

# Central Coast Emergency Management Plan



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## Foreword

The Central Coast has experienced significant emergency events for many decades with many of these events being associated with meteorological conditions directly and/or indirectly causing storms, floods, coastal erosion events and bushfires.

The Central Coast has also been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and the severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) along with a range of biosecurity incidents such as equine influenza, Newcastle disease and the emergence of the Varroa mite affecting bees.

These emergencies directly and indirectly affect our communities, our built and natural environments and the provision of essential services.

It is not always possible to prevent a serious emergency event from occurring. But with careful planning and the adoption of the key principles of Prevention, Preparedness, Response and Recovery, we are better positioned to deal with a significant emergency.

The Central Coast Emergency Management Plan (EMPLAN) has been prepared with a comprehensive approach to emergency management including adherence to the principles outlined above and with consideration given to potential hazard and threats in consultation with combat agencies and supporting organisations and entities.

Together, Central Coast Council (Council), key combat agencies (NSW Police Force, NSW Ambulance, Fire and Rescue NSW, NSW Rural Fire Service, the NSW State Emergency Services and NSW Health), supporting organisations (termed functional support agencies) and select non-government organisations form the Central Coast Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC) who has oversight and coordination of the EMPLAN.

The EMPLAN helps prepare our community and enhances our resilience to future emergencies.



Dr Alice Howe

Director  
**Environment and Planning**  
**Central Coast Council**

Chairperson  
**Central Coast**  
**Local Emergency Management Committee**

## Foreword continued – recent events

Over the past three years the Central Coast Region has experienced more emergency events than ever recorded in such a short space in time as outlined below.

- **November 2019 to January 2020:** significant bushfires affected Mangrove Mountain, Kulnura, Spencer and Charmhaven with reported losses of homes and outbuildings either destroyed or damaged.
- **February 2020:** torrential rain for several days caused flooding on numerous rivers in eastern New South Wales (NSW) along with Tuggerah Lakes.
- **March 2020:** the COVID-19 pandemic detected.
- **July 2020:** severe weather and coastal erosion at The Entrance North and Wamberal saw several homes being severely damaged requiring the evacuation of residents.
- **March 2021:** severe weather event caused major flooding of Tuggerah Lake with the Hawkesbury River also flooding and impacting 60 plus properties and several caravan parks.
- **June 2021:** the outbreak of the COVID-19 Delta Variant detected.
- **February and March 2022:** a severe weather event and East Coast Low led to an evacuation order being issued to residents around Tuggerah Lake while the unprecedented flood level of the Hawkesbury River inundated more than 100 properties from Gunderman to Lower Mangrove.
- **April 2022:** enduring storm event and hazardous surf led to a significant degree of coastal erosion at North Entrance, causing several properties to lose ground along with assets into the ocean.
- **July 2022:** due to the onset of a third La Nina weather event, severe wet weather events continued. The Hawkesbury River reached a new maximum flood level of 5.56m at Wisemans Ferry.
- **October 2022:** significant and regular rainfall continued throughout October, causing minor flooding and flash flooding.
- **November 2022:** significant and regular rainfall continued throughout November, causing minor flooding and flash flooding.








This snapshot of key events shows the frequency and intensity of emergency events within the Central Coast Region while reinforcing the importance of this EMPLAN.

## Emergency Contact List

**Life threatening or time critical emergencies (Police, Ambulance, Fire) CALL 000**

COUNCIL	WEBSITE	PHONE CONTACT
Central Coast Council General enquiries / After hours (Including water, sewer and waste services)	<a href="https://www.centralcoast.nsw.gov.au/">https://www.centralcoast.nsw.gov.au/</a>	02 4306 7900
KEY COMBAT AGENCIES	WEBSITE	PHONE CONTACT
NSW Police Force		
Police Assistance Line	<a href="https://www.police.nsw.gov.au/">https://www.police.nsw.gov.au/</a>	131 444
Crimestoppers	<a href="https://nsw.crimestoppers.com.au/">https://nsw.crimestoppers.com.au/</a>	1800 333 000
Gosford Police Station		02 4323 5599
Wyong Police Station		02 4356 6099
NSW Ambulance	<a href="https://www.ambulance.nsw.gov.au/">https://www.ambulance.nsw.gov.au/</a>	02 9320 7777
Fire and Rescue NSW	<a href="https://www.fire.nsw.gov.au/">https://www.fire.nsw.gov.au/</a>	02 9265 2999
NSW Rural Fire Service	<a href="https://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/">https://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/</a>	1800 679 737
NSW State Emergency Service	<a href="https://www.ses.nsw.gov.au/">https://www.ses.nsw.gov.au/</a>	13 25 00
FUNCTIONAL SUPPORT AGENCIES (can also be combat agencies for specific matters)	WEBSITE	PHONE CONTACT
Dept of Primary Industries (Agricultural and Animal Services)	<a href="https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/">https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/</a>	02 6391 3100
Dept of Planning and Environment (Energy and Utility Services)	<a href="https://www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/">https://www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/</a>	02 9995 5000
Dept of Regional NSW Public Works Advisory (Engineering Services)	<a href="https://www.publicworks.nsw.gov.au/">https://www.publicworks.nsw.gov.au/</a>	1300 008 888
Environment Protection Authority (Environmental Services)	<a href="https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/">https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/</a>	131 555
NSW Ministry of Health (Health Services)	<a href="https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/">https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/</a>	02 9391 9000
Not specified (Public Information Services)	Not specific to one agency and may be co-ordinated at a state level	NA
NSW Telco Authority (Telecommunication Services)	<a href="https://www.nsw.gov.au/telco-authority">https://www.nsw.gov.au/telco- authority</a>	1800 343 963
Transport for NSW (Transport Services)	<a href="https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/">https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/</a>	131 500
Communities and Justice (Welfare Services)	<a href="https://www.dcj.nsw.gov.au/">https://www.dcj.nsw.gov.au/</a>	1800 152 152

OTHER SERVICES	WEBSITE	PHONE CONTACT
Emergency Alert (Australia)	<a href="http://www.emergencyalert.gov.au">www.emergencyalert.gov.au</a>	NA
National Emergency Management Agency	<a href="https://nema.gov.au/">https://nema.gov.au/</a>	Multiple – see website
NSW Reconstruction Authority	<a href="https://www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/about-us/our-agencies/nsw-reconstruction-authority">https://www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/about-us/our-agencies/nsw-reconstruction-authority</a>	Multiple – see website
ABC Central Coast 92.5 FM (Emergency broadcaster)	<a href="https://www.abc.net.au/centralcoast/live">https://www.abc.net.au/centralcoast/live</a>	139 994 (02) 8333 1666
Water Distributor and Sewer Services (Information on outages)	Refer to Central Coast Council listing above.	
Waste Services	Refer to Central Coast Council listing above.	
Energy Distributors (Information on outages)		
TransGrid (high voltage transmission network)	<a href="https://www.transgrid.com.au/">https://www.transgrid.com.au/</a>	1800 027 253
Ausgrid (distributor)	<a href="https://www.ausgrid.com.au/">https://www.ausgrid.com.au/</a>	131 388
Endeavour Energy (distributor)	<a href="https://www.endeavourenergy.com.au/">https://www.endeavourenergy.com.au/</a>	131 003
Essential Energy (distributor)	<a href="https://www.essentialenergy.com.au/">https://www.essentialenergy.com.au/</a>	132 080
Gas Distributors (Information on outages)		
Australian Gas Networks (distributor)	<a href="https://www.australiangasnetworks.com.au/">https://www.australiangasnetworks.com.au/</a>	1800 427 532
Jemena (distributor)	<a href="https://www.jemena.com.au/">https://www.jemena.com.au/</a>	131 909
Telecommunication Providers – major providers (Information on outages)		
nbn	<a href="https://www.nbnco.com.au/">https://www.nbnco.com.au/</a>	NA
Telstra	<a href="https://www.telstra.com.au/">https://www.telstra.com.au/</a>	Multiple – see website
Optus	<a href="https://www.optus.com.au/">https://www.optus.com.au/</a>	Multiple – see website
Vodafone	<a href="https://www.vodafone.com.au/">https://www.vodafone.com.au/</a>	Multiple – see website
Key Language and Communication Services		
Translating and Interpreting Service	<a href="https://www.tisnational.gov.au/">https://www.tisnational.gov.au/</a>	131 450
National Relay Service	<a href="https://nrschat.nrscall.gov.au/nrs/registration">https://nrschat.nrscall.gov.au/nrs/registration</a>	1800 555 660 (helpdesk)
Vision Australia	<a href="https://www.visionaustralia.org/">https://www.visionaustralia.org/</a>	1300 847 466

Deaf Connect	<a href="https://deafconnect.org.au/">https://deafconnect.org.au/</a>	NA
Teletypewriter (TTY)		133 677
Voice Relay		1300 555 727
SMS Relay		0423 677 767
VRA Rescue NSW	<a href="https://www.rescue.org.au/">https://www.rescue.org.au/</a>	1300 872 777
USEFUL GOVERNMENT OR AFFILIATED APPS	ICON	APP STORE
Service NSW		Available on App Store and Google Play
BOM Weather		Available on App Store and Google Play
Live Traffic		Available on App Store and Google Play
Hazards Near Me NSW (includes flood and bushfire)		Available on App Store and Google Play
Water Live		Available on App Store and Google Play
Emergency Plus		Available on App Store and Google Play
ABC		Available on App Store and Google Play

## Table of contents

Foreword.....	3
Foreword continued – recent events .....	4
Emergency Contact List.....	5
Table of contents.....	8
Part 1 – Administration .....	11
Authority and Endorsement.....	11
Test and Review .....	12
Document Control History .....	12
Document Control List of Inclusions and Exclusions.....	13
Distribution List .....	13
Information Management, Privacy, and Disclaimer.....	14
Structure of the EMPLAN.....	14
Purpose.....	14
Objectives .....	14
Compliance and Strategic Policy Framework.....	15
Integration with Councils Community Strategic Planning Processes .....	15
Integration with the Integrated Planning and Reporting framework.....	15
Scope.....	16
Local Emergency Management Committee .....	17
Establishment.....	17
Membership.....	17
Chairperson .....	17
Deputy Chairperson.....	17
Local Emergency Operations Controller.....	17
Deputy Local Emergency Operations Controller (Deputy LEOCON).....	17
Functional Areas.....	17
Advisors.....	18
Executive Support .....	18
Functions of the LEMC.....	18
Regional Emergency Management Committee.....	18
State Emergency Management Committee .....	19
Australian Government Level.....	19
Principles .....	19



Lesson Identified From Previous Emergency Events.....	20
Part 2 – Community Context.....	21
Community Profile.....	21
General.....	21
Climate .....	22
Climate Change Snapshot.....	23
Major National Parks and Forests .....	25
Land Use.....	25
Rural and Agricultural .....	26
Industrial Development .....	26
Residential Development .....	26
Commercial Development.....	26
Population and People.....	26
Selected subpopulation categories (ABS, 2021).....	27
Our Ageing Population (ABS, 2021).....	27
Dwelling Types (ABS, 2021).....	28
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander profile (ABS, 2021).....	28
Vulnerable Communities .....	29
Socio-economic disadvantage.....	29
Language (ABS, 2021).....	30
Industry and Employment (ABS, 2021) .....	30
Industry sector of employment (ABS, 2021).....	31
Motor Vehicle Ownership (ABS, 2021).....	31
Method of travel to work (ABS, 2021).....	32
Warnervale Airport.....	32
Warnervale Aerodrome – Jack Grant Avenue, Warnervale.....	33
Somersby Airfield – Lackersteins Road, Somersby (Privately owned) .....	34
Kulnura Glider Airstrip - Bloodtree Road, Kulnura (Central Coast Soaring Club) .....	35
Annexure A - Acronyms & Definitions .....	37
Annexure B - Agency Roles & Responsibilities .....	43
Annexure C – Hazards and Risks Summary.....	51
Annexure D – Supporting Plans, Sub Plans and other relevant plans .....	57
Part 3 – Restricted Operational Information.....	59
Annexure E – Community Assets .....	59

Key Resources and Locations .....59

Annexure F - LEMC Contact List .....63

Annexure G – Vulnerable Facilities or Critical Infrastructure .....63

    A significant Central Coast Incident affecting the Hunter Central Coast Region. ....63

Annexure H – Consequence Management Guides .....110

Annexure I – Approved Evacuation Centres .....111

Annexure J – Lessons Management (LEMC AAR) .....113

## Part 1 – Administration

### Authority and Endorsement

This EMPLAN has been prepared by the LEMC in accordance with the *State Emergency & Rescue Management Act 1989* (SERM Act). This EMPLAN represents the government, non-government organisation, business and community partnerships committed to enhancing the safety of the Central Coast Region and our community.

ENDORSED



Dr Alice Howe  
Environmental Management  
Central Coast Council

Chairperson  
Central Coast Local Emergency Management  
Committee

Dated: 25/03/2023



Superintendent Chad Gillies  
Commander Tuggerah Lake Police District  
NSW Police Force

Local Emergency Operations Controller  
(LEOCON)

Dated: 25/03/2023

ENDORSED



Assistant Commissioner Peter McKenna APM  
Commander Northern Region  
NSW Police Force

Regional Emergency Operations Controller  
(REOCON)

Chairperson  
Hunter Central Coast Regional Emergency  
Management Committee

Dated: 19.4.23

## Test and Review

The LEMC will review this EMPLAN every three (3) years or following:

- the activation of the EMPLAN in response to an emergency,
- legislative changes affecting the EMPLAN, and
- exercise conducted to test all or part of the EMPLAN that identified deficiencies with the EMPLAN.

