



Central Coast Council  
Business Paper  
Ordinary Council Meeting  
**25 September 2019**





# 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** Communicate openly and honestly with the community to build a relationship based on transparency, understanding, trust and respect

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: A1, A2, A3, A4)
  - Focus Area: COMMUNITY CONNECTION AND LOCAL IDENTITY (Objectives: B1, B2, B3, B4)
- THEME: SMART**
  - Focus Area: A GROWING AND COMPETITIVE REGION (Objectives: C1, C2, C3, C4)
  - Focus Area: A PLACE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PEOPLE (Objectives: D1, D2, D3, D4)
- THEME: GREEN**
  - Focus Area: ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES FOR THE FUTURE (Objectives: E1, E2, E3, E4)
  - Focus Area: INCREASED AND PROTECTED NATURAL BEAUTY (Objectives: F1, F2)
- THEME: RESPONSIBLE**
  - Focus Area: GOOD GOVERNANCE AND GREAT PARTNERSHIPS (Objectives: G1, G2, G3, G4)
  - Focus Area: BELIEVING ESSENTIAL INFRASTRUCTURE (Objectives: H1, H2, H3, H4)
  - Focus Area: BALANCED AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (Objectives: I1, I2, I3, I4)
- THEME: LIVEABLE**
  - Focus Area: BELIEVED PUBLIC TRANSPORT AND ECONOMIC VIBES (Objectives: J1, J2, J3, J4)
  - Focus Area: SAFE AND SOUND FOR ALL (Objectives: K1, K2, K3, K4)
  - Focus Area: HEALTHY LIFESTYLES FOR A THRIVING COMMUNITY (Objectives: L1, L2, L3, L4)



# Meeting Notice

**The Ordinary Council Meeting  
of Central Coast Council  
Will be held in the Council Chamber,  
2 Hely Street, Wyong On  
Wednesday, 25 September 2019 at 6.30pm**  
for the transaction of the business listed below:

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Gary Murphy  
**Chief Executive Officer**

**Item No:** 1.1  
**Title:** Disclosures of Interest  
**Department:** Governance

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25 September 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting

Trim Reference: F2019/00041-02 - D13639945

Chapter 14 of the *Local Government Act 1993* ("LG Act") regulates the way in which the councillors and relevant staff of Council conduct themselves to ensure that there is no conflict between their private interests and their public functions.

Section 451 of the LG Act states:

- "(1) A councillor or a member of a council committee who has a pecuniary interest in any matter with which the council is concerned and who is present at a meeting of the council or committee at which the matter is being considered must disclose the nature of the interest to the meeting as soon as practicable.*
- (2) The councillor or member must not be present at, or in sight of, the meeting of the council or committee:*
- (a) at any time during which the matter is being considered or discussed by the council or committee, or*
  - (b) at any time during which the council or committee is voting on any question in relation to the matter.*
- (3) For the removal of doubt, a councillor or a member of a council committee is not prevented by this section from being present at and taking part in a meeting at which a matter is being considered, or from voting on the matter, merely because the councillor or member has an interest in the matter of a kind referred to in section 448.*
- (4) Subsections (1) and (2) do not apply to a councillor who has a pecuniary interest in a matter that is being considered at a meeting, if:*
- (a) the matter is a proposal relating to:*
    - (i) the making of a principal environmental planning instrument applying to the whole or a significant part of the council's area, or*
    - (ii) the amendment, alteration or repeal of an environmental planning instrument where the amendment, alteration or repeal applies to the whole or a significant part of the council's area, and*
  - (a1) the pecuniary interest arises only because of an interest of the councillor in the councillor's principal place of residence or an interest of another person*

## 1.1 Disclosures of Interest (contd)

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*(whose interests are relevant under section 443) in that person's principal place of residence, and*

- (b) the councillor made a special disclosure under this section in relation to the interest before the commencement of the meeting.*
  
- (5) The special disclosure of the pecuniary interest must, as soon as practicable after the disclosure is made, be laid on the table at a meeting of the council and must:*
  - (a) be in the form prescribed by the regulations, and*
  - (b) contain the information required by the regulations."*

Further, the Code of Conduct adopted by Council applies to all councillors and staff. The Code relevantly provides that if a councillor or staff have a non-pecuniary conflict of interest, the nature of the conflict must be disclosed as well as providing for a number of ways in which a non-pecuniary conflicts of interests might be managed.

### **Recommendation**

***That Council and staff now disclose any conflicts of interest in matters under consideration by Council at this meeting.***



**Item No:** 1.2  
**Title:** Notice of Intention to Deal with Matters in Confidential Session  
**Department:** Governance

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25 September 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting

Trim Reference: F2019/00041-02 - D13639985

## Summary

It is necessary for the Council to adopt a resolution to formalise its intention to deal with certain matters in a closed and confidential Session. The report is incorporated in the "Confidential" business paper which has been circulated.

The *Local Government Act 1993* requires the Chief Executive Officer to identify those matters listed on the business paper which may be categorised as confidential in terms of section 10A of the *Local Government Act 1993*. It is then a matter for Council to determine whether those matters will indeed be categorised a confidential.

## Recommendation

***That Council receive the report and note that no matters have been tabled to deal with in a closed session.***

## Context

Section 10A of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) states that a Council may close to the public so much of its meeting as comprises:

- 2(a) *personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than Councillors),*
- 2(b) *the personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer,*
- 2(c) *information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business,*
- 2(d) *commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed:*
  - (i) *prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, or*
  - (ii) *confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the Council, or*
  - (iii) *reveal a trade secret,*
- 2(e) *information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the maintenance of law,*
- 2(f) *matters affecting the security of the Council, Councillors, Council staff or Council property,*

## **1.2 Notice of Intention to Deal with Matters in Confidential Session (contd)**

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*2(g) advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege,*

*2(h) information concerning the nature and location of a place or an item of Aboriginal significance on community land.*

It is noted that with regard to those matters relating to all but 2(a), 2(b) and 2(d)(iii) it is necessary to also give consideration to whether closing the meeting to the public is, on balance, in the public interest.

Further, the Act provides that Council may also close to the public so much of its meeting as comprises a motion to close another part of the meeting to the public (section 10A(3)).

As provided in the Office of Local Government Meetings Practice Note August 2009, it is a matter for the Council to decide whether a matter is to be discussed during the closed part of a meeting. The Council would be guided by whether the item is in a confidential business paper, however the Council can disagree with this assessment and discuss the matter in an open part of the meeting.

### **Attachments**

Nil



**Item No:** 1.3  
**Title:** Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meetings  
**Department:** Governance

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25 September 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting

Trim Reference: F2019/00041-02 - D13639964

### **Summary**

Confirmation of minutes of the previous Ordinary Meetings of Council held on 9 September 2019 and 23 September 2019.

### **Recommendation**

***That Council confirm the minutes of the previous Ordinary Meetings of Council held on 9 September 2019 and 23 September 2019.***

### **Attachments**

- |          |   |  |
|----------|---|--|
| <b>1</b> | MINUTES - Ordinary Meeting Meeting - 9 September 2019 | D13644035  |
| <b>2</b> | MINUTES - Ordinary Meeting - 23 September 2019        | To be provided following the conduct of the Ordinary Meeting being held on 23 September 2019 |





**Central Coast Council**

Minutes of the  
**Ordinary Council Meeting of Council**

Held in the Council Chamber  
2 Hely Street, Wyong  
on 9 September 2019

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**Present**

Mayor Jane Smith and Councillors Greg Best, Jillian Hogan, Kyle MacGregor, Doug Vincent (arrived 7.06pm), Troy Marquart, Chris Burke, Bruce McLachlan, Jilly Pilon, Rebecca Gale Collins, Louise Greenaway, Jeff Sundstrom, Richard Mehrtens and Lisa Matthews.

**In Attendance**

Gary Murphy (Chief Executive Officer), Boris Bolgoff (Director Roads, Transport, Drainage and Waste), Julie Vaughan (Director Connected Communities), Scott Cox (Director Environment and Planning), Dr Liz Devlin (Director Governance), Jamie Loader (Director Water and Sewer) and Craig Norman (Chief Finance Officer).

The Mayor, Jane Smith, declared the meeting open at 6.31pm and advised in accordance with the Code of Meeting Practice that the meeting is being recorded.

The Mayor, Jane Smith read an acknowledgement of country statement.

At the commencement of the ordinary meeting report no's 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 2.1, 3.1 and recommitted item 2.1 were dealt with first then the remaining reports in order. However for the sake of clarity the reports are recorded in their correct agenda sequence.

**Apologies**

**Moved:** **Councillor Matthews**

**Seconded:** **Councillor Gale Collins**

**Resolved**

**834/19 That the apology from Councillor Holstein be accepted.**

**For:**

**Unanimous**

Councillor Vincent submitted an apology as he would be a late arrival.

**1.1 Disclosures of Interest**

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**Item 2.1 - DA/708/2018 Multi-dwelling housing comprising 54 dwellings and community title subdivision – 7 Stratford Avenue, Charmhaven**

Councillor Best declared a less than significant non pecuniary interest in the matter as the speaker on the item, Mr Gazzard, is a distant relation. Councillor Best chose to remain in the chamber and participate in voting, as the connection is quite remote and Mr Gazzard is not the applicant.

**Item 7.1 - Mayoral Minute - Performance Review of the Chief Executive Officer**

Mr Gary Murphy, Chief Executive Officer, declared a declared a pecuniary interest in the matter as the report has a bearing on his employment at Central Coast Council.

**Moved:** Councillor MacGregor  
**Seconded:** Councillor Gale Collins

**Resolved**

**835/19 That Council receive the report on Disclosures of Interest and note advice of disclosures.**

**For:**  
**Unanimous**

**1.2 Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meetings**

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**Moved:** Councillor MacGregor  
**Seconded:** Councillor Burke

**Resolved**

**836/19 That Council confirm the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 26 August 2019.**

**For:**  
**Unanimous**

**1.3 Notice of Intention to Deal with Matters in Confidential Session**

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**Moved:** Mayor Smith  
**Seconded:** Councillor Best

**Resolved**

**837/19 That the Council resolve that the following matters be dealt with in closed session, pursuant to s. 10A(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 1993 for the following reasons:**

**Item 7.1 - Mayoral Minute – Performance Review of the Chief Executive Officer**

*Reason for considering in closed session:*

*2(a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than Councillors)*

*That Council resolve, pursuant to section 11(3) of the Local Government Act 1993, that this report and attachment 1 to this report remain confidential in accordance with section 10A(2)(c) of the Local Government Act as it contains information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business and because consideration of the matter in open Council would on balance be contrary to the public interest as it would affect Councils ability to obtain value for money services for the Central Coast community.*

**For:**

**Unanimous**

**Procedural Motion – Adoption of Items by Exception**

**Moved: Councillor Gale Collins**

**Seconded: Councillor Hogan**

**Resolved**

**838/19 That with the exception of the following reports, Council adopt the recommendations contained in the remaining reports:**

**Item 2.1 DA/708/2018 Multi-dwelling housing comprising 54 dwellings and community title subdivision – 7 Stratford Avenue, Charmhaven**

**Item 3.1 Permanent Protection of Porters Creek Wetland - Outcome of Consultant's Investigations (2)**

**Item 3.5 Winney Bay**

**Item 3.6 Commencement time - Ordinary Meeting 23 September 2019**

**Item 6.1 Notice of Motion - Lakes Lost**

**Item 6.2 Notice of Motion - Gosford to Finally Shake Off the Ghetto**

**Item 6.3 Notice of Motion - Declaration Legal Advice Around Impacts on Property Owned by Councillors Due to Climate Change Policy**

**Item 6.4 Notice of Motion - World Record Opportunity for The Entrance**

**Item 6.5 Notice of Motion - Water Security Emergency (deferred)**

**Item 6.6 Notice of Motion - Council welcomes the Central Coast Local Planning Panel (deferred)**

**839/19 That Council adopt the following items en-masse and in accordance with the report recommendations:**

**Item 3.2 Meeting Record of the Tourism Advisory Committee held on 24 July 2019**

**Item 3.3 Central Coast Bike Plan and Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan**

**Item 3.4 Public Exhibition of proposed changes to 2019-20 Sportsfield Fees**

**Item 7.1 Mayoral Minute – Performance Review of the Chief Executive Officer**

**For:**

**Unanimous**

**2.1 DA/708/2018 Multi-dwelling housing comprising 54 dwellings and community title subdivision – 7 Stratford Avenue, Charmhaven**

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Councillor Best declared a less than significant non pecuniary interest in the matter as the speaker on the item, Mr Gazzard, is a distant relation. Councillor Best chose to remain in the chamber and participate in voting, as the connection is quite remote and Mr Gazzard is not the applicant.

Moved: Councillor Best

Seconded: Councillor Gale Collins

- 1 That Council grant consent subject to the conditions detailed in the schedule attached to the report and having regard to the matters for consideration detailed in Section 4.15 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and other relevant issues.
- 2 That Council advise those who made written submissions of its decision.

Amendment Moved: Councillor Hogan

Amendment Seconded: Mayor Smith

That Council defer the matter to allow for a site visit for interested Councillors and residents regarding traffic and road issues.

For the Amendment:  
Mayor Smith, Councillors Matthews,  
Mehrtens, Sundstrom, Greenaway,  
MacGregor and Hogan.

Against the Amendment:  
Councillors Gale Collins, Pilon, McLachlan,  
Burke, Marquart and Best.

**The Amendment was put to the vote and declared CARRIED and then became the Motion.**

Moved: Councillor Hogan

Seconded: Mayor Smith

*That Council defer the matter to allow for a site visit for interested Councillors and residents regarding traffic and road issues.*

*For:*  
*Mayor Smith, Councillors Matthews, Mehrtens, Sundstrom, MacGregor and Hogan.*

*Against:*  
*Councillors Greenaway, Gale Collins, Pilon, McLachlan, Burke, Marquart and Best.*

The Motion was put to the vote and declared LOST.

**The matter was then at LARGE.**

A procedural item was moved and Item 2.1 was recommitted, the time being 7.14pm.

*Moved: Councillor Hogan*  
*Seconded: Mayor Smith*

- 1 *That Council defer the matter to allow for a site visit for interested Councillors and residents regarding traffic and road issues.*
- 2 *That Council, in the interim, request the Chief Executive Officer to seek advice as to whether an additional condition of consent can be imposed to regulate car parking on site and the likelihood of success.*

*Amendment Moved: Councillor Best*  
*Amendment Seconded: Councillor Gale Collins*

- 1 *That Council grant consent subject to the conditions detailed in the schedule attached to the report and having regard to the matters for consideration detailed in Section 4.15 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and other relevant issues.*
- 2 *That Council advise those who made written submissions of its decision.*

*For the Amendment:*  
*Councillors Gale Collins, Pilon, McLachlan, Burke, Marquart and Best.*

*Against the Amendment:*  
*Mayor Smith, Councillors Matthews, Mehrtens, Sundstrom, Greenaway, Vincent, MacGregor and Hogan.*

The Amendment was put to the vote and declared LOST.

**Moved: Councillor Hogan**  
**Seconded: Mayor Smith**

**Resolved**

- 840/19 That Council defer the matter to allow for a site visit for interested Councillors and residents regarding traffic and road issues.**

**841/19 That Council in the interim request the Chief Executive Officer to seek advice as to whether an additional condition of consent can be imposed to regulate car parking on site and the likelihood of success.**

**For:**  
**Mayor Smith, Councillors Matthews, Mehrtens, Sundstrom, Greenaway, Vincent, MacGregor and Hogan.**

**Against:**  
**Councillors Gale Collins, Pilon, McLachlan, Burke, Marquart and Best.**

A division was called by Councillors Best and McLachlan.

**For:**  
**Mayor Smith, Councillors Matthews, Mehrtens, Sundstrom, Greenaway, Vincent, MacGregor and Hogan.**

**Against:**  
**Councillors Gale Collins, Pilon, McLachlan, Burke, Marquart and Best.**

### **3.1 Permanent Protection of Porters Creek Wetland - Outcome of Consultant's Investigations (2)**

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Councillor Vincent arrived in Chambers at 7.06pm during this item.

