



Central Coast Council
**Central Coast
Region Report**

September 2024

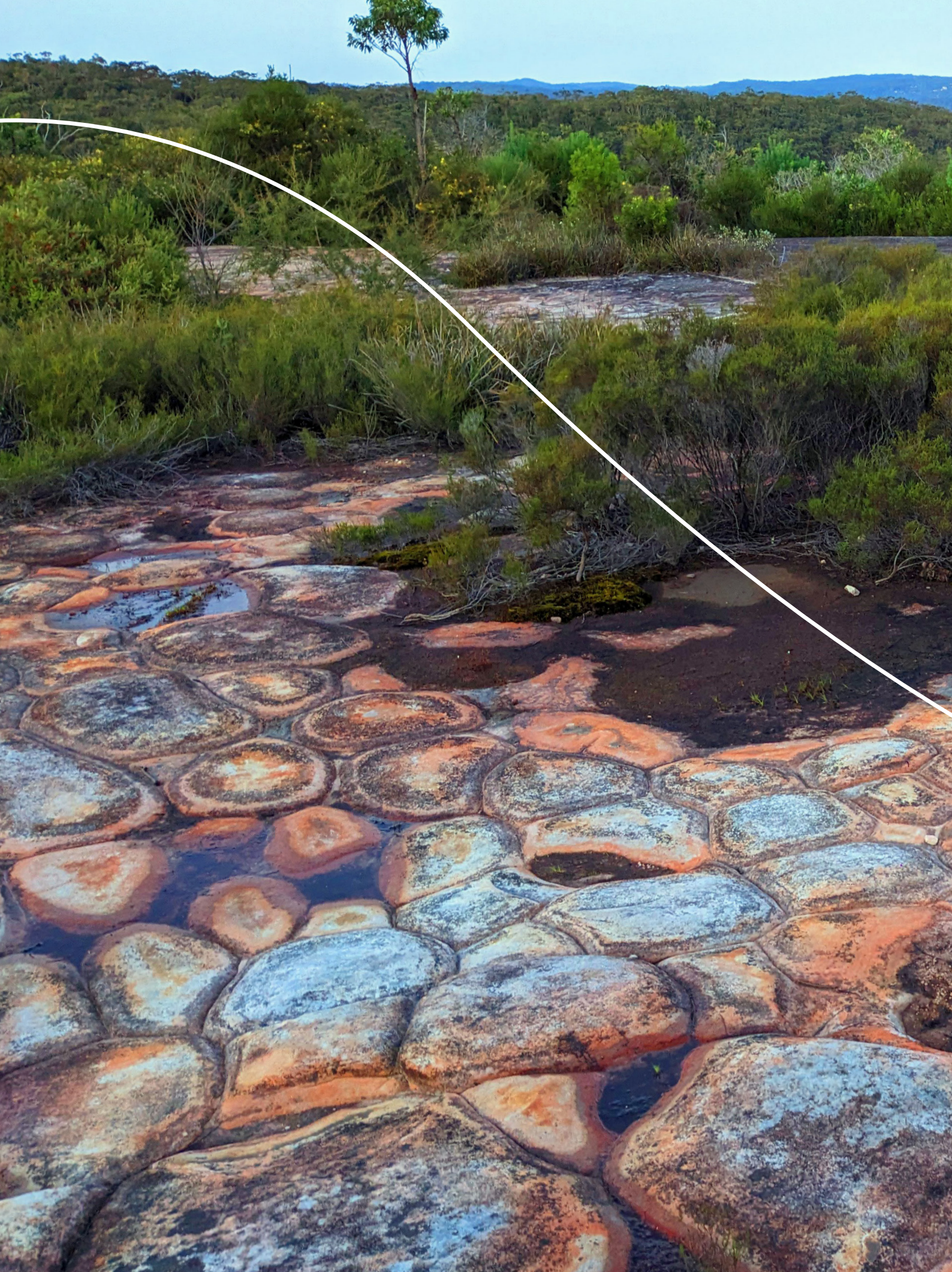
Central
Coast
Council

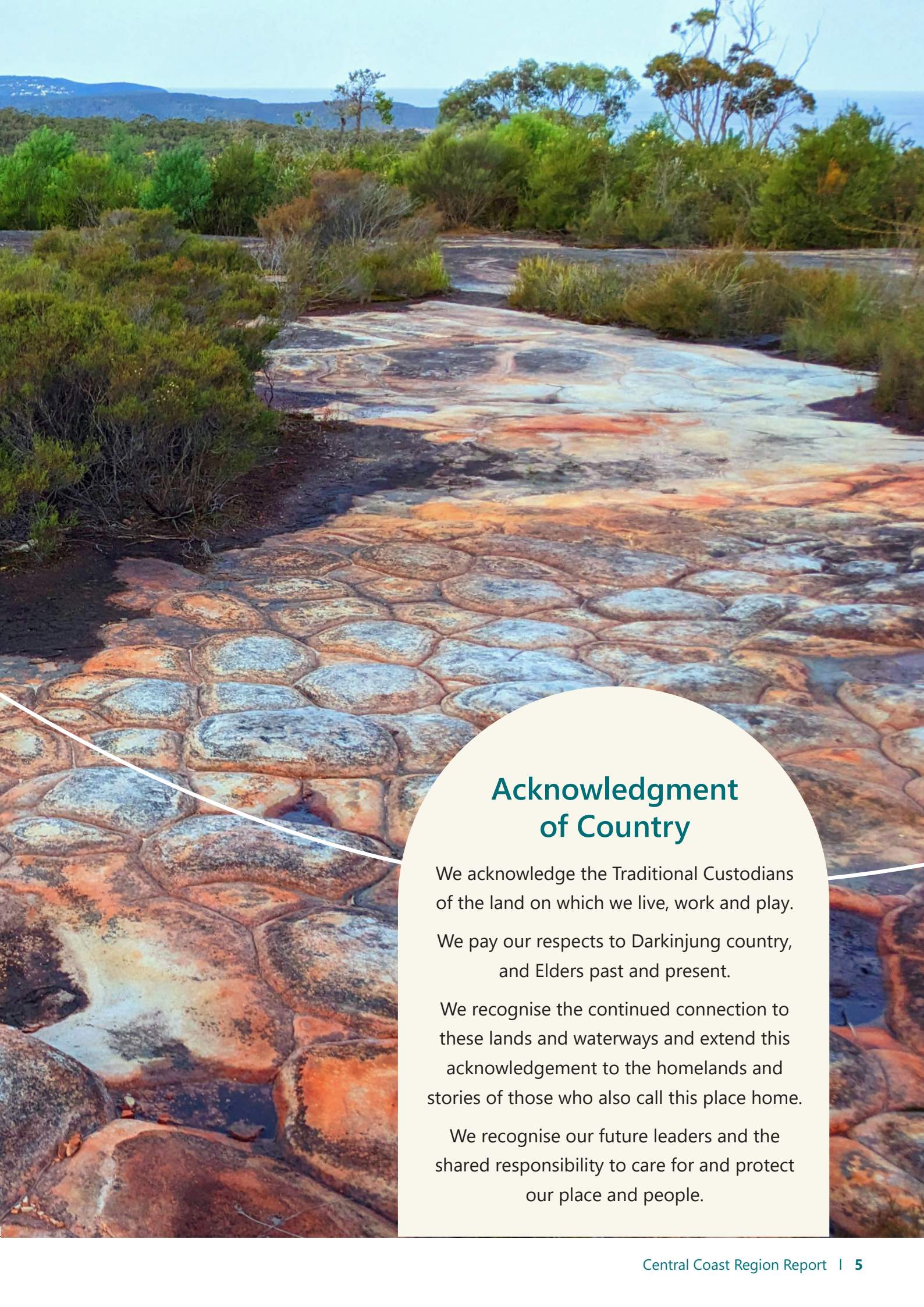




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Acknowledgment of Country

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.

About the Central Coast



349,173

Population



133,045

Local jobs



2,254km

Roads



61

Off leash
dog areas



5.7M

Tourism
overnight visitors



44.9%

Families



7%

Persons with a disability



16%

Born overseas



4.9%

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders



43

Median age



4.7%

Unemployment rate



25,800

Businesses



\$17.52B

Gross Regional Product



9

Swimming enclosures



3

Dams



2,232km

Water mains



2,678km

Sewer mains



41

Beaches
15 Patrolled



10

State Forests
and National Parks



560

Parks and reserves



8

Child care centres



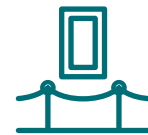
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Council libraries



1.4%

Public Transport to work



1

Art gallery



101

Boat ramps and jetties



905km

Shared pathways



4

BMX tracks



27

Skate parks



77

Sporting facilities



261

Playspaces



1

Camping ground



4

Holiday Parks



3

Performing Arts and theatres



6

Leisure and aquatic centres



3

Stadiums

Community Strategic Plan

Vision: We are One Central Coast. A Smart, Green, and Liveable region with a shared sense of Belonging and Responsibility

Belonging

Our community spirit is our strength

- A1** Work within our communities to connect people, build capacity and create local solutions and initiatives.
- A2** Celebrate and continue to create opportunities for inclusion where all people feel welcome and participate in community life.
- A3** Work together to solve a range of social and health issues that may impact community wellbeing and vulnerable people.
- A4** Enhance community safety within neighbourhoods, public spaces and places.