## Document Control History

### Version and Amendments

The EMPLAN is a controlled document. The LEMC welcomes feedback from residents, visitors, and other stakeholders. Proposed amendments should be addressed to:

**Post:** The Chief Executive Officer  
 Attention: Emergency Management Coordinator  
 Central Coast Council  
 PO Box 20,  
 Wyong, NSW, 2259  
 Australia

**Email:** [ask@centralcoast.nsw.gov.au](mailto:ask@centralcoast.nsw.gov.au)

Version	Date	Comment
1	Unavailable	Archived.
2	2003	Revised DISPLAN.
3	November 2008	Revised DISPLAN.
4	November 2012	New version of DISPLAN to reflect changes in the SERM Act (v2010).
5	April 2017	New EMPLAN. Complete rewrite in accordance with the SERM Act and amendments, and the NSW Local Emergency Management Plan Guideline 2015 <sup>1</sup> .
6	June 2023	Revised EMPLAN, CMG's and Evacuation Centre Register. List of inclusions and exclusions can be found at page 11.

<sup>1</sup> The Guideline (no longer current) for the development of the Local Emergency Management Plan was prepared by the State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) Working Group and published by the NSW Ministry for Police and Emergency Services (MPES) 2015.

## Document Control List of Inclusions and Exclusions

<b>INCLUSIONS</b>
1. Foreward(s)
2. Emergency Contact List
3. Table of Contents
4. Authority and Endorsement
5. Test and Review
6. Document Control History
7. Distribution List
8. Acronyms and Definitions
9. Information Management, Privacy, and Disclaimer
10. Responsibilities under the plan
11. Structure of the plan
12. Compliance and Strategic Policy Framework
13. Integration with Councils Community Strategic Planning Processes
14. Central Coast Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC)
15. Regional Emergency Management Committee (REMC)
16. State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC)
17. Australian Government Level
18. Lesson Identified from Previous Emergency / Disaster Events
19. Climate Snapshot and Projected Changes
20. National Parks and State Forests
21. Vulnerable Facilities and Critical Infrastructure
22. Map for Central Coast Evacuation Centres
<b>EXCLUSIONS</b>
Evacuation Centre – Norah Head Bowling Club
Evacuation Centre – Terrigal Memorial Country Club – Breakers Country Club
Evacuation Centre – The Entrance Bowling Club
Evacuation Centre – Tuggerah Lakes Golf Club
Evacuation Centre – Woy Woy Bowling Club
Evacuation Centre – Woy Woy Rugby League Football Club

## Distribution List

The controlled master copy of the EMPLAN is held by Council's Emergency Management Coordinator.

Controlled copies of the EMPLAN, including restricted operational information and supporting documents, is distributed to:

- Members of the LEMC, as listed in the LEMC Contact List (**Annexure G - Confidential**),
- Hunter Central Coast Regional Emergency Management Committee (REMC),
- Hunter Central Coast Regional Emergency Management Officer (REMO),
- Central Coast Local Emergency Operations Centres (EOC),
- Central Coast Executive Leadership Team (ELT), and
- Others as approved by the LMEC.

## Information Management, Privacy, and Disclaimer

The recipients of the EMPLAN must take all reasonable steps to ensure restricted operational information remains secure and confidential. Individuals must not intentionally access files, registers or other documents that contain restricted operational information unless it is necessary for their specific role and duties. The information provided in the EMPLAN is undertaken to be accurate at the time of publication.

## Structure of the EMPLAN

The EMPLAN structure is:

- Part 1 – Administration,
- Part 2 – Community Context (Profile), and
- Part 3 – Restricted Operational Documents

## Purpose

The purpose of the EMPLAN is to outline the measures adopted that enable the Central Coast community to prepare for an impending or evolving emergency event, thereby increasing our levels of resilience and capability. The EMPLAN also provides detail to the arrangements set in place to ensure an effectively coordinated and managed use of resources during the four phases of emergency management: Prevention, Preparation, Response, and Recovery. This incorporates the arrangements for:

- emergencies controlled by combat agencies,
- emergencies controlled by emergency combat agencies and supported by the Local Emergency Operations Controller (LEOCON),
- emergency operations for which there is no emergency combat agency, and
- circumstances where a combat agency has passed control to the LEOCON.

Further details of agency roles and responsibilities are provided at **Annexure B**.

## Objectives

The objectives of the EMPLAN are to outline the emergency management arrangements and priorities associated with responsible agencies for the various hazards and threats. The arrangements detail:

- the various combat agencies, functional support areas, and other services involved in emergencies,
- control and coordination arrangements,
- activation and alerting arrangements,
- vulnerabilities including communities, environment, and infrastructure, and
- emergency communications.

Further details of agency roles and responsibilities are provided at **Annexure B**.

## Compliance and Strategic Policy Framework

The LEMC is committed to ensuring the EMPLAN is compliant with:

- the SERM Act,
- the Emergency Management Arrangements for NSW,
- NSW State EMPLAN,
- Hunter Central Coast Regional EMPLAN,
- the Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) Framework,
- the National Strategy for Disaster Resilience (2011),
- the National Disaster Risk Reduction Framework (2018),
- the National Emergency Risk Assessment Guidelines (2020) and ISO 31000, and
- various Acts and Regulations associated with emergency combat agencies, local government, and Work Health & Safety (WHS).

## Integration with Councils Community Strategic Planning Processes

The Central Coast Community Strategic Plan 2018-2028 has an emphasis on key areas involving community engagement for new initiatives. Additionally, the 'Get Ready Central Coast' program and Council's commitment to community education highlights the linkage between Council initiatives, community, the principles of emergency management and building a more resilient community. But the process doesn't stop with information sharing. As security and public safety becomes a more frequent topic of discussion, the principles of emergency management are incorporated in the strategic planning for Major Events such as.

- New Year's Eve celebrations,
- Australia Day,
- ANZAC Day,
- Major Sporting Events, and
- other significant community activities.

The EMPLAN also links with the NSW Government initiative, the IP&R framework.

## Integration with the Integrated Planning and Reporting framework

The IP&R Framework<sup>2</sup> recognises that most communities share similar aspirations: a safe, healthy, and pleasant place to live, a sustainable environment, and opportunities for social interaction, opportunities for education and employment, and reliable infrastructure. The difference lies in how each community responds to these needs. It also recognises that Council plans and policies should not exist in isolation - that they are inter-connected. This framework allows NSW Councils to draw their various plans together, understand how they interact and get the maximum leverage from their efforts by planning holistically and sustainably for the future.

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<sup>2</sup> [IP&R Framework](#), Office of Local Government, NSW Government 2015.

## Scope

The EMPLAN applies to the planning, coordination, support, and resourcing of response and recovery activities for the Central Coast Local Government Area (LGA) illustrated in Figure 1.

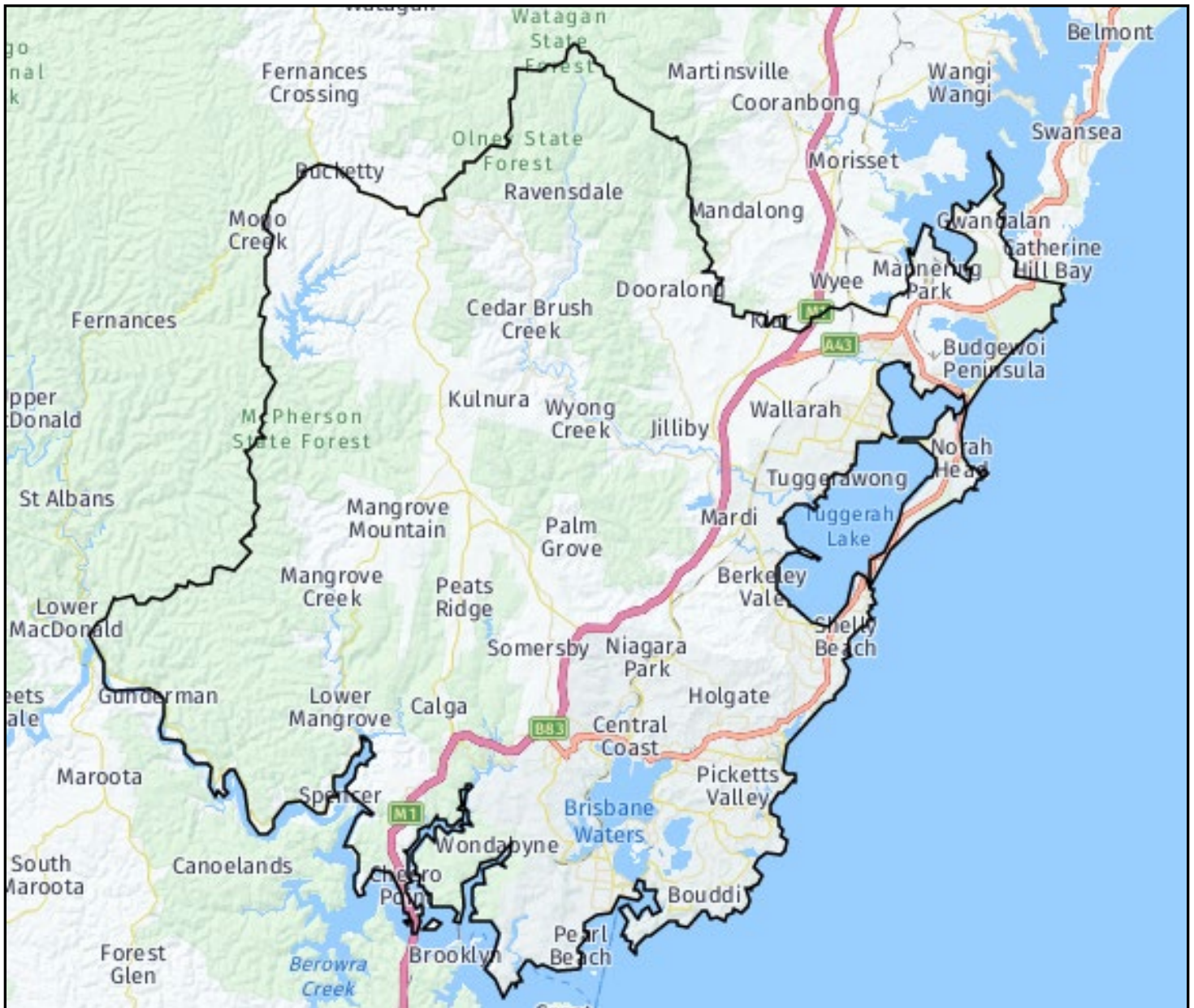


Figure 1. Central Coast LGA.



## Local Emergency Management Committee

### Establishment

In accordance with Part 2, Division 3, Section 28 of the SERM Act, this LEMC is established.

### Membership

The LEMC consists of:

- a) the Chief Executive Officer of **Council** (or as delegated), and
- b) a senior member of each **emergency service organisation** operating in the Central Coast LGA, and
- c) a representative of each organisation that:
  - i. provides services in a **functional area**, and
  - ii. **other organisations** determined by Council, and
- d) the **LEOCON** for the NSW Police District Tuggerah Lake and **Deputy LEOCON** or the NSW Police District Brisbane Water.

### Chairperson

The Chairperson of the LEMC and Council's representative Dr Alice Howe, Director Environment and Planning.

### Deputy Chairperson

The Deputy Chairperson is nominated by the Chairperson and is currently Council's Mr Matthew Corradin, Unit Manager Environmental Compliance Services.

### Local Emergency Operations Controller

The LEOCON is appointed by the Regional Emergency Operations Controller (REOCON) and is a Senior Police Officer stationed within the Central Coast LGA. The LEOCON functions are outlined in accordance with Part 2, Division 3, Sections 30 and 31 of the SERM Act. The LEOCON is currently Mr Chad Gillies, Superintendent, Tuggerah Lakes Police District, NSW Police Force.

### Deputy Local Emergency Operations Controller (Deputy LEOCON)

The Deputy LEOCON is appointed by the REOCON. In the absence of, or at the direction of the LEOCON, the Deputy LEOCON will assume the functions of the LEOCON. The Deputy LEOCON is currently Mr Darryl Jobson, Superintendent, Brisbane Water Police District, NSW Police Force.

### Functional Areas

Members from the functional support areas are drawn from those agencies nominated under the Emergency Contact List, Functional Support Agencies.

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## Advisors

In addition to its core members, the LEMC may invite participants from a range of entities, such as industry and community organisations to participate in the business of the LEMC in an advisory capacity, as required.

## Executive Support

Council is to provide executive support facilities for the LEMC and the LEOCON. These facilities currently consist of a primary EOC at Charmhaven, secondary EOC at Kariong and meeting/training rooms located within the Central Coast LGA.

## Functions of the LEMC

The LEMC is responsible for the preparation and review of plans in relation to the prevention of, preparation for, response to, and recovery from emergencies in the Central Coast LGA.

The LEMC may.

