**

Council's Water and Sewer Directorate continues to assess and repair/reline sewer infrastructure in the Terrigal Beach and Coastal Lagoon catchments. An update on the latest inspection and relining statistics will be presented at the committee meeting.

### **Financial Considerations**

At its meeting held 19 October 2020, Council resolved the following:

- 1108/20 That any motions put before Council for the remainder of this term of Council that have financial implications require the Chief Executive Officer to provide a report on how those additional costs will be met.*

The following statement is provided in response to this resolution of Council.

## **2.1 Update on Coastal Management (contd)**

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This report is provided as information to members of the committee and does not contain any material financial implications. The programs described in this update are included in Council's adopted 2022-2023 budget.

### **Link to Community Strategic Plan**

Theme 3: Green

### **Goal E: Environmental resources for the future**

G-E2: Improve water quality for beaches, lakes and waterways by minimising pollutants and preventing litter entering our waterways.

### **Attachments**

*Nil.*





**Item No:** 2.2  
**Title:** Update on Flood & Stormwater Management  
**Department:** Environment and Planning

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14 June 2023 Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting

Reference: F2021/00832 - D15671380  
Author: Peter Sheath, Section Manager, Flood Strategy and Planning  
Manager: Luke Sulkowski, Unit Manager Environmental Management  
Executive: Alice Howe, Director Environment and Planning

## **Recommendation**

*The Committee note the report.*

## **Report purpose**

To provide an update on the following flood and stormwater management activities:

- Flood related development controls (Action 14)
- Draft Flood Policy (Action 21)
- Document 'Understanding and Managing Flood Risk' (Action 31)
- Status of current projects
- Outstanding grant funded projects
- Water level and rain gauge upgrade Wyong River
- Flood forecasting – Tuggerah Lakes.

## **Report**

### ***Updates on flood related development controls (Action 14)***

Council officers are still working on a mechanism by which we can apply the NSW Government's proposed amendment to the *Central Coast Local Environment Plan 2022*. This proposal is to insert a special flood considerations clause 5.22, which is likely to occur in the next few months.

The current LEP has a transitional clause 7.23, which deals with sensitive or hazardous development. When the new clause 5.22 is inserted then the transitional clause will be removed. The existing sensitive and hazardous development clause will come across (from 7.23 to 5.22), but the main change will be that the scope of clause 5.55 special flood considerations would be extended to apply to:

- *development that is not sensitive or hazardous on land that the consent authority considers that, in a flood, may pose a particular risk to life and where people may need to evacuate, or where there are other safety concerns.*

## 2.2 Update on Flood & Stormwater Management (contd)

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This new clause will require Council, as the consent authority, to specifically consider access and evacuation requirements for development applications or planning proposals. For example, considering the risk associated with the need for emergency services to access the property (such as a medical emergency) or the risk associated with residents themselves attempting to either access or leave the property during flooding.

Ideally, we would like to be able to limit any increase to the number of people at risk in these areas of isolation; this could be via limiting the further subdivision of land and the creation of secondary dwellings in these areas. However, we have not yet determined how this can be applied in practice.

The flood risk associated with access and evacuation can clearly extend to land that is itself not flood-prone, but still becomes isolated during flooding. Examples of such land include the existing communities at Spencer, Yarramalong or Dooralong, or rural residential properties in the valleys of Matcham and Holgate. For example, there was a fatality in February 2023 at Oak Road, Matcham associated with a local resident being washed off a road causeway in their vehicle.

At present Council applies flood related development controls for development on land that is identified on Planning Certificates.

A Section 10.7 (s10.7) certificate is a Planning Certificate which is specific to each individual property. Under NSW legislation, a contract for sale of a property must include a current s10.7 certificate from the relevant local Council. A s10.7(2) certificate: contains the information specified in Schedule 4 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000*. Among other things, this will include information relating to relevant planning instruments and development control plans, zoning and land use, heritage items, road widening and realignments, *flood-related development controls*, land reserved for acquisition and bushfire prone land.

Under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000*, Schedule 4, clause 7A Flood related development controls, the Planning Certificate must indicate two things regarding flood related development controls:

- (1) If the land or part of the land is within the flood planning area and subject to flood related development controls.
- (2) If the land or part of the land is between the flood planning area and the probable maximum flood and subject to flood related development controls.

However, clause 7A within the Regulation (above) does not allow for land to be subject to flood related development controls beyond the extent of the PMF, even if such land becomes isolated during flooding. This presents us with a conundrum: we have not yet determined a planning mechanism by which we could apply the new clause 5.22 in practice.