**Moved: Mayor Smith**  
**Seconded: Councillor MacGregor**

#### **Resolved**

**842/19 That Council receive and note the report on Permanent Protection of Porters Creek Wetland – Outcome of Consultant’s Investigations.**

**843/19 That Council refer the item to the Catchments and Coast Committee - Tuggerah Lakes for a detailed briefing and consideration of the Consultant’s report.**

**844/19 That Council request the Chief Executive Officer to consider allocating funds, from the unallocated budget as a result of savings from the Emergency Services Levy increase. for the implementation of actions to protect Porters Creek Wetland and other priority actions identified in the Tuggerah Lakes Estuary Management Plan (TLEMP).**

**845/19 That Council request the Chair of the Catchments and Coast Committee – Tuggerah Lakes - convene an extraordinary meeting by the end of September 2019 to consider the consultant’s report and priority actions from the TLEMP for implementation.**

**For:**  
**Mayor Smith, Councillors Matthews, Mehrtens, Sundstrom, Greenaway, Vincent, MacGregor and Hogan.**

**Against:**  
**Councillors Gale Collins, Pilon, McLachlan, Burke, Marquart and Best.**

**Procedural Motion – Recommit Item 2.1 - DA/708/2018 Multi-dwelling housing comprising 54 dwellings and community title subdivision – 7 Stratford Avenue, Charmhaven**

**Moved: Councillor Best**  
**Seconded: Councillor Gale Collins**

**Resolved**

**846/19 That Council recommit Item 2.1 - DA/708/2018 Multi-dwelling housing comprising 54 dwellings and community title subdivision – 7 Stratford Avenue, Charmhaven for consideration, the time being 7.14pm.**

**For:**  
**Mayor Smith, Councillors Matthews, Mehrtens, Sundstrom, Gale Collins, Pilon, McLachlan, Burke, Marquart, MacGregor, Hogan and Best.**

**Abstained:**  
**Councillor Greenaway and Vincent.**

### **3.2 Meeting Record of the Tourism Advisory Committee held on 24 July 2019**

This item was resolved by the exception method.

**Moved: Councillor Gale Collins**  
**Seconded: Councillor Hogan**

**Resolved**

**847/19 That Council receive the report on Meeting Record of the Tourism Advisory Committee held on 24 July 2019 that is Attachment 1 to this report.**

**848/19 That Council adopt the Terms of Reference for the Tourism Advisory Committee, as set out in Attachment 2 to this report.**

**849/19 That Council appoint Councillor Chris Holstein as the Chairperson for the Tourism Advisory Committee.**

**For:**  
**Unanimous**

### **3.3 Central Coast Bike Plan and Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan**

This item was resolved by the exception method.

**Moved: Councillor Gale Collins**  
**Seconded: Councillor Hogan**

**Resolved**

**850/19 That Council receive and endorse the Central Coast Bike Plan and Central and Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan.**

**For:**

**Unanimous**

**3.4 Public Exhibition of proposed changes to 2019-20 Sportsfield Fees**

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This item was resolved by the exception method.

**Moved: Councillor Gale Collins**

**Seconded: Councillor Hogan**

**Resolved**

**851/19 That Council endorse, for public exhibition pursuant to s. 610F of the Local Government Act 1993, the changes to Sportsfield Categories and related fees and charges as set out in attachment 1 to this report.**

**852/19 That Council note the proposed fees subject of resolution 1 have not been adopted and that a further report will be presented to Council after the public exhibition of the fees has been completed.**

**For:**

**Unanimous**

**3.5 Winney Bay**

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**Moved: Councillor Sundstrom**

**Seconded: Councillor MacGregor**

**Resolved**

**853/19 That Council request that subject to the public consultation report being favourable to the construction of Winney Bay Cliff Top Walk – Stage 2 and a clear preference for either “Plan A” or “Plan B”, and no irresolvable issue are identified that the Chief Executive Officer formally accept the funding offer, instruct staff to finalise the funding agreement and progress the development of the project in accordance with identified changes.**

**854/19 That Council note the diversity of community opinion on the scope of Winney Bay Cliff Top Walk – Stage 2.**



- 855/19** That Council request the Chief Executive Officer provide plans and costings for Winney Bay Cliff Top Walk – Stage 2 in line the Council resolution of 10 December 2018, with this be known as “Plan A”. That a concept of “Plan C” be included in any consultation which would comprise an upgrade of the informal track, fencing in locations where there is a safety risk, weed removal and rehabilitation and an upgrade of Captain Cook Lookout.
- 856/19** That Council note the Infrastructure NSW letter (see attachment) dated 28 August 2019.
- 857/19** That with consideration of Infrastructure NSW endorsing a number of the changes requested by Council, that Council request the Chief Executive Officer to instruct staff to produce plans and costings for a revised design including the bridge spanning the chasm, and the north facing lookout, but retaining Council’s other previously adopted design changes. These plans to be known as “Plan B”
- 858/19** That both Plans A and B provide for the provision of walking tracks that are in the style of those in Bouddi National Park, Wyrabalong National Park and Kincumba Mountain Regional Reserve.
- 859/19** That Council commit to the remediation of the native vegetation in Winney Bay Reserve.
- 860/19** That Council exhibit the revised designs for “Plan A” and “Plan B” for community consultation.
- 861/19** That Council request the result of the community consultation be brought back to Council prior to construction commencing on Winney Bay Cliff Top Walk – Stage 2.

**For:**  
Mayor Smith, Councillors Matthews,  
Mehrtens, Sundstrom, Greenaway, Vincent,  
McGregor and Hogan.

**Against:**  
Councillors Gale Collins ,Pilon,  
McLachlan, Burke, Marquart and Best.

A division was called by Councillors Marquart and Best.

**For:**  
Mayor Smith, Councillors Matthews,  
Mehrtens, Sundstrom, Greenaway,  
Vincent, McGregor and Hogan.

**Against:**  
Councillors Gale Collins ,Pilon,  
McLachlan, Burke, Marquart and Best.

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 8.29pm, resuming at 8.50pm.

### 3.6 Commencement time - Ordinary Meeting 23 September 2019

Moved: Mayor Smith  
Seconded: Councillor Hogan

- 1 That Council resolve to conduct the Mayoral and Deputy Mayoral Elections as the only items of business at the Ordinary Council meeting to be held at 6.30pm on Monday, 23 September 2019 at 2 Hely Street Wyong.
- 2 That Council further resolve to conduct an additional Ordinary Council Meeting to be held at 6.30pm on 25 September 2019 at 2 Hely Street Wyong for the purpose of considering those items that had been planned for consideration on 23 September 2019.
- 3 That Council request the Chief Executive Officer give appropriate notice of the above.

Amendment Moved: Councillor Best  
Amendment Seconded: Councillor Gale Collins

- 1 That Council resolve to commence the Ordinary Meeting of Council of 23 September 2019 at 6.00pm noting that following the conduct of the election of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor that there will be an adjournment of 30 minutes prior to resumption of the meeting and consideration of the remaining business.
- 2 That Council request the Chief Executive Officer give public notice of this meeting.

For the Amendment:  
Councillors Gale Collins, Pilon, McLachlan ,  
Burke, Marquart, Vincent and Best.

Against the Amendment:  
Mayor Smith, Councillors Matthews,  
Mehrtens, Sundstrom, Greenaway and  
Hogan.

Abstain: Councillor MacGregor.

The Amendment was declared LOST on the casting vote of the Mayor.

Moved: Mayor Smith  
Seconded: Councillor Hogan

#### Resolved

- 862/19 That Council resolve to conduct the Mayoral and Deputy Mayoral Elections as the only items of business at the Ordinary Council meeting to be held at 6.30pm on Monday, 23 September 2019 at 2 Hely Street Wyong.**
- 863/19 That Council further resolve to conduct an additional Ordinary Council Meeting to be held at 6.30pm on 25 September 2019 at 2 Hely Street Wyong for the purpose of considering those items that had been planned for consideration on 23 September 2019.**

**864/19 That Council request the Chief Executive Officer give appropriate notice of the above.**

**For:**  
**Mayor Smith, Councillors Matthews, Mehrtens, Sundstrom, Greenaway, MacGregor and Hogan.**

**Against:**  
**Councillors Gale Collins, Pilon, McLachlan, Burke, Marquart and Best.**

**Abstained: Councillor Vincent.**

**The Motion was declared CARRIED on the casting vote of the Mayor.**

### **6.1 Notice of Motion - Lakes Lost**

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Moved: Councillor McLachlan  
Seconded: Councillor Best

- 1 *That Council concedes that its efforts have now failed to reverse the continuing deterioration and degradation of the Tuggerah Lakes System.*
- 2 *That with Estuarine environmental and overall water quality now in serious question, Council as a matter of urgency seek further assistance, from both the State and Federal Governments to tackle this escalating environment disaster.*
- 3 *That Council, for the first time, now seek to convene a 'whole of Government ' response through a joint meeting with both State and Federal Members, to discuss funding a 2020 critical Lakes Restoration Project.*
- 4 *That Council recognises many of the issues affecting our local waterways are man-made problems, and will require man-made solutions.*
- 5 *That Council recognise the long standing community frustrations, of inaction, and so called "band aid "solutions.*
- 6 *That Council request the Chief Executive Officer to provide a report as a matter of urgency regarding the progress around this emerging environmental crisis.*

Amendment Moved: Mayor Smith  
Amendment Seconded: Councillor Vincent

- 1 *That Council note the Tuggerah Lakes Estuary Management Plan (TLEMP), adopted by the former Wyong Shire Council in 2006 was developed over a nine-year period and provides strategic direction for the management of the Tuggerah Lakes and its catchment.*
- 2 *That Council note since the adoption of the TLEMP, Council has received \$26.25M in federal grant funding to support implementation of evidence-based priority programs and actions in the Tuggerah Lakes and catchment.*

- 3 That Council congratulate Council staff on their efforts to implement the TLEMP, resulting in improvement works completed at over 170 locations throughout the catchment and consistent high-quality water ratings.
- 4 That Council note that water quality testing has been undertaken regularly since 2011-12 in 13 locations in the estuary with the majority of ratings being A or B (excellent or good) and a few locations receiving a C or fair rating.
- 5 That Council note that Council has established the Catchments and Coast Committee – Tuggerah Lakes with a key responsibility of promoting linkages and co-operation between the community, Council, State and Federal Governments, and other key stakeholders in the development and implementation of coastal, estuarine, catchment and floodplain management studies and plans.
- 6 That Council note during the recent Federal Election the Australian Government has promised a further \$4.7M for Tuggerah Lakes.
- 7 That Council will continue to work with the community, key stakeholders and all levels of government to implement the TLEMP and maintain the high-water quality of the Tuggerah Lakes Estuary.

For the Amendment:

Mayor Smith, Councillors Matthews, Mehrstens, Sundstrom, Greenaway, Vincent, MacGregor, Hogan.

Against the Amendment:

Councillors Gale Collins, Pilon, McLachlan, Burke, Marquart and Best.

The Amendment was put to the vote and declared CARRIED and then became the Motion.

**Moved: Mayor Smith**  
**Seconded: Councillor Vincent**

#### **Resolved**

- 865/19 That Council note the Tuggerah Lakes Estuary Management Plan (TLEMP), adopted by the former Wyong Shire Council in 2006 was developed over a nine-year period and provides strategic direction for the management of the Tuggerah Lakes and its catchment.**
- 866/19 That Council note since the adoption of the TLEMP, Council has received \$26.25M in federal grant funding to support implementation of evidence-based priority programs and actions in the Tuggerah Lakes and catchment.**
- 867/19 That Council congratulate Council staff on their efforts to implement the TLEMP, resulting in improvement works completed at over 170 locations throughout the catchment and consistent high-quality water ratings.**

- 868/19** *That Council note that water quality testing has been undertaken regularly since 2011-12 in 13 locations in the estuary with the majority of ratings being A or B (excellent or good) and a few locations receiving a C or fair rating.*
- 869/19** *That Council note that Council has established the Catchments and Coast Committee – Tuggerah Lakes with a key responsibility of promoting linkages and co-operation between the community, Council, State and Federal Governments, and other key stakeholders in the development and implementation of coastal, estuarine, catchment and floodplain management studies and plans.*
- 870/19** *That Council note during the recent Federal Election the Australian Government has promised a further \$4.7M for Tuggerah Lakes.*
- 871/19** *That Council will continue to work with the community, key stakeholders and all levels of government to implement the TLEMP and maintain the high-water quality of the Tuggerah Lakes Estuary.*

**For:**  
**Mayor Smith, Councillors Matthews, Mehrtens, Sundstrom, Greenaway, Vincent, MacGregor and Hogan.**

**Against:**  
**Councillors Gale Collins, Pilon, McLachlan, Burke, Marquart and Best.**

## **6.2 Notice of Motion - Gosford shakes off its past - looks to the future**

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Moved: Councillor McLachlan  
Seconded: Councillor Pilon

- 1 *That Council recognise Gosford had suffered a poor public image and reputation damage from decades of stagnation and development inactivity however is now finally in transition.*
- 2 *That Council has a core responsibility to assist our local economy, and to maintain that forward momentum.*
- 3 *That Council now recognises the major opportunity to transform Gosford's public image into a vibrant, revitalised modern waterfront Regional CBD city.*
- 4 *That Council recognises the strategic geographic position of Gosford, as the first major city north of Sydney Harbour, and Pittwater, with the recreational, business, and public fast ferry transport opportunity, this geographic advantage offers.*
- 5 *That Council recognises the major new high rise developments both planned, and underway in Gosford, will require new resident recreational amenity and we are a Coastal society, and the major resident attractions are our beaches and waterways,*
- 6 *That the Central Coast in general has lagged behind other regions, in adding new waterfront amenity.*

- 7 *That Council recognises any new commercial / Marina development would provide new car parking, opportunity for fast ferry terminal, and additional bike/ walking pathway linkage to Tascott Koolewong reserves, over Narara Creek*
- 8 *That Council recognise the former Gosford City Council and RDACC had already undertaken studies into the location, and are available to Council.*
- 9 *That Council request the the Chief Executive Officer now investigate, and provide a briefing back to Councillors, on options available to activate Gosford Waterfront.*
- 10 *That Council request the Chief Executive Officer write to the NSW Government Architects office, and seek design input and assistance in progressing the matter.*

*For:*  
*Councillors Gale Collins, Pilon, McLachlan, Burke, Marquart and Best.*

*Against:*  
*Mayor Smith, Councillors Matthews, Mehrstens, Sundstrom, Vincent, MacGregor and Hogan.*

*Abstain: Councillor Greenaway*

The Motion was put to the vote and declared LOST.

### **6.3 Notice of Motion - Declaration Legal Advice Around Impacts on Property Owned by Councillors Due to Climate Change Policy**

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*Moved: Councillor Best*  
*Seconded: Councillor Pilon*

- 1 *That Council recognises the importance of providing adequate and accurate disclosure declarations.*
- 2 *That due to the emerging impacts around Council's Climate Change Policy on Regional Property Values, Council now seek legal advice as to what obligations Councillors may have around their disclosures as a consequence of Climate Change Policy impacts on their homes.*

*For:*  
*Councillors Gale Collins ,Pilon, McLachlan, Burke, Marquart and Best*

*Against:*  
*Mayor Smith, Councillors Matthews, Mehrstens, Sundstrom, Greenaway, Vincent, MacGregor and Hogan.*

The Motion was put to the vote and declared LOST.

