



# **CATCHMENTS TO COAST COMMITTEE MEETING**

**20 March 2024**



# COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN 2018-2028

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

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

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

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

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

## RESPONSIBLE

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

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

 **Good governance and great partnerships**

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

There are 5 themes, 12 focus areas and 48 objectives

### COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN 2018-2028 FRAMEWORK

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

The infographic details the following structure:

- THEME: BELONGING**
  - Focus Area: OUR COMMUNITY (Objectives: G1, G2, G3, G4)
  - Focus Area: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (Objectives: G5, G6)
- THEME: SMART**
  - Focus Area: A GROWING AND COMPETITIVE REGION (Objectives: C1, C2, C3, C4)
  - Focus Area: A PLACE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PEOPLE (Objectives: O1, O2, O3, O4)
- THEME: GREEN**
  - Focus Area: ENVIRONMENTAL WELL-BEING FOR THE FUTURE (Objectives: E1, E2, E3, E4)
  - Focus Area: INCREASED RAIN WATER RESILIENCE (Objectives: R1, R2)
- THEME: RESPONSIBLE**
  - Focus Area: GOOD GOVERNANCE AND GREAT PARTNERSHIPS (Objectives: G1, G2, G3, G4)
  - Focus Area: BELONGING THROUGH INFRASTRUCTURE (Objectives: I1, I2, I3, I4)
  - Focus Area: SAFE AND SOUND DEVELOPMENT (Objectives: S1, S2, S3, S4)
- THEME: LIVEABLE**
  - Focus Area: RELIABLE PUBLIC TRANSPORT AND CONNECTIONS (Objectives: P1, P2, P3, P4)
  - Focus Area: SAFE AND SOUND DEVELOPMENT (Objectives: S1, S2, S3, S4)
  - Focus Area: HEALTHY LIFESTYLES (Objectives: L1, L2, L3, L4)



# Meeting Notice

**The Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting  
of Central Coast Council  
will be held in the Daisy Meeting room,  
2 Hely Street, Wyong or Remotely – Online,  
on Wednesday 20 March 2024 at 3.00pm,  
for the transaction of the business listed below:**

## **1 Procedural Items**

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

## **2 Reports**

- 2.1 Update on Coastal Management (Standing Agenda Item).....23
- 2.2 Update on Coastal and Estuary Management (Standing Agenda Item) .....26
- 2.3 Update on Flood and Stormwater Management (Standing Agenda Item) .....30
- 2.4 Community Strategic Plan .....34
- 2.5 Review of the Central Coast Waterways Report Card 2022/23 .....35
- 2.6 MIDO Presentation - Ettalong Dredging Project.....36
- 2.7 General Business.....37

Peter Sheath  
**Chairperson**

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

Chairperson

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

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

We pay our respects to Darkinjung country, and Elders past and present.

We recognise the continued connection to these lands and waterways and extend this acknowledgement to the homelands and stories of those who also call this place home.

We recognise our future leaders and the shared responsibility to care for and protect our place and people.

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

Chairperson

### Attachments

- |          |  |           |
|----------|--|-----------|
| <b>1</b> | MINUTES - Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting - 13 December 2023 | D15989277 |
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Central Coast Council

Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting  
Held Remotely – Online and in the Lighthouse Meeting Room,  
2 Hely Street, Wyong

13 December 2023

## MINUTES

### Attendance

#### Members

Michael Alsop  
Michael Campbell  
Ian Carruthers  
Doug Darlington  
Graham Hankin  
Andrew Jones  
Michael Kilp  
Marlene Pennings  
Adrian Williams  
Samantha Willis

#### Status

Absent  
Present (online)  
Present (online)  
Present (in person)  
Present (in person)  
Absent  
Present (online)  
Absent  
Absent  
Present (online)

#### Coastal Open Space System Members (Item 2.1 only)

John Andrews  
Gary Chestnut  
Barbara Wills  
Paul Links  
Doug Williamson

#### Status

Present (online)  
Present (online)  
Present (online)  
Present (online)  
Present (online)

#### External Agencies

Chris Drummond, NSW Department of Planning and Environment  
Troy Gaston, University of Newcastle  
Stephanie Lyons, NSW Department of Planning and Environment

#### Status

Present – Online  
Absent  
Present - Online

#### Staff

Luke Sulkowski, Unit Manager Environmental Management  
Ben Fullagar, Section Manager Catchments to Coast  
James Lawson, Section Manager Environmental Infrastructure  
Peter Sheath, Section Manager Bushfire and Flood Risk Management  
Jamie Barclay, Unit Manager Economic Development and Property  
Rochelle Lawson, Senior Ecologist Conservation Management Lead  
Larry Melican, Section Manager Natural Assets and Biodiversity  
Lisa Martin, Civic Support Officer

#### Status

Present (in person)  
Present (online)  
Present (in person)  
Present (in person)  
Present (Item 2.1)  
Present (Item 2.1)  
Present (Item 2.1)  
Present (in person)

Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting of Council 13 December 2023 contd

**PROCEDURAL ITEMS**

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

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The Chairperson, Luke Sulkowski, declared the meeting open at 2:03pm.