Another issue to be considered is complying development. Complying Development is a fast-track approval process for straightforward residential, commercial, and industrial

## 2.2 Update on Flood & Stormwater Management (contd)

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development; the most typical being Granny Flats. All Complying Development Certificate (CDC) applications must be lodged through the online NSW Planning Portal. If the application meets specific criteria, it can be determined by a registered certifier. Under clause 3A.38 of the Codes SEPP 2008 development must not be carried out on any part of a flood control lot that is in one of the following five exclusionary categories: (a) flood storage area, (b) floodway area, (c) flow path, (d) high hazard area, (e) high risk area. Note that none of these five categories consider access or evacuation. Typically, CDCs are determined by private certifiers, which do not consider Council's Development Control Plan or the new LEP clause. So the new LEP clause would also appear to have no influence on the outcome of CDCs.

Council officers have been seeking guidance from officers within DPE, but we have not yet found a solution to this problem.

### **Update draft Sea Level Rise Policy and Flood Policy (Action 21)**

There has not been further work carried out since the last meeting. However, in late May 2023 Council officers attended the Floodplain Management Australia conference, where there were several papers presented on consideration of climate change.

Many councils do not yet consider climate change within the calculation of normal residential flood planning levels. But many coastal councils, including Central Coast, do include consideration of sea level rise.

#### *Sea level rise*

A paper presented by the Principal Flood Specialist from the NSW Department of Planning and Environment considered a range of sea level rise estimates based on intermediate to high greenhouse gas emissions scenarios from Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Assessment Report 5 (AR5), as follows:

Scenario	2050	2100
SSP2-4.5 (intermediate)	0.20m	0.53m
SSP3-7.0 (high)	0.22m	0.72m
SSP5-8.5 (very high)	0.23m	0.78m

Note to date Central Coast Council has been applying RCP8.5 in the former Gosford local government area, which was developed as part of the previous IPCC AR5 – 0.20m by 2050 and 0.74m by 2100. There has been no allowance for sea level rise in Tuggerah Lakes to date; this is being reviewed at present as part of the update of the Tuggerah Lakes Flood Study.

As part of this draft policy update the very high scenario has been chosen. We could alternatively choose the high scenario.

*Rainfall changes*

Regarding the impact of climate change on Flood Producing Rainfall Events (FPRE), the advice from DPE is unchanged: If the 1% AEP is being used as the basis for setting flood planning levels, then to use the 0.5% AEP flood levels as a proxy for a 15% increase in rainfall intensity and 0.2% AEP flood levels as a proxy for a 30% increase in rainfall intensity.

**Document ‘Understanding and Managing Flood Risk’ (Action 31)**

At the meeting of 29/3/23 action 31 was: A copy of the ‘*Understanding and Managing Flood Risk*’ – *Flood risk management guide FB01* to be distributed to Committee members.

The document can be found at: <https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/-/media/OEH/Corporate-Site/Documents/Water/Floodplains/flood-risk-management-understanding-220062.pdf>. This link has already been provided to committee members via email. Appendices A and B of this document have been shaping our thinking about updating our Flood chapter of the Development Control Plan.

**Status of current projects**

Woy Woy FRMSP:

- Report to Council prepared seeking adoption of the final risk management study and plan (27 June 2023 Council meeting)

Tuggerah Lakes Flood Study Review:

- Stage 1 complete – data collection and community consultation
- Stage 2 ongoing – hydrologic and hydraulic modelling (nearing completion)

Somersby and Kariong Catchments Overland Flood Study:

- Contract awarded
- Stage 1 underway - data collection and community consultation

Narara Creek FRMP

- Consultant is updating the draft Plan based on Council and DPE feedback.
- Will report back to the committee at the next meeting and consult with SES.