**6.4 Notice of Motion - World Record Opportunity for The Entrance**

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**Moved:** Councillor McLachlan

**Seconded:** Councillor Marquart

**Resolved**

- 872/19** That Council recognise our declined tourism numbers compared to competing regions of the Hunter, Blue Mountains and South Coast and that new attractions are needed on the Central Coast to boost our local tourism.
- 873/19** That Council recognises the ongoing popularity and success other towns and regions enjoy via the addition of a world's biggest tourism attraction.
- 874/19** That Council recognise the opportunity exists to create a tourism attraction via a new "World's Tallest Pelican Statue" for the Central Coast, with the current world's tallest Pelican statue, standing at just 4.7m tall or 15.5 feet.
- 875/19** That Council utilise some of the existing budget allocated in this year's budget to replace existing pelican statue and ask the Chief Executive Officer to invite local and international artists, in an expression of interest, tender, or competition to design a new world record attempt pelican statue.
- 876/19** That the expression of interest tender for design should ensure that:
- a** any designs aims to create an artistic, educational, landmark pelican statue, that can have an educational environmental message, as well as achieving a new world record for The Entrance, and the Central Coast.
  - b** any design be of artistic endeavour , thought provoking and educational to the impacts of plastic on our local birdlife, and can be a showcase for our local school children to visit on marine study events, as well as a fun selfie landmark, for social media promotion of The Entrance.
  - c** any design demonstrate environmental and educational qualities, that can promote environmental education to the impacts of plastics and litter, and becomes symbolic to our iconic pelican feed.
- 877/19** That Council request the Chief Executive Officer to provide a further report on designs and costing once complete.
- 878/19** That Council recognise the popular and long standing pelican feed show at The Entrance, and its wonderful volunteers, and review current resourcing and support to make the attraction "World Class".

**879/19 That Council request the Chief Executive Officer provide clarification around any legal matters that have arisen previously.**

**For:**  
**Mayor Smith, Councillors Matthews, Sundstrom, Greenaway, Gale Collins, Pilon, McLachlan, Burke, Marquart and Best.**

**Against:**  
**Councillors Mehrtens, Vincent, MacGregor and Hogan.**

**Procedural Motion**

**Moved: Mayor Smith**  
**Seconded: Councillor Gale Collins**

**Resolved**

**880/19 That Council defer, pursuant to section 18.3 of the Code of Meeting Practice the consideration of the following items to the Ordinary Meeting to be held on 25 September 2019;**

**6.5 Notice of Motion – Water Security Emergency**

**6.6 Notice of Motion – Council welcomes the Central Coast Local Planning Panel**

**For:**  
**Unanimous**

**6.5 Notice of Motion - Water Security Emergency**

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Council deferred the consideration of items 6.5 and 6.6 to the Ordinary Meeting to be held on 25 September 2019 (minute 884/19)

**6.6 Notice of Motion - Council welcomes the Central Coast Local Planning Panel**

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Council deferred the consideration of items 6.5 and 6.6 to the Ordinary Meeting to be held on 25 September 2019 (minute 884/19)



**7.1 Mayoral Minute - Performance Review of the Chief Executive Officer**

Mr Gary Murphy, Chief Executive Officer, declared a declared a pecuniary interest in the matter as the report has a bearing on his employment at Central Coast Council.

This item was resolved by the exception method.

**Moved:** Councillor Gale Collins

**Seconded:** Councillor Hogan

**Resolved**

**883/19 That Council receive and note the Performance Review of the CEO for 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019.**

**884/19 That Council adopt the proposed Performance Agreement for 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020 for the CEO (attached).**

**885/19 That Council conduct a further Performance Review of the CEO after 30 June 2020, but within three months from this date, in accordance with the Guidelines for the Appointment and Oversight of General Manager issued by the Department of Local Government (now Office of Local Government) July 2011.**

**886/19 That Council resolve, pursuant to section 11(3) of the Local Government Act 1993, that this report and attachment 1 to this report remain confidential in accordance with section 10A(2)(a) of the Local Government Act as it contains information regarding personnel matters concerning a particular individual and also noting that this is in accordance with the Guidelines for the Appointment and Oversight of General Manager issued by the Department of Local Government (now Office of Local Government) July 2011.**

**For:**  
**Unanimous**

**Against:**

**The Meeting** closed at 10.30 pm.



**Item No:** 2.1  
**Title:** Proposed acquisition of part of 35 Boronia Road, Lake Munmorah (part Lot 11 DP25568) for construction of roundabout  
**Department:** Innovation and Futures

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25 September 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting

Trim Reference: F2019/00435 - D13607536  
Author: Simone Barwick, Property Officer Land Sales Acquisitions  
Manager: Paul Forster, Section Manager, Property and Infrastructure  
Executive: Boris Bolgoff, Director Roads Transport Drainage and Waste

## **Report Purpose**

Approval is sought to acquire part of 35 Boronia Road, Lake Munmorah for the purpose of road widening and the construction of a roundabout.

## **Summary**

Council has been successful in obtaining NSW Government Black Spot grant funding for the design and construction of a roundabout and traffic facilities at the intersection of Boronia Road and Acacia Avenue, Lake Munmorah. Detailed construction drawings have been completed confirming the need for Council to acquire a portion of land for the purpose of road widening from 35 Boronia Road, Lake Munmorah (Lot 11 DP 25568) approximately 1.5 sq metres.

## **Recommendation**

- 1 That Council resolve to acquire the following land for the purpose of a road ('Land'): That part of Lot 11 DP 25568 at 35 Boronia Road, Lake Munmorah as public road.**
- 2 That Council authorise the CEO to execute all necessary documentation relevant to the acquisition of the Land.**
- 3 That Council resolve to acquire all or some of the portions comprising the Land by compulsory process for the purposes of a road, pursuant to Section 177 of the Roads Act 1993 and in accordance with the requirements of the Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991, in the event that negotiations for the acquisition of all or some of the portions comprising the Land with the relevant property owner or owners cannot be satisfactorily resolved.**
- 3 That Council resolve to make an application to the Minister for Local Government and the Governor for approval to acquire all or some of the portions comprising the Land by compulsory process pursuant to the Land**

## **2.1 Proposed acquisition of part of 35 Boronia Road, Lake Munmorah (part Lot 11 DP25568) for construction of roundabout (contd)**

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***Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991, in the event that negotiations for the acquisition of the Land with the relevant property owner or owners cannot be satisfactorily resolved.***

### **Context**

Council was successful in receiving the Black Spot grant funding from the NSW Government for the design and construction of a roundabout and traffic facilities at the intersection of Boronia Road and Acacia Avenue, Lake Munmorah.

Affected by the proposal is 35 Boronia Road, Lake Munmorah (Lot 11 DP 25568). Associated with the works it will be necessary to acquire a splay corner from that property 1.5 sq metres.

### **Proposal**

To facilitate the road infrastructure requirements for the Project, it will be necessary to acquire part of 35 Boronia Road, Lake Munmorah (Lot 11 DP 25568) for road widening.

35 Boronia Road, Lake Munmorah (Lot 11 DP 25568) has an area of 689.2m<sup>2</sup>, is zoned R2 Low Density Residential, and the area to be acquired is approximately 1.33m x 2.21m splay corner.

A location plan follows showing the land affected by the acquisition.

When transferred to Council, the land acquired for road will be dedicated as public road.

Council staff will endeavour to acquire the land by agreement with the land owner. If Council is unable to reach agreement within a reasonable time, it will be necessary to apply to the Office of Local Government for compulsory acquisition of the relevant portions of the Land.

### **Consultation**

Council has written to the owner of the affected land informing them of the potential road widening and the associated proposal to acquire part of their land to accommodate the road widening.

Council has engaged a valuer to assess compensation for the acquired land. Should Council authorise the acquisition of the affected land, consultation will continue with the owner with a view to acquire the affected part of their property by agreement.

### **Financial Impact**

It is estimated that the cost of acquisition including compensation to the owner, valuation and legal costs are likely to be under \$10,000.

## 2.1 Proposed acquisition of part of 35 Boronia Road, Lake Munmorah (part Lot 11 DP25568) for construction of roundabout (contd)

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The total project cost was \$320,000 and the project was completed as part of Council's operational Plan 2018-2019. The costs of the associated land acquisition will not impact financially on Council as they are included as part of the Minor Transport Improvement Program 2019/2020.

### Location Plan showing the land affected by the acquisition (edged blue)



### Link to Community Strategic Plan

Theme 4: Responsible

### Goal H: Delivering essential infrastructure

R-H2: Improve pedestrian movement safety, speed and vehicle congestion around schools, town centres, neighbourhoods, and community facilities.

### Attachments

*Nil.*



**Item No:** 3.1  
**Title:** Community Support Grant Program - July 2019  
**Department:** Connected Communities

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25 September 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting

Trim Reference: F2019/00041-02 - D13650199  
Author: Stuart Slough, Team Leader, Community Planning and Funding  
Manager: Glenn Cannard, Unit Manager, Community Partnerships  
Executive: Julie Vaughan, Director Connected Communities

## Summary

This report considers the applications and recommendations for the Community Support Grant Program, which supports the community to deliver community activities which require a small amount of funding and/or in-kind support.

## Recommendation

- 1 That Council allocate \$24,435.07 from the 2019-20 grants budget to the community grant programs as outlined in the following report and Attachment 1.**
- 2 That Council decline applications for the reasons indicated in Attachment 2 the applicants be advised and where relevant, directed to alternate funding.**

## Context

Council's grant programs are provided to support the community to deliver quality programs, projects or events that build connections, celebrate our local community, align with the One-Central Coast Community Strategic Plan and build capacity across the entire Central Coast community.

The Community Support Grant Program is provided to support the community to deliver activities which require a small amount of funding and/or in-kind support. The Community Support Grant Program remains open throughout the year to provide assistance for community activities that require:

- 1 In-kind support through the provision of subsidised access to Council services.
- 2 Financial assistance for community activities that require a smaller amount of support.

The Community Support Grant Program provides a combined budget of \$300,000 annually as detailed in table 1 below.

### 3.1 Community Support Grant Program - July 2019 (contd)

**Table 1: Community Support Grant Program**

<b>Program</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Opening Period</b>	<b>2019/2020 allocation to date</b>	<b>Recommendation allocation within this report</b>	<b>Allocation to date + Recommendation within report</b>
Community Support Grant Program	\$300,000	Ongoing	\$54,323.98	\$24,435.07	\$78,759.05
<b>TOTAL</b>			\$54,323.98	\$24,435.07	\$78,759.05

#### **Current Status**

The Community Support Grant Program remains open for applications throughout the year and the closing date for each assessment period is the last day of each month.

The Community Support Grant Program provides up to \$5,000 per project per financial year in combined funding and in-kind Council services to applicants who are a legally constituted not-for profit organisations, or auspiced by one.

#### **Assessment**

Eleven (11) applications were received and assessed by 31 July 2019 with eight (8) recommended for funding in this Council report.

The Community Support Grant applications were assessed by Council's Unit Manager Community Partnerships and the Community Planning and Funding Team.

#### **Consultation**

The availability of grant funding is provided on Council's website and promoted through Council's Social Media platforms.

An email with relevant information was provided to the community grants database Council staff also provided information and individual appointments for the period that the grants were open.

#### **Options**

- 1 Approval of all recommended applications as submitted will provide a community benefit to residents of the Central Coast Local Government Area.
- 2 Non approval of some or all applications, as recommended, may result in projects not being undertaken if the respective proponents are unable to secure alternate funding.

**Financial Impact**

Council’s 2019/2020 Council Operational Expenditure budget allocates \$300,000 to the Community Support Grant Program.

Expenditure is approved until the end of the 2019-20 financial year. Unspent funds will lapse on 30 June 2020.

**Link to Community Strategic Plan**

Theme 1: Belonging

**Goal A: Our community spirit is our strength**

B-A1: Work within our communities to connect people, build capacity and create local solutions and initiatives.

**Risk Management**

All successful applications will receive a letter of offer outlining Council’s requirements of funding, service delivery and accountability for both Council and the funded organisation.

All successful applicants are required to submit a final project acquittal report no later than twelve weeks after the agreed completion date of the activity/project with copies of any photos, promotional materials and evidence of payment/purchase for each funded item.

**Critical Dates or Timeframes**

This Grant Program is open all year and assessed on a monthly basis with the intention to allow applicants to apply for funding support which has a quicker response time.

**Attachments**

- |          |  |           |
|----------|--|-----------|
| <b>1</b> | Attachment 1 - Community Support Grants July 2019 - Recommended for Funding      | D13650222 |
| <b>2</b> | Attachment 2 - Community Supporty Grants July 2019 - Not Recommended for Funding | D13650228 |

**Recommended for Funding – July 2019**

<b>Organisation Name</b>	<b>Project Title and Summary</b>	<b>Staff Funding Recommendation</b>	<b>Staff Assessment</b>
Bears of Hope	Bears of Hope Community Garden. Pregnancy and Infant Loss Community Garden	\$3,275.62	Recommended for funding as community benefit is demonstrated and all required information is provided.
Wheelchair Sports New South Wales Incorporated	Wheelchair Basketball Training- weekly training sessions to encourage people living with disabilities to get active and be included in the community.	\$3,080.00	Recommended for part funding for venue hire as per application. Community benefit is demonstrated.
Erina Women's Hockey Club	Facemasks for Junior Hockey Teams	\$660.00	Recommended for funding as community benefit is demonstrated and all required information is provided.
Central Coast Kids in Need	Adam Molch Hillier Memorial Surf Classic	\$2,223.50	Recommended for part funding for all items in budget as per application except trophies. Trophies are ineligible as per Community Support Grant Program Guidelines Clause 7.13- "application seeking funds for prize money, gifts or awards including, gift vouchers." Community benefit is demonstrated and all required information is provided.



<b>Organisation Name</b>	<b>Project Title and Summary</b>	<b>Staff Funding Recommendation</b>	<b>Staff Assessment</b>
Wye Probuss Club Inc.	Defibrillator, First Aid and Office Equipment- to keep members safe & to maintain club's history and functioning.	\$4,447.95	Recommended for funding as community benefit is demonstrated and all required information is provided.
Tuggerah Lakes Christian Education Board Incorporated.	F.U.S.E Camp Annual school holiday program, catering for local high school students in the Tuggerah Lakes area.	\$4,895.00	Recommended for funding as community benefit is demonstrated and all required information is provided.
Wyong Garden Club Incorporated	Audio Visual Equipment- replacement of stolen AV projector, plus a laptop to run it, a larger screen and stands.	\$1,736.00	Recommended for funding as community benefit is demonstrated and all required information is provided.
The Entrance and Districts Chamber of Commerce and Industry	Fright Night at The Entrance 2019	\$4,117.00	Recommended for part funding for all items and printing as per quote supplied in application. Community benefit is demonstrated and all required information is provided. Recommendation conditional on all relevant event approvals being finalised prior to funds being released.
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$24,435.07</b>	

**Not Recommended for Funding – July 2019**

<b>Organisation Name</b>	<b>Project Title and Summary</b>	<b>Staff Funding Recommendation</b>	<b>Staff Assessment</b>
Compass Housing Services	Gosford Ave Complex- The Entrance Common Area. Compass Housing manage complex, this is the upgrade to an area the tenants use to mix socially.	\$0.00	Not recommended for funding as broader community benefit is not demonstrated.
Uniting	Homeless Matters Activity to raise awareness of homelessness on Central Coast.	\$0.00	Not recommended for funding as the application is ineligible in accordance with ineligibility clause 7.10 of the Community Support Grant Program "7.10- Application seeking funds for retrospective projects or activities (any projects or activity commenced within four weeks from the end of the application month)"
Umbrella Brasil	Hall hire subsidy for Community Dance Classes.	\$0.00	Not recommended for funding as currently proposed as insufficient information is provided to make an accurate assessment.



**Item No:** 3.2  
**Title:** Response to Notice of Motion - Kayaking and Canoeing Tourism Opportunities  
**Department:** Connected Communities

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25 September 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting

Trim Reference: F2019/00041-02 - D13650190  
Author: Carolyne Wildman, Section Manager, Marketing and Tourism  
Myra Pettinger, Marketing and Brand Coordinator  
Manager: Sue Ledingham, Unit Manager Community Engagement  
Executive: Julie Vaughan, Director Connected Communities

### **Report Purpose**

This report responds to the Notice of Motion resolved at the 24 June 2019 Ordinary Meeting regarding kayaking and canoeing tourism opportunities.