The Chair read an Acknowledgement of Country statement.

Apologies received and members absent without apology were noted.

The Chair welcomed members of the Coastal Open Space System (COSS) Committee attending the meeting for the purposes of Item 2.1 – Update on Draft Central Coast Airport Masterplan. It was noted that the COSS Committee members will only remain present for Item 2.1.

Luke Sulkowski and Ben Fullagar both declared a significant non pecuniary interest in the Wamberal Seawall project and will step out of the meeting when this item is discussed in General Business.

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

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

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

[Catchments to Coast Advisory Committee Minutes - 13 September 2023](#)

The outstanding action item log was reviewed and updated.

## REPORTS

### **2.1 Update on Draft Central Coast Airport Masterplan**

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Jamie Barclay presented the Draft Central Coast Airport Masterplan to the committee.

The Masterplan is open for consultation starting Thursday 14 December 2023 through until mid-February 2024, as resolved at Council Meeting on 12 December 2023, and can be viewed on Council's Your Voice Our Coast webpage.

The Masterplan details the development of land surrounding the Central Coast Airport at Warnervale and presents the Central Coast with a new economic sector that will stimulate employment and economic activity. Under the proposal, Council intends to confirm those areas of Porters Creek Wetland that can be established as a stewardship site. As a stewardship site, the biodiversity values of Porters Creek Wetland will be protected in perpetuity.

The Masterplan will be reported back to Council in the second quarter of 2024 with the hope of having a draft mid-2024 with a commercial analysis based on the feedback supplied.

It was noted that members from the Coastal Open Space System committee asked several questions and will be reviewing the Masterplan with a view to providing a submission.

The Chairperson thanked the Coastal Open Space System committee for their attendance and members departed the meeting.

### **2.2 Update on Coastal Management (Standard Item)**

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Ben Fullagar presented the Coastal & Estuary management update.

Open Coast Coastal Management Program (CMP) – Target to complete stage 3 & 4 to lodge certification with the NSW Minister of Environment.

Coastal Lagoons CMP – Target to complete stage 3 & 4 by June 2025.

Tuggerah Lakes CMP – Target to complete stage 3 & 4 by June 2025.

Hawkesbury Nepean (inc. Brisbane Water) CMP – Target to complete stage 3 & 4 by June 2025.

#### **Wamberal Beach terminal protection development application**

It was noted that Council is still working with landowners as co-applicants to lodge a Development Application for coastal protection works.



**Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting of Council 13 December 2023 contd**

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**Sewer network Remediation Update**

- 114km sewer pipes inspected, 42.7km remaining to be upgraded

**Long Jetty drain LJ19**

- Water samples taken by Council's Environment and Public Health Section for detailed analysis with a further re-test being undertaken this month
- Next steps for remediation will be dependent on the results of the water sampling, and a further update will be provided on progress to the Long Jetty WaterWatch group from Council's Compliance team. It was also noted that a potential source of pollution from a decommissioned diesel pump required further investigation from Council's Compliance team

New Action Item – That water sampling results in relation to Long Jetty drain LJ19 be forwarded to the Long Jetty WaterWatch group, and that the potential source of pollution from a decommissioned diesel pump be further investigated by Council's Compliance team.

**Ettalong Dredging Update**

Recent dredging campaign has been completed by Transport for NSW Marine Infrastructure Delivery Office.

***That the Committee note the report.***

**2.3 Update on Coastal & Catchment Operations (Standard Item)**

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James Lawson presented the update on Coastal & Catchment Operations.

Wrack collection in line with target for collection this financial year.

It was noted that beach cleaning and maintenance will continue over the Christmas and New Year period.

Council applied and received grant of \$236k under the NSW Government Recovery Grant for works as part of the Sandstone Log Wall Rectification Project at Canton beach which will commence in February 2024. It was noted that a sign has been erected to advise residents.

In a response to a question, it was noted that there was no consideration at the moment for shortening the length of the beach.

In response to a question, it was advised that there was no incursion of the 'fish nursery' which is to the south of the vegetation.

