

Local Government Act 1993 NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS CENTRAL COAST COUNCIL PUBLIC INQUIRY

On 26 April 2021, the Minister for Local Government, the Hon Shelley Hancock MP appointed Roslyn McCulloch as Commissioner to hold a Public Inquiry under section 438U of the *Local Government Act 1993* into Central Coast Council.

Due to ongoing COVID-19 restrictions, the public hearings to be held as part of the Inquiry will be conducted via Microsoft Teams and live streamed on the Office of Local Government YouTube channel. External internet users (members of the public and others) will be able to view the proceedings via a desktop or laptop computer, smart phone or tablet. Details of the live stream on YouTube will be published closer to the commencement of the public hearings.

The public hearings will commence at 10:00am on Monday, 27 September 2021 and are scheduled to conclude by Friday, 15 October 2021. There may be one or more non-sitting days during the hearing period. The non-sitting days will be announced during the public hearings. On sitting days, the usual hours for the public hearings will be from 10:00am to 4:00pm, subject to variation by the Commissioner.

If a witness wishes to raise concerns about their evidence being live streamed, they may make written representation to the Commissioner, however, the discretion remains with the Commissioner as to whether or not any exemptions to live streaming will apply.

Any live stream would be provided on the condition that it is not recorded, published or shared in any form. This includes video and audio recordings, and still images from the live stream.

The live stream may be muted or suspended at any time, including when the Inquiry has determined to exclude the public from any part of the hearings and for the welfare of witnesses or other people.

In addition to the live stream, the Inquiry will publish transcripts of each day's proceedings on the Inquiry's web page.

Further enquiries regarding the Inquiry can be made to the Office of the Commissioner, telephone 4345 4444 or email centralcoastcouncil.publicinquiry@olg.nsw.gov.au. The terms of reference for the Inquiry and an Information Paper on the conduct of the Inquiry are available on the Inquiry's web page at olg.nsw.gov.au/public-inquiries/central-coast-council-public-inquiry/