



Easy Read information from Central Coast Council

Community Strategic Plan 2025–2035



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How to read this book



We wrote this book in an easy to read way.

We use pictures to explain some ideas.

You can ask someone to help you read it.



In this book, '**we**' means Central Coast Council.

This book has some hard words.

The first time we write a hard word:

**hard word
is in blue**

- the hard word is in **blue**
- we write what the hard word means.

There is a word list on page 26 to remind you what the hard words mean.

Our community vision



Community means a group of people who live in the same area.

In this book, we mean the Central Coast community.

We want the Central Coast to be a place where:

- we have a strong community
- people feel supported
- we care for the **environment**



The **environment** is the natural world.

- people have what they need
- all people can join in and be included.



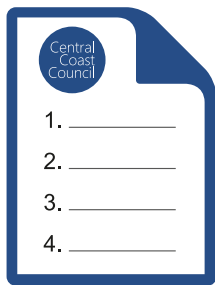
We want to make it a good place now and for the future.

About our plan

We want to make sure the community vision is true in 10 years.

Central Coast Council has a **responsibility** to make sure the community vision is on track.

A **responsibility** is an important thing a person or group is in charge of.



So we made a **Community Strategic Plan**. In this book, we call it the **plan**.

We wrote this book to tell you what is in the plan.

First we talk about our **challenges**.



Challenges are problems that we need to address.

Next we talk about what is important to the community.

Then we will put those things together.

Our challenges

The Central Coast is a large area.

Lots of people live on the Central Coast.

These can be good things, but they also come with challenges.

Some challenges in our community are:



- impacts of climate change

- more people



- more need for services

- not enough resources



- high cost of living

- more bad weather events happening.

The role of Council



Our role is to make the Central Coast community better.

We do this by working with everyone, including:



Australian Government

- people who live on the Central Coast
- NSW Government
- Australian Government
- non-government groups.



We have 3 roles:

- Deliver – we deliver important services and activities
- Partner – we partner with government, local groups and people
- Advocate – we **advocate** for the community to get better services.

Advocate means speaking up for someone else to help them get what they need.

The framework

The **framework** is the basic outline of the plan.

The framework is about 5 key things:

- our people
- our environment
- our place
- our economy
- our leadership.



We will tell you more about these 5 things on the next pages, including:

- what you told us in surveys
- our goals
- how we will reach those goals.

Our people

We want all people in our community to feel:

- safe
- supported
- celebrated
- connected.



We think that these feelings make a strong community.

You told us that these things are important:

- Aboriginal culture and history
- **inclusive** community



Inclusive means everyone can join in and feel welcome.



- enjoying different cultures with things to see and do
- showing **diversity**

Diversity is when lots of different people come together.



- events like live music and concerts
- ways to connect with our community
- safety
- supporting people going through hard times.



Goal 1

Our community shares a feeling of pride.

How we will reach Goal 1

- Show diversity and give more inclusive chances in our community.
- Work with local Aboriginal people to share history and culture.





Goal 2

Everyone feels safe and supported.

How we will reach Goal 2

- Make public places safer.
- Support people going through hard times.



Goal 3

There are lots of chances for people to connect and join in.

How we will reach Goal 3

- Plan lots of events that are **accessible** to everyone.

Accessible means making things easy for everyone to do or use.



- Provide more spaces where people can be creative.

Our environment



We want to protect and enjoy the natural world.

We have great beaches, mountains, bush and parks.

We should care for all the animals and plants in our environment.

You told us these things are important:



- caring for nature
- picking up rubbish and weeds
- having easy access to nature
- knowing that other people think the Central Coast is great and want to move here
- protecting important Aboriginal sites
- making more parks
- talking about climate change and what we can do about it
- using more **renewable energy**.



Renewable energy is a source of power that does not run out, like solar energy.



Goal 1

Our environment is protected and cared for.

How we will reach Goal 1

- Make people more aware of why nature is important.
- Look after our natural spaces and all that live in them.



Goal 2

There are easy ways for people to get to and enjoy our environment.

How we will reach Goal 2

- Build and look after accessible **amenities** in natural spaces.



Amenities are things like public toilets, barbecues and playgrounds.

- Make natural spaces look nice so that more people visit them.

Goal 3

Our community feels ready for **natural emergencies** and climate change.



Natural emergencies are things like floods, storms and bushfires.

How we will reach Goal 3



- Prepare for climate change impacts.
- Give more chances to use renewable energy.
- Plan for supplying resources in natural emergencies.