**Outstanding grant funded projects**

During the last year, especially following the Feb 22 and July 22 floods, there have been several grant opportunities for which we have submitted the following grant applications, all of which are still yet to be assessed and awarded:

*NSW Floodplain Management Program (2023-2024)*

Mangrove Ck & Mooney Mooney Ck Flood Study
Feasibility Study Davistown Foreshore Barrier
Lower Hawkesbury FRMS&P
Chittaway Climate Change Adaptation Study

## 2.2 Update on Flood & Stormwater Management (contd)

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### *Federal Local Government Recovery Grant (March 2022 Round)*

Expansion of flood depth indicator network
Porters Creek Flood Study
Flood Education Officer

### *Federal Local Government Recovery Grant (July 2022 Round)*

Development of flood forecasting tool for Wyong River catchment
LGA wide scoping study for critical locations for installation of flood valves
LGA wide audit of flood levees and levee effectiveness
LGA wide scoping study for installation of debris traps
LGA wide scoping study for automated flood warning road signage
Portable variable message signs to be deployed to flooded roads
Install 'road floods' signage at Blackwall Road Woy Woy

### *NSW Flood Recovery and Resilience Grant Program*

LGA Wide Scoping Study for Voluntary House Raising Scheme
Burns Road Boom Gates
Davistown Foreshore Barrier
Empire Bay Foreshore Barrier

### **Water level and rain gauge upgrade Amber Lane, Wyong River**

The 'Gears' gauge has been relocated and upgraded. Details will be provided at the meeting.

### **Flood forecasting – Tuggerah Lakes**

A web tool has been developed to assist residents around Tuggerah Lakes to understand the likely flood impacts in their area. Details will be provided at the meeting

### **Financial Considerations**

At its meeting held 19 October 2020, Council resolved the following:

*1108/20 That any motions put before Council for the remainder of this term of Council that have financial implications require the Chief Executive Officer to provide a report on how those additional costs will be met.*

The following statement is provided in response to this resolution of Council.

This report is provided as information to members of the committee and does not contain any financial implications. The programs it describes are included in Council's adopted 2022-2023 budget.

**Link to Community Strategic Plan**

Choose Themes

**Choose Focus Area**

G-F4: Address climate change and its impacts through collaborative strategic planning and responsible land management and consider targets and actions.

**Risk Management**

There are no material risks arising from the recommendations of this report.

**Options**

The report is for the information of the committee only. No alternative options are provided.

**Attachments**

*Nil.*



**Item No:** 2.3  
**Title:** Update on Coastal & Catchment Operations  
**Department:** Environment and Planning

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14 June 2023 Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting

Reference: F2021/00832 - D15671400  
Author: James Lawson, Section Manager. Environmental Infrastructure  
Manager: Luke Sulkowski, Unit Manager Environmental Management  
Executive: Alice Howe, Director Environment and Planning

## **Recommendation**

***That the information be noted.***

### **Report purpose**

To provide information on the Coastal and Catchment Operations to the Catchments to Coast Committee

### **Executive Summary**

This report to the Catchments to Coast Committee provides information on the following projects:

- Wrack and algae collection
- Update on the management of the Loggerhead Sea Turtle nest at Shelly Beach
- The Entrance Channel berm management and sand transfer project

## **Background**

This report provides an update on Council's Tuggerah Lakes wrack and algae collection program, the results of the Loggerhead Sea Turtle hatchling release recently at Shelly Beach, as well as an operational update in relation to The Entrance Channel berm management and sand transfer project.

## **Current Status**

### Wrack and Algae Collection

Wrack and algae collection includes the requirement to improve public amenity of the shoreline, maintain and enhance the health of the lake ecosystem, and reduce social impact of wrack and algae on public and private foreshores in the Tuggerah Lakes.

A total of 6,216m<sup>3</sup> of material has been collected during 2022/23 up to and including April 2023, compared to the year to date target of 4,167m<sup>3</sup>. Council has already exceeded its full year target of 5,000 m<sup>3</sup>.

Current slightly elevated water levels (approximately 0.47m AHD) within Tuggerah Lake are assisting mitigating the impacts of wrack. Elevated water levels provide for better mixing of the main lake basin with shallow areas near the shoreline, minimizing the amount of wrack getting trapped in near shore areas, and also allowing it to be lifted onto fringing saltmarsh and wetland landscapes.

Further to this, the increased depth now fully submerges attached seagrass leaves, which were more visible on the water surface around the new year period, when lake levels dropped at times to around the 0.05m AHD mark. Since lake levels have increased from less than 0.1m AHD in January, to current levels approaching 0.5m AHD, service requests relating to wrack have reduced from around 13 per month, to two per month.

#### Loggerhead Sea Turtle nest at Shelly Beach - Update

As reported to the Catchments to Coast Committee meeting on 29 March 2023, members of the community in mid-January reported turtle tracks on Shelly Beach and after further examination it was found that the tracks were the endangered loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*). The Shelly Beach site is the most southerly record of a Loggerhead Turtle nest.