- a) carry out emergency management policy and practice, consistent with information on that policy and practice disseminated by the State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC), and
- b) review and prepare plans in respect of the Central Coast LGA that are, or proposed to be, Sub-Plans or Supporting Plans established under the State EMPLAN, and
- c) make recommendations and assist in the coordination of emergency management training in the Central Coast LGA, and
- d) facilitate local emergency management capability through inter-agency coordination, co-operations and information sharing arrangements, and
- e) assist the LEOCON for the Central Coast LGA, and
- f) such other functions:
  - i. related to the SERM Act, and
  - ii. assigned to the Committee by the REMC and/or the SEMC.

In the exercise of its functions, the LEMC is responsible to the Hunter Central Coast REMC.

## Regional Emergency Management Committee

The Hunter Central Coast REMC is established under Part 2, Division 2, Section 23 of the SERM Act. The REMC is responsible for reviewing and endorsing plans for LEMCs.

The REMC supports the functions of the LEMC and facilitates regional emergency management capability.

## State Emergency Management Committee

The NSW State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) is established under Part 2, Division 1 of the SERM Act. Members of the NSW SEMC are appointed by the Minister for Emergency Services. One of the functions of the SEMC involves reviewing, monitoring, and advising the Minister on emergency management issues within NSW.

## Australian Government Level

At an Australian Government level, the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) has been established to combine the efforts of the former National Recovery and Resilience Agency and Emergency Management Australia, to create a single, enduring, end-to-end agency to better respond to emergencies, help communities recover, and prepare Australia for future disasters.

## Principles

The following principles are applied in this plan:

- a) the Emergency Risk Management (ERM) process is to be used as the basis for emergency planning in NSW. This methodical approach to the planning process is to be applied by all Emergency Management Committees across NSW,
- b) responsibility for prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery rests initially at local level,
- c) if local agencies and available resources are not sufficient, they are augmented by those at a regional level,
- d) control of emergency response and recovery operations is conducted at the lowest effective level,
- e) agencies may deploy their own resources from their own service from outside the affected local area or region if they are needed,
- f) the LEOCON is responsible, when requested by a combat agency, to co-ordinate the provision of resource support. LEOCONs would not normally assume control from a combat agency unless the situation can no longer be contained. Where necessary, this should only be done after consultation with the REOCON and agreement of the combat agency and the appropriate level of control,
- g) emergency preparation, response and recovery operations should be conducted with all agencies carrying out their normal functions wherever possible.
- h) prevention measures remain the responsibility of authorities/agencies charged by statute with the responsibility.

## Lesson Identified From Previous Emergency Events

Lessons management<sup>3</sup> is an overarching term that refers to collecting, analysing, disseminating, and applying learning experiences from events, exercises, programs, and reviews. These learning experiences include those that should be sustained and those that need to improve. The goal of this activity is ongoing improvement by organisations and the people who work for them.

Organisational growth and continuous improvement are particularly relevant where preservation of life is the primary goal. A consistent approach to the management of lessons is an essential component of an organisation that has a culture of learning. Lessons management can facilitate learning and improvement resulting in more efficient and effective practices, improved safety, and improved capture and mobilisation of knowledge. Organisations are seen to be learning when their structures, processes and culture can evolve based on learning acquired from experience.

After-Action Reviews (AARs), also referred to as Post Incident Debriefs, are held by Council as well as the LEMC and relevant combat agencies after significant emergency events. Lessons Identified along with actions taken to improve all agencies preparation, response and recovery are embedded into Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) or similar and include.

- a. Identification of training and exercising opportunities involving a multi-agency approach across all types of threats.
- b. Enhancing organisational capacity and capability to staff EOCs for prolonged periods.
- c. Developing Threat Specific Emergency Action Plans (EAPs) to assist with the planning, response, and recovery responsibilities of agencies.
- d. Utilising available Information Technology to enhance preparation and response.
- e. Strengthening collaboration between agencies to enhance accurate and timely information sharing in the lead up to and during an emergency event.
- f. Increasing agency engagement with our community to enhance group and individual preparation to strengthen our resilience.
- g. Taking advantage of state and federal grants to provide community focused projects.

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<sup>3</sup> [Lessons Management Handbook](#), Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience, Commonwealth of Australia 2019.

## Part 2 – Community Context

### Community Profile

#### General

The Central Coast LGA is located in the Central Coast Region of NSW, between 60 and 90 kilometres north of the Sydney CBD, and about 80 kilometres south of the Newcastle CBD. Geographically, the Central Coast is generally considered to include the region bounded by the Hawkesbury River in the south, the Watagan Mountains in the west and the southern end of Lake Macquarie in the north and lies with the greater Sydney basin.

The Central Coast Region encompasses a total land area over 1,800 square kilometres (km<sup>2</sup>), including more than 80 km of coastline. More than half of the Central Coast Region is national parks, state forest, bushland, open space, nature reserves and aquatic environments (such as beaches, estuaries and waterways). The population is dispersed across 154 suburbs including a variety of urban settings, such as small cities, towns, villages and neighbourhoods. The largest urban centres are Gosford, Tuggerah-Wyong, Erina, Woy Woy and The Entrance. The Central Coast LGA has an estimated population of 346,596 as of the 2021 Census, growing by 1% annually.

The region has been inhabited for over 20,000 years by Aboriginal people before population decline as a result of European settlement. The local Kuringgai people were the first Aboriginal people to come in contact with British settlers. An Aboriginal man from the region named Bungaree became one of the most prominent people of the early settlement of NSW. He was one of the first Aboriginal people to learn English and befriended the early governors Phillip, King and Macquarie. He accompanied explorer Matthew Flinders in circumnavigating Australia. Macquarie later declared Bungaree "The King of the Broken Bay Tribes"<sup>4</sup>.

In addition to Kuringgai-speaking people (referred to as the "Pittwater tribes" and "Broken Bay tribes" by early colonists), Awabakal lived around Lake Macquarie, and Darkinjung people lived inland, to the west of the Mooney Mooney Creek. The Kuringgai (Guringai), Awaba and Darkinjung languages are related to each other but are distinct from the Dharrug and Sydney languages that were spoken south of the Central Coast. Post-settlement disease and disruption greatly reduced the numbers of Aboriginal people. However, it remains that there were hundreds, if not thousands, of independent and culturally rich people living on the NSW Central Coast<sup>4</sup>.

European settlement dates from the 1820s, with development mainly along the coast, particularly around waterways. Land was used mainly for farming and timber-getting. Ship building industries were also important. The area had minimal growth until the 1860s, when the establishment of several shipyards and citrus orchards brought more people into the area. Further growth took place in the 1880s and 1890s, aided by the opening of the railway line and the expansion of tourism. Growth continued in the early 1900s, with subdivision of land along the waterways and beaches for holiday villages and resorts. Significant development occurred in the post-war years, aided by improvements in access and the expansion of metropolitan Sydney.

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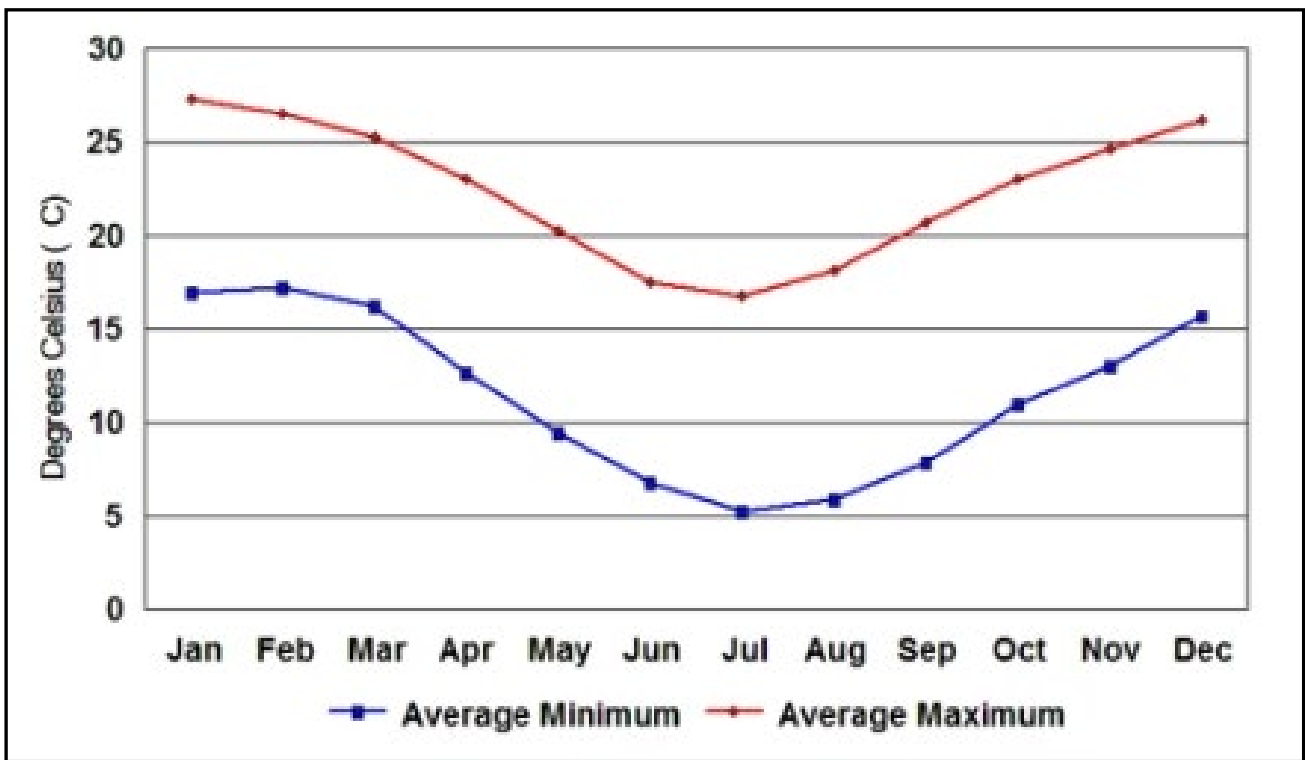
<sup>4</sup> [A History of the Aboriginal People of the Central Coast of New South Wales to 1874](#), PhD by Laurence Paul Allen BE, September 2021.

The population continued to grow rapidly from the 1960s to the 1980s, rising from about 50,000 in 1960, to about 85,000 in 1970, and then to 191,000 in 1986. The population continued to increase during the 1990s, rising from about 229,000 in 1991 to nearly 285,000 in 2001. Growth continued from 2001, although at a slower rate, with the population increasing to about 348,379 in 2021.

**Climate**

The Central Coast Region has a humid subtropical climate with warm and humid summers and mild to cool winters. Climate information for the Central Coast is recorded in the Bureau of Meteorology’s (The Bureau) weather statistics sourced from the Norah Head Lighthouse (33 degrees 16.900’ S 151 degrees 34.580’E).

The mean average annual temperature within the Central Coast Region is 17.7°C, with the annual mean average maximum temperature of 21.7°C and mean average minimum temperature of 14.6°C. The Central Coast has a significant amount of rainfall spread evenly throughout the year but is slightly more frequent during autumn. The average annual rainfall is 1230.5 mm with a mean average of 142 mm rainfall in February and with 103 days being the mean days with over 1 mm of rain.



**Figure 2.** Temperature Central Coast.

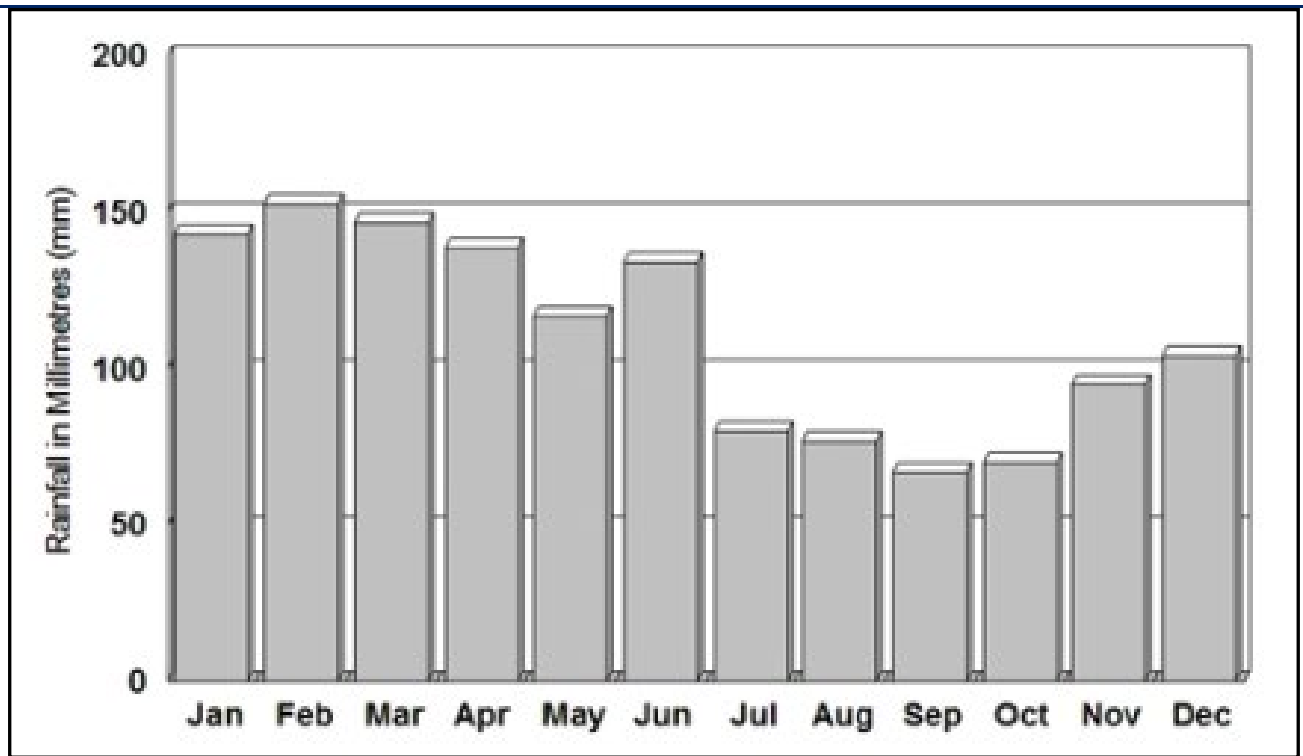


Figure 3. Rainfall Central Coast.