**Resolved**

**Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting of Council 13 December 2023 contd**

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***That the Committee note the report.***

**2.4 Update on Flood & Stormwater Management (Standard Item)**

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Peter Sheath presented the update on Flood & Stormwater Management

**Sea Level Rise Policy, Flood Policy and DCP**

- The LEP was updated on 24 November 2023, therefore must now be complied to, which includes the implementation of new Clause 5.22 which replaces Clause 5.21 which affects land uses and types of buildings that can be built e.g. hospitals/schools/respite day care/senior housing

**Probable Shelter in Place Guideline**

- Currently in the works and expected to be finalised in 2024.

**Accounting for Climate Change – increases in rainfall intensity**

- Review is currently underway regarding the increase in rainfall and how it would affect the local area in regards to flooding.
- Evacuation requirements will need to be considered.
- Isolated properties/areas will need consideration for access.

Provided an update on current projects.

**Resolved**

***The Committee note the report.***

**2.5 General Business**

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**The Entrance Channel**

Graham Hankin questioned whether there is an update on the Entrance Channel.

Luke Sulkowski advised there is an inspection planned for Committee members at The Entrance Channel in early February 2024 to look at a number items including management of Little Terns and channel conditions.

New Action Item – That Catchment to Coast Committee members be invited to an on-site inspection of The Entrance channel in February 2024.

**Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting of Council 13 December 2023 contd**

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**Wamberal Beach Terminal Protection**

Luke Sulkowski declared a significant non pecuniary interest in the Wamberal Beach Terminal Protection project and stepped out of the meeting when this item was discussed in General Business. Ben Fullagar had already left the meeting. James Lawson chaired this item.

Graham Hankin advised that Terrigal and Wamberal residents have forwarded their concerns about flooding regarding the seawall infrastructure to himself.

It was noted that a Development Application had not been lodged and further updates would be provided at the next meeting.

New Action Item – That an update be provided at the next Catchment to Coast Committee meeting on the Wamberal Beach Terminal Protection project.

**The Meeting** concluded at 4:19pm.

Action Number	Meeting Date	Action	Responsible Party	Action Update	Status
8	22/09/2021	Updates about Airport Masterplan and related matters to be communicated to members as part of ongoing consultation.	Unit Manager Economic Development and Property	<p>Response from Unit Manager Economic Development and Property emailed to members 14 February 2022</p> <p>10/05/2022: PS – a verbal update will be provided at the next committee meeting. Any further updates can be directed to the EPD section (via the AG)</p> <p>29/3 – No further update on this item.</p> <p>10/08: Update to be provided during the Action Log item at the next meeting.</p> <p>13/9 – Request the attendance of Unit Manager ED&amp;P to present to the Committee.</p> <p>13/12 – Update on the Airport Master Plan provided to committee members.</p> <p>13/12 – C2C &amp; COSS Committee members were provided with power point presentation</p>	<p>Pending</p> <p>13/12/23 - Complete</p>
13	8/12/2021	Staff to get advice from Water and Sewer about works in Avoca Lagoon and report back to members when appropriate.	Section Manager Catchments to Coast	<p>Update to be provided at 2 March 2022 meeting 10/05/2022: BF – a verbal update will be provided at the next committee meeting. Any further updates can be directed to the W&amp;S section (via the AG) 1.9km of sewer re-lined in the Avoca area.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>29/3/23 – Included on meeting agenda today.</p>

**Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting of Council 13 December 2023 contd**

				<p>14/12/22 – Update provided at Item 7.</p> <p>13/12 – Update was provided to Committee members by Ben Fullagar</p> <p>13/12 – Presentation provided to committee members by Lisa Martin</p>	(Presentation by Ben Fullagar)
14	08/12/2021	Staff to bring updates on relevant policies and DCP review to group when available.	Section Manager Flood Planning and Strategy	<p>DCP review is still deferred. Update to be provided at 2 March 2022 meeting</p> <p>2/3/22 – Peter Sheath advised Planning team can't provide update on DCP currently, but Flood Planning team are focusing on updating Flood Policy</p> <p>29/3 – Included on agenda today (Peter Sheath)</p> <p>Query re: re-occurring item or whether it can be completed off the action log. Advice that a further update is anticipated at the next Committee meeting.</p> <p>Report included in today's agenda. 10/05: PS – nothing further to report, quick verbal update</p> <p>1/06: No finalised policies or DCP chapter. Drafted flood policy update – reviewed and additional information. New Sea Level Rise policy. LGA wide chapter in Development</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>29/3 – Included on agenda today (Peter Sheath)</p> <p>Query re: re-occurring item or whether it can be completed off the action log. Advice that a further update is anticipated at the next Committee meeting.</p> <p>Report included in</p>

**Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting of Council 13 December 2023 contd**

				Control Plan to be developed. Public exhibition will occur for any policies.  13/9 – item to be addressed at today’s meeting.  13/12 – Update provided in meeting. Action 4	today’s agenda.
17	02/03/2022	Info from MIDO regarding scope of dredging works to be shared with members	Section Manager Catchments to Coast	10/05: BF – will reach out to MIDO to get an update (website with contact details). AW to follow up the process for circulating information to members prior to the meeting (and then for the meeting itself)  10/08: BF to follow up circulation of information via the AG.  14/12/22: Update provided at Item 7.  29/3 – Update as included on agenda at today’s meeting.  13/9 – Included in today’s agenda. The Chair recommends to the Committee to complete action and note that Ben has provided an update today. A new action item will request a single action for MIDO updates. Refer to New Action Item 36.	Completed
21	02/03/2022	Update on draft Flood Policy to be provided at	Section Manager Flood Planning and	29/3 – Peter Sheath to provide update - item on agenda at today’s meeting and further update	Ongoing

**Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting of Council 13 December 2023 contd**

		next meeting	Strategy	<p>to be provided at the next Committee meeting regarding the work undertaken / progress of the Policy. Item included in today's agenda.</p> <p>10/05: PS – defer item/update to the following meeting – verbal update to be given</p> <p>10/08: Update to be provided during the Action Log item at the next meeting.</p> <p>13/9 – action item addressed at today's meeting. The Chair requested the action item stay open.</p> <p>13/12 – Update provided in meeting. Action 45 and 46 created.</p>	
26	29/3/2023	Options in relation to CMP engagement with Community members. Discussion of preferences, time and availability, online, focus group workshops, community drop in sessions – or 'all of the above'?	Ben Fullagar - Section Manager Catchments to Coast	<p>To be clarified by SM Catchments and Coast at next meeting</p> <p>13/9 – The Chair advises the action to be completed and a general update is to be provided at each meeting going forward.</p>	Completed
28	29/3/2023	YourVoice OurCoast (YVOC) website to be updated with current timeframes and	Ben Fullagar - Section Manager Catchments to Coast	<p>Item to be addressed at today's meeting</p> <p>13/9 – Ben advised the action item is expected to be updated at the end of October.</p>	Completed

**Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting of Council 13 December 2023 contd**

		information regarding CMP's.			
30	29/3/2023	Options to be explored in relation to distribution of the presentations prior to the meeting to give the Committee members an opportunity to review the information being presented.	Luke Sulkowski Unit Manager Environmental Management	13/9 - Action item completed, this is part of the Governance process of Council and Civic Support staff will continue to provide presentations with the minutes of meetings.	Completed
34	14/6/2023	Queries regarding ferry running aground during low tide at Ettalong and request for information regarding other vessels using the channel and request for executive summary of the MIDO meeting being held on Thursday 15 June.  Action: Summary of MIDO meeting to be provided to Committee members.	Ben Fullagar - Section Manager Catchments to Coast	13/9 – The action is to be completed and a new action to be created. Refer to action item 36.	Completed
35	14/6/2023	Dredging works - Transport for NSW	Ben Fullagar - Section Manager	13/9 - The action is to be completed and a new action to be created. Refer to action item 36.	Completed



**Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting of Council 13 December 2023 contd**

		(TfNSW) has information on their website regarding tender for Swansea Channel works. Establishment of a similar type page for Ettalong Channel works is to be explored.  Action: Council staff to request MIDO consideration of this.	Catchments to Coast		
36	14/09/2023	MIDO Update – Dredging Works, Ferry running aground during low tide at Ettalong	Dave Hopper	12/12 – Dave hopper is not in attendance today – dredging has been completed by MIDO can be discussed today by Ben Fullagar	Completed
37	14/09/2023	Raise a service request for our Environmental Compliance Services team to review the recent earthworks carried out at 20 Jack Grant Ave, Warnervale to ensure that the works are compliant with appropriate sedimentation and erosion controls.	Luke Sulkowski Unit Manager Environmental Management	CX raised 230921 – 000047  Update as of 7 November 2023:  Officer has undertaken an inspection and has been reviewing the considerable number of documents associated with consents for the site to determine exactly where the development currently stands. Officer has been in contact with the applicant of the development and is liaising with other Council staff prior to	

Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting of Council 13 December 2023 contd

				determining action.	
38	14/09/2023	Raise a service request for our Environmental Compliance Services team in regards to the knocking down of paperbark areas on the skirted corners around Jack Grant Drive.	Luke Sulkowski Unit Manager Environmental Management	Complete – Advisory Groups sent email to committee on 1/11 with response:  On 6 September 2023 Councils Natural Environments Compliance Officer attended the site to investigate the unlawful vegetation removal, upon investigating it was noted the area that has been cleared was value mapped. As such Central Coast Council is not the authorised regulatory authority, the complaint was referred to Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) with reference number report case #202305409.  Further enquiries should be referred to DPE.	Complete
39	14/09/2023	Michael Kilp to provide photos to the Chair of a gate knocked open and truck allegedly carrying out possible illegal dumping onto a higher catchment area in Porters Creek. Chair to subsequently raise a service request for our Environmental Compliance	Luke Sulkowski Unit Manager Environmental Management	CX raised 230928-000305  Update as of 8 November 2023: Illegally dumped tyres off St Johns Road, Jilliby were taped and referred to waste for removal and disposal, an inspection of the street on 8/11/2023 reveals the tyres have been removed.  Photograph supplied showing a tipper truck within a construction site at Rosella Rise was determined to NOT be conducting unlawful activity. Officer was unable to locate any	Complete

**Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting of Council 13 December 2023 contd**

		Services team to investigate the dumping; ECS also to investigate if contractors on the AV Jennings Rosella Rise subdivision (south of Warnervale Road, and west of Virginia Road) ensure contractors are applying relevant sedimentation and erosion controls.		dumped waste and requested additional information relating to the whereabouts of such waste, officer has had no further correspondence.	
40	13/09/2023	The LJ19 Taskforce, which includes representatives from Council EMU and ECS as well as Long Jetty WaterWatch Group, propose to meet in October to review the report findings. The taskforce will also invite a DPE representative – Chris Drummond. An update will be provided to the Committee in December.	Ben Fullagar - Section Manager Catchments to Coast	13/12 – Update was provided as to current status. See action’s 43 & 44	Ongoing

**Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting of Council 13 December 2023 contd**

41	13/12/2023	To provide fact sheets on wetlands, studies to provide some insight as to what is in the CMP prior to going on public exhibition – Ben Fullagar	Ben Fullagar – Section Manager Catchments to Coast		
42	13/12/2023	NSW Marine Infrastructure Delivery Office (MIDO) be invited to present to the committee on community dredging early next year	Ben Fullagar – Section Manager Catchments to Coast		
43	13/12/2023	Request update from Council's Compliance team for Long Jetty Waterworks Group on progress of LJ 19	Ben Fullagar – Section Manager Catchments to Coast		
44	13/12/2023	Amendment to previous minutes – LJ19  To investigate the diesel pump which was out of service and wrapped up in black plastic is on the corner	Ben Fullagar – Section Manager Catchments to Coast		

Minutes of the Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting of Council 13 December 2023 contd

		of Elsiemer St and Central Coast Highway Long Jetty.			
45	13/12/2023	Monitor for proposed flood studies for the Lagoons for the purpose of a storm surge	Peter Sheath - Section Manager Bushfire and Flood Risk Management		
46	13/12/2023	Agenda Item for next meeting in 2024  Wamberal Beach Terminal Protection project update – discussion of flood studies of the Lagoon for the purpose of a storm surge	Peter Sheath - Section Manager Bushfire and Flood Risk Management		
47	13/12/2023	The Entrance Channel – organise an onsite meet in early February. Invite the Administrator to attend	Luke Sulkowski Unit Manager Environmental Management		





**Item No:** 2.1  
**Title:** Update on Coastal Management (Standing Agenda Item)  
**Department:** Environment and Planning

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20 March 2024 Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting

Reference: F2021/00832 - D16058724  
Author: James Lawson, Section Manager. Environmental Infrastructure  
Manager: Luke Sulkowski, Unit Manager. Environmental Management  
Executive: Alice Howe, Director Environment and Planning

## **Recommendation**

***That the Committee note the information in the report.***

## **Report purpose**

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

## **Executive Summary**

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

- Wrack and algae collection
- Beach maintenance and Coastal Lagoon openings
- The Entrance Channel works

## **Background**

This report provides an update on Council's Tuggerah Lakes wrack and algae collection program, Council's beach maintenance activities and Coastal Lagoon openings as well as The Entrance Channel works.