### **Recommendation**

- 1 That Council receive the report on kayaking and canoeing tourism opportunities.**
- 2 That Council note that activating Central Coast Waterways is a key focus in both the Central Coast Destination Management Plan and the Tourism Opportunity Plan.**

### **Background**

Council, at its ordinary meeting on 24 June 2019 resolved the following Notice of Motion, part thereof:

- 597/19 *Request the Chief Executive Officer to undertake an initial assessment of:*
- *The current level of active use of the region's waterways for canoeing/kayaking and similar activities*
  - *The trends in low impact waterway activation for tourism purposes*
  - *An overview of the sector including key peak bodies, key calendar events and/or trends*
  - *Opportunities for key staging points to encourage the growth of this industry*
  - *Opportunities for Council to actively promote the growth of this activity on the Central Coast*
  - *Initial consideration of positive and negative factors in promoting this tourism opportunity*
  - *A pathway forward, including timeframes, if Council resolved to focus on growing this sector*
  - *That the matter be referred to the Tourism Advisory Committee.*

## **3.2 Response to Notice of Motion - Kayaking and Canoeing Tourism Opportunities (contd)**

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Council has an opportunity to leverage kayaking and canoeing tourism opportunities while undertaking the scheduled activities of Council's broader tourism strategy. This is including, but not limited to, completing actions identified in the Central Coast Destination Management Plan 2018-2021 (CCDMP) and the Tourism Opportunity Plan (TOP) as listed below:

### **Central Coast Destination Management Plan Goal 3: *Leverage natural and built assets to continue to grow core markets***

This will focus on using the Central Coast's existing natural assets such as the region's waterways and will be measured through growing customer satisfaction and any increases in the number of activities participated in by visitors including those associated with kayaking and canoeing tourism opportunities.

### **Tourism Opportunity Plan Investment Opportunity: *Smaller, shorter-term nature-based attractions and experience***

This will focus on the development of trails and activations including those on the Central Coast waterways and waterfronts.

### **Tourism Opportunity Plan Priority Action: *Experience development***

This will further investigate new experiences available to the Central Coast and stage out next steps and investment models and can encompass specific kayaking and canoeing tourism opportunities.

Central Coast Waterways is identified as a key focus in both the CCDMP and TOP.

## **Response to questions in Notice of Motion**

### ***The current level of active use of the region's waterways for canoeing/kayaking and similar activities***

Paddle sports, such as kayaking and canoeing, while a standalone tourism activity, also fall into the broader growing tourism category of soft adventure. The primary research findings by the Soft Adventure Market Assessment (SAMA), prepared for Central Coast Council in 2016 suggests that the Central Coast is a competitive region in and around greater Sydney, with the potential to extend overnight visitation and associated visitor yield from soft adventure visitation.

The Central Coast's soft adventure profile is currently comprised of a diverse mix of products, one segment of which is paddle sports such as kayaking and canoeing. According to the product audit completed for the SAMA a soft adventure cluster of mostly water-based activities is only currently evident in the region surrounding the suburb of Terrigal. The products that made up the water-based activity cluster around Terrigal each scored a top score of 5 on Trip Advisor, indicating the high customer satisfaction associated with existing water-based products on offer to visitors.

### **3.2 Response to Notice of Motion - Kayaking and Canoeing Tourism Opportunities (contd)**

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This positive sentiment combined with the limited water-based product available across the region indicates the potential for successful future growth.

Council has constructed sand beaches at Budgewoi channel, Canton Beach and Lake Munmorah which provide walk-in, easy access to Tuggerah Lakes in order for kayaking and canoeing activities to take place. Council is also in the process of building a new Kayak launching facility off an existing jetty this financial year at Berkeley Vale to allow for easier access further south in Tuggerah Lake.

Based on the search 'Kayak Hire Central Coast' at least 22 local businesses exist offering a kayak hire service to visitors across the whole region. This includes utilisation of all primary waterways including the Northern Lakes, Wyong and Ourimbah Creeks, Brisbane Waters, the Peninsula and the Southern Lagoons of Terrigal and Avoca.

Council Officers contacted a variety of kayak hire businesses to gain further anecdotal feedback. These businesses serviced, the Northern Lakes, Wyong River, The Entrance Channel, Gosford Waterways and the Peninsula. All agreed the usage of the waterways varied significantly from Summer to Winter, one business remarked that during Summer up to 30 kayak hires could occur in a day when, in comparison, only 10 kayak hires could occur over the full Winter season.

The Central Coast Waterways are currently home to a variety of paddle sport clubs, this includes kayaking and canoeing as well as sports such as dragon boating. There are also organisations and groups that undertake environmental and education organised kayaking and canoeing activities, such as the Central Coast Marine Discovery Centre and Council's Catchment Crawls.

#### ***The trends in low impact waterway activation for tourism purposes***

Globally, soft adventure tourism is experiencing considerable growth and is considered a high yielding market. This is demonstrated in the SAMA which states that demand is on the rise as levels of disposable income increase and consumer expectations of experiential and transformative tourism experiences grow. There has also been growth in the supply of these types of tourism products as the barrier to entry for new operators is generally low and the ability for established operators to diversify their offering exists via simple measures.

The SAMA advises that travellers opting for a soft adventure experience, such as kayaking and canoeing tourism opportunities, are more likely to be female (62.3%) and are often in their 40s or above. These travellers are more likely to travel regionally rather than overseas and have a travel duration of approximately 10 days, which could be attributed to the higher age, personal wealth and the more leisurely approach to adventure travel which soft adventure offers.

Council Waterways Officers have been able to provide anecdotal information on current trends for use of paddle craft in Central Coast waterways.

### **3.2 Response to Notice of Motion - Kayaking and Canoeing Tourism Opportunities (contd)**

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They have surmised that Stand-Up Paddle Boarding has exceeded kayaking/canoeing in popularity in recent years in the Tuggerah Lakes Estuary, while sailing is the prominent water-based activity in Brisbane Waters. Feedback gathered from businesses operating in the area also included the growth of kayaking for fishing and the continuing popularity of Stand-Up Paddle Boarding across Central Coast waterways.

#### ***An overview of the sector including key peak bodies, key calendar events and/or trends***

The national governing body for paddle sports is Australian Canoeing, the peak body for kayaking and canoeing in Australia is Paddle Australia and the relevant state association is Paddle NSW. Paddle NSW states on its website that it has 35 affiliated paddling clubs throughout NSW and the ACT. The Paddle NSW 2017 annual report lists both Central Coast Paddlers Inc and The Brisbane Water Paddlers Club as financial and affiliated clubs.

Paddle NSW 2017 annual report advises that state membership is up 10% year-on-year with a total of 1,878 members. Activities encompassed by 'paddle sports' is listed below in order of the net contribution by discipline as listed on Paddle NSW's website:

- Marathon
- Slalom
- Myall Lake Classic
- Sprint
- Harbour Series
- Wild Water
- Canoe Polo
- Freestyle

Also listed as paddle sports on the Paddle Australia website are Sailing, Ocean Racing and Paracanoe.

Up to date and extensive event listings can be found on the websites of the above bodies, the below are listed on Paddle Australia as major competition events:

- Paddle Australia Canoe Sprint Grand Prix 1
- Paddle Australia Canoe Wildwater Championships
- Paddle Australia Canoe Slalom Age Championships
- Paddle Australia Canoe Slalom Championships
- Canoe Slalom Oceania Championships
- Paddle Australia Canoe Sprint Grand Prix 2
- Sydney International Whitewater Festival
- Paddle Australia Canoe Sprint Championships

In addition to the above-mentioned clubs, two Dragon Boat clubs are based on the Central Coast.

### **3.2 Response to Notice of Motion - Kayaking and Canoeing Tourism Opportunities (contd)**

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The Deep-Water Dragon Boat Club operates out of Saratoga onto Brisbane Water and the Central Coast Dragon Boat Club operates out of Toukley onto Tuggerah Lakes. Regular Regattas are held for this sport primarily in Sydney, however the Central Coast has acted as a host for the sport in previous years.

#### ***Opportunities for key staging points to encourage the growth of this industry***

The CCDMP outlines that the Central Coast destination is currently underrepresented in outdoor adventure and nature-based products compared to destination comparators. CCDMP suggests that an opportunity exists to capitalise on marine visitor growth and encourage visitor dispersal through increasing these product offerings by creating investment platforms and incentives for nature-based tourism products.

The CCDMP identifies soft adventure and primary growth market for the Central Coast and further identifies Nature, Culture and Heritage as an emerging and potential market for the destination. The CCDMP suggests that if the Central Coast achieved 0.6% shift-share by 2021 of the key target market segment of Nature, Culture and Heritage, it would likely inject additional value of \$21m into the local visitor economy by 2021.

The SAMA clearly outlines, that in order to develop a soft adventure profile for water-based activities for the Central Coast destination, connectivity between these activities needs to be improved. Specifically noting the following actions would encourage growth:

- Improved signage and sign posting of locations for activities whether guided or not
- Improved information to highlight locations for parking, picnicking and relating to water-based soft adventure
- Encourage pop up activations to leverage highly seasonal activities
- Encourage packaging experiences and cooperative marketing efforts between product operators to expand the regions offering.

Specific locations that have been identified by Council Officers, noting that no formal feasibility study has yet been undertaken to fully determine the viability of these locations, as having the potential to be developed into key staging points are listed below. These potential staging points include, but are not limited to:

- Wyong River:
  - At the weir / Wyong Milk Factory
  - At the wharf on River Rd
  - At Wyong Lions Park on Panonia Rd
  - At the end of Wolseley Ave Tacoma.
- Ourimbah Creek:
  - Off Burrarah Rd Chittaway Bay
  - Sunshine Reserve boat ramp
  - Casuarina Reserve Chittaway Point.

### 3.2 Response to Notice of Motion - Kayaking and Canoeing Tourism Opportunities (contd)

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- Tuggerah Lake:
  - Picnic Point The Entrance
  - Canton Beach.
  
- Spring Creek:
  - Access off the end of Waterhen Cl Blue Haven.
  
- Budgewoi Lake:
  - Boat ramp at end of Emu Dr, San Remo.
  
- Lake Munmorah:
  - Slade Park Budgewoi
  - Elizabeth Bay
  - End of Colongra Bay Rd.
  
- Woy Woy:
  - Lions Park
  
- Patonga:
  - Boat ramp near camping ground.
  
- Erina Creek:
  - Boat ramp near Punt Bridge
  - Wharf near Winani Rd.

There are many more places around our waterways where kayaking is possible and popular including:

- Cochrane Lagoon, Avoca Lagoon, Terrigal Lagoon, Wamberal Lagoon, the Hawkesbury River, Mangrove Creek, Popran Creek, Mooney Creek, Narara Creek and many places in Brisbane Water including Kincumber boat ramp, Ettalong Beach, Pretty Beach etc.

In addition to the above, the Kayak Central Coast website lists the below locations as suggestions for self-guided tours:

- Orphanage Ferry Route
- Mooney Creek
- Woy Woy Bays
- Marramarra Creek
- Gentleman's Halt



### **3.2 Response to Notice of Motion - Kayaking and Canoeing Tourism Opportunities (contd)**

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#### ***Opportunities for Council to actively promote the growth of this activity on the Central Coast***

The TOP provides an overview of target markets for visitors to the Central Coast, focussing on Blooming Families, Active Travel Couples and Developing Families. These target markets have been identified as offering the best return on investment based on informed visitor analytics consumer research and destination offerings.

The opportunities that have been highlighted to motivate travel in these target markets are:

- Blooming Families – Showcase quick weekend and outdoor escapes
- Active Travel Couples – Showcase adventure enthused outdoor weekend escapes
- Developing Families – Showcase quick weekend and outdoor escapes.

As demonstrated above, each of the three target markets are motivated to travel by the opportunity to experience outdoor escapes, of which soft adventure activities, such as kayaking and canoeing tourism opportunities offer.

The SAMA states that the Central Coast compatibility as a soft adventure destination hinges on the promotion and utilisation of the extensive waterways in the region so there is potential to better activate these waterways and capitalise on market growth.

Council continues to liaise with the Central Coast tourism industry via the current industry servicing model, developed and undertaken by Tourism Central Coast, to promote the region and its key drivers for travel, the inclusion of soft adventure and nature-based experiences, remains integral to this process. Water-based tourism products are also able to upload free business listings to the VisitCentralCoast.com.au website and participate in a range of always-on and major tourism co-operative destination marketing campaigns with Tourism Central Coast.

The TOP and the CCDMP explain the challenge of undertaking successful promotional activities for the region which have a specific or singular focus, such as kayaking and canoeing tourism opportunities, as is the negative perceptions that are already in the hearts and minds of the identified target audiences. Working to challenge these perceptions is the primary goal of current destination marketing activities and this requires a collaborative effort, with a strategic focus on improving the overall experience of the Central Coast as a region.

#### ***Initial consideration of positive and negative factors in promoting this tourism opportunity***

The promotional opportunities which exist for kayaking and canoeing have been identified favourably in all initial considerations by Council Officers, as supporting the wider tourism strategies outlined in CCDMP. Council Officers suggest these promotional opportunities could include, but are not limited to:

### 3.2 Response to Notice of Motion - Kayaking and Canoeing Tourism Opportunities (contd)

- The development of water trails through apps and wayfinding signage
- The ongoing support of the numerous local businesses currently operating in this niche market through both major tourism campaigns and minor ongoing marketing activities such as native and social content
- The development of activity packages leveraging existing kayaking and canoeing operators to position the activity as a year-round option for visitors

An assessment has also been undertaken to consider the wider impacts of destination marketing activities for the region in both the CCDMP and the TOP. Those identified, which factor into leveraging kayaking and canoeing tourism opportunities to promote the Central Coast destination, have been included below:

Positives	Negatives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Four times the waterfront of Sydney Harbour including beaches and waterways</li> <li>• Waterways provide a clear point of difference for the region from competitor regions</li> <li>• Natural beauty – lake and waterways</li> <li>• Commitment and buy-in from the tourism industry towards strategic objectives</li> <li>• Additional Visiting Friends and Relatives market and workforce available from continuing population growth</li> <li>• Product and package collaboration potential Enable the activation of waterfront and waterways and key infrastructure delivery and upgrades</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The region is in a competitive market to gain the share of the key Sydney outbound visitor</li> <li>• Lack of awareness or poor perceptions of the Central Coast</li> <li>• Location lends itself to the destination being regarded as a drive-through or pit-stop region</li> <li>• Lack of wayfinding signage for visitors</li> <li>• Vulnerable to extreme weather conditions</li> <li>• Lack of established activity and experience trails</li> <li>• Perception as a summer destination only</li> </ul>

In addition to the above, it is suggested by Council Officers that specifically highlighting kayaking and canoeing opportunities, over other soft adventure activities available in the region, could have a negative impact on the results of promotional activities for the destination. If promotional activities limit the perceived scope of the regions activities the market size is diminished. Both the SAMA and the TOP suggest that grouping soft adventure tourism activities together will have the most valuable impact for the local visitor economy.

### **3.2 Response to Notice of Motion - Kayaking and Canoeing Tourism Opportunities (contd)**

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#### ***A pathway forward, including timeframes, if Council resolved to focus on growing this sector***

The TOP outlines how the Central Coast can leverage kayaking and canoeing tourism opportunities via investment opportunities in a category of 'open space'. This category identifies that while the region currently offers a great range of outdoor activities, such as kayaking and canoeing, which allows visitors to explore nature while in the region, it lacks signature experiences and attractions. Outlining that investment opportunities exist in small, short term initiatives, which would result in highlighting the best that the natural landscape of the region has to offer visitors. Specifically stating, the development of trails infrastructure and activations both along the waterfronts and on the waterways would add significant value.

Council already invests in the development of local waterways for activation and protection, as noted in the following list of actions both underway and recently completed:

- 2019/20 Eco and Rural Tourism Feasibility Study
- 2019/20 Construction to be completed on new kayak launching facility at Berkeley Vale
- Ongoing support and training provided to tourism operators via industry services
- Ongoing funding available for product development to tourism operators via Council's Awarding Sponsorship Program
- Identify opportunities to attract national events to the region through sponsorship attraction funding
- Ongoing development of Coastal Management Programs
- Recent development of Waterways Discovery App
- Recent development of 10 water-based itineraries on VisitCentralCoast.com.au.