### Climate Change Snapshot

Based on long-term (1910–2011) observations, temperatures in the Central Coast Region have been increasing since about 1960, with higher temperatures experienced in recent decades.

The region is projected to continue to warm during the near future (2020–2039) and far future (2060–2079), compared to recent years (1990–2009). The warming is projected to be on average about 0.7°C soon, increasing to about 1.9°C in the far future.

The number of hot days is projected to increase, and there are projected to be fewer cold nights.






The warming trend projected for the region is large compared to natural variability in temperature and is of a similar order to the rate of warming projected for other regions of NSW<sup>5</sup>.

<sup>5</sup> [Central Coast Climate Change Snapshot](#), Office of Environment and Heritage, November 2014

# Projected changes



**Figure 4.** Projected climate changes Central Coast 2020-2079.

Projected temperature changes	
 Maximum temperatures are projected to <b>increase</b> in the near future by 0.3 – 1.0°C	Maximum temperatures are projected to <b>increase</b> in the far future by 1.4 – 2.5°C
 Minimum temperatures are projected to <b>increase</b> in the near future by 0.4 – 0.8°C	Minimum temperatures are projected to <b>increase</b> in the far future by 1.4 – 2.5°C
 The number of hot days will <b>increase</b>	The number of cold nights will <b>decrease</b>
Projected rainfall changes	
 Rainfall is projected to <b>decrease</b> in spring and winter	Rainfall is projected to <b>increase</b> in summer and autumn
Projected Forest Fire Danger Index (FFDI) changes	
 Average fire weather is projected to <b>increase</b> in summer and spring	Severe fire weather is projected to <b>increase</b> in summer and spring

**Figure 5.** Projected temperature, rainfall, and Forest Fire Danger Index (FFDI) changes Central Coast 2020-2079.



## Major National Parks and Forests

Name	Location	Administered by
Brisbane Water National Park	10km SW of Gosford	National parks and Wildlife
Bouddi National Park	20km S of Gosford	National parks and Wildlife
Dharug National Park	80km W of Gosford	National parks and Wildlife
Popran National Park	20km W of Gosford	National parks and Wildlife
Wyrribalong National Park	5km S of Toukley	National parks and Wildlife
Olney State Forest	20km W of Morisset	Forestry Corporation
Ourimbah State Forest	10km NW of Ourimbah	Forestry Corporation
Strickland State Forest	10km N of Gosford	Forestry Corporation

**Figure 6.** National Parks, Nature Reserves, State Conservation Areas and Forests.

## Land Use

The higher lands of the Central Coast Region are the areas in the west and form higher hills and plateaus protected by forest and conservation lands. Associated valleys are primarily the areas west of the M1 Motorway along the freshwater sections of Hawksbury River, Jilliby Creek, Mangrove Creek, Mooney Creek, Ourimbah Creek, and Wyong River. These valleys include the water supply catchments for most of the Central Coast's drinking water.

The coastal floodplains surround the lower major estuaries of Brisbane Water, Hawkesbury River, and Tuggerah Lakes. Brisbane Water is a wave-dominated barrier estuary located to the south of Gosford and travels for approximately 18 km to its mouth at Broken Bay. The Hawkesbury River is a semi-mature tide dominated drowned valley estuary forming the southern boundary of the Central Coast.

The Hawkesbury River is the main tributary of Broken Bay. Secondary tributaries include Brisbane Water, Mooney Creek, and Mangrove Creek, that together with the Hawkesbury River flow into the Tasman Sea south of Box Head. Tuggerah Lakes estuary (consists of three interconnecting shallow lagoons including Tuggerah Lake, Budgewoi Lake, and Lake Munmorah) are largely isolated from the ocean and flow into the Tasman Sea from The Entrance.

The Central Coast coastline stretches for over 80 km and consists of narrow rocky headlands, sheltered bays, rock platforms and beaches coupled with coastal erosion hotspots areas of Wamberal Beach, Cabbage Tree Harbour (Norah Head), The North Entrance, and Hargraves Beach.

## **Rural and Agricultural**

There are over 2,900 parcels of land zoned for Rural and Agriculture (>2000 m<sup>2</sup>) across the Central Coast LGA and contain related activities representing 72,068 Ha (720 km<sup>2</sup>) or 39% of the LGA. Primary production within the LGA is limited, however grazing occurs in the Yarramalong Valley, Central Mangrove and Mangrove Mountain areas. Most rural properties are managed for lifestyle values and the owners do not generally generate a primary income from production off their land. However, small areas of agricultural activity do occur on these lands and the presence of livestock and other animals is widespread.

## **Industrial Development**

There are over 1,500 parcels of land zoned for Industrial across the Central Coast LGA and contain development representing 2,812 Ha (28 km<sup>2</sup>) or 2% of the LGA. The greatest number of commercial developments is in the Tuggerah Business Park, West Gosford, and Gosford precincts.

## **Residential Development**

There are over 109,000 parcels of land zoned for Residential Development across the Central Coast LGA representing 11,326 Ha (113 km<sup>2</sup>) or 6% of the LGA. Residential developments include free standing dwellings, townhouses, and an array of other residential facilities. Substantial growth for the Central Coast is identified for the northern suburbs with some infill development within established town centres/urban areas.

## **Commercial Development**

There are over 3,00 parcels of land zoned for Commercial Development the Central Coast LGA representing 1,265 Ha (13 km<sup>2</sup>) or 2% of the LGA. The main employment sectors are retail trade, healthcare, social assistance, accommodation, food services and construction. There are large business centres at Tuggerah and West Gosford, and major shopping precincts including Bateau Bay, Westfield Tuggerah, Lake Haven, Erina Fair, Deep Water Plaza Woy Woy, Imperial Centre at Gosford, West Gosford Shopping Centre, and new developments at Warnervale that provide local employment opportunities.

## **Population and People**

The usual resident population of the Central Coast Region was 346,596 as of the 2021 Census, living in 152,875 dwellings with an average household size of 2.46.

Selected subpopulation categories (ABS, 2021)

Central Coast Council area - Total people (Usual residence)	2021			2016			Change
Population group	Number	%	Greater Sydney %	Number	%	Greater Sydney %	2016 to 2021
Males	167,980	48.5	49.4	158,768	48.4	49.3	+9,212
Females	178,618	51.5	50.6	168,972	51.6	50.7	+9,646
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population	17,049	4.9	1.7	12,485	3.8	1.5	+4,564
Australian citizens	311,582	89.9	80.8	292,003	89.1	79.5	+19,579
Eligible voters (citizens aged 18+)	241,585	69.7	61.4	224,488	68.5	60.0	+17,097
Population over 15	284,243	82.0	81.6	267,309	81.6	81.3	+16,934
Employed Population	150,840	95.3	94.9	139,597	93.3	94.0	+11,243
Overseas visitors (enumerated)	344	--	--	1,177	--	--	-833

Figure 7. Selected subpopulation categories.

Our Ageing Population (ABS, 2021)

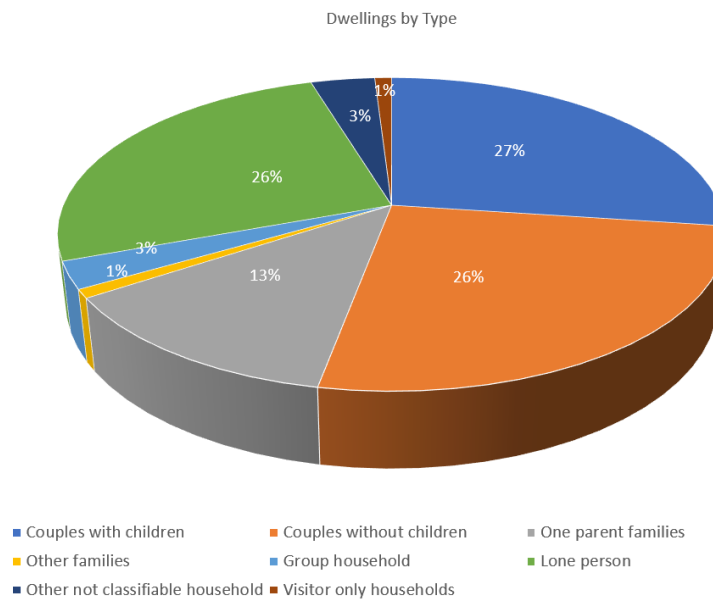
The age-sex pyramid is a demographic tool which shows patterns of change in the age structure and sex ratio of an area over time. Its name comes from the traditional pyramid shape of an area which indicates a lot of children in large families, with a lower life expectancy and relatively few elderlies. This shape is quite rare in developed nations like Australia.



Figure 8. Central Coast LGA Age-sex pyramids 1991 - 2021.

Using the age-sex pyramid in conjunction with **Household Types** and **Dwelling Types** information identifies who is living in the area and how it is changing over time.

**Dwelling Types (ABS, 2021)**



**Figure 9.** Configuration of dwellings across the area.

**Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander profile (ABS, 2021)**

Key statistics							
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples - Central Coast Council area	2021			2016			Change
Number of persons usually resident	Number	%	New South Wales - First Nations %	Number	%	New South Wales - First Nations %	
<b>Total First Nations population</b>	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people	17,047	100.0	6.1	12,489	100.0	5.8	+4,558
<b>Population summary</b>	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Total population	17,047	100.0	100.0	12,489	100.0	100.0	+4,558
• Males	8,392	49.2	49.7	6,189	49.6	49.7	+2,203
• Females	8,655	50.8	50.3	6,300	50.4	50.3	+2,355
<b>Indigenous status</b>	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Aboriginal	16,457	96.5	96.1	11,985	96.0	95.9	+4,472
Torres Strait Islander	314	1.8	1.8	302	2.4	2.2	+12
Both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	278	1.6	2.1	200	1.6	1.9	+78
<b>Dwellings</b>	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Persons counted in non private dwellings	175	--	--	181	--	--	-6
Persons counted in private dwellings	16,864	--	--	12,326	--	--	+4,538
Occupied private dwellings	8,273	--	--	5,819	--	--	+2,454

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, [Census of Population and Housing](#) 2016 and 2021 (Usual residence). Compiled and presented in profile.id by [\\_id](#) (informed decisions).

**Figure 10.** The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Census

## Vulnerable Communities

The concept of vulnerability, in the context of emergency risk and resilience, is poorly defined and open to subjective interpretation. However, the Central Coast LGA contains a range of individuals and community groups that can generally be considered more vulnerable in this context than the wider population. Key characteristics of communities vulnerable to the impacts of disasters include but are not limited to:

- People who, due to their age, a disability, and or cognitive impairment (e.g., dementia or mental illness) require assistance in completing day to day tasks.
- People who have poor social connectivity within the communities in which they live, which results in a reduced personal support network and compromised ability to cope with a crisis.
- People who reside in isolated areas with no private transport available, and therefore have limited capacity to relocate themselves during a crisis.
- People from non-English speaking backgrounds that may experience difficulties understanding warnings or be fearful of emergency responders.
- Geographic concentrations of socioeconomic disadvantage, where reduced availability or monetary and material resources leads to reduced community resilience during a crisis.
- Geographic isolation, especially during an emergency or disaster event.