Creativity, connection and local identity

- B1** Support reconciliation through the celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.
- B2** Promote and provide more sporting, community and cultural events and festivals, day and night, throughout the year.
- B3** Foster creative and performing arts through theatres, galleries and creative spaces, by integrating art and performance into public life.
- B4** Activate spaces and places to complement activity around town centres, foreshores, lakes and green spaces for families, community and visitors.



Smart

A growing and competitive region

- C1** Target economic development in growth areas and major centres and provide incentives to attract businesses to the Central Coast.
- C2** Revitalise Gosford City Centre, Gosford Waterfront and town centres as key destinations and attractors for businesses, local residents, visitors and tourists.
- C3** Facilitate economic development to increase local employment opportunities and provide a range of jobs for all residents.
- C4** Promote and grow tourism that celebrates the natural and cultural assets of the Central Coast in a way that is accessible, sustainable and eco-friendly.



A place of opportunity for people

- D1** Foster innovation and partnerships to develop local entrepreneurs and support start-ups.
- D2** Support local business growth by providing incentives, streamlining processes and encouraging social enterprises.
- D3** Invest in broadening local education and learning pathways linking industry with Universities, TAFE and other training providers.
- D4** Support businesses and local leaders to mentor young people in skills development through traineeships, apprenticeships and volunteering.



Green

Environmental resources for the future

- E1** Educate the community on the value and importance of natural areas and biodiversity, and encourage community involvement in caring for our natural environment.
- E2** Improve water quality for beaches, lakes, and waterways including minimising pollutants and preventing litter entering our waterways.
- E3** Reduce littering, minimise waste to landfill and educate to strengthen positive environmental behaviours.
- E4** Incorporate renewable energy and energy efficiency in future design and planning, and ensure responsible use of water and other resources.



Cherished and protected natural beauty

- F1** Protect our rich environmental heritage by conserving beaches, waterways, bushland, wildlife corridors and inland areas, and the diversity of local native species.
- F2** Promote greening and ensure the wellbeing of communities through the protection of local bushland, urban trees, tree canopies and expansion of the Coastal Open Space System (COSS).
- F3** Improve enforcement for all types of environmental non-compliance including littering and illegal dumping, and encourage excellence in industry practices to protect and enhance environmental health.
- F4** Address climate change and its impacts through collaborative strategic planning and responsible land management and consider targets and actions.



Responsible

Good governance and great partnerships

- G1** Build strong relationships and ensure our partners and community share the responsibilities and benefits of putting plans into practice.
- 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.
- G3** Provide leadership that is transparent and accountable, makes decisions in the best interest of the community, ensures Council is financially sustainable and adheres to a strong audit process.
- G4** Serve the community by providing great customer experience, value for money and quality services.



Balanced and sustainable development

- I1** Preserve local character and protect our drinking water catchments, heritage and rural areas by concentrating development along transport corridors and town centres east of the M1.
- I2** Ensure all new developments are well planned with good access to public transport, green space and community facilities and support active transport.
- I3** Ensure land use planning and development is sustainable and environmentally sound and considers the importance of local habitat, green corridors, energy efficiency and stormwater management.
- I4** Provide a range of housing options to meet the diverse and changing needs of the community and there is adequate affordable housing.



Delivering essential infrastructure

- H1** Solve road and drainage problem areas and partner with the State Government to improve road conditions across the region.
- H2** Improve pedestrian movement safety, speed and vehicle congestion around schools, town centres, neighbourhoods, and community facilities.
- H3** Create parking options and solutions that address the needs of residents, visitors and businesses.
- H4** Plan for adequate and sustainable infrastructure to meet future demand for transport, energy, telecommunications and a secure supply of drinking water.



Liveable

Reliable public transport and connections

- J1** Create adequate, reliable and accessible train services and facilities to accommodate current and future passengers.
- J2** Address commuter parking, drop-off zones, access and movement around transport hubs to support and increase use of public transport.
- J3** Improve bus and ferry frequency and ensure networks link with train services to minimise journey times.
- J4** Design long-term, innovative and sustainable transport management options for population growth and expansion.



Healthy lifestyles for a growing community

- L1** Promote healthy living and ensure sport, leisure, recreation and aquatic facilities and open spaces are well maintained and activated.
- L2** Invest in health care solutions including infrastructure, services and preventative programs to keep people well for longer.
- L3** Cultivate a love of learning and knowledge by providing facilities to support lifelong learning.
- L4** Provide equitable, affordable, flexible and co-located community facilities based on community needs.



Out and about in the fresh air

- K1** Create a regional network of interconnected shared pathways and cycle ways to maximise access to key destinations and facilities.
- K2** Design and deliver pathways, walking trails and other pedestrian movement infrastructure to maximise access, inclusion and mobility to meet the needs of all community members.
- K3** Provide signage, public facilities, amenities and playgrounds to encourage usage and enjoyment of public areas.
- K4** Repair and maintain wharves, jetties, boat ramps and ocean baths to increase ease of access and enjoyment of natural waterways and foreshores.



About this Report

Purpose of this Report

The Central Coast Region Report is a requirement under the *Local Government Act 1993*, and forms part of the Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) Framework. It is completed in the year of a Local Government election and is a report to the incoming Councillors, detailing how the Council has performed in achieving the objectives of the Community Strategic Plan (CSP). This report includes trend data, drawn from various internal and external sources and also includes Council highlights, covering the financial years of 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24. The purpose of the Report is to the new Council in the review of the CSP as well as help guide the development of programs, projects and actions as part of the Delivery Program and Operational Plan.



How to read this Report

The report is set out based on the CSP Theme and includes Council highlights over the period and measures used to understand how well the Central Coast is achieving against the CSP. The measures include internal indicators, such as the Community Wellbeing Survey, and external indicators, such as Australian Bureau of Statistics data (ABS).

Theme

The Themes respond to these ideas and values. The 5 Themes are Belonging, Smart, Green, Responsible and Liveable.

Objective

There are 48 Objectives in total, with 4 Objective under each Focus Area. These detail what is to be achieved.

Belonging

Our community spirit is our strength



- A1** Work within our communities to connect people, build capacity and create local solutions and initiatives.
- A2** Celebrate and continue to create opportunities for inclusion where all people feel welcome and participate in community life.
- A3** Work together to solve a range of social and health issues that may impact community wellbeing and vulnerable people.
- A4** Enhance community safety within neighbourhoods, public spaces and places.

Focus Area

There are 12 Focus Areas which respond to the ideas and values provided by the people of the Central Coast.

1. (B) Our community spirit is our strength.
2. (B) Creativity, Connection and Local identify.
3. (S) A growing and competitive region.
4. (S) A place of opportunity for people.
5. (G) Environmental resources for the future
6. (G) Cherished and protected natural beauty.
7. (R) Good governance and great partnerships.
8. (R) Delivering essential infrastructure.
9. (R) Balanced and sustainable development
10. (L) Reliable public transport and connections.
11. (L) Out and about in the fresh air.
12. (L) Healthy lifestyles for a growing community.

Measure to evaluate progress

Sub Theme relates to Focus Area

Indicator that is measured

Increasing, decreasing, no significant change, or no data available

Data: Trend is based on the comparison of last 2 data points

Sub Theme	CSP Indicator	Trend	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Quality of life and wellbeing score	Percentage of residents who rated their standard of living as Very Good or Excellent	○	-	-	-	-	79%	-	-

Measure

Each Theme contains a set of measures that are used to evaluate progress against achieving the CSP Objectives.

CSP Indicator

For each measure there a number of indicators that provide performance results. These are a collection of Council data, other government agencies, or community / private organisations.

Trend

The trend is determined based on the last two collection years to determine if the trend is increasing, decreasing or stable.

- △ The numbers have increased compared to previous collection point
- No changed compared to previous collection point
- ▽ The numbers have decreased compared to previous collection point
- Trend data not available
- No yearly data available

Belonging

Our community spirit is our strength



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Creativity, connection and local identity



- B1** Support reconciliation through the celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.
- B2** Promote and provide more sporting, community and cultural events and festivals, day and night, throughout the year.
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Activity	2021-22 Performance	2022-23 Performance	2023-24 Performance
Beach Safety Operations and Management	2.4 million beach visits	2.1 million beach visits	3.7 million beach visits
	746 rescues	1,128 rescues	1,539 rescues
	1,902 first aid treatments	1,752 first aid treatments	3,200 first aid treatments
Gallery	12 major exhibitions	13 major exhibitions	13 major exhibitions
	80,909 attendances	136,771 attendances	149,217 attendances
Theatres	0 productions (theatres were closed as a result of COVID-19)	226 productions	260 productions
Events and Placemaking	0 major events (events unable to be held as a result of COVID-19)	17 major events	22 major events
	0 attendances (events unable to be held as a result of COVID-19)	176,600 attendances	187,000 attendances
Community Safety and Development Control	131 animal desexed	339 animals desexed	333 animals desexed
	164 animals microchipped	237 animals microchipped	520 animals microchipped