## **Report**

### Wrack and Algae Collection

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

## **2.1 Update on Coastal Management (Standing Agenda Item) (contd)**

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Council's wrack and algae collection is primarily undertaken by Australian Environmental Services under contract until 29 August 2024. Council staff also assist by removing wrack and algae from drying pads and transporting to Council's Green Waste facility. A total of 3367m<sup>3</sup> of material has been collected during 2023/24 up to January 2024, compared to the KPI year to date target of 2917m<sup>3</sup> based on a 5000m<sup>3</sup> yearly total. A presentation will be provided to the Committee showing the annual cumulative volume of wrack removed by month from 2013/14 to present.

### Beach Maintenance activities and Coastal Lagoon Openings

Council continues to clean and maintain all high-profile beaches via a mechanical beach rake and manual hand picking two to three times per week concentrating around patrolled swimming areas and beach access points. Additional beach cleans were undertaken at high-profile beaches during the Christmas and New Year holiday period.

The Central Coast's four coastal lagoon systems (Wamberal, Terrigal, Avoca and Cockrone) are a significant geographic feature of the region. They are a highly valued natural resource and support a network of significant ecological communities as well as a diverse range of recreational uses. Council intervenes to open these lagoons when water levels reach a trigger level and when the lagoons are closed to reduce the risk of flooding.

Council opened Terrigal lagoon on 16 February 2024 due to the water level reaching the triggers level for mechanical opening of 1.23m. When the trigger level was reached there was a delay in notification of triggers due to a telemetry failure during the event. This would not have resulted in earlier intervention as triggers were met at 12 am, and for public safety reasons, staff try to time lagoon openings in the evening when there is less likelihood of impacts on public beach users.

### The Entrance Channel Works

Council hosted an on-site inspection of The Entrance Channel on Monday 12 February 2024 for members of the Catchment to Coast Committee, Council's Administrator and Director of Environment and Planning and the Member for The Entrance, and inspected the critically endangered migratory Little Tern nesting area and discussed previous dredging and berm management programs, as well the planned works at The Entrance Channel.

Council carried out pre-emptive flood mitigation works on 20 February 2024 at The Entrance Channel, following the earlier removal of the Little Tern fencing, strategically excavating sand from the lake side of the sand berm and to the north of the rock shelf to form a pilot channel, in accordance with Council's Interim Entrance Management Procedure. The four-day works program assisted in flood mitigation works, reducing the volume and time required to transfer sand from the sand spit should they be required during a severe weather event.

Birds observed by Committee members during the site inspection which were thought to be Little Terns, have since been confirmed as Red Capped Plovers which are classified as secure, and not in the same critically endangered status as the Little Tern. The Little Terns have flown



## **2.1 Update on Coastal Management (Standing Agenda Item) (contd)**

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to the northern hemisphere for the winter and were not present during the works. A presentation will be provided to the Committee.

### **Consultation**

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

Consultation in relation to The Entrance Channel works has been undertaken with members of the Catchment to Coast Committee, general community as well as relevant NSW Government agencies.

### **Financial Considerations**

The recommendations of this report do not have any material financial implications for Council. The programs described in the report are included in Council's adopted 2023-2024 budget.

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

Theme 3: Green

### **Choose Focus Area**

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

### **Risk Management**

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

### **Options**

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

### **Attachments**

*Nil.*



**Item No:** 2.2  
**Title:** Update on Coastal and Estuary Management  
(Standing Agenda Item)  
**Department:** Environment and Planning

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20 March 2024 Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting

Reference: F2021/00832 - D16058736  
Author: Ben Fullagar, Section Manager Catchments to Coast  
Manager: Luke Sulkowski, Unit Manager. Environmental Management  
Executive: Alice Howe, Director Environment and Planning

## **Recommendation**

***That the Committee note the report.***

### **Report purpose**

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

### **Executive Summary**

The report outlines Council's progress on the following:

- Coastal Management Programs update (CMPs)
- Open Coast CMP detailed update
- Wamberal Beach coastal protection works development application
- Update on works in Terrigal and Lagoon catchments (action 13).
- Investigation of hydrocarbon contamination – Long Jetty drain LJ19 (action 40)

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

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

- Hawkesbury Nepean CMP (with five other partner councils);
- Open Coast CMP;

## **2.2 Update on Coastal and Estuary Management (Standing Agenda Item) (contd)**

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- Coastal Lagoons CMP;
- Tuggerah Lakes CMP; and
- Lake Macquarie CMP (with Lake Macquarie City Council).

### **Open Coast CMP**

Council is focusing on the completion of the Open Coast CMP by the middle of 2024 to lodge for certification with the NSW Minister for the Environment. A detailed update of the recent community engagement and program will be presented including:

- Updates to the Your Voice Our Coast page,
- The social pinpoint page where the community can leave comments on the interactive map,
- The completion of 6 community pop up events and 2 target consultation sessions, and
- Program of communication and engagement activities planned for the remainder of Stage 3 and 4.