NPWS is the lead agency in monitoring and protection of the nesting site, and supporting the successful hatching of the eggs, but contacted Council for support as the land manager of the beach. Working together, Central Coast Council, National Parks and Wildlife Service, NSW Turtle Watch, members of the Darkinjung Local Aboriginal Land Council and volunteers formed a working group to best manage the nest of this endangered species.

Sea turtle nests need an average sand temperature of above approximately 25 degrees to allow the hatchlings to develop. A temperature data logger was placed near the nest at the same depth to allow the temperatures to be monitored. When the temperature of the nest dropped below 25 degrees, black sand was placed over the top of the nest to increase heat absorption and attempt to increase the temperature. Unfortunately, the nest temperature dropped to critically low levels and on 29 March 2023 the nest was excavated by the working group under the supervision of NPWS with 136 eggs retrieved with 132 viable and 4 unviable. The eggs were then transferred to an incubator at Taronga Zoo.

After a few days in the incubators the turtles started to hatch, and a total of 93 were released back at Shelly Beach on 9 April 2023 in a smoking ceremony led by the Darkinjung Local Aboriginal Land Council, with 60 successfully making their journey in the ocean and 33 being washed back to shore and taken back to Taronga Zoo. A second release of the 63 remaining turtles was performed offshore of Shelly Beach on 12 April 2023. There was a burial ceremony also led by the Darkinjung Local Aboriginal Land Council for the deceased 9 eggs and buried at the same depth and location at the nest site. The Loggerhead Turtle nest, incubation and release program was a huge success, representing a success rate of 90% and a great collaboration between the community, government and volunteer agencies.



## **2.3 Update on Coastal & Catchment Operations (contd)**

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### The Entrance Channel Berm Management and Sand Transfer project

Central Coast Council was awarded \$495,000 in NSW Government funding under the Boating Access Dredging Program to undertake a dredge program of The Entrance channel. Council has dredged The Entrance channel when needed since 1993.

The focus of this program has primarily been to restore eroded foreshore areas both within the channel, and on the ocean side of Karagi Reserve, primarily for improved boating and recreational access in accordance with the scope of the grant, but secondarily, to better prepare the sandspit for Council to intervene should there be a forecast flood event.

Council commenced works on 22 May 2023 to strategically move sand from the sand spit at The Entrance channel to renourish the heavily eroded northern foreshores of Karagi Point Reserve. It is anticipated that the works will take approximately four weeks and will improve access and help protect the amenity and foreshore at Karagi Reserve carpark. The works will also assist in flood mitigation works, reducing the volume and time required to transfer sand from the sand spit should they be required during a severe weather event. It should be noted that the critically endangered Little Terns have flown to the northern hemisphere for the winter and will not be present for the duration of the works. A presentation will be provided to the committee on the progress of the dredging program.

### **Consultation**

Consultation in relation to the wrack and algae collection program has been undertaken with users of the Tuggerah Lakes estuary including the local residents and community organisations, as well as relevant NSW Government agencies.

Consultation in relation to the Loggerhead Turtles has been undertaken with NPWS, NSW Turtle Watch, members of the Darkinjung Local Aboriginal Land Council and volunteers formed a working group to best manage the nest of this endangered species.

Consultation in relation to The Entrance dredge program has been undertaken with users of the Tuggerah Lakes estuary including the local residents and community organisations, as well as relevant NSW Government agencies.

### **Financial Considerations**

At its meeting held 19 October 2020, Council resolved the following:

*1108/20 That any motions put before Council for the remainder of this term of Council that have financial implications require the Chief Executive Officer to provide a report on how those additional costs will be met.*

The following statement is provided in response to this resolution of Council.

## **2.3 Update on Coastal & Catchment Operations (contd)**

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The recommendations of this report do not have any material financial implications for Council. The programs described in the report are included in Council's adopted 2022-2023 budget.

### **Link to Community Strategic Plan**

Theme 3: Green

### **Choose Focus Area**

G-F1: Protect our rich environmental heritage by conserving beaches, waterways, bushland, wildlife corridors and inland areas, and the diversity of local native species.

### **Risk Management**

This report has been prepared for information of the Catchment to Coast Committee, and the recommendations arising from the report present no risks to Council or the community.

### **Options**

This report has been prepared for information of the Catchment to Coast Committee. There are no material options relating to it.

### **Attachments**

*Nil.*

## **2.4 HARDYS BAY STORMWATER OUTLET/ RSL CREEK**

Item on the agenda as per request from Committee members Michael Allsop and Adrian Williams.

**2.5 GENERAL BUSINESS**