Highlights

Community and Cultural Development Programs

- Implementation of the Disability Inclusion Action Plan, with projects including:
 - Campaigns to increase positive attitudes and behaviours towards people with a disability, such as the Think Outside the Chair, Invisible Disabilities, and Live My Experience.
 - Accessible upgrades to town centres with accessible furniture installed at Wyong, Gosford, Toukley and The Entrance.
 - Sport and recreation events that are welcoming and accessible for people with a disability such as Come and Try Day, wheelchair rugby, wheelchair basketball, and special Olympics.
 - Undertaking works using universal design principles on projects such as playspace renewals at Ross Park – Avoca, Tunkawallin Oval – Gwandalan, and Woolmers Crescent Reserve – Mardi.
 - Establishing a new Access and Inclusion Reference Group .
- Delivery of projects to increase community participation and strengthen neighbourhood connections:
 - When this Mountain Speaks – an intercultural and intergenerational project where local farmers were invited to share personal stories and memories around settlement, alongside their connection to place/land as caretakers.
 - It's not Black or White exhibition – an exhibition of black and white photographs, depicting what the domestic violence was and continues to be for victims and survivors.
 - A walk in our shoes – an activation installation at Terrigal to educate town centre visitors on homelessness issues and what individuals can do to help.
- Development and adoption of the Central Coast First Nations Accord. The Central Coast local government area is one of the largest and fastest growing Aboriginal communities in Australia. This population grew by 38% in the last Census reporting period, with significant growth expected into the future. Unfortunately, Aboriginal people still experience higher levels of disadvantage than that of non-Indigenous people. The main focus of the Accord is to define how we can listen to and work with Aboriginal people to realise their future and improve their quality of life. An important commitment of the Accord was the establishment of a broad based Aboriginal Advisory Committee, with members appointed in 2023.
- Implementation of the Safer Cities: Her Way Project was an 18 month project delivered in partnership with Transport for NSW to pilot initiatives for women, girls, and gender-diverse people that would improve perceptions of safety on streets, in parklands and at public transport hubs around Gosford. The majority of initiatives implemented proved successful and included lighting, removing overgrown vegetation and improving the cleanliness of areas, installing public art, a city loop shuttle bus, and temporary wayfinding signage.

Safer Cities: Her Way Project



Performance Measures

Measure: Community connection and perception of safety

Sub Theme	CSP Indicator	Trend	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Neighbourhood Safety	Percentage of residents who Agreed or Strongly Agreed they felt safe in their local area	○	-	76 %	-	-	-	-	-
Feeling safe in public places	Percentage of residents who Agreed or Strongly Agreed they felt safe in public places	○	-	62.4%	-	-	-	-	-
Personal and property crime	Number of non-domestic break and enter offences	△	478	407	414	323	295	227	247
	Number of domestic break and enter offences	▽	1405	1102	1013	983	833	602	566
	Number of non-domestic violence offences	△	-	1448	1491	1646	1399	1371	1551
	Number of domestic violence offences	△	-	1467	1669	1624	1497	1455	1671
Sense of community on the Central Coast	Percentage of residents who Agreed or Strongly Agreed that living on the Central Coast area gives a sense of living in a community	○	-	63 %	-	-	-	-	-
Appreciation of community and cultural diversity	Percentage of residents Agreed or Strongly Agreed that people of all cultures and backgrounds are welcomed	○	-	65 %	-	-	-	-	-



Movie Nights
Toukley

Measure: Participation in sport, recreation, and community life

Sub Theme	CSP Indicator	Trend	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Community events that bring people together	Percentage of residents who were Satisfied or Highly Satisfied with Council run events and festivals	▽	-	-	51%	-	48%	-	-
Volunteering activities	Percentage of residents who participated in volunteer work	▽	17.2%	-	-	-	-	12.1%	-
Arts and cultural activities	Percentage of residents who Agreed or Strongly Agreed there were enough opportunities in their local area to participate in arts and creative activities	○	-	44.5%	-	-	-	-	-

Measure: Social equity and community wellbeing

Sub Theme	CSP Indicator	Trend	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Quality of life and wellbeing score	Percentage of residents who rated their standard of living as Very Good or Excellent	○	-	-	-	-	79%	-	-
SEIFA socio-economic disadvantage	Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) measure	△	989	-	-	-	-	994	-
Annual Australian CPI Movement	How much CPI has increased or decreased yearly	△	1.4	1.9	1.7	1.8	0.9	3.5	7.6
Household income	Percentage of households earning \$1481 or less per week	▽	54.5%	-	-	-	-	53.6%	-
	Percentage of households earning \$2,555 or more per week	△	21.9%	-	-	-	-	23.2%	-

Wellbeing 2024 Survey Results

Results are calculated by adding response results together. The response results that have been used are highlighted **bold** to get the result.

Sub Theme	Questions	Result
Quality of life and wellbeing	1 Thinking about your life and personal circumstances, overall, how would you rate the quality of life you have, living in the Central Coast LGA (Excellent, Very Good, Good, Fair, Poor, Very Poor)	82%
Quality of life and wellbeing	2 Since 2022, do you think the overall quality of life in the Central Coast LGA has Improved , Remained the same, or Declined	20%
Quality of life and wellbeing Healthy lifestyle choices Neighbourhood Safety Sense of community Sports and recreational activities	3 How satisfied are you with the following (Completely dissatisfied, Dissatisfied, Neutral, Satisfied, Completely satisfied)	-
	a. Your standard of living	62%
	b. Your physical health	55%
	c. Your mental health	60%
	d. What you are currently achieving in life	58%
	e. Your personal relationships	71%
	f. How safe you feel	54%
	g. Feeling part of the broader Central Coast community	41%
	h. Feeling part of your local neighbourhood community	48%
	i. Your future security	48%
	j. The home you live in	70%
	k. Your local area	51%
	l. Your spirituality or religion	52%
	m. Opportunities to participate in sporting and recreation activities in the local area	49%
	n. Access to public sports and recreational facilities such as pools and courts	51%
	o. Access to parks and open spaces	64%
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality of life and wellbeing Household income 	4 [Codes 1 or 2 on Q4] Using a scale of 1-5, to what extent do you Strongly agree, Agree , Neutral, Disagree, Strongly disagree with the following statements
a. I feel like I have a balance between work and life		48%
b. I feel like my life has a sense of purpose		59%
c. I feel valued and appreciated by others		57%
d. I am confident I can achieve the things I want in life		57%
e. I generally do NOT feel lonely		60%
f. I generally do NOT feel anxious		43%
g. I generally feel like I can adapt to change well		66%
h. I work because I want to work		43%
i. I work because I have to work		69%
j. I wish I could work less but I cannot afford to	68%	
Quality of life and wellbeing Household income	5 If you need to, could you access or raise \$2,000 with two days in an emergency (Yes , No, Don't know)	71%

Sub Theme	Questions	Result	
Quality of life and wellbeing	6	As a direct result of housing costs, including mortgage, or rent, electricity/gas/water, etc, have you unwillingly had to sacrifice spending on other things (Yes , No, Don't know)	68%
Household income	7	Which of the following have you sacrificed spending on?	
	a.	Food and groceries	55%
	b.	Air conditioning	38%
	c.	Medical treatment	44%
	d.	Sports and Recreation	44%
Household income	e.	Arts and cultural activities	49%
	f.	Eating out	79%
	g.	Education	19%
	h.	Petrol/fuel	36%
	i.	Therapy/counselling support	38%
	j.	Other	5%
Household income	13	In the last 12 months, have you had to do any of the following:	
	a.	Receive a donation from a charity	9%
	b.	Bought a cheaper brand of food than your normal brand	63%
Neighbourhood Safety	c.	Bought other products in the place of fresh fruit and vegetables	35%
	d.	Did not have to receive any of these	31%
Sense of community	14	In the last 12 months, have you seen or experienced any discriminatory attitudes towards yourself or other people because of race, religion, age, sexuality or gender identify (Yes, No)	64%
Sense of community	15	Thinking about where you live, which of the following best describes what you would consider to be your local area.	-
	a.	The street you live in	9%
	b.	The streets immediately surrounding where you live	11%
	c.	The suburb you live in	34%
	d.	The suburb you live in and surrounding suburbs	31%
	e.	The postcode you live in	6%
	f.	The council area you live in	8%
	g.	Other	1%
Sense of community	16	How connected or engaged DO YOU feel with the people, businesses, and other aspect, of your local area. (Very, Somewhat , Not very, Not at all, Can't say)	64%
Sense of community	17	And how connected or engaged WOULD YOU LIKE to feel with the people, businesses, and other aspects of your local area. (Very, Somewhat , Not very, Not at all, Can't say)	84%

