



# **STATUS OF WOMEN ADVISORY GROUP**

**27 September 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

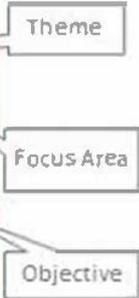
There are 5 themes, 12 focus areas and 48 objectives

### 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 (S1-S4)
- THEME: SMART**
  - Focus Area: A GROWING AND COMPETITIVE REGION (C1-C4)
  - Focus Area: A PLACE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PEOPLE (S1-S4)
- THEME: GREEN**
  - Focus Area: ENVIRONMENTAL WELL-BEING FOR THE FUTURE (C1-C4)
  - Focus Area: INCREASED RAIN WATER RESILIENCE (S1-S4)
- THEME: RESPONSIBLE**
  - Focus Area: GOOD GOVERNANCE AND GREAT PARTNERSHIPS (C1-C4)
  - Focus Area: BELONGING THROUGH INFRASTRUCTURE (S1-S4)
  - Focus Area: SAFE, ACTIVE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (S1-S4)
- THEME: LIVEABLE**
  - Focus Area: RELIABLE PUBLIC TRANSPORT AND CONNECTIONS (C1-C4)
  - Focus Area: SAFE AND HEALTHY LIVES (S1-S4)
  - Focus Area: HEALTHY LIFESTYLES (S1-S4)



# Meeting Notice

**The Status of Women Advisory Group  
of Central Coast Council  
will be held Remotely – Online,  
on Wednesday 27 September 2023 at 4:00PM,  
for the transaction of the business listed below:**

## **Welcome, Acknowledgement of Country, Receipt of Apologies**

*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 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**

- 2.1 Safer Cities Her Way.....22
- 2.2 International Womens Day 2024 Planning .....23
- 2.3 Council Project Updates/Information for Discussion.....39
- 2.4 General Business.....40

Melanie Smith  
**Chairperson**

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

Melanie Smith  
Chairperson

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

Melanie Smith  
Chairperson

15 June 2023 meeting minutes for approval

### Attachments

- |   |   |  |           |
|---|---|--|-----------|
| 1 |  | SOWAG unconfirmed minutes 15 June 2023 | D15817081 |
| 2 |  | Action log 15 June 2023                | D15817118 |



Central Coast Council  
Status of Women Advisory Group  
Held on  
Microsoft Teams  
15 June 2023

## MINUTES

### Attendance

#### Members

Margot Castles  
Belinda Field  
Sharon Walsh  
Sally Jope  
Danielle Habib  
Heather Irvine-Rundle  
Victoria Collins  
Kylie Smith  
Vickie Parry

#### Status

Absent  
Absent  
Present  
Apology  
Absent  
Present  
Present  
Apology  
Present

#### Staff

Melanie Smith – Director – Community and Recreation Services  
Marissa Racomelara – Director – Corporate Services  
Belinda McRobie – Section Manager – Community Development  
Holly Moltzen – Community Development Worker  
Anna Baer - Engagement Officer  
Rachel Gibson – Team Leader - Civic Support  
Angela Russell – Civic Support Officer

#### Status

Present  
Present  
Present  
Present  
Present  
Present  
Present

**Minutes of the Status of Women Advisory Group of Council 15 June 2023 contd**

---

**PROCEDURAL ITEMS**

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

---

The Chairperson, Melanie Smith, declared the meeting open at 4:04pm.

The Chair read an Acknowledgement of Country statement.

Apologies received and members absent without apology were noted.

The Chairperson called for any disclosures of interest. No disclosures were received.

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

---

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

[Status of Women Advisory Group Minutes – 15 March 2023](#)

Moved: Sharon Walsh

Seconded: Heather Irvine-Rundle

The Action log was reviewed and items can be marked as complete.

**REPORTS**

**2.1 Safer Cities Update**

---

Presentation provided by Anna Baer.