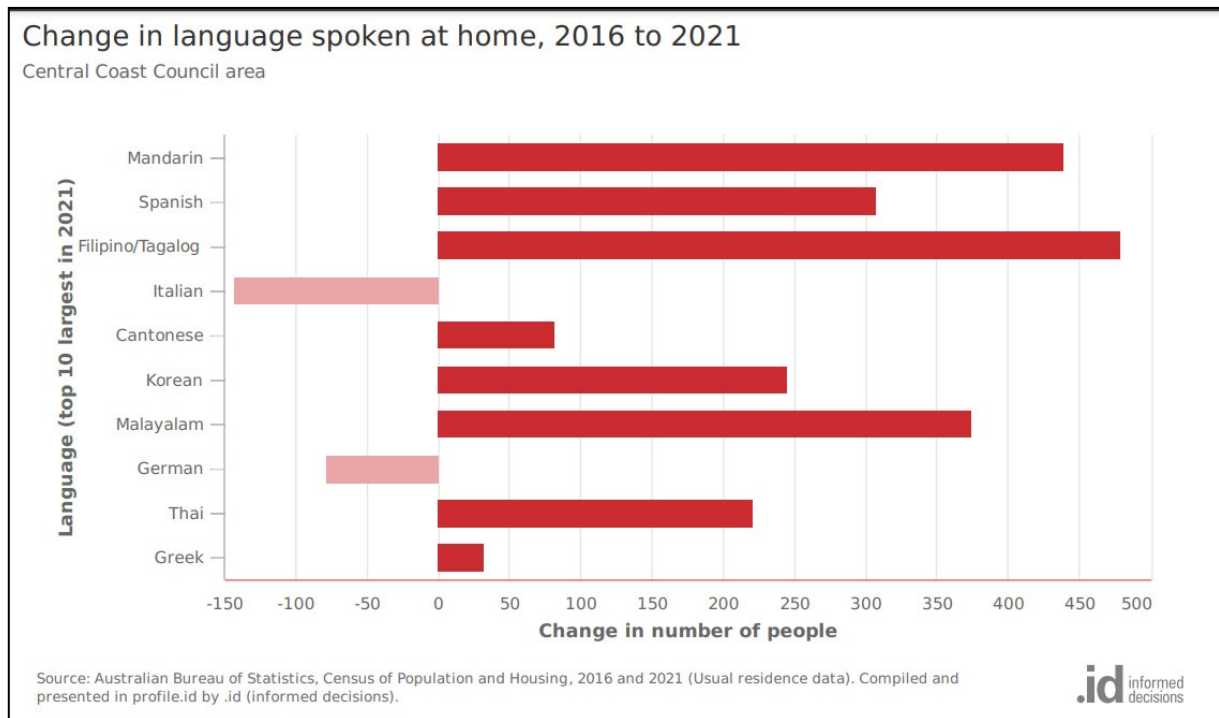
Vulnerable communities within the Central Coast LGA are often not connected geographically (e.g., they are groups of people of a similar nature distributed throughout the community). This poses significant challenges for emergency managers in terms of identifying where vulnerable groups and individuals are located, and how they are targeted with preparedness activities and during emergency events.

## Socio-economic disadvantage

The Central Coast LGA is characterised by pockets of high socio-economic disadvantage, particularly in the north. The SEIFA Index of Disadvantage measures the relative level of socio-economic disadvantage in an area. A higher score on the index means a lower level of disadvantage. A lower score on the index means a higher level of disadvantage. The index is derived from variables such as low income, low educational attainment, high unemployment, and jobs in relatively unskilled occupations.

Wyong has a higher level of disadvantage 951.7 (rank 55 of 152 LGAs in NSW) compared to Gosford 1006.3 (rank 115), Lake Macquarie 994.8 (rank 108) and NSW 995.8. The main areas of disadvantage are Wyong, The Entrance, Toukley, Gorokan, Long Jetty, San Remo-Doyalson, Watanobbi, Lake Haven, Ettalong, and Woy Woy.

## Language (ABS, 2021)



**Figure 11.** Change in language spoken at home, 2016 to 2021.

## Industry and Employment (ABS, 2021)

An analysis of the jobs held by the resident population in Central Coast Region in 2021 shows the three most popular industry sectors were:

- Health Care and Social Assistance (26,789 people or 17.8%)
- Construction (17,381 people or 11.5%)
- Retail Trade (15,419 people or 10.2%)

In combination, these three industries employed 59,589 people in total or 39.5% of the total employed resident population.

In comparison, Greater Sydney employed 13.4% in Health Care and Social Assistance; 8.2% in Construction; and 8.8% in Retail Trade.

The major differences between the jobs held by the population of the Central Coast LGA and Greater Sydney were:

- A *larger* percentage of persons employed in health care and social assistance (17.8% compared to 13.4%)
- A *larger* percentage of persons employed in construction (11.5% compared to 8.2%)
- A *smaller* percentage of persons employed in professional, scientific, and technical services (6.0% compared to 10.9%)
- A *smaller* percentage of persons employed in financial and insurance services (3.3% compared to 7.0%)

### Industry sector of employment (ABS, 2021)

Central Coast Council area - Employed persons (Usual residence)		2021			2016			Change
Industry sector	Number	%	Greater Sydney	Number	%	Greater Sydney	2016 to 2021	
			%			%		
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	1,245	0.8	0.4	1,114	0.8	0.4	+131	
Mining	760	0.5	0.2	764	0.5	0.2	-4	
Manufacturing	8,971	5.9	5.4	8,728	6.3	5.8	+243	
Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services	1,536	1.0	0.8	1,554	1.1	0.8	-18	
Construction	17,381	11.5	8.2	15,723	11.3	8.2	+1,658	
Wholesale trade	3,300	2.2	3.2	3,442	2.5	3.6	-142	
Retail Trade	15,419	10.2	8.8	15,491	11.1	9.3	-72	
Accommodation and Food Services	10,559	7.0	5.5	10,584	7.6	6.7	-25	
Transport, Postal and Warehousing	5,600	3.7	5.1	5,260	3.8	5.0	+340	
Information Media and Telecommunications	2,608	1.7	2.4	2,685	1.9	2.8	-77	
Financial and Insurance Services	4,929	3.3	7.0	4,660	3.3	6.4	+269	
Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services	2,353	1.6	1.9	2,433	1.7	1.9	-80	
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	8,995	6.0	10.9	7,521	5.4	9.8	+1,474	
Administrative and Support Services	4,939	3.3	3.2	4,986	3.6	3.6	-47	
Public Administration and Safety	9,173	6.1	5.5	8,698	6.2	5.5	+475	
Education and Training	12,405	8.2	8.5	10,708	7.7	8.0	+1,697	
Health Care and Social Assistance	26,789	17.8	13.4	21,416	15.3	11.6	+5,373	
Arts and Recreation Services	2,000	1.3	1.5	2,127	1.5	1.7	-127	
Other Services	5,803	3.8	3.2	5,869	4.2	3.6	-66	
Inadequately described or not stated	6,083	4.0	4.9	5,836	4.2	5.1	+247	
<b>Total employed persons aged 15+</b>	<b>150,848</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>139,599</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>+11,249</b>	

Figure 12. Industry sector and employment.

### Motor Vehicle Ownership (ABS, 2021)

On Census Day in 2021 and within the Central Coast LGA, 52.6% of people travelled to work in a private car, 2.2% took public transport and 1.5% rode a bike or walked. 25.5% worked at home.

The Central Coast LGA’s commuting statistics reveal the main modes of transport by which residents get to work. There are several reasons why people use different modes of transport to get to work including the availability of affordable and effective public transport options, the number of motor vehicles available within a household, and the distance travelled to work.

Commuting data is very useful in transport planning as it informs decision-makers about the availability, effectiveness, and utilisation of local transport options, particularly when analysed with Residents Place of Work data and Car Ownership.

Method of travel to work (ABS, 2021)

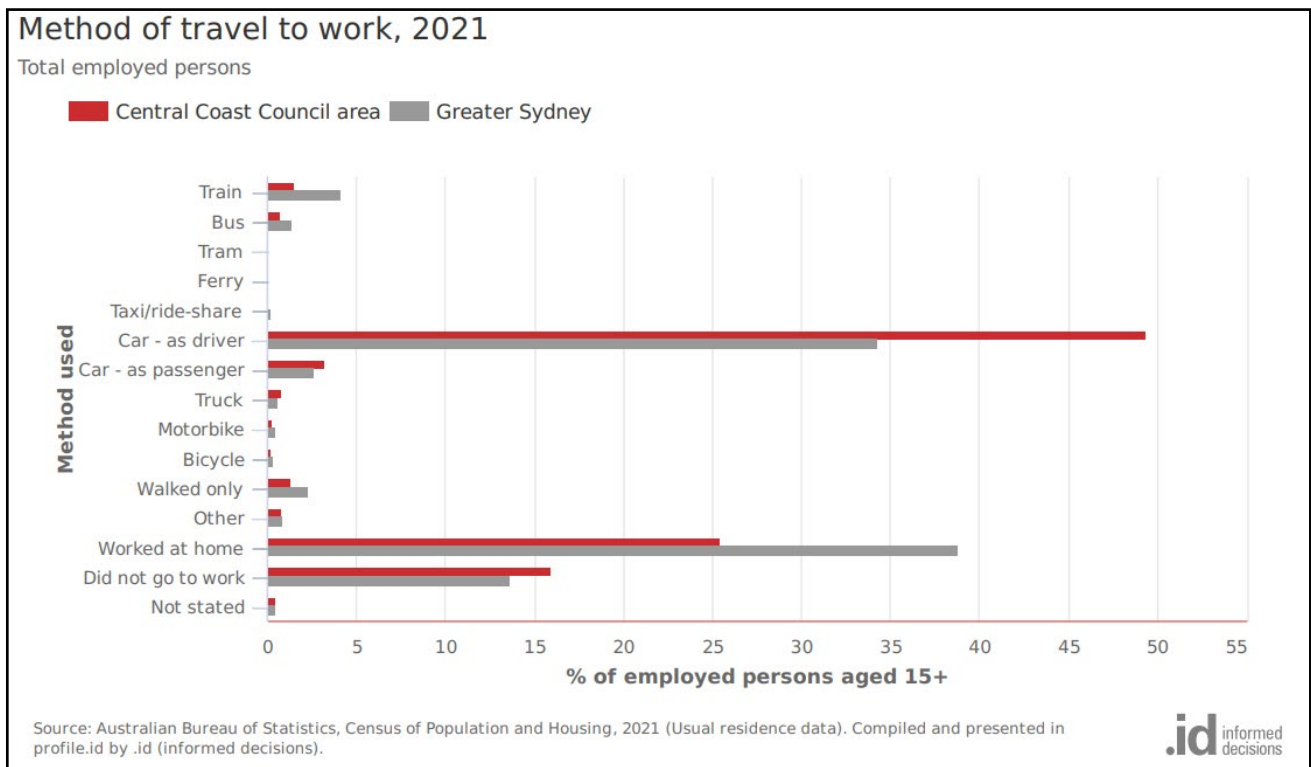


Figure 13. Method of travel to work.

Warnervale Airport

Warnervale Airport is classified by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority as an Aircraft Landing Area and is supported by the Warnervale Airport Emergency Plan 2009. It is not registered or certified. The aerodrome is suitable for the operation of small aircraft only. There are currently no scheduled passenger air services.

Access to the airport is via Jack Grant Avenue. Development on the airport is limited to the Central Coast Council site office, the Central Coast Aero Club clubhouse, and hangars, and three 13,000 litre Rural Fire Service (RFS) water tanks.

Aircraft operations are limited to small aircraft generally up to 4,000kg, however the RFS conducts annual water bombing training weekends utilising Air Tractor aircraft capable of carrying more than 3,000 litres of fire retardant. The RFS also operates a fleet of helicopters for surveillance and firefighting activities. All helicopter types can operate from Warnervale Airport. There is ample space available for the staging and operation of RFS ground support operations.



**Warnervale Aerodrome – Jack Grant Avenue, Warnervale**



The Warnervale Aerodrome runway has the following characteristics:

**Runway 02/20**

Length:	1194 m
Width:	10 m
Pavement:	Sealed 5,700 kg (Up to 10,000 kg with concession)
Windsock:	Located mid-field immediately south of the Aero Club hangars
Comments:	Central Coast Council has established a site office at the aerodrome which is resourced generally 7 days per week from 0700hrs to 1600hrs.

**Somersby Airfield – Lackersteins Road, Somersby (Privately owned)**



The Somersby Airfield runway has the following characteristics:

**Unsealed Runway 18/36**

Length:	650 m
Pavement:	Unsealed
Comments:	Suitable for light aircraft and helicopters only

**Kulnura Glider Airstrip - Bloodtree Road, Kulnura (Central Coast Soaring Club)**



The Kulnura Glider Airstrip runway has the following characteristics:

**Unsealed Runway 02/20**

Length:	Approximately 1,100 m
Pavement:	No pavement – natural surface only
Comments:	Runway is not straight and rises significantly from south to north Suitable for gliders, ultralights and helicopters only

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## Annexure A - Acronyms & Definitions

Acronym	Full Reference	Definition / Function
ABC	Australian Broadcasting Corporation	Australia's national broadcaster and responsible for emergency broadcasting.
ADF	Australian Defence Force	The ADF consists of the Australian Army, Royal Australian Navy (RAN), Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) and a number of other services.
-	Agency	Means a government agency or a non-government agency. E.g., Council, NSWPF, RFS. (Source: SERM Act 1989).
-	Agency Controller	Means the operational head of an agency, identified in this plan as the Combat Agency.
AFAC	Australasian Fire Authority Council	Membership includes representatives from a range of fire and emergency services and government agencies, and includes the various jurisdictions as well as Hong Kong, New Zealand, and Pacific Islands.
AIIMS	Australasian Inter-service Incident Management System	The nationally recognised system of incident management for the nation's fire and emergency service agencies.
AUSDISPLAN	Australian Government Disaster Response Plan	The Australian Government Disaster Response Plan is the plan for the provision of Australian Government non-financial assistance to Australian states and territories in an emergency or disaster Also known as the Commonwealth Government Disaster Response Plan (COMDISPLAN).
AUSSPRED-PLAN	Australian Government Space Re-entry Debris Plan.	A plan designed specifically for the coordination of the activities of Commonwealth agencies in support of operations by states and territories to recover and neutralise radiological hazards arising from the re-entry of radioactive space debris over Australia and its territories.
AUSVETPLAN	Australian Veterinary Emergency Plan	A plan that outlines the nationally agreed approach for the response to emergency animal disease (EAD) incidents in Australia.
Bureau (BOM)	Australian Bureau of Meteorology	The Bureau of Meteorology is an Executive Agency of the Australian Government responsible for providing weather services to Australia and surrounding areas.
COAG	Council of Australian Governments	The Council of Australian Governments is the peak intergovernmental forum in Australia.
-	Combat Agency	Means the agency identified in the State Emergency Management Plan as the agency primarily responsible for controlling the response to a particular emergency.
-	Command	Means the direction of members and resources of an agency in performing its roles and tasks.
CoJ	Communities and Justice	NSW government dept.
-	Control	Means the overall direction of the activities, agencies or individuals concerned.
-	Coordination	Means the bringing together of agencies and individuals to ensure effective emergency or rescue management.
COMDISPLAN	Australian Government Disaster Response Plan	See "Ausdisplan".
Council	Central Coast Council	The local government body to which this EMPLAN relates
Cr	Councillor	A member of a local government council.
CREST	Citizen's Radio Emergency Service Teams	A group of trained, accredited volunteer radio operators that monitor the emergency frequencies.
COWs	Cells on Wheels	A portable mobile cellular site that provides temporary network and wireless coverage to locations where cellular coverage is minimal or compromised.