Sub Theme	Questions	Result	
Quality of life and wellbeing	18	If you needed to, could you ask your neighbours or local friends for help or assistance in each of the following circumstances.	-
	a.	Providing food or money in an emergency	23%
	b.	To help water plants, mind pets or check your letterbox when you're going away	59%
	c.	In case of illness	44%
	d.	For borrowing tools/equipment, a food item, etc.	51%
	e.	For advice	44%
	f.	For transportation	40%
	g.	For minding children	19%
	h.	To shop for you	34%
	i.	Emotion support	33%
Quality of life and wellbeing	19	Who could you ask for these types of support in a crisis	-
	a.	Friend	68%
	b.	Neighbour	47%
	c.	Family member	72%
	d.	Work colleague	19%
	e.	Community, charity or religious organisation	19%
	f.	Local council or other government service	13%
	g.	Health, legal or professional service	23%
Quality of life and wellbeing	20	In which, if any, of the following circumstances have YOU helped neighbours or local friends in the past 12 months	-
	a.	Provided food or money in an emergency	17%
	b.	Helped water plants, mind pets or check your letterbox when you're going away	46%
	c.	Assisted when they were ill	30%
	d.	Loaned tools/equipment, a food item, etc.	42%
	e.	Provided advice	40%
	f.	Provided transportation	33%
	g.	Minded children	17%
	h.	Shopped for	23%
	i.	Provided emotional support	37%
Sense of community Feeling safe in public places Neighbourhood Safety	21	Using a scale of 1-5, how strongly do you Strongly agree, Agree, Neutral, Disagree or Strongly disagree with each of the following statement	-
	a.	My local neighbourhood is a great place to live	65%
	b.	My local community copes well when faced with challenges	48%
	c.	I feel proud to live in my neighbourhood	60%
	d.	I feel proud to live in the Central Coast community	61%
	e.	My local community has a bright future	49%
	f.	There's good community spirit in my local area	41%
	g.	Most people in my local area can be trusted	54%
	h.	I feel safe in public places in the Central Coast area	54%
	i.	I feel safe walking alone in my local area during the day	73%
	j.	I feel safe walking alone in my local area at night	41%
	k.	I feel safe alone in my home during the day	79%
	l.	I feel safe alone in my home at night	66%

Sub Theme	Questions	Result	
Volunteering activities	22	In the past 12 months, have you given your time, without pay, to help any of the following organisations.	-
	a.	A charity or welfare organisation	21%
	b.	A service club, such as the RSL, Rotary, Lions etc.	11%
	c.	A civic organisation, such as helping a local sporting team	16%
	d.	A religious group or church	13%
	e.	A volunteer organisation such as Rural Fire Service, SES, St. Johns First Aid, Bush Care team volunteering at Council libraries, etc.	17%
	f.	A local school, such as working in the canteen, on the P and F Committee, cleaning the grounds, etc	16%
Healthy lifestyle choices	29	On average, how many times a week do you usually do 30 minutes or more of physical activity or walking that increases your heart rate or makes your breath harder than normal. (1 or more)	89%
Healthy lifestyle choices	30	Roughly, how many days per week do you eat 5 serves of vegetables and 2 serves of fruit (4 or more)	59%
Healthy lifestyle choices	31	Are fresh fruit and vegetables readily available at stores, markets, or gardens in your area (Yes, No, Sometimes or I don't know)	87%
Quality of life and wellbeing	32	Are you generally getting enough sleep (Yes, No or I don't know)	57%
Quality of life and wellbeing	33	During the past few weeks, how often, if at all, have you experienced positive emotions such as calmness, compassion, forgiveness, contentment and generosity. (Often, Sometimes, Rarely, Never or Don't know)	83%
Quality of life and wellbeing	34	And during the past few weeks, how often, if at all, have you experienced NEGATIVE emotions such as selfishness, jealousy, fear, worry and anger. (Often, Sometimes, Rarely, Never or Don't know)	61%
Opportunities to be part of community life	35	In the past 12 months, have you been actively involved in any of these social groups or taken part in an activity they organised.	-
	a.	Sport or recreation group	33%
	b.	Religious or spiritual group or organisation	16%
	c.	Special interest or hobby group	27%
	d.	Ethnic or multicultural group	6%
	e.	Social group through school, TAFE or University	9%
	f.	Online community	18%
g.	Other social interest groups	3%	
Quality of life and wellbeing	38	Using a scale of 5 to 1 (Very likely, Likely, Neutral, Unlikely or Very unlikely) , if you were asked, how likely would you be to recommend the Central Coast area as a place to	
	a.	Work	47%
	b.	Live	69%

Smart

A growing and competitive region



- C1** Target economic development in growth areas and major centres and provide incentives to attract businesses to the Central Coast.
- C2** Revitalise Gosford City Centre, Gosford Waterfront and town centres as key destinations and attractors for businesses, local residents, visitors and tourists.
- C3** Facilitate economic development to increase local employment opportunities and provide a range of jobs for all residents.
- C4** Promote and grow tourism that celebrates the natural and cultural assets of the Central Coast in a way that is accessible, sustainable and eco-friendly.

A place of opportunity for people



- D1** Foster innovation and partnerships to develop local entrepreneurs and support start-ups.
- D2** Support local business growth by providing incentives, streamlining processes and encouraging social enterprises.
- D3** Invest in broadening local education and learning pathways linking industry with Universities, TAFE and other training providers.
- D4** Support businesses and local leaders to mentor young people in skills development through traineeships, apprenticeships and volunteering.



*The Entrance
Visitor Information Centre*

Highlights

There was a continued focus on economic development during the period, with activities focussing on tourism, supporting local businesses, and the revitalisation of Gosford. Activities delivered and achievements include:

- The delivery of the new Visitor Information Centre at The Entrance, which opened in April 2023. The new facility is multipurpose, incorporates an improved layout and outdoor space for public use, includes a dedicated space for local creatives, has a bookable function area with a modern event space, and much more. Supported by the Federal Government, the new facility better meets the needs of our growing community and tourism sector.
- The Central Coast officially achieved ECO Destination Certification with Ecotourism Australia, making it one of the first regions in the country to be recognised for its strong, well-managed commitment to sustainable practices and high quality, nature-based tourism experiences.
- The Central Coast region received a number of accolades including being named in the international Green Destinations 2021 Top 100 Sustainability Stories list. And in 2024, the Central Coast won first place in the global Green Destinations Story Awards at the world's travel trade show in Berlin.
- Establishment of a Visitor Economy Working Group which brings together the relevant specialist areas of Council, Business NSW Central Coast, Central Coast Food Alliance, Tourism Accommodation Australia, Darkinjung Local Aboriginal Land Council, Gosford Erina Business Chamber (Central Coast Tourism Sub-Committee) and Destination Sydney Surrounds North to information share and collaborate as and when required on destination tourism initiatives and project.
- The development of a Night Time Economy Discussion Paper that details ways to create better places for businesses, the local community and visitors after dark on the Central Coast. The Discussion Paper included best practice night-time-economy initiatives, a full review of Council's policies and rules and regulations that impact the night-time economy, placemaking initiatives directly geared to the night-time-economy and a night-economy opportunities plan for Gosford City.
- Development, consultation and adoption of a concept plan for the revitalisation of Gosford Waterfront. The next stage of the bringing the \$8.5 million concept plan to life continues with the appointment of the Hunter and Central Coast Development Corporation and the preparation of a business case to support further investment.



*Night Time Economy
Gosford*



*Brisbane Water National Park
Image: Remy Brand courtesy of Destination Central Coast*

Performance Measures

Measure: Local economic growth and employment

Sub Theme	CSP Indicator	Trend	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	
Gross regional product	Amount in gross regional product	△	\$ 14,840,000,000	\$ 15,441,000,000	\$ 15,942,000,000	\$ 16,554,000,000	\$ 16,488,000,000	\$ 17,054,000,000	\$ 17,516,000,000	
Industry productivity	1st Top industry by output	□	Construction							
	2nd Top industry by output	□	Manufacturing							
	3rd Top industry by output	□	Health Care and Social Assistance							
Tourism and visitor growth	International Visitor Nights	△	833,451	922,223	619,306	875,992	-	-	-	
	Domestic Visitor Nights	▽	3,298,819	3,740,692	3,978,683	4,343,114	3,728,636	4,192,927	4,143,707	
	Domestic Daytrips	▽	3,263,932	3,264,228	3,419,095	4,149,784	3,923,468	3,181,533	2,285,691	
	Amount injected into the economy from tourism	△	\$ 1,042,249,800	\$ 1,123,425,400	\$ 1,195,731,400	\$ 1,242,424,900	\$ 984,514,900	\$ 663,147,100	\$ 783,836,800	
Local employment	1st Top 3 industries by employment	□	Health Care and Social Assistance							
	2nd Top 3 industries by employment	□	Retail Trade				Construction			
	3rd Top 3 industries by employment	□	Construction				Retail Trade			
Unemployment	Un-employment rate	▽	6.2%	6.0%	5.9%	5.3%	4.9%	5.7%	3.7%	
Disengaged youth	Un-employment rate for youth (15-24)	▽	14.6%	-	-	-	-	9.8%	-	
	Disengaged youth	△	11.3%	-	-	-	-	11.6%	-	
New businesses	Number of registered businesses on the Central Coast	△	-	22,622	-	23,067	23,376	24,278	25,800	

Measure: Education, skills and knowledge

Sub Theme	CSP Indicator	Trend	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
High School completion	Percentage of the population who have completed Year 12 or equivalent	△	40.3%	-	-	-	-	45.6%	-
	Percentage of the population who completed Year 10 or lower	▽	43.9%	-	-	-	-	40.6%	-
Participation in higher education and training	Percentage of the population attending TAFE	△	1.9%	-	-	-	-	2.6%	-
	Percentage of the population attending university	□	3.1%	-	-	-	-	3.1%	-
Local high skilled occupations	Percentage of workers who were professionals or managers	▽	32%	-	-	-	-	30%	-
	Percentage of workers who were Technicians, Trade Workers, Machinery Operators or Labourers	□	29%	-	-	-	-	29%	-
	Percentage of workers who were Clerical or Administrative Officers	▽	14%	-	-	-	-	13%	-
	Percentage of workers who were Community and Personal Service Officers	△	13%	-	-	-	-	14%	-
	Percentage of workers who were sales officers	▽	12%	-	-	-	-	11%	-

Wellbeing 2024 Survey Results

Results are calculated by adding response results together. The response results that have been used are highlighted **bold** to get the result.