**Query** – Will the members of SOWAG get a copy of your report when it's finalised?

**Answer** – It will be public and Anna will come back and present with the findings.

**Minutes of the Status of Women Advisory Group of Council 15 June 2023 contd**

---

**2.2 Female Participation in the Central Coast Council Workforce**

---

Verbal presentation provided by Central Coast Council, Director Corporate Services, Marissa Racomelara.

**Query** – Request for figures or information about Indigenous women who are being mentored or coming through the system into leadership positions at Council.

**Answer** – Not at this stage. Council are looking at what data we collect. We are looking at improving our baseline data.

**Query** – Regarding Terms of Reference. Clarification was sort as to the role of SOWAG members. Is it to promote initiatives in other organisations and the broader community or is it to just receive the information presented.

**Answer** – The ToR refer to members promoting initiatives throughout the broader community and expand the presence of SOWAG to be influencers in promoting the Status of Women in the broader community.

**Query** – How do the initiatives/programs/projects get shared at present?

**Answer** – At present minutes of meetings are listed on Council's Website. Dissemination of information is a topic that needs further exploration at SOWAG meetings.

**2.3 International Women's Day 2023 and 2024**

---

Presentation provided by Belinda McRobie.

**2.4 Council Project Updates/Information for Discussion**

---

Verbal presentation provided by Belinda McRobie.

Council's 2 Major Grant programs are now open – **close on 30<sup>th</sup> of June:**

- Community Event and Place Activation Grant; and
- Community Development Grant.
- Monthly Community Support Grant Program (CSP)

Links to the grant programs: <https://www.centralcoast.nsw.gov.au/residents/support-programs/grants>

- Flag raising ceremony for NAIDOC week is the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July at 9:30am outside Council Chambers in Wyong. There will be performances, speeches and morning tea.

**Minutes of the Status of Women Advisory Group of Council 15 June 2023 contd**

---

**2.5 Update from Members**

---

**Victoria Collins** – Working with a Young Indigenous Women to bring on the board of the executive team of an NSW Agency. Facilitated bringing her to the Coast into a Leadership position from WA.

**Vickie Parry** – Voice Referendum 2023 – Educate the community around the Referendum and what it means for the Aboriginal community. There will be a forum on the 10<sup>th</sup> of July 2023 at Erina. There will be some guest speakers and a constitutional lawyer who will talk about what the voice means. It's about starting the conversation.

**Sharon Walsh** – Central Coast Domestic Violence Committee are working on a grant to host another walk against domestic violence later this year on the main road of Gosford. We're also working on another 'Reclaim the Night' event possibly in the Entrance.

**Heather Irvine-Rundle** – Psychological Services – Primary Health Network has a head to health programme which is a free service accessible to all and appointments are needed. This could help the issue of the mental health sessions being reduced from 20 to 10 by the Government.

**2.6 General business**

---

Nil

**2.7 Next Meeting date**

---

Next Meeting Date: 27<sup>th</sup> of September at 4:00pm in person.

**The Meeting** concluded at 5.28PM.

## Action log

### Status of Women Advisory Group



Action Number	Meeting Date	Action	Responsible Party	Action Update	Status
97	31/03/2021	Advisory Group Support Officer to share updates about pre-election info sessions and opportunities for women with members as available.	Advisory Group Support Officer	<p>Sessions will be held closer to elections as part of usual business.</p> <p>7/9/21: Item still pending and will be revisited after the Public Inquiry and Referendum</p> <p>7/06/2022- Background on this matter provided, Action update is that this matter is Ongoing, and also on hold, as LG election to be held in September 2024.</p> <p>10/1/2023 – still on hold 15/03/2023 – still on hold until 2024</p>	On hold
102	7/9/2021	Staff to check with engagement team about members being included in alert notices for documents on public exhibition via YourVoiceOurCoast.	Meeting Support Officer	<p>8/10: Emailed Comms with contact list</p> <p>7/6/2022 – Follow up regarding alert notices for public exhibition via YourVoiceOurCoast(?). Additional alert mechanisms(?). Check new members</p>	Completed