Research and analysis provided in the Soft Adventure Market Assessment will continue to be used to develop the soft adventure sector locally, nationally and internationally. The research was considered in the development of the CCDMP and indicates that this profile would be likely to have a stronger point of difference if it is developed around protected/sheltered waterways. This includes lakes, coastal pockets and riverine areas which can support, water-based recreational activities and events including kayaking and canoeing tourism opportunities.

The existing actions in the CCDMP and TOP articulate a pathway forward, coupled with the inclusion of the SAMA Report following actions to support and encourage growth:

- Improved signage and sign posting of locations for activities whether guided or not
- Improved information to highlight locations for parking, picnicking and relating to water-based soft adventure
- Encourage pop up activations to leverage highly seasonal activities
- Encourage packaging experiences and cooperative marketing efforts between product operators to expand the regions offering.

## 3.2 Response to Notice of Motion - Kayaking and Canoeing Tourism Opportunities (contd)

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### ***That the matter be referred to the Tourism Advisory Committee***

This report on kayaking and canoeing tourism opportunities will be provided to the Tourism Advisory Committee for their input and strategic advice in the future development of this sector.

### **Consultation**

Due to the short time to respond and prepare the report the following research and consultation was undertaken.

Desk top research was undertaken by Council Tourism Officers to complete this report through website searches of kayaking and canoeing active clubs and events and service providers both locally and within Australia, TripAdvisor to identify current ratings for Central Coast waterways in this market and direct search of organisations such as Paddle Australia, and Australia Canoeing.

Council Officers contacted a variety of kayak hire businesses to gain further anecdotal feedback. These businesses serviced, the Northern Lakes, Wyong River, The Entrance Channel, Gosford Waterways and the Peninsula. All agreed the usage of the waterways varied significantly from Summer to Winter, one business remarked that during Summer up to 30 kayak hires could occur in a day when, in comparison, only 10 kayak hires could occur over the full Winter season.

Consultation was completed with the following Council service units and local businesses and contacts to inform this report based on their knowledge and experience within the subject area, these were:

- Central Coast Council Natural and Environmental Assets team
- Central Coast Council Waterways team
- Central Coast Council Environmental Education team
- Central Coast Dragon Boat Club
- All Sorts Fitness Wyong
- The Entrance Boat Shed
- Drift Paddle Boards
- Anderson's Boat Shed
- Ettalong Visitor Information Centre

Further to this, extensive consultation was undertaken during the development of the CCDMP and the TOP to develop the strategic focus of both documents. This has included workshops and surveys with both industry and the public as well as public exhibitions of both documents.

## **3.2 Response to Notice of Motion - Kayaking and Canoeing Tourism Opportunities (contd)**

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### **Financial Impact**

Council's 2019/2020 Council Operation and Capital Expenditure budgets allocates expenditure to undertake the Eco and Rural Tourism Feasibility Study and construction of the new kayak launching facility at Berkeley Vale.

Any future investment in event development or key staging points will be considered as part of the implementation of the TOP and would need to be considered in any future budget process.

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

Theme 2: Smart

### **Goal I: Balanced and sustainable development**

S-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.

### **Attachments**

*Nil.*



**Item No:** 3.3  
**Title:** Response to Notice of Motion - Raise the Rate  
**Department:** Connected Communities

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25 September 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting

Trim Reference: F2019/00041-02 - D13656204  
Author: Kerrie Forrest, Section Manager, Community Planning and Services  
Executive: Julie Vaughan, Director Connected Communities

## Summary

This report responds to the Notice of Motion – Raise the Rate, resolved at the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 12 August 2019.

## Recommendation

- 1 That Council receive the report on Response to Notice of Motion – Raise the Rate.**
- 2 That Council note a copy of the formal submission is provided as Attachment 1 to this report.**

## Background

Council, at its Ordinary Meeting on 12 August 2019 resolved the following part thereof:

- 743/19 *That Council requests the Chief Executive Officer to make a formal submission appealing to the Minister to 'Raise the Rate' for Newstart and Youth Allowance.*
- 744/19 *That the submission includes the rationale from a statistical, economic and social perspective relevant to the Central Coast region.*
- 745/19 *That the submission is reported back to Council by the end of September 2019.*

## Current Status

People who are unemployed and live in a low-income household receive two main unemployment benefits: Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance. The Newstart Allowance has not been raised in real terms for 25 years, despite significant increases in living costs, and is one of the lowest in the developed world.

The Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) carried a motion for an immediate increase to Newstart at their national conference held on 19 June 2018.

### 3.3 Response to Notice of Motion - Raise the Rate (contd)

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The motion stated: *In light of the burden placed on local governments across Australia to respond to the needs and challenges of people living in poverty and homeless, the National General Assembly calls on federal government to raise the Newstart Allowance to the level of the [Henderson Poverty Line](#) to increase the wellbeing and life chances of many in our community.*

Over the past 12 months many peak community welfare, business and union groups across Australia have led a campaign to raise the rate of Newstart and Youth Allowance.

In July 2018 there were 827,794 recipients of these payments in Australia. Over 60% of these recipients were unemployed long term, receiving these payments for over a year, and 44% for more than 24 months. Recipients come from diverse backgrounds and age groups:

- 17% were under 25 years, 38% were aged 25-44 years and 43% were aged over 45
- 13% were principle carers of children (mainly sole parents)
- 24% have disabilities
- 13% identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander background
- 19% had cultural and linguistically diverse backgrounds

*Source: ACOSS Research Paper - Faces of Unemployment, September 2018*

At \$273 a week (\$233 for a young person living away from their parents) or around \$40 per day for a single person with no children these payments are below the Henderson poverty line.

The Henderson Poverty Line is a threshold for measuring a person or families circumstances and relative poverty. In dollar figures, the poverty line in Australia in 2018 equates to \$433 a week for a single adult living alone; or \$909 a week for a couple with 2 children. Anyone below the Henderson line is in poverty.

The low rate of Newstart and Youth Allowance significantly affects the well-being of unemployed people as well as making it difficult for job seekers to search for work. Further, ACOSS argues the severity of living on such low incomes cannot be justified for even short periods of time, given the chaos that flows from severe financial deprivation, which negatively affects health, wellbeing and the capacity to pursue paid work. People living on unemployment payments experience severe deprivation and are unable to afford a proper diet, essential health care services or secure housing

In 2015, a survey of 600 Newstart recipients conducted by ACOSS reported:

- 40% are unable to pay their bills on time or see a dentist
- 46% are only able to afford second-hand clothes most of the time
- 50% are unable to raise \$2,000 in the event of an emergency
- 50% are turning off heating and cooling to save money
- 32% skipped meals in the previous year

### 3.3 Response to Notice of Motion - Raise the Rate (contd)

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- 25% are suffering from 'housing crisis' – spending more than half their income on rent
- 20% do not have enough money for essentials like housing, food, and electricity.

Source: ACOSS Research Paper – *Payment adequacy: a view from those relying on social security payments*

#### **Benefits of Raising the Rate for the Central Coast**

While payment of Newstart and Youth Allowance is a Federal government responsibility, it is at a local level where the effects of poverty are felt. Social issues such as unemployment, homelessness, lack of affordable housing, poverty and domestic violence have significant impact on many residents within the Central Coast community.

The Central Coast LGA is characterised by:

- 61,727 people living in low income households (<\$500 per week) (*profile.id*)
- 13,357 residents receiving Newstart or Youth Allowance (*data.gov.au*)
- An unemployment rate of 5.3% which is above state and national rates (*Small Area Labour Markets, March quarter 2019*), with some areas within the LGA experiencing unemployment rates of 6-11%,
- A youth unemployment rate of 11.6% (*Labour Market Information Portal July 2019*)
- Former Wyong LGA in the *most* disadvantaged 40% of areas within Australia on SEIFA Index of Relative Disadvantage
- Former Wyong LGA identified as an area of social disadvantage in the study *Dropping Off the Edge* (*Jesuit Social Services & Catholic Social Services 2015*).
- relatively low level of education attainment, with 14% per cent having a bachelor degree or higher, compared to 28.3% for Greater Sydney and 23.4% for NSW (*profile.id*)
- Median household incomes around 70% of Greater Sydney (*profile.id*)
- 24,200 households in 'housing stress' (paying more than 30% of their gross household income on housing costs) equating to one in five households
- a 35% increase in homelessness from 2011 to 2016.

Raising the rate of Newstart and Youth Allowance will assist to reduce poverty, strengthen the social fabric and increase spending in local communities.

Attachment 1 details Council's submission to the Federal Government supporting the "Raise the Rate" campaign.

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

Theme 1: Belonging

#### **Goal L: Healthy lifestyle for a growing community**



### **3.3 Response to Notice of Motion - Raise the Rate (contd)**

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B-A3: Work together to solve a range of social and health issues that may impact community wellbeing and vulnerable people.

#### **Critical Dates or Timeframes**

Council's submission has been provided to the Senate Community Affairs References Committee. The inquiry and report to the Committee will occur in March 2020.

#### **Attachments**

- 1** Attachment 1 - Submission - "Raise the Rate" for Newstart and Youth Allowance D13656637



Central Coast Council

**Submission to the Federal Government:**

***"Raise the Rate" for Newstart and Youth Allowance***

September 2019



Submission to Federal Government – Raise the Rate for Newstart and Youth Allowance

Author: Community Partnerships

Date: September 2019

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# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Raise the Rate Campaign

The biggest risk to living in poverty in Australia is being in receipt of unemployment payments. People receiving unemployment and student payments (Youth Allowance, Newstart and related payments) have the highest rates of poverty because these payments are well below the poverty line.

The Raise the Rate campaign is key to reducing poverty and inequality in Australia. The goal of the Raise the Rate campaign is for the Federal Government to immediately lift the single rate of Newstart, Youth Allowance and other related payments by at least \$75 per week, and index allowances to wages. Currently, these payments are too low to help people get through tough times and into suitable employment. The rate of Newstart has not been increased for 25 years, while the cost of living, has increased significantly.

The Australian Council for Social Service (ACOSS) argues that raising the single rate of Newstart and other allowances by at least \$75 per week (and indexing the payment to wages) will get Newstart working by allowing people to focus on building the skills they need to take the opportunities to get them through difficult times. It will mean people can focus on their futures rather than having to be totally consumed with their current situation of financial crisis.

The low rate of Newstart and Youth Allowance has a human impact on the lives of over 800,000 Australians. In July 2018 there were 827,794 recipients of these payments in Australia. Over 60% of these recipients were unemployed long term, receiving these payments for over a year, and 44% for more than 24 months. Recipients come from diverse backgrounds and age groups:

- 17% were under 25 years, 38% were aged 25-44 years and 43% were aged over 45
- 13% were principle carers of children (mainly sole parents)
- 24% have disabilities
- 13% identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander background
- 19% had cultural and linguistically diverse backgrounds

Source: ACOSS Research Paper - *Faces of Unemployment*, September 2018

At \$273 a week (\$233 for a young person living away from their parents) or around \$40 per day for a single person with no children these payments are below the Henderson poverty line.

The Henderson Poverty Line is a threshold for measuring a person or families circumstances and relative poverty. In dollar figures, the poverty line in Australia in 2018 equates to \$433 a week for a single adult living alone; or \$909 a week for a couple with 2 children. Anyone below the Henderson line is considered to be in poverty.

The low rate of Newstart and Youth Allowance significantly affects the well-being of unemployed people as well as making it difficult for job seekers to search for work. Further, ACOSS argues the severity of living on such low incomes cannot be justified for even short periods of time, given the chaos that flows from severe financial deprivation, which

negatively affects health, wellbeing and the capacity to pursue paid work. People living on unemployment payments experience severe deprivation and are unable to afford a proper diet, essential health care services or secure housing

In 2015, a survey of 600 Newstart recipients conducted by ACOSS reported:

- 40% are unable to pay their bills on time or see a dentist
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- 32% skipped meals in the previous year
- 25% are suffering from 'housing crisis' – spending more than half their income on rent
- 20% do not have enough money for essentials like housing, food, and electricity.

*Source: ACOSS Research Paper – Payment adequacy: a view from those relying on social security payments*

The low rate of Newstart and Youth Allowance presents a barrier to employment and risks entrenching poverty.

Central Coast Council supports the campaign to increase the rate of Newstart and the Youth Allowance to assist the growing number of people who are unemployed and experiencing hardship to look for work, combat social isolation and live dignified lives in our community. This is particular prevalent for the Central Coast which is characterised by pockets of high socio economic disadvantage.

In 2016 there were 61,727 people in low income households living in the Central Coast LGA. Low income households are defined as households falling into approximately the bottom 20% of equivalised incomes across Australia. For 2016, this includes the range of households under \$500 per week (profile.id)

In 2018 there were 10,619 people on the Central Coast receiving Newstart, 1,541 people receiving Youth Allowance (other) and 1,197 receiving Youth Allowance (student and apprentice) as shown in Table 1.

**Table 1 Recipient of Newstart and Youth Allowance December 2018.**

	<b>Newstart</b>	<b>Youth Allowance (student and apprentice)</b>	<b>Youth Allowance (other)</b>
Former Wyong LGA	6,074	950	547
Former Gosford LGA	4,545	591	650
Central Coast	10,619	1,541	1,197

*Source: data.gov.au DSS payments by LGA (March 2019)*

Research supports that there are interconnections between the disadvantage indicators in many vulnerable communities (*Jesuit Social Services & Catholic Social Services Australia, 2015*). Economic issues (including high unemployment, low wage levels and a high proportion of persons employed in part-time jobs) underlie many social disadvantage issues. Employment issues (at least in part) are linked to educational issues (low school retention rates, low participation and attainment rates in higher education). These issues have a significant impact on the current and future quality of life of the Central Coast residents as they prevent people from participating fully in the community.

## 2 Social Disadvantage Central Coast NSW

### 2.1 Overview of Central Coast

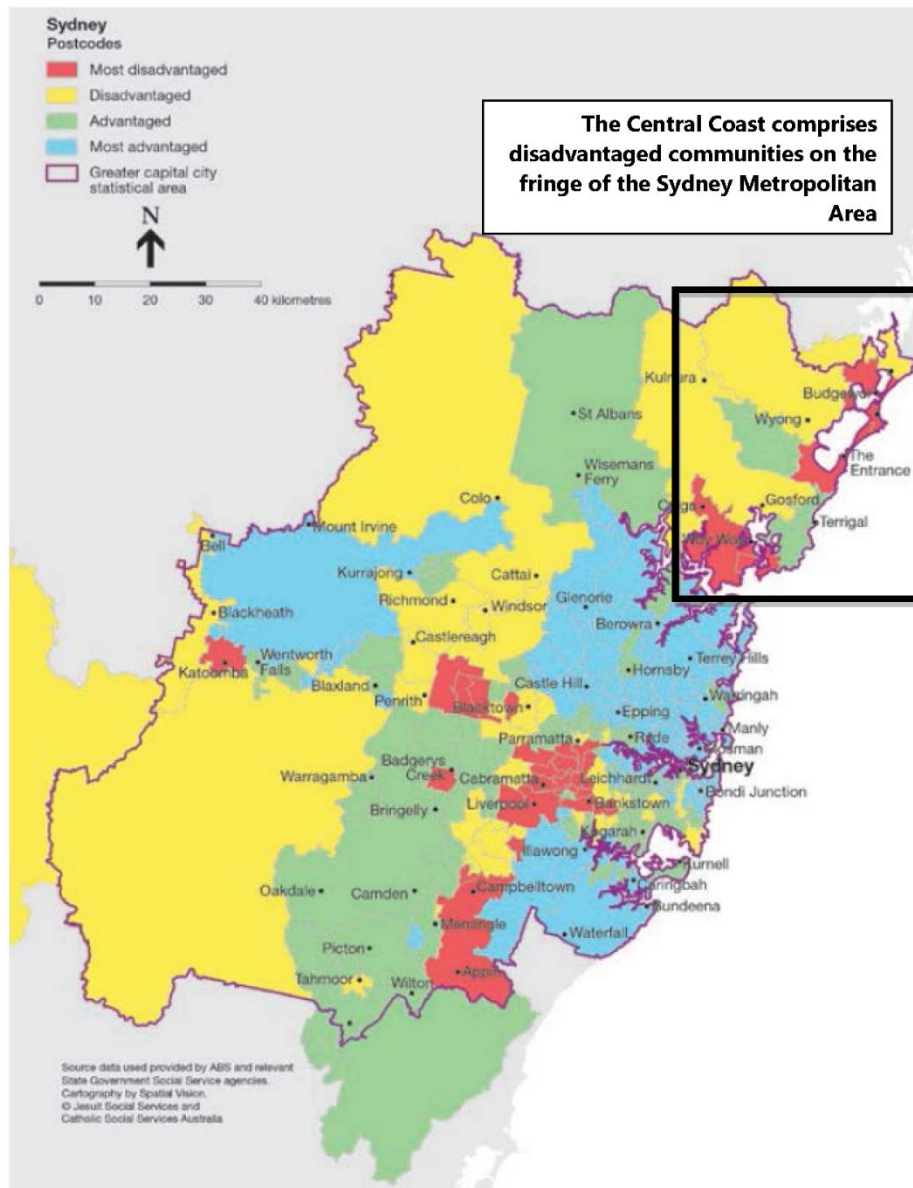
The Central Coast Local Government Area (LGA) has a current estimated resident population of 343,047 and is projected to grow to nearly 415,000 by 2036. It was formed in 2016 with the amalgamation of the former Wyong Shire and former Gosford City LGAs.