Sub Theme	Questions	Result	
Local employment	4	What is your current work status	-
	a.	Working full-time for 35 or more hours a week	40%
	b.	Working part-time or casual for less than 35 hours a week	21%
	c.	Unemployed	3%
	d.	Studying at school, TAFE, or university	3%
	e.	Home duties	5%
	f.	Retired	30%
Local employment	5	Using a scale of 1 to 5, to what extent do you Strongly agree, Agree, Neutral, Disagree or Strongly disagree with the following statements	-
	a.	I can manage the demands of my work without too much stress	57%
	b.	My work and family life do not interfere with each other	52%
	c.	I have good job security	65%
	d.	I am satisfied with my job	64%
High School completion, Participation in higher education and training, Local high skilled occupations	D11.	What is the level of highest qualification you have completed (Secondary, Certificate, Graduate, Diploma or Degree)	79%

Environmental resources for the future



- E1** Educate the community on the value and importance of natural areas and biodiversity, and encourage community involvement in caring for our natural environment.
- E2** Improve water quality for beaches, lakes, and waterways including minimising pollutants and preventing litter entering our waterways.
- E3** Reduce littering, minimise waste to landfill and educate to strengthen positive environmental behaviours.
- E4** Incorporate renewable energy and energy efficiency in future design and planning, and ensure responsible use of water and other resources.

Cherished and protected natural beauty



- F1** Protect our rich environmental heritage by conserving beaches, waterways, bushland, wildlife corridors and inland areas, and the diversity of local native species.
- F2** Promote greening and ensure the wellbeing of communities through the protection of local bushland, urban trees, tree canopies and expansion of the Coastal Open Space System (COSS).
- F3** Improve enforcement for all types of environmental non-compliance including littering and illegal dumping, and encourage excellence in industry practices to protect and enhance environmental health.
- F4** Address climate change and its impacts through collaborative strategic planning and responsible land management and consider targets and actions.

Activity	2021-22 Performance	2022-23 Performance	2023-24 Performance
Catchment and Estuary Operations	8,483m ³ of wrack collected	7,329m ³ of wrack collected	5,985m ³ of wrack collected
Domestic Waste	212,029 bulk kerb-side collections		210,000 bulk kerb-side collections
	34,255 tonnes of recyclables collected	42,000 tonnes of recyclables collected	22,500 tonnes of recyclables collected
	59,294 tonnes of garden organics collected	59,294 tonnes of garden organics collected	59,294 tonnes of garden organics collected
		21,340mWh of renewable energy captured	20,366mWh of renewable energy captured

Highlights

Waste and Resource Recovery

During the period Council continued to focus on delivering its Resource Management Strategy, with achievements including:

- Council assisted 12 Sydney Councils during the March 2022 floods by providing access to Council's waste management facilities when their contracted facilities became inaccessible following a flood event. Additional location specific services were also implemented to meet the needs of flood impacted properties following several natural disaster events.
- Planning for the future introduction of Food Organics Garden Organics (FOGO) collection and processing solutions commenced, with the development of a feasibility and business case approved by Council.
- A new landfill cell was completed at our Buttonderry Waste Management Facility, providing community disposal needs for the next 4.5 years. The newly constructed cell also won an award for excellence in engineering at the IPWEA (Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia) Engineering Excellence Awards. Council's team, together with contractors, faced many challenges during the project including COVID-19 impacts, higher than average wet weather and two significant natural disaster events. Despite all this the new cell succeeded in being delivered on time, on budget and meeting expectations.
- Council delivered the inaugural Sustainable Futures Festival in November 2022, which introduced over 2,600 residents to environmentally friendly activities, displays and advice on how to create a more sustainable future and reduce our carbon footprint.

Wildlife Protection

A rare nest of endangered loggerhead turtle eggs was discovered at Shelly Beach, with two surprised beach walkers finding the nest after seeing a turtle crawl into the waves. Following notification to WIRES, NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS), and NSW TurtleWatch a temporary fence was installed to protect the site, with turtle conservationists believing the nesting this far south was due to the warmer water being experienced.

The eggs were then excavated and incubated at Taronga Zoo, with more than 90 turtles hatching and being returned to Shelly Beach for release into the ocean.

Council also continued protection of the Little Terns species, with actions such as installation of fencing to exclude people and dogs, educational and regulatory signage, and fox control measures.

Floodplain Planning

The Northern Lakes Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan, and the Davistown and Empire Bay Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan were adopted, providing insight and recommendations into the management of these flood prone areas.

The studies and plans aim to build community resilience to flooding and include flood mitigation works, emergency management plans, flood warning processes, flood education programs, land use planning, and suitable design of infrastructure and buildings.

Implementation of the plans is dependent on funding, but with these plans now in place Council will have a greater chance at being successful when applying for available grant funding.

Performance Measures

Measure: Environmental sustainability and human impacts

Sub Theme	CSP Indicator	Trend	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Energy use from fossil fuel	Amount of electricity (megawatt hours – MWh) consumed for residential	△	912,119	926,396	901,230	907,498	911,841	925,433	937,316
	Amount of electricity (megawatt hours – MWh) consumed for small businesses	▽	224,643	227,452	220,440	222,132	205,419	208,283	206,278
	Amount of electricity (megawatt hours – MWh) consumed for large businesses	▽	543,806	542,899	547,894	541,974	511,600	507,257	491,940
Solar power generation	Number of solar customers (Res and Non-Res)	△	15,646	16,968	18,624	21,689	24,607	28,792	31,970
	Amount of electricity (megawatt hours – MWh) exported to the grid (Res and Non-Res)	△	31,418	33,672	38,056	55,255	64,508	94,070	119,932
Water consumption	Megalitres (ML) of water supplied to residential properties	▽	20,368	20,840	21,960	20,837	20,734	21,281	21,042
Recycling diverted from landfill	Tonnes of domestic waste diverted from landfill	△	83,696	77,947	69,077	69,932	70,165	70,414	78,784
	Tonnes of domestic waste to landfill	△	103,128	104,303	102,558	102,228	103,927	104,622	109,749
Water quality of local waterways	Percentage of swimming sites rated Good or Very Good	▽	64.0%	-	-	28.0%	31.0%	33.0%	29.0%



*Mangrove Creek Dam
Water tower*

Responsible

Good governance and great partnerships



- G1** Build strong relationships and ensure our partners and community share the responsibilities and benefits of putting plans into practice.
- 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.
- G3** Provide leadership that is transparent and accountable, makes decisions in the best interest of the community, ensures Council is financially sustainable and adheres to a strong audit process.
- G4** Serve the community by providing great customer experience, value for money and quality services.

Delivering essential infrastructure



- H1** Solve road and drainage problem areas and partner with the State Government to improve road conditions across the region.
- H2** Improve pedestrian movement safety, speed and vehicle congestion around schools, town centres, neighbourhoods, and community facilities.
- H3** Create parking options and solutions that address the needs of residents, visitors and businesses.
- H4** Plan for adequate and sustainable infrastructure to meet future demand for transport, energy, telecommunications and a secure supply of drinking water.

Balanced and sustainable development



- I1** Preserve local character and protect our drinking water catchments, heritage and rural areas by concentrating development along transport corridors and town centres east of the M1.
- I2** Ensure all new developments are well planned with good access to public transport, green space and community facilities and support active transport.
- I3** Ensure land use planning and development is sustainable and environmentally sound and considers the importance of local habitat, green corridors, energy efficiency and stormwater management.
- I4** Provide a range of housing options to meet the diverse and changing needs of the community and there is adequate affordable housing.

Highlights

Activity	2021-22 Performance	2022-23 Performance	2023-24 Performance
Development Assessment Management	2,883 development applications lodged	2,803 development applications lodged	2,170 development applications lodged
	2,717 development applications determined	2,626 development applications determined	2,022 development applications determined
Roads Construction and Maintenance	280kms of gravel roads graded	320kms of gravel roads graded	231kms of gravel roads graded
	85,668 potholes repaired	109,418 potholes repaired	61,783 potholes repaired
	3,670 road signs repaired	3,739 road signs repaired	3,636 road signs repaired
Roads and Drainage Program Management	2.47 km of drainage infrastructure constructed or upgraded	3.9 km of drainage infrastructure constructed or upgraded	2.8 km of drainage infrastructure constructed or upgraded
	18.76km of road pavement renewed	29.6km of road pavement renewed	29.7km of road pavement renewed
	40.22km of road resurfacing renewal	33km of road resurfacing renewal	35.2km of road resurfacing renewal
	3.4km of kerb and gutter constructed	6.8km of kerb and gutter constructed	4.5km of kerb and gutter constructed
	4.38km of shared pathway and footpath constructed	4.9 km of shared pathway and footpath constructed	6.6km of shared pathway and footpath constructed
	28 bus stops upgraded to comply with accessibility	26 bus stops upgraded to comply with accessibility	40 bus stops upgraded to comply with accessibility

Customer Responsiveness

As part of our customer improvement program a new call centre solution was implemented, resulting in the 1300 number being replaced with a new local number.