Minutes of the Status of Women Advisory Group of Council 15 June 2023 contd

Action Number	Meeting Date	Action	Responsible Party	Action Update	Status
				are included.  17/1/2023 send out process on who to register to get the alerts. 15/3/23 Link to YVOC 'on exhibition' documents provided to group	
103	7/9/2021	Project updates and documents on exhibition to be standing item on future agendas.	Unit Manager Community and Culture / Meeting Support Officer	Update provided on 7 December 2021 meeting  7/6/2022 - Draft First Nations Accord and Draft Acknowledgement of Country – remains on exhibition. Report to August 2022 on outcomes of exhibition and recommendation/s.  July Council meeting – seeking endorsement for exhibition and public comment – Council's flag and street banner policies.	Ongoing

Minutes of the Status of Women Advisory Group of Council 15 June 2023 contd

Action Number	Meeting Date	Action	Responsible Party	Action Update	Status
				<p>CRS finalising public art policy (internal document/policy) – how art is managed internally, procurement, decommission etc., Public forum and workshop and Regional Gallery. Looking to establish a panel of artists. Separate series and workshop/s regarding public policies will occur.</p> <p>Grant funding – Community Development Grants and Place Activation Grants, monthly.</p> <p>Overview of documents and policies current under public exhibition via YVOC engagement website. <b>Action: query regarding ‘Let’s Talk Woy Woy’ and whether the session will be recorded/made publicly available.</b></p> <p>Feedback regarding timing of sessions – different hours of the day etc. – community engagement and reach.</p>	

**Minutes of the Status of Women Advisory Group of Council 15 June 2023 contd**

<b>Action Number</b>	<b>Meeting Date</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Responsible Party</b>	<b>Action Update</b>	<b>Status</b>
				<p>10/1/2023 – Belinda and Melanie to continue to give ongoing updates to information that they feel is pertinent to the group.</p> <p>15/3/2023 – March 30 Let's Talk Gosford at Parkside building in Kibble Park</p>	
104	7/06/2022	Options to be explored in relation to discuss the work of Australian Psychological Society, and potential to invite to discuss and have attendees if possible.	Heather Irvine-Rundle	<p>12/09/2022 – To be discussed further at next meeting.</p> <p>10/1/2023 – Heather an apology at the meeting holding over to next meeting</p> <p>15/03/2023 – Heather sent an email Thursday 16/03/2023 4:37 PM to all committee members that provided details around the provision of psychological services and Interventions to the Central Coast Committee.</p> <p>The email requests for committee members to share their experiences of</p>	Ongoing

















## **2.1 SAFER CITIES HER WAY**

Presentation given by  
Beth Burgess



**Item No:** 2.2  
**Title:** International Womens Day 2024 Planning  
**Department:** Corporate Services

---

27 September 2023 Status of Women Advisory Group

Reference: F2017/00176 - D15846240  
Author: Rachel Gibson, Team Leader Civic Support  
Executive: Melanie Smith, Director.Community and Recreation Services

## **Recommendation**

***To establish a plan for the 2024 International Women's Day – Friday 8 March 2024***

### **Report purpose**

Beginning the discussion and planning for events and activities that will take place on IWD. Start the planning now so the event is a success.

### **Background**

Review summary notes from 2022 IWD.

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

Theme 1: Belonging

### **Goal A: Our community spirit is our strength**

R-G1: Build strong relationships and ensure our partners and community share the responsibilities and benefits of putting plans into practice.

**Critical Dates or Timeframes**

IWD 2024 is scheduled for 8 March 2024

**Attachments**

1   IWD Forum 2022 summary notes      D15089222





























## **2.3 COUNCIL PROJECT UPDATES/INFORMATION FOR DISCUSSION**

Presentation given by  
Glenn Cannard

## 2.4 GENERAL BUSINESS

1. [2024 NSW Women's Week Grant Program](#)
2. Member/ Sector updates