### **Wamberal Beach coastal protection works development application**

Council's staff who are responsible for the Council-owned and managed lands at Wamberal are continuing to work alongside landowners as co-applicants and progressing work with consultants to prepare a development application for coastal protection works.

Probity arrangements are in place to manage potential conflicts between Council exercising its responsibilities as a landowner and Council exercising its role as a planning authority. This includes establishment of a firewall between staff exercising various roles in the process and independent determination of the DA by the Hunter Central Coast Regional Planning Panel.

Council has recently updated the website to include detailed FAQs to help provide further information for the community on the development application and assessment process. See <https://www.centralcoast.nsw.gov.au/environment/coastlines/coastal-zone-management/coastal-erosion>

## **2.2 Update on Coastal and Estuary Management (Standing Agenda Item) (contd)**

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

Council continues to assess and repair/reline sewer infrastructure in the Terrigal Beach and Coastal Lagoons catchments. An update on the latest inspection and relining statistics will be presented at the Committee meeting.

### **Investigation of hydrocarbon contamination – Long Jetty drain LJ19 (action 40, 43, 44)**

Council has taken water samples for the purpose of 'finger print' analysis to help determine a potential source of hydrocarbon contamination of groundwater at Long Jetty. Council is awaiting the results of the testing and will provide an update at the committee meeting. Council's compliance staff are also initiated an investigation of the diesel pump which was out of service and wrapped up in black plastic on the corner of Elsiemer St and Central Coast Highway Long Jetty.

### **Financial Considerations**

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

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

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

This report is provided as information to members of the Committee and does not contain any material financial implications. The programs described in this update are included in Council's adopted 2023-2024 budget.

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

Theme 3: Green

### **Choose Focus Area**

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

### **Risk Management**

There are no material risks associated with the report. Risks associated with individual projects described in the report are addressed as part of the management of those projects.

**2.2 Update on Coastal and Estuary Management (Standing Agenda Item)  
(contd)**

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**Options**

This report is for information only. There are no relevant options.

**Attachments**

*Nil.*



**Item No:** 2.3  
**Title:** Update on Flood and Stormwater Management  
(Standing Agenda Item)  
**Department:** Environment and Planning

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20 March 2024 Catchments to Coast Committee Meeting

Reference: F2021/00832 - D16058744  
Author: Peter Sheath, Unit Manager, Environmental Management  
Manager: Luke Sulkowski, Director Environment and Planning (Acting)  
Executive: Luke Sulkowski, Director Environment and Planning (Acting)

## **Recommendation**

***That the Committee note the report.***

### **Report purpose**

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

1. Update on Flood Policy and Planning Instruments (Action 14/21)
2. Status of Flood Projects
3. Flood grant opportunities 2024/25
4. Terrigal Lagoon Flooding from Oceanic Inundation (Action 45/46)

## **Report**

### ***1. Update on Flood Policy and Planning Instruments (Action 14/21)***

Council continues to work through appropriate application of the changes brought about by the:

- NSW Flood Risk Management Manual and associated guidelines
- Draft NSW Shelter in Place Guideline
- New LEP clause 5.22
- Consideration of climate change
- The need to update and consolidate Council's Development Control Plan flood chapter.
- The need to appropriately consider climate change for future development and infrastructure.

On 1 March 2024 the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure released Planning Circular PS 24-001 *Update on addressing flood risk in planning decisions*. Council staff are still considering the impact of the new circular. There is of note what seems to be a new concept that is recommended in the assessment of Development Applications and Planning Proposals: "flood risk profile". Council's, as the consent authority, are being asked to consider issues including: "whether the proposal provides for safe occupation and efficient and effective

## **2.3 Update on Flood and Stormwater Management (Standing Agenda Item) (contd)**

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evacuation in flood events and how it is to be achieved” and “any known evacuation constraints such as the flood emergency response classification for the area and available warning times (including rate of rise and when the evacuation route is cut off by floodwater).”