To deliver the new solution we partnered with the NSW Department of Customer Service's Government Technology Platforms (GTP) group, providing a cost saving to Council. It includes new on hold music, better call quality and our favourite addition, a call back feature.

Water and Sewer

The first Water and Sewer Performance Report to customers was delivered, detailing performance from 2017 onwards, including water main breaks, water quality, sewage overflows, water sampling results, calls answered within 2 minutes, number of connected properties, and water consumption.

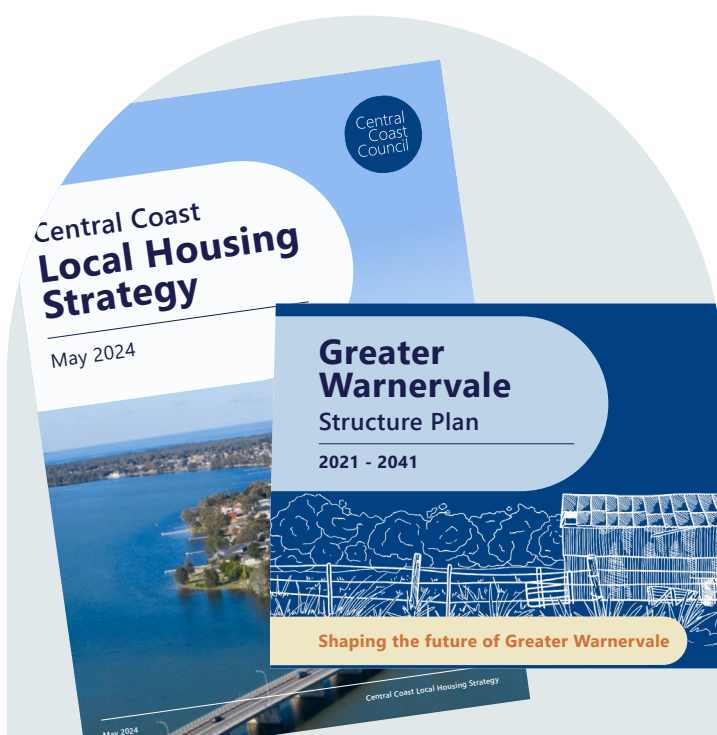
Major works also commenced during the period, with the \$82.5 million upgrade to Mardi Water Treatment Plant. Once completed, Mardi Water Treatment Plant will be able to treat up to the equivalent of 64 Olympic-sized swimming pools, providing drinking water for over 210,000 homes and businesses across the Central Coast region and the lower Hunter.

Sustainable Planning

The new Central Coast Local Environmental Plan 2022 (CCLEP 2022) was finalised, notified on NSW Legislation and came into effect on 1 August 2022. The consolidated Central Coast Development Control Plan 2022 (CCDCP 2022) also came into force on the same date. The consolidation of these planning control has helped move the Central Coast forward from operating under separate controls.

Other land use planning documents that support sustainable development across the Coast include:

- The Local Housing Strategy – The strategy details the supply of housing on the Central Coast, the types of housing that are needed now and into the future, and potential barriers to meeting those needs. It supports the Central Coast Regional Plan 2041 and aims to enable development that does not compromise the attributes that make the area a desirable place to live.
- Lake Munmorah Structure Plan – The 20 year plan recognises the growth opportunities of the area and addresses housing and employment land supply, infrastructure provision, protection of natural features, and improving transport.
- Greater Warnervale Structure Plan – The 20 year plan recognises the area as one of the fastest growing regions within the Central Coast and guides responsible development, with 57,000 people expected to call it home by 2041.



Performance Measures

Measure: Community connection and perception of safety

Sub Theme	CSP Indicator	Trend	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Road safety	Number of motor vehicle accidents causing injury	△	753	640	572	543	559	508	510
	Percentage of motor vehicle accidents causing death or serious injury due to speeding	△	56 %	56%	54%	57%	58%	37%	42.4%

Measure: Governance, consultation, and service delivery

Sub Theme	CSP Indicator	Trend	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Satisfaction Council is a well-run organisation	Percentage of residents who agree Council is a well-run organisation	△	-	-	29.0%	-	40.0%	-	-
Satisfaction that Council makes decisions in the community's interest	Percentage of residents who believe Council adequately considers community concerns and views when making decisions	△	-	-	25.0%	-	31.0%	-	-
Satisfaction with State and Local Government service delivery	Percentage of residents were Satisfied or Very Satisfied with Council's overall performance over the last 12 months	△	-	-	34.0%	-	49.0%	-	-
Condition of assets and infrastructure	Percentage of buildings rated Good or Very Good	△	-	-	56.3%	56.7%	66.1%	66.5%	75.7%
	Percentage of roads rated Good or Very Good	△	-	-	59.4%	75.2%	75.7%	66.3%	56.1%
	Percentage of water supply assets rated Good or Very Good	▽	-	-	74.3%	74.4%	63.6%	49.9%	42.1%
	Percentage of sewerage network assets rated Good or Very Good	□	-	-	84.1%	84.4%	84.1%	76.0%	34.9%
	Percentage of stormwater assets rated Good or Very Good	△	-	-	46.3%	47.2%	88.9%	55.8%	52.5%
	Percentage of open space and recreational assets rated Good or Very Good	△	-	-	80.3%	79.3%	81.0%	86.0%	78.5%
Participation in community engagement	Percentage of residents participating in Council engagement activities	△	-	-	6.0%	-	9.0%	-	-

Measure: Access to transport, walking and cycling

Sub Theme	CSP Indicator	Trend	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Why we travel (Percentage/ Trips)	Commute	▽	-	12.0%	15.1%	14.5%	14.1%	-	10.5%
	Education/childcare	□	-	8.8%	10.2%	10.8%	10.9%	-	
	Other	△	-	2.2%	1.0%	0.8%	0.9%	-	10.9%
	Personal business	△	-	5.4%	5.9%	5.5%	7.4%	-	11.1%
	Serve passenger	△	-	18.1%	17.6%	18.0%	18.1%	-	19.7%
	Shopping	△	-	18.1%	18.5%	16.4%	15.5%	-	23.3%
	Social/recreation	△	-	25.1%	21.3%	23.3%	23.8%	-	24.5%
	Work related business	▽	-	10.3%	10.5%	10.7%	9.3%	-	-
How we travel (Percentage/ Mode)	Bus	▽	-	2.7%	4.0%	4.7%	4.2%	-	-
	Other	△	-	0.6%	1.1%	1.2%	1.1%	-	4.5%
	Public transport	○	-	-	-	-	-	-	6.2%
	Train	▽	-	3.4%	4.2%	4.3%	4.1%	-	-
	Vehicle driver	▽	-	54.1%	55.2%	53.1%	53.4%	-	52.1%
	Vehicle passenger	△	-	23.2%	21.2%	19.2%	20.0%	-	22.1%
	Walk linked	▽	-	6.6%	6.9%	9.3%	9.2%	-	5.7%
	Walk only	△	-	9.5%	7.3%	8.3%	7.9%	-	9.4%
Journey to work	Bus	▽	1.19%	-	-	-	-	0.70%	-
	Car - as driver	▽	65.25%	-	-	-	-	49.33%	-
	Car - as passenger	▽	4.58%	-	-	-	-	3.26%	-
	Cycling	▽	0.28%	-	-	-	-	0.18%	-
	Did not go to work	△	10.69%	-	-	-	-	15.87%	-
	Ferry	▽	0.03%	-	-	-	-	0.02%	-
	Motorbike	▽	0.41%	-	-	-	-	0.30%	-
	Not stated	▽	1.04%	-	-	-	-	0.45%	-
	Other	▽	1.11%	-	-	-	-	0.81%	-
	Taxi/ride-share	▽	0.07%	-	-	-	-	0.05%	-
	Train	▽	7.50%	-	-	-	-	1.47%	-
	Tram	□	0.01%	-	-	-	-	0.01%	-
	Truck	▽	1.08%	-	-	-	-	0.79%	-
	Walked only	▽	1.67%	-	-	-	-	1.28%	-
Worked at home	△	5.10%	-	-	-	-	25.48%	-	

Measure: Housing affordability and choice

Sub Theme	CSP Indicator	Trend	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Housing stress	Percentage of homeowners in housing stress	▽	33%	-	-	-	-	14.7%	-
	Percentage of renters in housing stress	▽	61%	-	-	-	-	41.9%	-
Affordable rental and home ownership	Percentage of residents who fully own their home	▽	33.4%	-	-	-	-	33.3%	-
	Percentage of residents who have purchased their home	□	32.5%	-	-	-	-	32.6%	-
	Percentage of residents who are renting in total	▽	25.7%	-	-	-	-	26.3%	-
	- Social housing	▽	3.3%	-	-	-	-	3.2%	-
	- Private	▽	21.6%	-	-	-	-	23%	-
	- Not stated	□	0.20%	-	-	-	-	0.20%	-
	- Other tenure type	△	2.00%	-	-	-	-	2.50%	-
New dwellings	Number of residential building approvals granted	△	1,805	1,565	2,021	1,641	1,121	1,358	1,432
Homelessness	Number of people experiencing homelessness	△	1,031	-	-	-	-	1,373	-
	People in other improvised dwellings	○	-	-	-	-	-	4	-
	People in other temporary lodgings	▽	13	-	-	-	-	96	-
	People in supported accommodation for the homeless	▽	235	-	-	-	-	206	-
	People living in 'severely' crowded dwellings	△	137	-	-	-	-	163	-
	People living in boarding houses	▽	124	-	-	-	-	121	-
	People living in improvised dwellings, tents, or sleeping out	△	197	-	-	-	-	20	-
	People living in other crowded dwellings	○	-	-	-	-	-	418	-
	People staying temporarily with other households	▽	325	-	-	-	-	196	-
	People who are marginally housed in caravan parks	○	-	-	-	-	-	149	-

Wellbeing 2024 Survey Results

Results are calculated by adding response results together. The response results that have been used are highlighted using **bold** under Wellbeing Indicator to get NET result.