The region continues to undergo significant growth and change. This population increase has not been resourced by the development and provision of adequate social and physical infrastructure and local employment opportunities have not kept pace with increased demands for jobs within the region.

The Central Coast LGA is characterised by pockets of high socio-economic disadvantage as shown in Figure 1.

In many ways, there is a considerable social divide between the north of the LGA (the former Wyong LGA) and the south (the former Gosford LGA) in terms of levels of disadvantage,





**Figure 1: Areas of Disadvantage – Sydney Metropolitan Area**  
 Source: Jesuit Social Services/Catholic Services of Australia (2015) *Dropping Off the Edge*

## 2.2 Overall socio-economic disadvantage

The most relevant measure for understanding the difference in the comparative levels of overall advantage or disadvantage is the ABS 2016 Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA).

Four SEIFA Indexes are published by the ABS – SEIFA Index of Advantage and Disadvantage; Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage (SEIFA Disadvantage); Economic Resources; and Education and Occupation. Each of these brings together a range of relevant socio-economic indicators that show the comparative level of advantage or disadvantage between communities across these four domains. Of these, the most relevant to this analysis are SEIFA Disadvantage. A lower score on the index means a higher level of disadvantage. This index is derived from Census variables such as low income, low educational attainment, high unemployment and jobs in relatively unskilled occupations. A higher score on the index means a *lower* level of disadvantage. A lower score on the index means a *higher* level of disadvantage.

In 2016 the Central Coast LGA scored 989 on the SEIFA index of disadvantage. This was relatively average with regard to SEIFA Disadvantage, and in the least disadvantaged 40% of areas for Australia. However, this masks considerable difference between the former Gosford and Wyong LGAs, with Gosford LGA in the *least* disadvantaged 30% of areas, and Wyong in the *most* disadvantaged 40% of areas.

The northern areas of the former Wyong LGA tend to be far more disadvantaged than many areas of the former Gosford LGA and generally in the most disadvantaged 16% to 30% of areas in Australia. The main areas of disadvantage are: Wyong, Toukley-Canton Beach, The Entrance, Charmhaven-Lake Haven, San Remo-Doyalson, Gorokan, Watanobbi and Woy Woy-Blackwell.

**Table 2 Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage – Small Areas**

Small Area	Score
Wyong	859.7
Toukley – Canton Beach	881.3
The Entrance - North Entrance	888.1
Charmhaven – Lake Haven	893.4
San Remo – Doyalson-Colongra	900.4
Gorokan	901.3
Watanobbi	911.2
Woy Woy - Blackwell	931.8
Manning Park	937.3
Ettalong – Booker Bay	937.4
Budgewoi - Halekulani - Buff Point	940.5
Blue Haven	943.1
Blue Haven	949.2

Source: profile.id

The former Wyong Shire has also been identified as an area of social disadvantage in the study *Dropping Off the Edge (Jesuit Social Services & Catholic Social Services 2015)*. This geographic disadvantage is visually shown on page 7, with postcode areas of the Shire classified as either "most disadvantaged" or "disadvantaged". This classification is based on data for 21 indicators of disadvantage. Analysis of the indicators reinforces the interconnections between indicators portraying a web of disadvantage within the community. The findings for postcodes within the Central Coast are shown over page with a ranking in terms of the 621 postcode localities in NSW. Postcodes 2258, 2259, 2261, 2262 and 2263 comprise the former Wyong Shire. The level of disadvantage within these postcodes is evident. For example, for postcode 2263 is ranked within the top 5% for rent assistance, top 10% for unskilled workers and long-term unemployment and psychiatric submissions, top 20% for unemployment, disability support, domestic violence, family income etc. Postcode 2263 is ranked 56<sup>th</sup> and postcode 2262 is ranked 67<sup>th</sup> respectively out of 621 localities in NSW in terms of disadvantage.

Figure 2: Summary Rank for Central Coast Postcodes in relation to NSW

Postcode N= 621	Rank out of 621 Postcodes															Average Rank								
	R.internet.access	R.housing.stress	R.low.family.income	R.overall.education	R.post.schooling.qualifications	R.unskilled.workers	R.young.adults.not.engaged	R.readiness.schooling	R.disability.support	R.long.term.unemployment	R.rent.assistance	R.unemployment	R3.numeracy	R3.reading	R9.numeracy	R9.reading	R.child.maltreatment	R.criminal.convictions	R.juvenile.convictions	R.domestic.violence	R.prison.admissions	R.psychiatric.admissions		
2250	369	214	398	426	373	276	340	255	280	215	189	268	330	299	201	242	319	224	294	258	125	281	312	50%
2251	391	325	400	461	404	353	376	447	347	274	204	331	424	387	85	169	412	380	428	363	373	349	425	68%
2256	162	231	281	272	290	224	188	147	100	121	109	139	214	228			190	101	212	222	147	188	145	23%
2257	210	160	269	345	304	237	198	123	157	123	45	133	246	263	60	77	194	112	248	247	242	190	146	24%
2258	482	218	422	460	357	310	271	496	391	287	234	345	524	521			484	240	300	468	301	374	453	73%
2259	325	205	254	302	230	149	221	176	193	160	40	191	291	265	128	174	236	231	162	179	114	201	174	28%
2260	476	259	450	531	463	399	468	375	470	297	293	357	219	200	343	279	450	422	445	463	401	384	462	74%
2261	247	132	262	350	256	135	223	245	213	101	72	122	244	187	127	122	206	199	133	181	138	185	138	22%
2262	233	183	150	222	101	44	126	153	125	110	20	134	51	67	151	67	219	238	132	240	104	137	67	11%
2263	113	176	122	205	183	51	117	117	64	62	21	73	277	366	85	131	138	145	99	115	57	129	56	9%

Legend	
Top %	Rank
5	< 31.1
10	< 62.1
20	< 124.2
30	< 186.3
40	< 248.4

Source: Jesuit Social Services/Catholic Services of Australia (2015) Dropping Off the Edge

## 2.3 Poor Labour Market Performance

The main features of Central Coast LGA's labour force are:

- A high proportion of the population aged 15 years and over not in the labour force (low participation rates);
- A high ratio of part-time to full-time employment; and
- High unemployment rates.

Traditionally the Central Coast has had one of the lowest labour force participation rates (the proportion of people aged over 15 who are either working or looking for work) of all regions in NSW. In July 2019 the region's participation rate was 61.3% compared to the NSW rate of 65.9% and national rate of 66.1% (LMIP, 2019).

In addition, there is a high ratio of part-time to full-time employment that could disguise significant levels of underemployment. The 2012 Central Coast Quality of Life Survey found that 36.6% of the region's residents who worked part-time would like to work more hours.

In March quarter 2019 the Central Coast LGA had an unemployment rate of 5.3% compared with 4.5% for NSW and 5.2% for Australia. There are some areas within the LGA that continue to have unemployment rates that are consistently 1-5% above the LGA rate. These include Wyong 11.6%, Blue Haven-San Remo 9.7%, The Entrance 9.2%, Budgewoi-Buff Point-Halekulani 7.8%, Toukley-Norah Head 7.4%, Woy Woy -Blackwell 7.3%, Umina-Booker Bay 6.7% and Wyoming 6%. (Small Area Labour Markets, Dept of Employment Skills, Small and Family Business).

At July 2019 the unemployment rate for young people (15-24 years) on the Central Coast is 11.6% compared with a NSW rate of 10.0% (LMIP, 2019).

In 2016, 35,300 or 25.3% of the LGAs working residents travelled outside of the LGA to work, with the majority travelling two hours each way to Sydney (ABS Census 2016). Long term commuting is disruptive to the family in terms of time spent together, depletes individual energy levels and diminishes the ability to cope with family stress. It is also disruptive to the social structure of the community in terms of the ability and time to participate in community and recreation activities.

Another factor that has contributed to the Central Coast's persistent labour market disadvantage is the relatively low level of education attainment, with 14% per cent having a bachelor degree or higher, compared to 28.3% for Greater Sydney and 23.4% for NSW (ABS Census 2016). This is more pronounced in the former Wyong Shire with only 9% of residents aged 15 and over having a bachelor degree or higher and 45% with no qualifications (37.7% Greater Sydney and 39.1% NSW).

An analysis of the occupations held by the resident population shows that the four largest occupations in Central Coast LGA were:

- Professionals (18.6%)
- Technicians and Trades Workers (15.5%)
- Clerical and Administrative Workers (13.7%)
- Community and personal service Workers (12.4%)

Together, these four occupations accounted for around 60.2 per cent of the LGA's employed resident population (ABS Census 2016).

Data from the 2016 Census show that the main employing industries for residents in Central Coast LGA Shire were:

- Health Care and Social Assistance (15.3%)
- Construction (11.3%)
- Retail Trade (11.1%)
- Education and Training (7.7%)

The Central Coast has a relatively narrow job base with a high proportion of employment in 'at risk' industries, such as retail, as well as a high proportion of employment in service-based occupations provided by all levels of Government, particularly health care services. The region is under-represented in knowledge and business services (business services, professional services, technical services, finance) jobs. Growing the Central Coast economy and providing long term sustainable employment has been identified as a priority issue for the region (NSW Government, 2013; RDA Central Coast, 2014).

## 2.4 Lower levels of Income

Research identifies low family income as a central factor in shaping individual and family life opportunities. Income, low parental education and single parent family structure all impact on the life chances of children (*Jesuit Social Services & Catholic Social Services, 2015*)

The Central Coast LGA has a significantly lower income profile than Greater Sydney and NSW. In 2016 the median weekly household income was \$1,256 per week (compared to \$1,745 for Greater Sydney and \$1,481 for NSW).

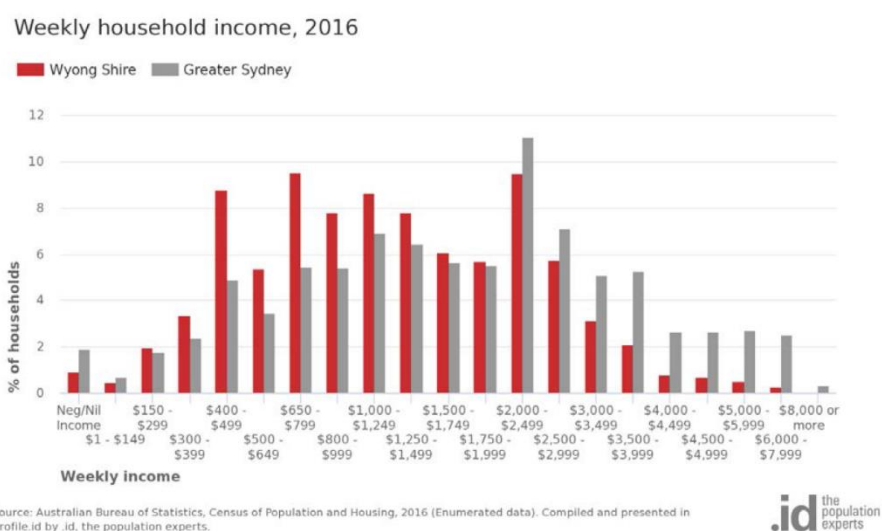
Median household incomes were around 70% of Greater Sydney, and a much higher proportion of local households were on very low and low incomes.

**Table 3: Comparative Median Weekly Household Income**

	Household income per week
Former Wyong LGA	\$1,185
Former Gosford LGA	\$1,331
Central Coast LGA	\$1,256
Greater Sydney	\$1,745
New South Wales	\$1,481

Source: profile.id ABS 2016 Census

Income levels are lower again for the former Wyong Shire LGA. A much higher proportion of households were in the very low to low income range (\$400 to \$1500 per week) compared with Greater Sydney, whilst a much lower proportion were on higher incomes, as shown in the graph below.



In 2016 only 13.3% of former Wyong Shire households had an income of \$2500+ (former Gosford 18.5%, Greater Sydney 28.3% and NSW 23.1%).

This can be explained by several factors:

- The large number of retirees on fixed incomes
- The large number of people dependent on welfare benefits
- The occupational profile of those employed

## 2.5 Families under pressure

The Central Coast has a higher proportion of one parent households (12.7%) compared to Greater Sydney (10.4%) and NSW (10.7%). 14% of households in the former Wyong Shire comprise one parent families and dependent children (ABS 2016 Census).

Many families moving to the Shire are moving away from their support networks or extended families and experience a sense of isolation and disconnection. The cumulative effects of long separation of working parents from children, limited leisure time and financial commitments have the potential to create high stress levels in families.

Central Coast Region has a high incidence of families in stress with high notification levels for child abuse and domestic violence

For children aged 0-19 years within the region, there are over 15,000 reports of child abuse and neglect with over 4,000 children at risk of significant harm (FACS, 2015).

In 2018 the Central Coast Local Government Area was ranked 48 out of the 120 local government areas (those that have populations greater than 3000) for the recorded rate of Domestic Violence related assaults. (BOSCAR, 2019)

For the 12 months to March 2019, the Central Coast had the second highest number of Domestic Violence Apprehended Violence Orders of all of the local government areas in NSW.

These issues are as a result of inadequate support services, family situation (unemployment, low income, low levels of parental education, housing stress and isolation), lack of appropriate parenting skills and strategies. In some cases children are being raised in families that have been receiving income support for most of their lives.

## 2.6 High levels of housing stress

Although the Central Coast has historically been an affordable area, a range of factors has made the area less affordable than Greater Sydney for local residents, with higher rates of housing stress and higher rates of growth of primary homelessness and those who are marginally housed. This provides particular challenges in the local demographic and housing market context.

Although housing in the Central Coast is still cheaper than the Greater Sydney average, the incomes of local people are also much lower than average largely due to the very high rate of older people on pensions and benefits, the high concentration of very low income renters, the influx of low income households from Sydney seeking affordable housing and improved lifestyle, and high levels of overall social disadvantage, particularly in the former Wyong LGA. The constrained supply of diverse housing options and of private rental and social housing is having a significant impact upon housing affordability in the context of a rapidly ageing population, increasing demand from the Sydney market and an increase in long-term rental among families and older people who can no longer afford home purchase.

The proportion of medium and higher density development in the LGA is much lower than the Greater Sydney average, and has experienced little or no proportional growth over the past decade. Apartments still make up 8% of stock as they did in 2006. Likewise, private rental makes up only 23% of dwellings compared with 30% for Greater Sydney, and the local rate of social housing is 3.7% compared with 5.1% for Greater Sydney despite the far higher rate of very low income renters (41% of renters compared with 29% for Greater Sydney).