## Central Coast Local Emergency Management Plan

Acronym	Full Reference	Definition / Function
CT	Counter Terrorism	Incorporates the practice, military tactics, techniques, and strategy that government, military, law enforcement, business, and intelligence agencies use to combat or prevent terrorism.
DACC	Defence Assistance to the Civil Community	Assistance to the community provided by Department of Defence personnel in the event of natural disaster or civil emergency.
DE	Department of Education	NSW government dept.
-	Disaster	A disaster is a serious disruption in a community, caused by the impact of an event that requires a significant coordinated response by the State and other entities to help the community recover from the disruption.
-	Disaster Management	Means arrangements about managing the potential adverse effects of an event, including, for example, arrangements for mitigating, preventing, preparing for, responding to, and recovering from a disaster.
-	Disaster Operations	Means activities undertaken before, during or after an event happens to help reduce loss of human life, illness or injury to humans, property loss or damage, or damage to the environment, including, for example, activities to mitigate the adverse effects of the event.
-	Disaster Recovery Operations	Means that phase of disaster operations that relates to recovering from a disaster. Incorporates the four environments - social, built, economic and natural environments.
DISCEX	Discussion Exercises	An indoor exercise employing a carefully prepared scenario to test and practise various aspects of emergency management planning, procedures, or training. Also referred to as 'tabletop exercise', 'desk top exercise', 'model exercise' or 'syndicate exercise'.
DPC	Department of Premier and Cabinet	NSW government dept.
DPE	Department of Planning and Environment	NSW government dept.
DPI	Department of Primary Industries	NSW government dept.
DRNSW	Department of Regional NSW	NSW government dept.
DVR	Disaster Victim Registration	A process by which victims in an emergency are registered and accounted for.
FACS	Department of Family and Community Services	NSW government dept.
ECC	Emergency Coordination Centre	May also be referred to as an EOC
EA	Emergency Alert	Emergency Alert is the national telephone warning system used by emergency services to send voice messages to landlines and text messages to mobile phones within a defined area about likely or actual emergencies.
-	El Niño	An anomalous warming of ocean water resulting from the oscillation of a current in the South Pacific, usually accompanied by heavy rainfall in the coastal region of Peru and Chile, and reduction of rainfall in equatorial Africa and Australia.
-	Emergency	An emergency due to an actual or imminent occurrence (such as fire, flood, storm, earthquake, explosion, terrorist act, accident, epidemic, or warlike action) which: (a) endangers, or threatens to endanger, the safety or health of persons or animals in the State, or

## Central Coast Local Emergency Management Plan

Acronym	Full Reference	Definition / Function
		(b) destroys or damages, or threatens to destroy or damage, property in the State, being an emergency which requires a significant and coordinated response'
EM & DM	Emergency vs Disaster	Each specialist field describes hazardous events in different ways, and there is also variation between the States and Territories. Thus, the hazardous events are variously labelled as 'accidents', 'incidents', 'emergencies', and 'disasters'; depending upon the scale of the event, the number of organisations involved, and the ability of the organisations to cope within their normal resources. For example, a major vehicle accident may be labelled an 'incident' by the emergency services but may be labelled a 'disaster' by an emergency medical facility.
EMPLAN	Emergency Management Plan	Means the New South Wales State Emergency Management Plan.
EMC	Emergency Management Coordinator	The Emergency Management Coordinator is a role within an organisation (Local or State Government) responsible for the coordination of emergency management.
EMO	Emergency Management Officer	E.g., Regional (REMO)
EOC	Emergency Operations Centre	Means a centre established under the Act at a State, regional or local level as a centre of communication, and as a centre for the co-ordination of operations and support, during an emergency.
EOCON	Emergency Operations Controller (State, Region or Local)	A sworn Officer of the NSWPF.
EPA	Environment Protection Authority	NSW government dept.
-	Emergency Service Organisation	Means the NSW Police Force, Fire and Rescue NSW, Rural Fire Brigades, Ambulance Service of NSW, State Emergency Service, Volunteer Rescue Association, or any other agency which manages or controls an accredited rescue unit.
-	Field Exercise	An activity in which emergency management organisations and agencies act in a simulated situation, with deployment of personnel and other resources to achieve maximum realism. It is conducted on the ground, in real time but under controlled conditions, as though it were a real emergency.
-	Functional Area	Means a category of services involved in the prevention of, preparation for, responses to or recovery from an emergency, including the following Service: Agriculture and animal, telecommunications, energy & utilities, engineering, environmental, health, public information, transport, and welfare.
-	Functional Exercise	A functional exercise examines and/or validates the coordination, command, and control between various multi agency coordination centres (e.g., emergency operation centre, joint field office, etc.). A functional exercise does not involve any "boots on the ground".
-	Functional Support Agency	The NSW government dept. responsible for delivery the services outlined within the Functional Area for which they have carriage, as per the State emergency management supporting plans (e.g., agriculture and animal services supporting plan is the responsibility of DPI).
FRNSW	Fire and Rescue New South Wales	Emergency Combat Agency for Fire and Rescue.
EXO	Executive Officer	An officer with executive power of an organisation.

## Central Coast Local Emergency Management Plan

Acronym	Full Reference	Definition / Function
-	Government Agency	Means a department within the meaning of the Public Sector Employment and Management Act 2002, a public authority, NSW Police Force, local government council, other local authority.
GIS	Geospatial Information Services	A system designed to capture, store, and manipulate spatial or geographical data, primarily used for the purpose of this plan (EMPLAN) to demonstrate information on area maps.
HAZMAT	Hazardous Materials	A substance or material which has been determined by an appropriate authority to be capable of posing an unreasonable risk to health, safety, and property. E.g., Fire & Rescue NSW HAZMAT Unit for response to a HAZMAT incident.
HNEHS	Hunter New England Health Service	An Area Health Service.
ICA	Insurance Council of Australia	The Insurance Council of Australia (ICA) is the representative body of the general insurance industry in Australia.
ICS	Incident Control System	A command structure to manage suppression of emergency incidents including wildfires systematically and logically, from small, simple incidents to large, difficult, or multiple situations.
IMT	Incident Management Team	A group of incident management personnel comprising the <b>incident controller</b> . Provide overall direction of response activities in an emergency.
-	La Niña	The opposite of an <b>El Niño</b> event, during which waters in the west Pacific are warmer than normal, trade winds or Walker circulation is stronger and, consequently, rainfalls heavier in Southeast Asia and the Pacific, including Australia.
LEMC	Local Emergency Management Committee	Local Committee under the SERM Act 1989.
LEMO	Local Emergency Management Officer	The term LEMO was removed from the SERM Act in 2010, but the principal functions of that role are now undertaken by the Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC).
LEOC	Local Emergency Operations Centre	An EOC is a centre established under the State Emergency and Rescue Management Act at a State, regional or local level. A centre for coordination of operations and support, during an emergency.
LEOCON	Local Emergency Operations Controller	Appointed by the Regional Emergency Operations Controller (REOCON). Is a senior police officer stationed within the region in which the local government area is located.
LGA	Local Government Area	An area defined under the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> which for the purposes of this EMPLAN is taken to be the Central Coast LGA.
LO	Liaison Officer	A member of an organisation working in an EOC and representing their agency.
MoH	NSW Ministry of Health	NSW government dept.
NTTAS	National Terrorism Threat Advisory System	The National Terrorism Threat Advisory System is a scale of five levels to provide advice about the likelihood of an act of terrorism occurring in Australia. E.g., Probable.
NDRRA	Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements	A joint Australian Government-State arrangement supports the provision of urgent financial assistance to disaster affected communities.
NEMA	National Emergency Management Agency	Commonwealth government dept.
NERAG	National Emergency Risk Assessment Guidelines	NERAG provides a contextualised, emergency-related risk assessment method consistent with the Australian Standard AS/NZS ISO 31000:2018.



## Central Coast Local Emergency Management Plan

Acronym	Full Reference	Definition / Function
NGO	Non-government Agency	Means a voluntary organisation or any other private individual or body, other than a government agency.
NSWA	NSW Ambulance	NSW Ambulance provides essential health services to the people of NSW relieving suffering through out of out-of-hospital care.
NSWPF	New South Wales Police Force	The New South Wales Police Force is the primary law enforcement agency of the state of New South Wales
NSWRA	New South Wales Reconstruction Authority	NSW government dept. NSWRA is dedicated to disaster prevention, preparedness, recovery, and reconstruction. The NSW government has established the authority as part of its response to the 2022 floods and in line with recommendations from the independent 2022 NSW Flood Inquiry, which was led by Professor Mary O'Kane and Mick Fuller.
NSWTA	NSW Telco Authority	NSW government dept.
OLG	Office of Local Government	The Office of Local Government is responsible for local government across NSW.
OEH	Office of Environment & Heritage	To care for and protect our environment and heritage.
PIIC	Public Information and Inquiry Centre	A centre established for the purpose of providing information and taking public inquiries during an emergency event.
PPRR	Prevention, Preparedness, Response, Recovery	A comprehensive approach to Emergency Management
-	Prevention	In relation to an emergency includes the identification of hazards, the assessment of threats to life and property and the taking of measures to reduce potential loss to life or property.
-	Preparedness	In relation to an emergency includes arrangements or plans to deal with an emergency or the effects of an emergency.
-	Probability	The likelihood of a specific outcome, measured by the ratio of specific outcomes to the total number of possible outcomes.
SERCON	State Emergency Recovery Controller	The SERCON is a statutory position appointed by the Minister and is responsible for controlling the recovery from an emergency.
RAAF	Royal Australian Air Force	A section of the ADF.
-	Recovery Agency	Means the agency identified in the State Emergency Management Plan as the agency primarily responsible for controlling the recovery from a particular emergency.
REMC	Regional Emergency Management Committee	Prepares and reviews plans relating to PPRR in the region for which it is constituted.
-	Rescue	Means the safe removal of persons or domestic animals from actual or threatened danger of physical harm.
-	Response	In relation to an emergency includes the process of combating an emergency and of providing immediate relief for persons affected by an emergency.
-	Recovery	In relation to an emergency includes the process of returning an affected community to its proper level of functioning after an emergency.
RFS	Rural Fire Service	Fire-fighting response to fires within Rural Fire Districts.
TfNSW	Transport for NSW	NSW government dept.
RSPCA	Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals	The RSPCA is a community-based charity that works to prevent cruelty to animals.
SEMC	State Emergency Management Committee	SEMC Membership consists of agency leaders such as Commissioners, deputy Commissioners, and Directors. As defined in the SERM Act 1989.

## Central Coast Local Emergency Management Plan

Acronym	Full Reference	Definition / Function
SEOC	State Emergency Operations Centre	The EOC provided at State level to support State operations.
SEOCN	State Emergency Operations Controller	The EOCON appointed at state level by the MINISTER
SERM Act	<i>State Emergency and Rescue Management Act 1989</i>	The primary statute in NSW relating to emergencies and rescue management.
SES	State Emergency Service	Lead agency for the response to actual or imminent threats of flood, storm, or tsunami.
SEWS	Standard Emergency Warning Signal	A sound designed to alert the community to the need to listen to an announcement concerning an actual or imminent emergency.
SITREP	Situation Report	A report on the current emergency in a particular area.
SMS	Short Message Service	Commonly referred to as a "text message".
SOP	Standing Operating Procedure	Step-by-step instructions compiled by an organization to help workers carry out complex routine operations
SRB	State Rescue Board	NSW government dept.
-	State of Emergency	Means a state of emergency declared under Division 4 of Part 2 of the SERM Act 1989, and for the time being in force.
-	Terrorism	The calculated use of violence or the threat of violence to attain goals that is political, religious, or ideological in nature. This can be done through intimidation, coercion, or instilling fear. Terrorism includes a criminal act against persons or property that is intended to influence an audience beyond the immediate victims.
TMC	Transport Management Centre	A small but complex organisation that brings together all aspects of NSW's vast transport networks.
USAR	Urban Search and Rescue	Involves the location, extrication, and initial medical stabilization of victims trapped in structural collapse. Performed by FRNSW.
VRA	Volunteer Rescue Association	An Australian organisation of volunteer members that provide rescue to the communities across New South Wales.
WHO	World Health Organisation	The health arm of the United Nations, aiming at "the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health".