Sub Theme	Questions	Result	
Why we travel	25	Are there non-car transport options (e.g., bus, train, bike, walk) you could realistically use to get to the following locations (Yes , No or NA)	
	a.	Getting to work	63%
	b.	Getting to work related meetings	50%
	c.	Grocery shopping	77%
	d.	Accessing health services, government services, etc.	71%
	e.	Going out of recreation	66%
	f.	Going to an education facility to take a child to school or childcare	46%
Participation in community engagement	36	In the past 12 months, have you participated in any of the following political or civic actions (Participated or Engaged in none)	-
	a.	Signed a petition	43%
	b.	Written or spoken to a Federal or State Member of Parliament	22%
	c.	Written or spoken to the Council Administrator	13%
	d.	Attended a protest, march, or demonstration	10%
	e.	Participated in community consultation or attended a public or council meeting	13%
	f.	Participated in an online discussion about political or local community issues	20%
	g.	Been a member of a group that makes decisions, such as a board, a body corporate, a local council committee, religious or sporting committee, community group, resident action group, or school committee.	15%
Participation in community engagement	37	Do you feel there are enough opportunities to have a say on local issues that are important to you (Yes , Sometimes or No)	23%
Affordable rental and home ownership	D10	Which of the following best describes the dwelling where you are currently living (Own or Rent)	81%



Liveable

Reliable public transport and connections



- J1** Create adequate, reliable and accessible train services and facilities to accommodate current and future passengers.
- J2** Address commuter parking, drop-off zones, access and movement around transport hubs to support and increase use of public transport.
- J3** Improve bus and ferry frequency and ensure networks link with train services to minimise journey times.
- J4** Design long-term, innovative and sustainable transport management options for population growth and expansion.

Out and about in the fresh air



- K1** Create a regional network of interconnected shared pathways and cycle ways to maximise access to key destinations and facilities.
- K2** Design and deliver pathways, walking trails and other pedestrian movement infrastructure to maximise access, inclusion and mobility to meet the needs of all community members.
- K3** Provide signage, public facilities, amenities and playgrounds to encourage usage and enjoyment of public areas.
- K4** Repair and maintain wharves, jetties, boat ramps and ocean baths to increase ease of access and enjoyment of natural waterways and foreshores.

Healthy lifestyles for a growing community



- L1** Promote healthy living and ensure sport, leisure, recreation and aquatic facilities and open spaces are well maintained and activated.
- L2** Invest in health care solutions including infrastructure, services and preventative programs to keep people well for longer.
- L3** Cultivate a love of learning and knowledge by providing facilities to support lifelong learning.
- L4** Provide equitable, affordable, flexible and co-located community facilities based on community needs.

Highlights

Activity	2021-22 Performance	2022-23 Performance	2023-24 Performance
Peninsula Leisure Centre	315,080 attendances	505,572 attendances	564,384 attendances
Lake Haven Recreation Centre	76,021 attendances	121,535 attendances	124,899 attendances
Niagara Park Stadium	76,991 attendances	121,665 attendances	137,443 attendances
Gosford Olympic Pool	140,870 attendances	224,971 attendances	242,065 attendances
Wyong Olympic Pool	27,676 attendances	40,561 attendances	39,300 attendances
Toukley Pool	86,183 attendances	0 attendances	140,950 attendances
Library Services	289,696 attendances	558,194 attendances	648,632 attendances
	1,124,653 loans	1,229,792 loans	1,388,717 loans



Toukley Aquatic Centre

Gosford Regional Library

The first Regional Library for the Central Coast made significant progress during the period with development application approval granted, awarding of the construction tender, demolition of the existing building and construction underway. The Library is expected to be completed in 2025, and will serve as iconic building in the heart of the Gosford CBD where community can connect, create and collaborate.

Sport, Leisure and Recreation

A significant number of projects were progressed or delivered during the period to promote healthy living, including:

- Redevelopment of the Peninsula Recreation and Active Lifestyle Precinct (formerly known as Umina Recreation Area) to provide functional, accessible, and engaging sporting and recreation infrastructure for the benefit of the community. This was a multi-year project and funded by the Federal Government for \$8.2 million.
- Shared Pathways at Magenta and Tuggerawong. These two projects are detailed in the Central Coast Bike Plan and Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan and being constructed over multiple years and will provide high quality connections and access around Tuggerah Lakes once completed.

- Colongra Sporting Complex moved forward with funding secured from State Government. Once completed, the new sporting complex will include two new turfed sporting fields, three netball courts, sporting amenities building with accessible toilets, playspace, carpark, pathways and access road.
- Playspace upgrades at Tunkawallin (Gwandalan), Sun Valley Park (Green Point), Woolmers Crescent Playspace (Mardi), Hylton Moore Oval (East Gosford), Palm Gully Park (North Avoca), Turo Reserve Playspace (Pretty Beach) and Jirramba Reserve (Saratoga), Pioneer Park (Killarney Vale, Mackenzie Reserve (Budgewoi).
- Niagara Park Stadium \$2.8 million upgrade commenced, with funding received from State Government. The regional indoor sports facility works will include accessibility improvements as well as better façade and player facilities.



Tunkawallin Playspace Upgrade

Performance Measures

Measure: Participation in sport, recreation, and community life

Sub Theme	CSP Indicator	Trend	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Opportunities to be part of community life	Percentage of residents who Agreed or Strongly Agreed there were adequate venues to pursue leisure time activities	○	-	66.8%	-	-	-	-	-
	Percentage of adults who sufficiently exercise	▽	56.8%	58.9%	55.9%	61.9%	59.7%	63.4%	55.1%
Healthy lifestyle choices	Percentage of adults who experience High or Very High psychological distress	▽	-	16.3%	-	23.6%	18.8%	17.4%	-
	Percentage of recommended daily consumption of Fruit by Adults	▽	48.4%	45.5%	40.1%	36.3%	32.8%	46.1%	37.2%
	Percentage of recommended daily consumption of Vegetables by Adults	▽	7.3%	10.7%	5.1%	9.3%	6.8%	6.7%	3.1%
	Percentage of recommended daily consumption of Fruit by Children	▽	67.5%	66.8%	64.0%	62.7%	64.2%	62.6%	59.6%
	Percentage of recommended daily consumption of Vegetables by Children	△	7.1%	7.4%	6.7%	5.5%	5.2%	5.4%	5.9%
Sports and recreational activities	Percentage of residents who Agreed or Strongly Agreed there were enough opportunities in their local area to participate in sporting or recreational activities	○	-	66.7%	-	-	-	-	-

Wellbeing 2024 Survey Results

Results are calculated by adding response results together. The response results that have been used are highlighted using **bold** under Wellbeing Indicator to get NET result.

Sub Theme	Questions	Result	
Quality of life and wellbeing	26	Sometimes it is difficult to use certain services and activities for a whole range of reasons, which, if any, of the following services or activities do you have problems using for any reason.	-
	a.	Public transport (e.g. bus, train)	21%
	b.	Education facilities	8%
	c.	Sport and recreation facilities, including parks, reserves and playgrounds	16%
	d.	Gaming, coding, programming or other IT-related events and activities	9%
	e.	Cultural facilities, such as theatre, museums, galleries	15%
	f.	Healthcare services and facilities (e.g. GP, hospital) mental health services	24%
	g.	Mental health services	19%
	h.	Disability support services	9%
	i.	Government services, such as Medicare, Centrelink, Service NSW, local Council, etc.	21%
	j.	Childcare services	7%
	k.	Grocery shopping	9%
	l.	Natural areas, such as bushland, waterways, etc.	13%
	m.	Walking tracks	16%
	n.	Bikes/bike tracks	13%
	o.	Other	2%
	p.	No problems using these services	37%
Quality of life and wellbeing	27	Where there are problems accessing one or more services or activities, which, if any, of the following explain why you have problems accessing those services	-
	a.	Remote location/hard to get to	21%
	b.	Lack of transport options	29%
	c.	Lack of time	20%
	d.	Cost of service/too expensive	35%
	e.	Health or disability	18%
	f.	They are not open at the times I require	21%
	g.	Language difficulties	3%
	h.	No service in your area	33%
	i.	Poor customer service	23%
	j.	Discrimination	8%
	k.	Cannot trust them	11%
	l.	Don't feel safe where they are located	12%
m.	Other	9%	

Sub Theme	Questions	Result
Healthy lifestyle choices	28 Which, if any, of these places in or around your neighbourhood do you walk to or through in a usual week	-
	a. Park, oval or bushlands	52%
	b. Around the neighbourhood using the streets/footpaths	59%
	c. To or from work	12%
	d. To or from public transport	20%
	e. To or from the shops	32%
	f. To or from where you are studying/taking your children to school	10%
	g. To or from cafes or restaurants	27%
	h. To or from a friends or family's house	22%
	i. Somewhere else	1%
j. I do not walk in or around my neighbourhood	15%	



*Shared Pathway
Berkeley Vale*

Community Strategic Plan Review

A review of the Community Strategic Plan (CSP) is currently underway utilising the outcomes of community engagement activities conducted through a number of means, including two community surveys, community workshops, and direct engagement with youths, seniors, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and business owners.