Relevant status of issues currently being resolved:

- LEP clause 5.22: Council is seeking legal advice on the application of LEP clause 5.22. To date we have conflicting advice on the intent of the new 5.22(2b) clause, which relates to applying more stringent planning controls beyond the Flood Planning Area to land uses that are not on the sensitive and hazardous list. Council needs to be satisfied about safe occupation, efficient evacuation, and measures to manage risk to life in the event of a flood. The question being how Council is to decide if a parcel of land warrants the more stringent planning controls, how to map such lands, and how to flag this on Planning Certificates.
- Consideration of climate change: increased rainfall intensities associated with climate change has the potential to increase peak volumes of flooding. The corresponding increases in flood levels vary depending on location. Council has mapping for this in limited areas. Adoption of a minimum allowance to account for increased rainfall intensity is being considered as a first step as part of the calculation of a minimum habitable floor level at a particular location.
- Consideration of how to assess high flood islands and high trapped perimeter areas: the need to specifically consider the risk in these areas has been prompted by the updated NSW Flood Risk Management Manual and guidelines (2023) and the recent Planning Circular discussed above. The issue is that such areas are not likely to be subject to flood related development controls as stated on Planning Certificates. Conversations are being held with representatives from NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environmental and Water, and NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure on how to resolve this conundrum.

### **2. Status of Flood Projects**

An up-to-date presentation of project status will be provided at the meeting.

The Narara Creek Floodplain Risk Management Plan final report has not yet been delivered and so a presentation has been deferred to the next Coast to Catchment Committee meeting in June 2024.

### **3. Flood Grant opportunities 2024/25**

The NSW Flood Recovery and Resilience Grant Program was open for submissions until 13 March 2024. Council had planned to apply for the Chittaway Point Climate Change Adaptation Plan project, for which we have already been unsuccessful on two occasions. However, we were advised that this grant scheme was only available for physical works, so the project would not comply.

The annual NSW Floodplain Management Program grant scheme for 24/25 is expected to open soon. Council is preparing to seek funding for:

## 2.3 Update on Flood and Stormwater Management (Standing Agenda Item) (contd)

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- Wagstaffe to Daleys Point Overland Flood Study
- Mangrove Creek and Mooney Mooney Creek Flood Study

Council is presently working on many projects under several grant funding schemes, as there had been many more funding opportunities resulting from the flooding in NSW during 2022. These include: the annual NSW Floodplain Management Program, two rounds of the Local Government Recovery Grants Program, the Australian Government's Disaster Ready Fund. The project management resourcing capacity to deliver will need to be considered associated with each funding opportunity.

### 4. Terrigal Lagoon Flooding from Oceanic Inundation (Action 45/46)

In the December 2023 Committee Meeting a question was raised in General Business about current understanding of the impact of oceanic inundation in Terrigal Lagoon and how critical the condition of the lagoon entrance is to peak flood levels.

A presentation will be provided at the Committee meeting to answer the question, using flood simulation information taken from Council's Coastal Lagoon Catchments Overland Flood Study, which was completed by Manly Hydraulics Laboratory in November 2020.

The study included sensitivity analysis simulations for only the 1% AEP (1 in 100) flood event. In this event the level of the berm level of the entrance has no material impact on the peak flood levels in Terrigal Lagoon. There may be some impacts for more frequent events, which would be associated with lower peak flood levels, but this has not been simulated.

The reason that the 1% AEP simulation shows no material difference in peak flood level in the lagoon regardless of berm level is due to the high ocean tide levels used in the simulation. The peak ocean tide level in the simulation (2.55mAHD) exceeded the height of all the berm level options, given that the Terrigal Lagoon sand berm is typically much lower than that for the other coastal lagoons. Note that the tide levels for the simulation were taken from the *NSW Flood Risk Management Guide: Modelling the Interaction of Catchment Flooding and Oceanic Inundation in Coastal Waterways*.

The flood study report provides discussion on these results: "Terrigal Lagoon has a relatively low managed berm level and changes in tailwater level would have significant impact on the lagoon level as elevated ocean levels would flow into the lagoon. This identifies a significant potential issue with flooding becoming more common in Terrigal with rising sea level."

### Financial Considerations

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



## **2.3 Update on Flood and Stormwater Management (Standing Agenda Item) (contd)**

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

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

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

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

Theme 4: Responsible

#### **Choose Focus Area**

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

#### **Risk Management**

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

#### **Options**

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

#### **Attachments**

*Nil.*

## **2.4 COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN**

Presenter: Merindah Overall

### **Attachments**

*Nil.*

## 2.5 REVIEW OF THE CENTRAL COAST WATERWAYS REPORT CARD 2022/23

Presenter: Mike Campbell

### **Attachments**

*Nil.*

## 2.6 MIDO PRESENTATION - ETTALONG DREDGING PROJECT

Presenters: David Hopper

### **Attachments**

*Nil.*

## 2.7 GENERAL BUSINESS

Presenter: ALL

### **Attachments**

*Nil.*