## Annexure B - Agency Roles & Responsibilities

Organisation / Entity	Roles and responsibilities
<b>General</b>	
LEMC	<p>The LEMC is responsible for the following functions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) giving effect to emergency management policy and coordinating emergency management practices at a local level that is consistent with emergency management policy and practice disseminated by the SEMC.</li> <li>b) review and prepare plans in respect of the relevant local government area that are, or are proposed to be, sub plans or supporting plans established under EMPLAN.</li> <li>c) develop, conduct, and evaluate local emergency management exercises for the purpose of testing sub plans or supporting plans established under EMPLAN in respect of the LGA.</li> <li>d) make recommendations about and assist in the coordination of training to emergency management in the LGA.</li> <li>e) facilitate local level emergency management capability through inter-agency coordination, cooperation and information sharing arrangements.</li> <li>f) assist the LEOCON (for the area in the LEOCON's area of responsibility) to establish and control a local emergency operations centre.</li> <li>g) carry out the preparation of plans in relation to the prevention of, preparation for, response to and recovery from emergencies in the LGA (noting the responsibility for planning by Combat Agencies).</li> <li>h) carry out any other functions as are assigned by the SEMC.</li> </ul>
Council	<p><i>Response functions</i> Council is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) establish and maintain a LEOC for the LEOCON.</li> <li>b) provide support staff for the LEOC.</li> <li>c) provide human resources, plant, equipment, materials, and services, as required in dealing with an incident or emergency.</li> <li>d) provide support to combat agencies and functional support agencies as required including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. reconnaissance of the area effected by the emergency; and</li> <li>ii. post disaster damage assessment.</li> </ul> </li> <li>e) assist, at their request, the NSWPF, NSWA, FRNSW, RFS and the SES (or any other Combat Agency) in any emergency management response operations.</li> <li>f) assist in any other emergency management prevention, preparedness, or recovery operations, including emergency management training, for which the Council's training and equipment is suitable.</li> <li>g) at the request of the LEOCON, coordinate disaster recovery operations, excluding welfare assistance to disaster victims for whom CoJ is responsible.</li> <li>h) provide engineering resources required for response and recovery operations including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. damage assessment,</li> <li>ii. clear and re-establish roads and bridges,</li> <li>iii. demolish and shore-up buildings,</li> <li>iv. remove debris,</li> <li>v. construct and maintain temporary levees and evacuation routes, when appropriate, and</li> <li>vi. erection of barricades and fences for public protection.</li> </ul> </li> <li>i) provide an LO and executive support to the LEOC and LEOCON or Combat Agency Controller.</li> <li>j) provide an appropriately qualified officer to assist the Hunter New England Population Health Unit in relation to public health emergency management matters.</li> </ul>

Organisation / Entity	Roles and responsibilities
	<p>k) provide an appropriately qualified officer to assist the District Engineering Functional Area Coordinator in relation to engineering emergency management matters.</p> <p>l) provide an appropriately qualified officer to assist the District Environmental Functional Area Coordinator in relation to environmental emergency management matters.</p> <p><i>Recovery functions</i></p> <p>a) lead or assist with local recovery operations, providing services and assistance to the community and advice to State Government.</p> <p>b) chair the Local Recovery Committee, when a Recovery Coordinator is not appointed at region or state level.</p> <p>c) provide Executive Support to the Local or Regional Recovery Committee.</p> <p>d) provide the Recovery Centre Manager and Administrative Support to the Recovery Centre, where established.</p> <p>e) provide expertise and local knowledge to inform the Local Recovery Committee.</p>
Primary Combat Agencies	
NSWPF	<p>The NSWPF is responsible for the following functions:</p> <p>a) is the designated Combat Agency for law enforcement.</p> <p>b) is the designated Combat Agency for search and rescue.</p> <p>c) as necessary, control and coordinate the evacuation of victims from the area affected by the emergency.</p> <p>d) maintain law and order, protect life and property, and provide aid and support to a Combat Agency, Functional Support Agencies, and other Organisations as required. This may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. reconnaissance of the area effected by the emergency,</li> <li>ii. traffic control, and crowd control, including the control of evacuations if required,</li> <li>iii. access and egress route security and control,</li> <li>iv. identifying the dead and injured and notifying next of kin,</li> <li>v. establishing temporary mortuaries,</li> <li>vi. maintaining the security of property,</li> <li>vii. statutory investigative requirements, and</li> <li>viii. operation of a Public Information and Inquiry Centre capable of providing general information on incidents and emergencies to members of the public.</li> </ul> <p>e) provide accredited "rescue units" to general and specialist rescue incidents, and control and coordinate rescue operations.</p> <p>f) as determined by the SRB, provide accredited "rescue units".</p> <p>g) manage Disaster Victim Registration, and a disaster victim enquiry system capable of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. providing a Disaster Victim Registration system for victims of emergencies,</li> <li>ii. managing a disaster victim enquiry centre capable of providing relatives and close friends with basic details on the location and safety of victims of emergencies occurring within NSW, and</li> <li>iii. managing a similar disaster victim enquiry service when the National Registration and Inquiry System (NRIS) is activated in relation to emergencies in other States and Territories.</li> </ul> <p>h) provide overall control and coordination for emergency response and short-term recovery operations.</p> <p>i) provide an LO with communications to the LEOC or Combat Agency Operations Centre as appropriate.</p> <p>j) Marine Area Command.</p>

Organisation / Entity	Roles and responsibilities
NSWA	<p>The NSW is responsible for the following functions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) provide pre-hospital care and transport for the sick and injured.</li> <li>b) establish command and control infrastructure utilising ICS principles.</li> <li>c) provide and/or assume responsibility for transport of Health Service teams and their equipment to the site of incidents or emergencies, receiving hospitals or emergency medical facilities when so requested by the Health Services Functional Area Coordinator.</li> <li>d) provide coordinated communications for all health systems involved in emergency responses.</li> <li>e) as determined by the SRB, provide accredited “rescue units”.</li> <li>f) provide specialist Special Casualty Access Team (SCAT), Special Operations Team (SOT) and Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) paramedics as required.</li> <li>g) provide fixed and rotary wing pre-hospital and aero-medical retrieval services across NSW.</li> <li>h) provide an LO with communications to the LEOC or Combat Agency Operations Centre as appropriate.</li> <li>i) to carry out such other functions as may be assigned to it by or under this or any other Act.</li> </ul>
FRNSW	<p>The FRNSW is responsible for the following functions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) in relation to <b>Fire Districts</b>, FRNSW is the designated Combat Agency for taking all practicable measures for preventing and extinguishing fires and protecting and saving life and property in case of fire in any fire district. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. aid the RFS in accordance with Local Mutual Aid Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding.</li> </ul> </li> <li>b) Is the designated Combat Agency for hazardous materials incidents, marine oil spills and emergencies on all land and inland and coastal waterways in NSW, except State Waters, specifically for taking all practicable measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. for protecting and saving life and property endangered by hazardous material incidents,</li> <li>ii. for confining or ending such an incident; ,</li> <li>iii. for rendering the site of such an incident safe, and</li> <li>iv. provide fire control services by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ dealing with outbreaks of fire and the rescue of persons in fire endangered areas.</li> <li>▪ taking such measures as may be practicable to prevent the outbreak of fires; and</li> <li>▪ on land and inland waterways, dealing with the escape of hazardous materials or a situation, which involves the imminent danger of such an escape.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>c) provide Primary and Secondary Accredited General Land Rescue Units as determined by the SRB.</li> <li>d) in accordance with Major Structure Collapse Sub Plan provide, control, and deploy USAR Task Force(s) as directed by SEOCON or Deputy SEOCON.</li> <li>e) assist in any other response or recovery operations for which the Fire Brigades' training and equipment is suitable, for example, the provision of emergency water supplies and pumping equipment.</li> <li>f) during flood and storm aid the SES in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between FRNSW and the SES.</li> <li>g) inform the LEOCON of the existence of incidents.</li> <li>h) provide an LO with communications to the LEOC or Combat Agency Operations Centre as appropriate.</li> <li>i) to carry out such other functions as may be assigned to it by or under this or any other Act.</li> </ul>
RFS	<p>The RFS is responsible for the following functions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) in relation to <b>Rural Fire Districts</b>, RFS is the designated Combat Agency for taking all practicable measures for preventing and extinguishing fires and protecting and saving life and property in case of fire in any rural fire district.</li> </ul>

Organisation / Entity	Roles and responsibilities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. aid FRNSW in accordance with Local Mutual Aid Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding.</li> <li>b) to issue public warnings about bush fires and bush fire threats in NSW for the purpose of protecting life and property.</li> <li>c) to assist other emergency services organisations at incidents and at emergencies under the control of those organisations.</li> </ul> <p><i>Note.</i> The SERM Act provides for the State Emergency Management Plan to identify combat agencies primarily responsible for responding to an emergency. The Service is identified as the agency primarily responsible for responding to an emergency due to fire occurring in Rural Fire Districts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>d) to provide advisory services (whether within or outside NSW) relating to fire fighting and other matters with respect to which it has expertise.</li> <li>e) provide an LO with communications to the LEOC or Combat Agency Operations Centre as appropriate.</li> <li>f) to carry out such other functions as may be assigned to it by or under this or any other Act.</li> </ul>
SES	<p>The SES is responsible for the following functions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) is the designated Combat Agency for dealing with floods, and to coordinate the rescue, evacuation, and welfare of affected communities. This includes planning for and responding to Tsunami, particularly for the warning and evacuation.</li> <li>b) is the designated Combat Agency for damage control for storms and tempests (including coastal erosion from storm activity), and to coordinate the evacuation and welfare of effected communities.</li> <li>c) as determined by the SRB, provide accredited "rescue units". (Describe areas of operation)</li> <li>d) assist, at their request, the NSWPF, NSWA, FRNSW and the RFS in dealing with incidents or emergencies.</li> <li>e) assist in any other emergency management prevention, preparedness, response, or recovery operations, including emergency management training.</li> <li>f) provide an LO with communications to the LEOC or Combat Agency Operations Centre as appropriate.</li> <li>g) to carry out such other functions as may be assigned to it by or under this or any other Act.</li> </ul>
<b>Functional Areas (some can also be Combat Agencies depending on emergency type)</b>	
DPI - Agriculture and Animal Service	<p>DPI is both a Combat Agency and Functional Support Agency for animal, pest, and plant disease emergencies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) this includes implementing procedures in conjunction with State and National authorities for the eradication or control of exotic animal diseases.</li> <li>b) provide immediate animal care services and continuing rehabilitation assistance to primary producers.</li> <li>c) with support of Participating and Supporting Organisations, provide animal care services for wildlife, for domestic animals, and for companion pets of victims evacuated from an area affected by an emergency.</li> <li>d) planning for response and recovery operations for agricultural emergencies, and advising on animal care, veterinary public health, and plant disease control measures.</li> <li>e) in recovery from an emergency, the A&amp;ASFA is responsible for recovery assistance to primary producers.</li> <li>f) provide support to the recovery operation including participation in Recovery Committees.</li> <li>g) provide an LO with communications to the LEOC or Combat Agency Operations Centre as appropriate.</li> </ul>
DPE – Energy and Utility Services	<p>DPE is the Functional Support Agency for energy and utility services and provides a conduit between Combat Agencies, Functional Support Agencies, the LEOCON and EOC and the various energy and utility providers during an emergency.</p>