There has been no proportional growth in private rental stock in the LGA since 2006, and an actual decline in the amount of social housing since 2011. This is directly related to the lack



of growth in medium and higher density housing, noting that around 55% of apartments and 35% of multi-dwelling housing is privately rented compared with only 20% of separate houses. The loss of more affordable caravan parks and Manufactured Housing Estates, and relative undersupply of more affordable housing types like New Generation Boarding Houses, is also having a serious impact on very low income renters and those more vulnerable in the local housing market.

In this context, increasing pressure from the Sydney housing market is placing significant pressure on the available stock of lower cost housing, and Central Coast residents are forced to compete in an increasingly competitive rental market. Virtually everyone who moved into the LGA in net terms since 2011 came from Greater Sydney; and 90% of these people were retirees and families on very low and low incomes, often continuing to commute to jobs in Greater Sydney. This exacerbates the effects of constrained local supply outlined above.

The impacts of this are being felt most acutely in the local rental market, where growth in rent for smaller strata dwellings has far outstripped Greater Sydney since 2009. Rents for a one bedroom apartment grew at more than double the Sydney rate (31% in the former Gosford and 28% in the former Wyong LGA compared with 13% for Greater Sydney, adjusted for inflation); and more than four times the Sydney rate of increase for two bedroom apartments in the former Wyong LGA (64% compared with 15%).

Only 2% of available rental stock in the Central Coast was affordable to very low income renters in a snap shot by Judith Stubbs and Associates in early 2018, noting that this group makes up more than 40% of all renters. The relative scarcity of rental accommodation at the more affordable end of the market, and the extreme pressure on existing supply, is contributing to the increasing numbers in housing stress, homelessness and marginal housing, even among groups who would once have been in more secure accommodation.

In 2016, there were around 24,200 households in the Central Coast LGA in 'housing stress' (paying more than 30% of their gross household income on housing costs) equating to one in five households. By far the most serious affordability problem is among very low income renters, who make up almost half of all households in housing stress in the Central Coast. When combined with low income renters, these groups make up almost two-thirds of those in housing stress. They are also far more likely than other target groups to be in 'severe' housing stress (paying more than 50% of their household income in rent).

It is projected that an additional 7,000 households will be in housing stress by 2036. Of these, 60% are expected to be smaller households (lone persons and couples) and 40% families with children. 'Rule of thumb' measures such as housing stress do not take into account the adequacy or security of housing, nor the high social and economic cost of commuting for the large number of workers who travel from the Central Coast to metropolitan Sydney each day, so the situation is likely to be far worse for many local people.

In this context, there was a 35% increase in homelessness in the Central Coast from 2011 to 2016. There are now conservatively estimated to be from 4,100 to 8,500 people who are homeless or marginally housed in the LGA. Although the rate of homelessness is still lower

than for metropolitan areas, 'rough sleepers' increased at double the Greater Sydney rate and people who were marginally housed grew at more than twice the metropolitan rate from 2011-16. More than 40% of people reported that they had been homeless for three months or more, and were thus at serious risk of chronic, long-term homelessness.

*(Judy Stubbs & Associates, 2019)*

### 3 Conclusion

While payment of Newstart and Youth Allowance is a Federal government responsibility, it is at a local level where the effects of poverty are felt. Social issues such as unemployment, homelessness, lack of affordable housing, poverty and domestic violence have significant impact on many residents within the Central Coast community.

In summary the Central Coast LGA is characterised by:

- 61,727 people living in low income households (<\$500 per week) (*profile.id*)
- 13,357 residents receiving Newstart or Youth Allowance (*data.gov.au*)
- An unemployment rate of 5.3% which is above state and national rates (*Small Area Labour Markets, March quarter 2019*), with some areas within the LGA experiencing unemployment rates of 6-11%,
- A youth unemployment rate of 11.6% (*Labour Market Information Portal July 2019*)
- Former Wyong LGA in the *most* disadvantaged 40% of areas within Australia on SEIFA Index of Relative Disadvantage
- Former Wyong LGA identified as an area of social disadvantage in the study *Dropping Off the Edge (Jesuit Social Services & Catholic Social Services 2015)*.
- relatively low level of education attainment, with 14% per cent having a bachelor degree or higher, compared to 28.3% for Greater Sydney and 23.4% for NSW (*profile.id*)
- Median household incomes around 70% of Greater Sydney (*profile.id*)
- 24,200 households in 'housing stress' (paying more than 30% of their gross household income on housing costs) equating to one in five households
- a 35% increase in homelessness from 2011 to 2016.

Raising the rate of Newstart and Youth Allowance will assist to reduce poverty, strengthen the social fabric and increase spending in local communities.

Central Coast Council recommends that the Federal Government raise the rate of Newstart and Youth Allowance by at least \$75 per week.

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**Item No:** 4.1  
**Title:** Investment Report for August 2019  
**Department:** Finance

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25 September 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting

Trim Reference: F2004/06604 - D13656221  
Author: Carlton Oldfield, Unit Manager, Financial Services  
Executive: Craig Norman, Chief Financial Officer

### **Report Purpose**

To present the monthly report on the investment portfolio as required in accordance with cl. 212 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*.

### **Summary**

This report details Council's investments as at 31 August 2019.

### **Recommendation**

***That Council receive the Investment Report for August 2019.***

### **Context**

Council's investments are made in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993*, *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*, the investment policy adopted at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 27 November 2017, Ministerial Investment Order issued February 2011 and Division of Local Government (as it was then known) Investment Policy Guidelines published in May 2010.

### **Current Status/Tender Submissions**

Council's current cash and investment portfolio totals \$465.90 million at 31 August 2019.

<b>Source of Funds</b>	<b>Value (\$'000)</b>
Investment Portfolio	\$425,442
Transactional accounts and cash in hand	\$40,459
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$465,901</b>

Council has a net inflow of \$ 29.49 million in August 2019, of which \$29.46 million relates to transactional cash accounts and \$ 0.03 million of Investments only.

This investment report will focus on the investment portfolio of \$425.44 million. Investments are managed primarily through term deposit and floating rate note maturities.

## 4.1 Investment Report for August 2019 (contd)

Total net return on the portfolio for Council, in August was \$ 841K, comprising entirely of interest earnings. The total value of the Council's investment portfolio as at 31 August 2019 is outlined in Table 1 below.

**Table 1 – Portfolio movement**

Description	2018-19	Jul-19	Aug-19	FYTD
	Financial Year \$'000	2019/20 \$'000	2019/20 \$'000	2019/20 \$'000
<b>Opening Balance</b>	467,254	445,661	425,411	445,661
Movement for the period	-21,593	-20,250	31	-20,219
<b>Closing Balance</b>	445,661	425,411	425,442	425,442
Interest earnings	13,017	950	841	1,791

Council's investments are evaluated and monitored against a benchmark appropriate to the risk (Standard and Poor's BBB long term or above) and time horizon of the investment concerned. Council's investment portfolio includes rolling maturity dates to ensure that Council has sufficient funds at all times to meet its obligations. A summary of the term deposit and floating rate notes maturities are listed in Table 2 below.

**Table 2 - Investment Maturities**

Time Horizon	Percentage Holdings	Maturity on or before	Value \$'000
<b>At Call</b>	1.96%	Immediate	8,344
<b>Investments</b>			
0 - 3 months	29.15%	Nov-2019	124,000
4 - 6 months	9.64%	Feb-2020	41,000
7 - 12 months	33.40%	Aug-2020	142,098
1 - 2 years	15.28%	Aug-2021	65,000
2 - 3 years	3.53%	Aug-2022	15,000
3 - 4 years	2.35%	Aug-2023	10,000
4 - 5 years	4.70%	Aug-2024	20,000
<b>Total Investments</b>	98.04%		417,098
<b>Total Portfolio</b>	100.00%		425,442

The investment portfolio is concentrated in AA above (65.92%), A (15.28%) and BBB (18.80%).

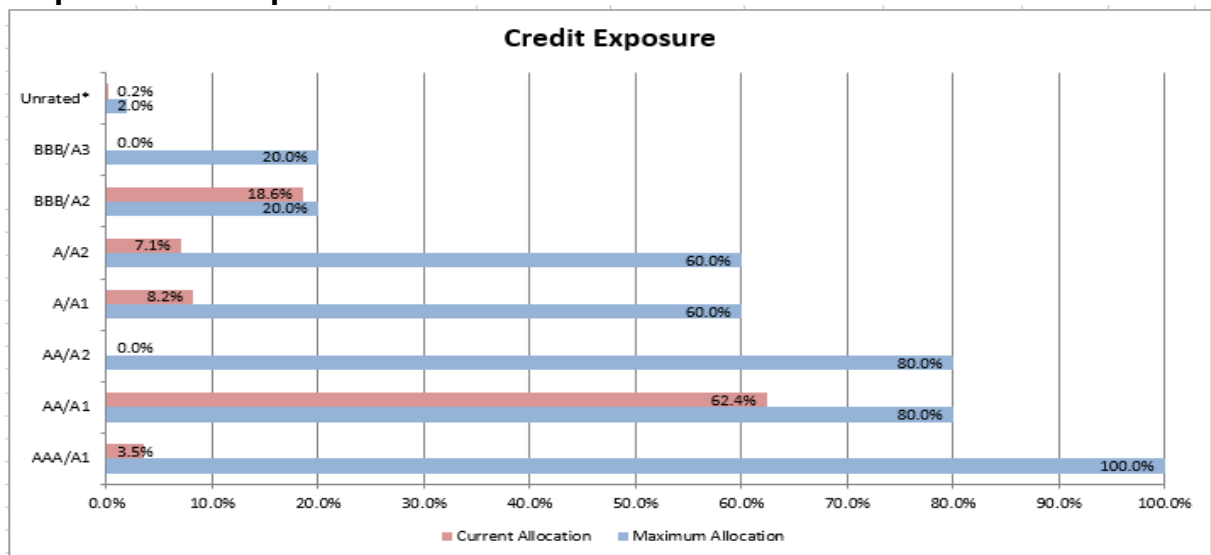
The investments in AA are of a higher credit rating and BBB represented the best returns at the time of investment within Policy guidelines. Financial institutions issuing fixed income investments and bonds are considered investment grade (IG) if its Long Term credit rating is BBB or higher by Standard and Poor (S&P).

## 4.1 Investment Report for August 2019 (contd)

Council continues to monitor the portfolio and manage investments taking into consideration credit ratings of financial institutions, interest rates offered for the maturity dates required and the amount of our investment portfolio already held with each financial institution.

The current spread of investments is listed in Graph 1 and counter party credit exposure is listed in Graph 2.

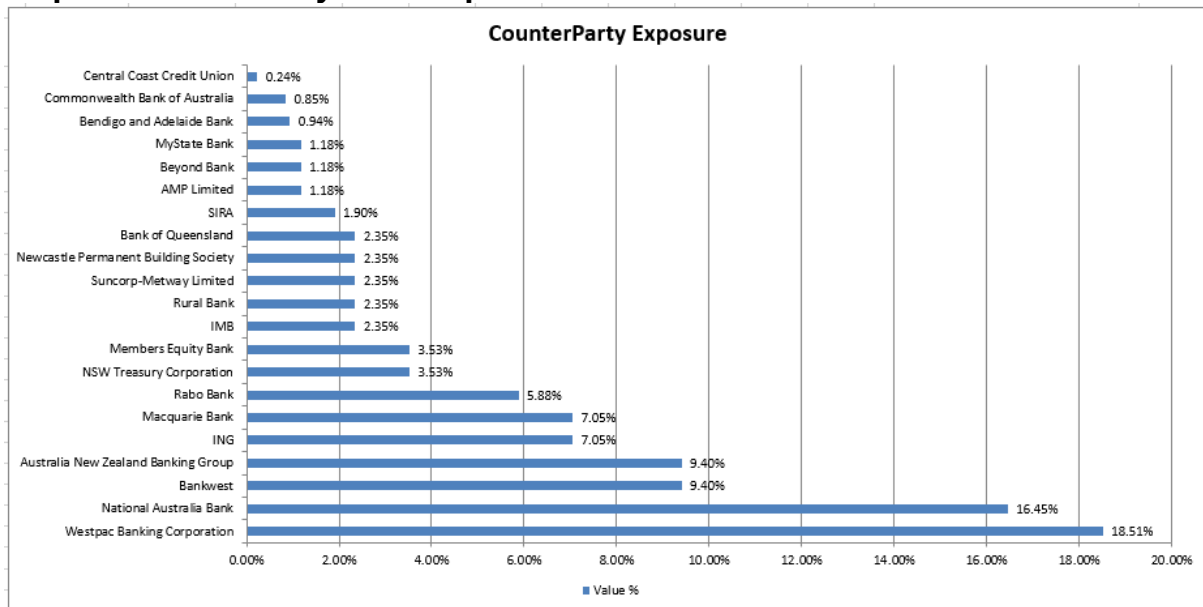
**Graph 1 – Credit Exposure**



\* **AA/A1:** Council has provided security for self-insurance by way of a term deposit invested in an ADI (with a short term S & P rating of A1) through State Insurance Regulatory Authority (formerly WorkCover NSW). This security has been included as part of Council's investment portfolio. Council regularly conducts a review to identify the optimal security providing Council with the best return possible.

\*\* **Unrated:** Unrated investment comprises of a term deposit with Central Coast Credit Union

Graph 2 - Counter Party Credit Exposure



## Green Investments

Council continues to look for 'Green' investment opportunities subject to prevailing investment guidelines. A list of current green investments held is contained on the investment listing, highlight in green. For the month of August, there have been no new green investments undertaken.

## Portfolio Return

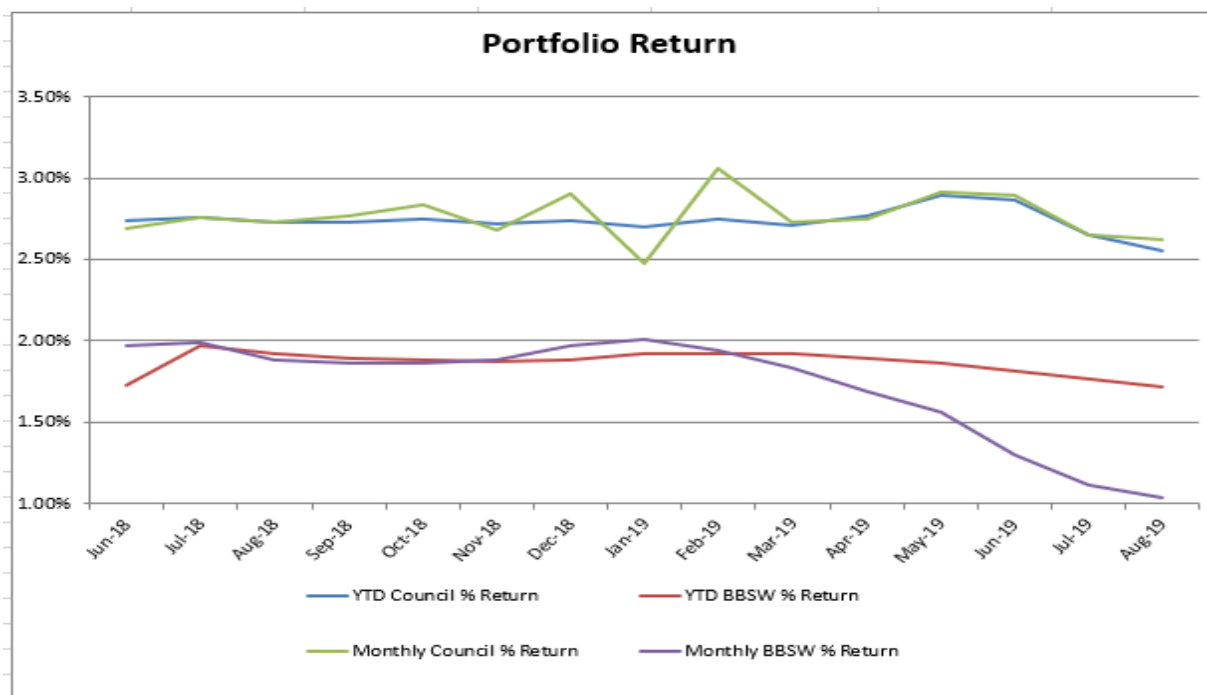
Interest rates on investments in the month, ranged from 1.20% to 3.50%, all of which exceeded the monthly Bank Bill Swap Rate (BBSW) benchmark of 1.04%.