An Engagement Report was published in July 2024 detailing the results and outcomes from these engagement activities, and is available on Council's website: centralcoast.nsw.gov.au/council/forms-and-publications/community-strategic-plan/central-coast-community-strategic-plan

Drawing from this report and the findings, the following elements were raised as areas where improvement is needed:

Responsible Council governance:

- Better leadership with more transparency and accountability for Council's actions and spending
- Frequent and high quality communication and community engagement for decision making
- More responsible management, transparency and control over developers

Opportunities for young people and teenagers:

- Increasing the availability and quality of job opportunities, education and training in the area
- Specific programs such as a Technology Hub, Youth Leadership course, mentoring, help with how to find a job
- Better live music and recreation options (e.g. BMX/skate parks) and keeping sports grounds lit/open for longer in the evenings

Balanced housing development/affordable housing:

- Ensuing that development applications are evaluated fairly and responsibly (this relates to Responsible Council governance)
- Ensuring that supporting infrastructure, green space, facilities, parking, public transport is considered in an area before further housing development is approved
- Using land/space effectively - reviewing where housing development is taking place and the size/types of homes
- Ensuring that there are consistent housing development policies between federal, state and local government

Supporting local business and employment:

- More flexibility and streamlining approvals processes for businesses
- Promoting the area/attracting tourism in order to support local businesses
- Promoting local businesses and improving accessibility through better public transport

Protection of Aboriginal heritage:

- Education of all ages
- Increasing awareness about where these sites are located
- Maintenance and regeneration of these areas

Cycleways/ footpaths/public transport:

- More buses, trains, ferries, footpaths
- Better interchanges
- Safer and more accessible footpaths



Responsible Council governance



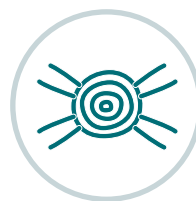
Opportunities for young people and teenagers



Balanced housing development/affordable housing



Supporting local business and employment



Protection of Aboriginal heritage



Cycleways/footpaths/public transport

The following elements were thought to be areas to maintain, as they were considered highly important but that there was satisfaction with these aspects currently:

- Appealing parks and green spaces
- Protection and maintenance of waterways and beaches
- Protection of built heritage
- Disability access and inclusion

The lower elements of importance were:

- A sense of pride
- Peace and quiet
- Strong connections to family and friends
- Family friendly
- Great work and living environment
- Mix of cultures and communities
- Vibrant night life

Appendix

Data Sources

Sub Theme	CSP Indicator	Source
Affordable renting and home ownership	a. Fully owned b. Mortgage c. Renting Total (NEW ADDITIONS: - Social Housing - Private - Not stated - Other tenure type)	Profile ID
Annual CPI Movement	How much has CPI increased or decreased each year	ABS
Appreciation of community and culture diversity	Percent of residents who agreed or strongly agreed that different cultures are welcomed into the community	Central Coast Council
Arts and cultural activities	1. Agree or strongly agree that there are enough opportunities to participate in arts and creative activities	Central Coast Council
Condition of assets and infrastructure	Infrastructure Assets at 30 June	Central Coast Council
Disengaged Youth	a. Unemployment rate for youth b. Disengaged youth	Profile ID
Energy use from fossil fuels	a. Residential Electricity Consumption b. Residential Daily Average Electricity Consumption c. Electricity consumption for small and large business d. Natural gas consumption for domestic divided by the number of services in those categories	Ausgrid
Feeling safe in public areas	Percentage of Residents who Agreed or Disagreed that they Felt Safe in Public Places	Central Coast Council
Gross regional product	a. Amount in gross regional product b. 1st Top industry by output c. 2nd Top industry by output d. 3rd Top industry by output	Profile ID
Healthy lifestyle choices	a. Percentage of adults who sufficiently exercise b. Percentage of adults who experience High or Very High psychological distress c. Percentage of recommended daily consumption of Fruit by Adults d. Percentage of recommended daily consumption of Vegetables by Adults	HealthStats NSW
High school completion	a. Percentage of the population who have completed Year 12 or equivalent b. Percentage of the population who completed Year 10 or lower	Profile ID
Homelessness	a. Homelessness Estimate b. Homeless per Groups	Homelessness NSW
Household income	a. Percentage of households earning \$1481 or less per week b. Percentage of households earning \$2,555 or more per week	Profile ID
Housing stress	a. Percentage of homeowners in housing stress b. Percentage of renters in housing stress	Profile ID
How we Travel	a. Bus b. Other c. Public Transport d. Train e. Vehicle driver f. Vehicle Passenger g. Walk linked h. Walk only	Transport NSW - Open Data
Industry productivity	a. Annual productivity (\$ per worker) by industry 2017/18 b. Change in annual productivity (\$ per worker) from 2001 to 2018	Profile ID

Sub Theme	CSP Indicator	Source
Journey to work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Bus b. Car as driver c. Car as passenger d. Cycling e. Did not go to work f. Ferry g. Motorbike h. Not stated i. Other j. Taxi/ride share k. Train l. Tram m. Truck n. Walked o. Worked at home 	Profile ID
Local employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 1st Top 3 industries by employment b. 2nd Top 3 industries by employment c. 3rd Top 3 industries by employment 	Profile ID
Local high skilled occupations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Percentage of workers who were professionals or managers b. Percentage of workers who were Technicians, Trade Workers, Machinery Operators or Labourers c. Percentage of workers who were Clerical or Administrative Officers d. Percentage of workers who were Community and Personal Service Officers e. Percentage of workers who were sales officers 	Profile ID
Neighbourhood safety	Percentage of Central Coast Residents who felt their Local Area was Safe or Very Safe	Central Coast Council
New businesses	Number of registered businesses on the Central Coast	Profile ID
New dwellings	b. Housing Approvals – Forecast	Profile ID
Opportunities to be part of community life	a. Residents that agreed or strongly agreed that there were adequate venues to pursue leisure time activities	Central Coast Council
Participation in higher education and training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Percentage of the population attending TAFE b. Percentage of the population attending university 	Profile ID
Personal and property crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Number of non-domestic break and enter offences b. Number of domestic break and enter offences c. Number of non-domestic violence offences d. Number of domestic violence offences 	Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research
Quality of life and wellbeing score	Percentage of residents who rated their standard of living as Very Good or Excellent	Central Coast Council
Recycling diverted from landfill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Tonnes of waste diverted from landfill b. Tonnes of waste to landfill 	Central Coast Council
Road safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Number of motor vehicle accidents causing injury b. Percentage of motor vehicle accidents causing death or serious injury due to speeding 	Transport NSW
SEIFA education and occupation index	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Ranking of Index of Education and Occupation b. Deciles of Education and Occupation (IEO) c. Internet access from the dwelling 	ABS

Sub Theme	CSP Indicator	Source
SEIFA socio-economic disadvantage	Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) measure. Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage (IRSD) NSW Rank and Deciles for SA2 areas for the Central Coast, plus minimum and maximum distribution of IRSD SA1 scores.	Profile ID
Sense of community on the Central Coast	Percentage of residents who Agreed or Strongly Agreed that living on the Central Coast area gives a sense of living in a community	Central Coast Council
Solar power generation	a. Number of solar energy customers b. Solar energy export to the Grid (MWh)	Ausgrid
Sports and recreational activities	Percentage of residents who Agreed or Strongly Agreed there were enough opportunities in their local area to participate in sporting or recreational activities	Central Coast Council
Tourism and visitor growth	a. Number of people who visited the Central Coast b. Amount injected into the economy from tourism	Profile ID
Unemployment	Percentage rate of unemployed persons on the Central Coast	Profile ID
Volunteering activities	Percentage of population participating in volunteer work	Profile ID
Water consumption	Total volume of potable water used for residential purposes, and per property demand in kilolitres	BOM
Why we travel (Percentage/Trips)	a. Commute b. Education/childcare c. Other d. Personal business e. Serve passenger f. Shopping g. Social/recreation h. Work related business	Transport NSW - Open Data
Various	Wellbeing 2024 Survey Results	Central Coast Wellbeing Study – Report of Key Findings – June 2024



Central Coast Region Report

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