Organisation / Entity	Roles and responsibilities
DRNSW – Engineering Services	<p>DRNSW is the Functional Support Agency for engineering services and is responsible for the following functions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) direct the State's engineering resources for emergency response operations.</li> <li>b) provide Engineering Services support to combat agencies and other functional areas or organisations involved in emergencies.</li> <li>c) coordinate the supply of goods and services in response to an emergency.</li> <li>d) coordinate the State's engineering resources for emergency recovery operations including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. establish recovery centre facilities as requested by the State Emergency Recovery Controller, including property procurement, lease management and fit-out.</li> <li>b. coordinate temporary repairs to public buildings and infrastructure.</li> <li>c. recommend priorities for reconstruction/recovery of public buildings and infrastructure.</li> <li>d. coordinate, monitor and report on repair, reconstruction and relocation of public buildings and infrastructure; and</li> <li>e. coordinate maintenance of tarpaulins installed as part of emergency repairs coordinated by SES.</li> </ul> </li> <li>e) coordinate the clean-up assistance program with local government and the Welfare Services Functional Area.</li> <li>f) review Household Structural Repair Grants under the NSW Disaster Relief Scheme and manage the engineering aspects of these grants.</li> <li>g) provide specialist Engineers to support Urban Search and Rescue Task Forces.</li> <li>h) provide an LO with communications to the LEOC or Combat Agency Operations Centre as appropriate.</li> </ul>
EPA – Environmental Services	<p>The EPA is the Functional Support Agency and is responsible for the following functions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) protect the environment during emergency response and recovery operations.</li> <li>b) coordinate scientific support for the on-scene Controller during operations to combat the pollution of the sea and inland waters within New South Wales.</li> <li>c) advise and coordinate scientific support to the Fire &amp; Rescue NSW during land based hazardous materials emergency response operations.</li> <li>d) advise the Combat Agency, and other Functional Areas or Organisations involved in the emergency, on environmentally sound and legal practices for the disposal of wastes or contaminated materials resulting from an emergency.</li> <li>e) direct and coordinate clean-up of hazardous materials which pose a threat to the environment.</li> <li>f) conduct post response operations investigations following incidents or emergencies involving hazardous materials.</li> <li>g) conduct assessment and provide advice, in consultation with the Health Services Functional Area, on mitigation and recovery from ongoing environmental impacts, particularly those that may have an adverse impact on public health or amenity.</li> <li>h) coordinate environmental clean-up, in consultation with local government, and advise on environmentally sound and legal practices for waste disposal.</li> <li>i) direct or coordinate, in consultation with the Engineering and Transport Services Functional Areas, disposal of hazardous materials that pose a threat to the environment.</li> <li>j) consider the impact of and, where necessary, amendment to administrative requirements, and consider waiving relevant levies to facilitate the timely and safe disposal of waste.</li> <li>k) protect and coordinate restoration of natural and cultural heritage sites.</li> <li>l) provide an LO with communications to the LEOC or Combat Agency Operations Centre as appropriate.</li> </ul>
MoH – Health Services	<p>The MoH is both a Combat Agency and Functional Support Agency and is responsible for the following functions:</p>

Organisation / Entity	Roles and responsibilities
	<p>a) coordinate and control the mobilisation of all health responses to emergencies. This includes ambulance, medical, dental, and public health, and health communication services, and involves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. the mobilisation of health resources to the emergency site or sites and the initiation of prioritised patient management.</li> <li>ii. the provision of coordinated hospital and medical response to emergencies.</li> <li>iii. the provision of mental health services to victims, emergency workers, and the communities affected by emergencies.</li> <li>iv. the provision of public health services to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies.</li> <li>v. a coordinated health communications response for prevention, preparation, emergency response and subsequent recovery from the impacts.</li> </ul> <p>b) MoH is the Combat Agency for all Health Emergencies within NSW. This particularly applies to human infectious disease emergencies from whatever cause. Five major contributing health service components constitute the whole of health response incorporating all-hazards approach. They are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Medical Services</li> <li>ii. Ambulance Services</li> <li>iii. Mental Health Services</li> <li>iv. Public Health Services; and</li> <li>v. Health Communications</li> </ul> <p>c) provide support to the recovery operation including participation in Recovery Committees where required.</p> <p>d) provide an LO with communications to the LEOC or Combat Agency Operations Centre as appropriate.</p>
NSW Telco Authority – Telecommunication Services	NSWTA is the Functional Support Agency for telecommunication services and provides a conduit between Combat Agencies, Functional Support Agencies, the LEOCON and EOC and the communications providers during an emergency.
TfNSW – Transport Services	<p>TfNSW is the Functional Support Agency for transport services and is responsible for the following functions:</p> <p>a) coordinate the provision of transport support as required by a Combat Agency and other Functional Areas, whilst maintaining as far as practicable, the normal operations and activities of public and commercial transport services. Tasks for providing transport to other agencies might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. movement of emergency equipment and personnel.</li> <li>ii. movement of emergency supplies and goods, including water, fuel, and food.</li> <li>iii. evacuation of people and animals; and</li> <li>iv. assistance for medical transport.</li> </ul> <p>b) maintain and operate a road condition / closure advisory service to a Combat Agency, Functional Areas, and members of the public.</p> <p>c) provide support to the recovery operation including participation in Recovery Committees.</p> <p>d) provide an LO with communications to the LEOC or Combat Agency Operations Centre as appropriate.</p>
CoJ – Welfare Services	<p>Coj is the Functional Support Agency for welfare services and during an emergency, provides welfare services to disaster affected people. Includes five Community Partner Agencies which are Australian Red Cross, The Salvation Army, Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), Anglicare, and Uniting Church in Australia.</p> <p>Provide an LO with communications to the LEOC or Combat Agency Operations Centre as appropriate.</p>
<b>Other</b>	
ADF	<p>The ADF is responsible for the following functions:</p> <p>a) provide Commonwealth Government support at State, Regional and/or Local level.</p>



Organisation / Entity	Roles and responsibilities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b) provide Defence Assistance to the Civil Community (DACC). This can be.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. DACC Category One. This is emergency assistance for a specific task(s) provided by Local Commanders/Administrators, from within their own resources, in localised emergency situations when immediate action is necessary to save human life, alleviate suffering, prevent extensive loss of animal life, or prevent widespread loss/damage to property. This provision should not normally exceed 24 hours without Ministerial approval.</li> <li>ii. DACC Category Two. This is emergency assistance beyond that provided under Category One, in a more extensive or continuing disaster.</li> <li>iii. DACC Category Three. This is assistance associated with recovery from a civil emergency or disaster, which is not directly related to the saving of life or property.</li> </ul> </li> <li>c) provide Defence Aid to the Civil Power (DFACP). This is the provision of Defence Force assistance to civil law enforcement authorities in the performance of law enforcement tasks usually under National Counter Terrorist arrangements.</li> <li>d) may deploy an LO to the LEOC.</li> </ul>
DPC	<p>DPC is responsible for the following functions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) facilitate advice to the Premier on strategic issues associated with recovery operations and recovery funding and relief; and</li> <li>b) chair and/or participate in Recovery Committees as required.</li> <li>c) may deploy an LO to the LEOC.</li> </ul>
DE	<p>DE is responsible for the following functions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) maintain the safety and wellbeing of students, staff and volunteers who work or participate in DE schools, institutes, and workplaces.</li> <li>b) ensure, as far as practicable, that all State Instructional Institutions and workplaces have a documented emergency management plan.</li> <li>c) minimise interruption to essential services to allow teaching and learning to be maintained or resumed as a priority.</li> <li>d) protect critical resources where possible.</li> <li>e) facilitate the return of State instructional institutions to normal operations as soon as possible.</li> <li>f) may deploy an LO to the LEOC.</li> </ul>
VRA	<p>The VRA is an Australian organisation of volunteer members that provide rescue to the communities across New South Wales.</p>
CREST	<p>CREST is a voluntary emergency organisation that provide the following services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) the initial role of CREST was to monitor the emergency frequencies on the Citizens Band Radio Service (CBRS), relaying calls for assistance from the public to the relevant emergency service.</li> <li>b) this role has since grown to include many forms of specialist communications support for other emergency service and community organisations.</li> </ul>
Marine Rescue NSW	<p>Marine Rescue NSW is responsible for the following functions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) provide a volunteer marine search and rescue service and a radio safety service to persons and vessels operating within NSW coastal environments, estuaries, rivers, and lakes.</li> <li>b) operate in concert with other government and non-government search and rescue and emergency management agencies in NSW and other jurisdictions to maximise safety in recreational boating and related activities.</li> <li>c) operate within the NSW emergency management framework as provided for in the SERM Act and any requirements imposed upon Marine Rescue NSW by the State Rescue Board in accordance with the SERM Act.</li> <li>d) engage in advocacy of marine safety.</li> <li>e) promote safer boating and aquatic activity through public education, activities, and services.</li> </ul>

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## Annexure C – Hazards and Risks Summary

A Local Emergency Risk Management (ERM) Study<sup>6</sup> has been undertaken by the LEMC identifying the following hazards as having risk of causing loss of life, property, utilities, services and/or the community’s ability to function within its normal capacity. These hazards have been identified as having the potential to create an emergency. The Central Coast Emergency Risk Management Study should be referenced to identify the complete list of consequences and risk descriptions.

LIKELIHOOD	CONSEQUENCE LEVEL				
	INSIGNIFICANT	MINOR	MODERATE	MAJOR	CATASTROPHIC
ALMOST CERTAIN	Medium	Medium	High	Extreme	Extreme
LIKELY	Low	Medium	High	Extreme	Extreme
UNLIKELY	Low	Low	Medium	High	Extreme
RARE	Very low	Low	Medium	High	High
VERY RARE	Very low	Very low	Low	Medium	High
EXTREMELY RARE	Very low	Very low	Low	Medium	High

Figure 14. Qualitative risk matrix.

<sup>6</sup> National Emergency Risk Assessment Guidelines 2020 – Australian Institute of Disaster Resilience

Hazard	Risk Description	Likelihood Rating	Consequence Rating	Risk Priority	Combat / Responsible Agency
Communicable Disease (Human)	Pandemic illness that affects, or has potential to affect, large portions of the human population.	Likely	Major	Extreme	NSW Health
Fire (Bush or Grass)	Major fires in areas of bush or grasslands.	Likely	Major	Extreme	NSW RFS FRNSW
Storm	Severe storm with accompanying lightning, hail, wind, and/or rain that causes severe damage and/or localised flooding (includes tornado, coastal erosion, and storm surge).	Almost Certain	Major	Extreme	NSW SES
Flood (Riverine)	River flows exceed the capacity of normal river systems resulting in flood waters escaping and inundating river plains.	Almost Certain	Major	Extreme	NSW SES
Heatwave	A sequence of abnormally hot conditions having the potential to affect a community adversely.	Likely	Major	Extreme	SEOCON
Flood (Flash)	Heavy rainfall causes excessive localised flooding with minimal warning time.	Likely	Moderate	High	NSW SES

Hazard	Risk Description	Likelihood Rating	Consequence Rating	Risk Priority	Combat / Responsible Agency
Tsunami	A tsunami wave of magnitude that presents a risk to land and marine elements.	Unlikely	Major	High	NSW SES
Dam Failure	A dam is compromised that results in localised or widespread flooding.	Unlikely	Major	High	Dam Owners NSW SES
Hazardous Release	Hazardous material released because of an incident or accident.	Likely	Moderate	High	FRNSW
Utilities Failure	Major failure of essential utility for unreasonable periods of time because of a natural or man-made occurrence.	Likely	Moderate	High	LEOCON
Transport Emergency (Rail)	A major rail accident that could result in multiple fatalities and severe injuries, rail infrastructure damage, displacement and commuter disruption, environmental damage.	Likely	Moderate	High	LEOCON
Transport Emergency (Road)	A major vehicle accident that disrupts one or more major transport routes that can result in risk to people trapped in traffic jams, restrict supply routes and/or protracted loss of access to or from the area.	Likely	Moderate	High	LEOCON

Hazard	Risk Description	Likelihood Rating	Consequence Rating	Risk Priority	Combat / Responsible Agency
Terrorism	Risk of terrorism in the LGA resulting in large number of fatalities, injuries and/or damage to property.	Likely	Moderate	High	LEOCON
Biosecurity	A biosecurity (agriculture / horticulture) incident that results or has potential to result in the spread of a communicable disease or infestation.	Likely	Moderate	High	Department of Primary Industries
Bridge Collapse	Failure of a major bridge structure with or without warning owing to structural failure or because of external/ internal events or other hazards/ incidents.	Unlikely	Moderate	Medium	LEOCON
Earthquake	Earthquake of significant strength that results in localised or widespread damage.	Unlikely	Moderate	Medium	LEOCON
Fire (Industrial)	Serious industrial fire in office complexes and/or warehouses within industrial estates.	Likely	Minor	Medium	FRNSW NSW RFS
Building Collapse	Collapse of building owing to structural failure or impact from external/internal event of other hazards /incidents.	Unlikely	Moderate	Medium	FRNSW

Hazard	Risk Description	Likelihood Rating	Consequence Rating	Risk Priority	Combat / Responsible Agency
Fire (Commercial)	Serious commercial fires in shopping centres, aged persons units, nursing homes and hospitals.	Likely	Minor	Medium	FRNSW NSW RFS
Transport Emergency (Air)	Aircraft crashes in LGA resulting in large number of fatalities, injuries and/or damage to property.	Likely	Minor	Medium	LEOCON
Transport Emergency (Sea & Enclosed Waters)	A major accident that results in environmental damage and major recovery operation	Likely	Minor	Medium	LEOCON
Landslip (Rural & Coastal)	Landslip/landslide resulting in localised or widespread damage.	Likely	Minor	Medium	LEOCON
Fire (Residential)	Serious residential fire in medium/high rise apartments.	Likely	Insignificant	Low	FRNSW NSW RFS

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## Annexure D – Supporting Plans, Sub Plans and other relevant plans

Responsibility for the preparation and maintenance of appropriate supporting and sub plans rest with the relevant Combat Agency Controller or the relevant Functional Area Coordinator. Current plans (as of April 2023) can be found [here](#) (supporting plans) and [here](#) (sub plans).

Combat Agencies, Functional Support Agencies, Council, other LEMC members and non-government organisations may have a range of other localised plans that may be of relevance during an emergency.

Such plans and studies may cover (and are not limited to the following):

1. Critical services such as water, sewer and waste (including dam safety studies)
2. Transport
3. Airports
4. Flooding
5. Bushfire
6. Community resilience or vulnerability

Combat Agencies, Functional Support Agencies, Council, other LEMC members and non-government organisations should be consulted during any emergency event regarding what plans or studies may be available or in place.

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## **Annexures E to J**

redacted for operational purposes