

## **ADDITIONAL ITEM**



**Item No:** 1.4  
**Title:** Administrator Minute - Beach Parking  
**Department:** Administrator

---

8 February 2021 Ordinary Council Meeting

Reference: F2021/00035 - D14478678

Author: Dick Persson, AM, Interim Administrator

The Council's operating loss for the current financial year is forecast to be in the order of \$115m. This follows last year's loss of \$89m. At the end of this financial year accumulated losses over the past 4 years will be over \$200m.

Accumulated debt [including funds required to be repaid to CCC Restricted Reserves] will be in the order of \$565m.

Measures in place to return Council's financial position to surplus include: significant asset sales of at least \$40m, further borrowings, a proposed rate increase of 15%, an increase in some Council charges, a major reduction in Council's senior and middle management numbers, and a reduction in staff numbers to return to the level at the time of amalgamation.

In surveying the community recently about a proposed rate rise, many suggested alternatives be considered. Overall an average of 10% suggested other savings or revenue options should be found.

In response the feedback from the community, other revenue options are being explored.

The Central Coast economy relies heavily on visitors. Over 5 million people visit our region annually, with a large portion attracted to our beaches and beachside centres.

The Council provides many services to this group and currently they make no direct contribution to cover these costs.

Ratepayers carry this burden and in the current climate I feel it is important to explore options to collect parking fees from visitors. Any scheme that may be introduced should have a clear exemption for ratepayers.

### ***I formally move:***

- 1 That Council explore the viability of introducing a visitor based beach parking system to contribute towards defraying some of the costs of providing beach and tourist related services.***

- 2 ***That Council provides a report by mid-March that includes, but is not limited to, scoping the administrative cost of establishing a beach parking system that provides protection to ratepayers, projected revenue stream, potential timeline for implementation and potential beaches and beachside centres impacted.***