Our place

We want the Central Coast to be a place that helps people be happy and healthy.

This means it is easy for people to live and move around.

You told us these things are important:



- new housing fits in with the land and the area
- wise choices for **policies** and urban development

Policies tell us how to do things the right way.



- housing that suits all kinds of people
- improving roads and buildings we already have
- better access to places people walk and ride
- more places for sport
- more car parking





- better public transport
- making sure there are enough health care services for everyone
- accessible community spaces.

Goal 1

The way we plan new **infrastructure** works with:

- what we already have
- what we will need in the future.



Infrastructure is things like buildings and roads.

How we will reach Goal 1

- Town planning makes sure people have access to everything.
- Town planning keeps the best parts of the Central Coast as they are.
- There is housing for all kinds of people.



Goal 2

New infrastructure supports a bigger **population**.

Population means the number of people who live in a place.

How we will reach Goal 2

- Look after things like roads, drains, sewers and power lines.
- Public transport planning for the future.
- Walking and riding paths are connected and looked after.



Goal 3

People are healthy and happy because they have access to all they need.

How we will reach Goal 3

- Provide public places where people can be active and social.
- Health care includes more services to keep people well.



Our economy

We want to give more chances for people to do well.

This means providing good schools and jobs.

Also, visitors bring more money to local business.

You told us these things are important:

- local business
- local jobs
- jobs for all people, including younger and older people
- more higher learning choices so people do not have to travel to Sydney or Newcastle
- better access to schools, university, TAFE and libraries
- things to do both day and night in town
- focus on bringing in more visitors
- support local trade
- new and different places to eat and shop.





Goal 1

A place where people do well in school, work and trade.

How we will reach Goal 1

- Give more access for school and learning.
- Target places for more chances to make money and jobs.



Goal 2

Bring in more visitors and make more money and jobs.

How we will reach Goal 2

- Show how great the Central Coast is to make people want to visit.



Goal 3

Local business is good and there is lots to do in town.

How we will reach Goal 3

- Put more money and time into making the town better for business and people.



Our leadership

We want to run Council in a way that is good for the community.

We think it is important for now and in the future.

You told us these things are important:



- Council being open about what we do, spend and decide
- sharing clearer reports more often
- letting the community be part of choices
- Council making choices and plans that have better effects.



Goal 1

Council is open and clear. Council runs things well with good people.

How we will reach Goal 1

- Wise with money and clear about how we spend it.
- Do the right things to run Council and do well for our community.

Goal 2

The future is bright when Council makes inclusive choices.



How we will reach Goal 2

- Make it easy for the community to be part of Council talks and choices.
- Partner with other groups to make a stronger community.
- Advocate to the government for our community.

Goal 3

Council provides great services.



How we will reach Goal 3

- Make it easy to talk to Council.
- Help people get what they need when they talk to Council.
- Put time and money into making Council services better.





Tracking progress

We have ways to track progress of our goals.

We work with partners to get data.

Some partners are agencies that:

- track crime rates
- help people who have no housing
- look after the environment
- track energy use
- plan infrastructure
- run public transport
- provide health services.



We will share our progress with the community:

- four times a year in the quarterly report
- at the end of every year in the annual report
- every four years at the end of the Council term.

Contact

If you want to tell us what you think of this plan or if you want more information, you can:



- go to our website
www.centralcoast.nsw.gov.au



- or call Council on 0 2 4 3 0 6 7 9 0 0



- or email ask@centralcoast.nsw.gov.au



- or ask someone else to help you.

Word list

This word list is in order from A to Z.

accessible

Accessible means making things easy for everyone to do or use.

advocate

Advocate means speaking up for someone else to help them get what they need.

amenities

Amenities are things like public toilets, barbecues and playgrounds.

challenges

Challenges are problems that we need to address.

community

Community means a group of people who live in the same area.

diversity

Diversity is when lots of different people come together.

environment

The environment is the natural world.

framework

The framework is the basic outline of the plan.

inclusive

Inclusive means everyone can join in and feel welcome.

infrastructure

Infrastructure is things like buildings and roads.

natural emergencies

Natural emergencies are things like floods, storms and bushfires.

policies

Policies tell us how to do things the right way.

population

Population means the number of people who live in a place.

renewable energy

Renewable energy is a source of power that does not run out, like solar energy.

responsibility

A responsibility is an important thing a person or group is in charge of.