The annualised financial year to date return for August of 2.56% is favourable compared to the benchmark bank bill swap (BBSW) *financial year to date* index of 1.71% as shown in Graph 3 - Portfolio returns.

It is noted that the recent drop in the cash rate by the RBA will have a further negative impact on the portfolio's return going forward.



## 4.1 Investment Report for August 2019 (contd)



### Council's portfolio by Source of Funds

Council is required to restrict funds received for specific purposes. Restricted funds consist of funds in the investment portfolio and in transactional accounts as follows:

Source of Funds	Value (\$'000)
Investment Portfolio	\$425,442
Transactional accounts and cash in hand	\$40,459
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$465,901</b>
Restricted Funds	\$412,724
Unrestricted Funds	\$53,176

The restriction values for August 2019 were not available at the time of the drafting of this report and will be used in next month's investment report.

### Link to Community Strategic Plan

Theme 4: Responsible

### Goal G: Good governance and great partnerships

R-G4: Serve the community by providing great customer experience, value for money and quality services.

**Attachments**

- |   |  |           |
|---|--|-----------|
| 1 | Summary of Investments by type as at August 2019 | D13656230 |
| 2 | Summary of restrictions as at 30 June 2019       | D13656249 |

<Bottom>

Central Coast Council Summary of Investments as at 31-August-2019							
Financial Institution	Type of Investment	Short Term Rating	Long Term Rating	Maturity Date	Portfolio Balance \$	As a % of the total Portfolio	Interest Rate %
<b>CASH AT CALL:</b>							
Westpac Banking Corporation	Corporate Investment Account	A1	AA	Daily	4,742,135	1.11%	1.10%
Bankwest	At Call Deposit	A1	AA	Daily	1,582	0.00%	1.29%
Commonwealth Bank of Australia	Business On-line Saver	A1	AA	Daily	3,600,000	0.85%	0.90%
<b>Total Cash At Call</b>					<b>8,342,716</b>	<b>1.96%</b>	
<b>TERM DEPOSITS, FLOATING RATE NOTES &amp; BONDS:</b>							
MyState Bank	Term Deposit	A2	BBB	03-Sep-2019	5,000,000	1.18%	2.85%
National Australia Bank	Term Deposit	A1	AA	03-Sep-2019	5,000,000	1.18%	2.80%
Beyond Bank	Term Deposit	A2	BBB	12-Sep-2019	5,000,000	1.18%	2.20%
Members Equity Bank	Term Deposit	A2	BBB	12-Sep-2019	5,000,000	1.18%	2.10%
National Australia Bank	Term Deposit	A1	A	13-Sep-2019	10,000,000	2.35%	2.01%
IMB	Term Deposit	A2	BBB	13-Sep-2019	10,000,227	2.35%	2.10%
AMP Limited	Term Deposit	A1	A	13-Sep-2019	5,000,000	1.18%	2.30%
Suncorp-Metway Limited	Term Deposit	A1	A	16-Sep-2019	5,000,000	1.18%	2.05%
National Australia Bank	Term Deposit	A1	AA	17-Sep-2019	10,000,000	2.35%	2.70%
Westpac Banking Corporation	Term Deposit	A1	AA	24-Sep-2019	4,000,000	0.94%	3.20%
Bankwest	Term Deposit	A1	AA	02-Oct-2019	10,000,000	2.35%	2.68%
Australia New Zealand Banking Group	Term Deposit	A1	AA	13-Oct-2019	10,000,000	2.35%	2.77%
Bankwest	Term Deposit	A1	AA	16-Oct-2019	10,000,000	2.35%	2.68%
Bankwest	Term Deposit	A1	AA	30-Oct-2019	10,000,000	2.35%	2.68%
Australia New Zealand Banking Group	Term Deposit	A1	AA	12-Nov-2019	10,000,000	2.35%	2.78%
Westpac Banking Corporation	Term Deposit	A1	AA	23-Nov-2019	10,000,000	2.35%	2.73%
ING	Term Deposit	A2	A	13-Dec-2019	5,000,000	1.18%	2.80%
National Australia Bank	Term Deposit	A1	AA	16-Dec-2019	10,000,000	2.35%	2.70%
National Australia Bank	Term Deposit	A1	AA	15-Jan-2020	10,000,000	2.35%	2.78%
Bankwest	Term Deposit	A1	AA	02-Jan-2020	10,000,000	2.35%	2.60%
Central Coast Credit Union	Term Deposit	Unrated	Unrated	15-Feb-2020	1,000,000	0.24%	2.75%
ING	Term Deposit	A2	A	26-Feb-2020	5,000,000	1.18%	2.89%
Australia New Zealand Banking Group	Term Deposit	A1	AA	02-Mar-2020	10,000,000	2.35%	2.50%
Westpac Banking Corporation	Floating Rate Note	A1	AA	05-Mar-2020	10,000,000	2.35%	BBSW + 0.77%
ING	Term Deposit	A2	A	12-Mar-2020	10,000,000	2.35%	2.55%
Westpac Banking Corporation	Term Deposit	A1	AA	17-Mar-2020	10,000,000	2.35%	3.10%
Australia New Zealand Banking Group	Term Deposit	A1	AA	19-Mar-2020	10,000,000	2.35%	2.55%
Members Equity Bank	Floating Rate Note	A2	BBB	06-Apr-2020	10,000,000	2.35%	BBSW + 1.25%
National Australia Bank	Term Deposit	A1	AA	14-Apr-2020	10,000,000	2.35%	2.58%
SIRA	Term Deposit	A1	AA	02-May-2020	8,098,000	1.90%	2.40%
Westpac Banking Corporation	Term Deposit	A1	AA	07-May-2020	10,000,000	2.35%	2.65%
ING	Term Deposit	A2	A	21-May-2020	10,000,000	2.35%	2.70%
Rural Bank	Term Deposit	A2	BBB	03-Jun-2020	10,000,000	2.35%	1.94%
Macquarie Bank	Term Deposit	A1	A	17-Jun-2020	10,000,000	2.35%	1.85%
Macquarie Bank	Term Deposit	A1	A	13-Jul-2020	10,000,000	2.35%	1.85%
Bendigo and Adelaide Bank	Floating Rate Note	A2	BBB	18-Aug-2020	4,000,000	0.94%	BBSW + 1.10%
Rabobank	Term Deposit	A1	AA	07-Sep-2020	5,000,000	1.18%	3.50%
Suncorp-Metway Limited	Floating Rate Note	A1	A	20-Oct-2020	4,500,000	1.06%	BBSW + 1.25%
Suncorp-Metway Limited	Floating Rate Note	A1	A	20-Oct-2020	500,000	0.12%	BBSW + 1.25%
National Australia Bank	Term Deposit	A1	AA	10-Dec-2020	5,000,000	1.18%	2.80%
Westpac Banking Corporation	Term Deposit	A1	AA	10-Dec-2020	10,000,000	2.35%	2.90%
Westpac Banking Corporation	Term Deposit	A1	AA	21-Jan-2021	10,000,000	2.35%	3.08%
Rabobank	Term Deposit	A1	AA	05-Jul-2021	10,000,000	2.35%	2.92%
Westpac Banking Corporation	Floating Rate Note	A1	AA	26-Nov-2021	5,000,000	1.18%	BBSW + 0.93%
Newcastle Permanent Building Society	Floating Rate Note	A2	BBB	24-Jan-2022	10,000,000	2.35%	BBSW + 1.65%
Rabobank	Term Deposit	A1	AA	12-Dec-2022	10,000,000	2.35%	3.18%
Westpac Banking Corporation	Floating Rate Note	A1	AA	27-Nov-2023	5,000,000	1.18%	BBSW + 0.93%
NSW Treasury Corporation	Bonds	A1	AAA	15-Nov-2028	15,000,000	3.53%	3.00%
Bank of Queensland	Term Deposit	A2	BBB	26-Aug-2021	10,000,000	2.35%	1.75%
Macquarie Bank	Term Deposit	A1	A	07-Aug-2020	10,000,000	2.35%	1.55%

Central Coast Council Summary of Investments as at 31-August-2019							
Financial Institution	Type of Investment	Short Term Rating	Long Term Rating	Maturity Date	Portfolio Balance \$	As a % of the total Portfolio	Interest Rate %
National Australia Bank	Term Deposit	A1	AA	15-Sep-2020	10,000,000	2.33%	1.59%
Total Term Deposit & Bonds:					417,698,227	98.64%	
TOTAL PORTFOLIO					425,441,943	100.00%	
Current					315,441,943	74.14%	
Non-Current					110,000,000	25.86%	
TOTAL PORTFOLIO					425,441,943	100.00%	

Green Investments

**SUMMARY OF RESTRICTIONS as at 30 June 2019**

<b>FUND</b>	<b>SOURCE</b>	<b>Principal Amount \$'000</b>
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	Cemeteries Surplus	806
	Contributions to works	6,906
	Developer Contributions	85,712
	Developer Contributions (Bonus Provisions)	5,003
	Developer Contributions (Prepaid)	1,802
	Developer Contributions (VPA)	2,608
	Holiday Park Surplus	10,168
	Internal commitments	81,989
	Other Crown Land	1,730
	RMS Advances	0
	Self Insurance	5,976
	Stormwater Levy	797
	Unexpended grants	10,214
	Waste Management (Tip Rehabilitation)	28,356
<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND RESTRICTIONS</b>	<b>242,067</b>	
<b>Water FUND</b>	Developer Contributions	38,195
	Contributions to works	48
	Developer Contributions (Prepaid)	59
	Developer Contributions (VPA)	1,116
	Internal commitments	873
	Self Insurance	798
	Unexpended grants	2,355
	<b>TOTAL WATER FUND RESTRICTIONS</b>	<b>43,444</b>
<b>SEWER FUND</b>	Contributions to works	
	Developer Contributions	20,921
	Developer Contributions (VPA)	396
	Internal commitments	955
	Self Insurance	2,131
	<b>TOTAL SEWER FUND RESTRICTIONS</b>	<b>24,402</b>
<b>DRAINAGE FUND</b>	Contributions to works	100
	Developer Contributions	30,408
	Internal commitments	66
	Unexpended grants	0
	<b>TOTAL DRAINAGE FUND RESTRICTIONS</b>	<b>30,574</b>
<b>DOMESTIC WASTE FUND</b>	Domestic Waste Management	71,133
	Unexpended grants	1,105
	<b>TOTAL WASTE FUND RESTRICTIONS</b>	<b>72,237</b>
<b>TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS</b>		<b>412,724</b>



**Item No:** 5.1  
**Title:** Question with Notice  
**Department:** Governance

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25 September 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting

Trim Reference: F2019/00041-02 - D13644032

## **5.1 Question with Notice**

The following question was submitted by Councillor Jillian Hogan:

### **Carters Road, Lake Munmorah Update**

*Could staff please provide an update on Carters Road, Lake Munmorah as per Notice of Motion 12 March 2018? What measures have been put in place to reduce traffic congestion? What were the outcomes of the feasibility study and subsequent next steps?*

The answer will be provided by Director Roads, Transport and Drainage on or before the 25 September 2019 Ordinary Meeting.

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The following question was submitted by Councillor MacGregor:

### **Road Rectification Work**

*Can Council please provide an explanation of how council identifies potholes and roads most in need of rectification work and how we are currently progressing with these road repair works in the CCLGA at the time of this council meeting?*

Response provided by the Director Roads, Transport, Drainage and Waste:

Council's Road Maintenance staff routinely undertake inspections of the road network to ensure that it is safe and fit for purpose in line with our current service levels. This inspection regime varies between 6 weeks and 3 months for local roads depending on the road hierarchy. As part of these inspections any defects, including potholes, are recorded with an appropriate action undertaken to schedule maintenance works. The timing for undertaking works to address these identified defects is assessed on a risk basis. For example, potholes deemed dangerous on our busiest local roads are made safe within 4 hours, whereas other less significant potholes are listed for repairs on the works programs to ensure effective use of limited resources and budgets.

Council also receives advice from the public reporting the location of potholes.

All reports are inspected, generally on the same day, with the pothole assessed for repair in accordance with the priority on the same risk basis.

## 5.1 Question with Notice (contd)

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Repairing of potholes also provides a safe road surface for residents and motorists travelling in the area. Council's Road Maintenance staff fill over 30,000 potholes annually using a variety of products dependent upon the road surface and the road hierarchy. The standard product for filling potholes is a hot-mix asphaltic concrete placed by hand. Additionally, Council also uses a mechanical method of applying bitumen emulsion with aggregate to fill potholes which allows the repairs to be carried out faster compared to that by hand. The mechanical method also causes much less disruption to traffic and less risk to Council employees.

During periods of wet weather, a specially formulated cold-mix is used to provide a longer lasting temporary repair. These types of repairs do not improve the overall condition of the road but are designed to ensure it is kept safe for traffic. Potholes filled with this material are monitored and, if required, are re-treated with the standard asphaltic concrete at a later date or alternatively until such time as a more permanent restoration or resurfacing can occur.

Pothole repairs are undertaken as a low cost maintenance measure to treat minor defects and prevent water from entering the road pavement. When water enters the road pavement it can lead to more substantial damage requiring higher cost renewal treatments such as road rehabilitation or resurfacing.

Council recently engaged industry experts to carry out an in-depth analysis of local and regional road roads within the local government area. This provided, for the first time, a full and fair assessment of the pavement condition for the 2,200kms of road network. Using the latest technologies such as an advanced laser profilometer, data was collected on road pavement condition. This information has assisted Council to improve management of the road network, define current issues and improve capital works planning.

Best practice pavement management involves the optimised application of a range of road treatments depending on road condition, road classification and traffic volumes, treatment history and maintenance cost. Treatments are triggered at different stages of the road's lifecycle to ensure the cost effectiveness of the treatment; to minimise ongoing maintenance expenditure and to limit road user costs i.e. crashes, delays and road closures.

Central Coast Council's pavement treatment strategy involves an optimised and balanced approach including:

- Stage 1 Early intervention preservation treatments such as crack sealing, asphalt rejuvenation, bitumen modified emulsion and micro-surfacing.
- Stage 2 Best practice resurfacing treatments such as heavy patch and reseal or heavy patch and thin asphalt.
- Stage 3 End of life rehabilitation treatments such as in-situ stabilisation, deep-lift asphalt and complete pavement reconstruction.

## 5.1 Question with Notice (contd)

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Council's uses an advanced Pavement Management System (PMS) to prioritise road segments, select treatment options and develop the Road Renewal Program. The Pavement Management System considers the existing road condition such as cracking, shoving, roughness and rutting and applies road deterioration models to undertake a full life-cycle analysis of treatment options that optimises the works program across the road network based on either budget constraints or a target level of service.

The 'raw' program of works produced by the Pavement Management System is then validated by field inspections, pavement testing and subgrade investigations to confirm the appropriateness of the modelled treatments and to confirm the full scope of works. Depending on the treatment and location the final scope of works may involve kerb and gutter replacement and sub-soil drainage in addition to the road renewal treatment.

In recognition of road network condition and community concern Council has significantly increased the investment into the Road Renewal Program. The increased investment is in addition to the depreciation component in an effort to provide an immediate improvement to network condition while the longer term investment strategies work towards network sustainability. Over the past few years, a stand-alone Heavy Patch Program has been introduced which allows early intervention on localised significant pavement defects to be addressed. As part of Council's 2019/20 Operational Plan, the Road Renewal Program is in the order of \$30 million which is broken down as follows:

Program	2019/20 Budget
Crack Sealing	\$76,900
Heavy Patch	\$2,000,000
Micro Surfacing	\$1,566,000
Regional Roads	\$1,000,000
Rehabilitation and AC	\$11,061,000
Rehabilitation and Seal	\$2,878,500
Reseal and Heavy Patch	\$7,171,001
Thin Asphalt and Heavy Patch	\$5,107,999
	\$30,861,400

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The following question was submitted by Councillor Pilon:

### **RPACC/Library**

*Can you please provide details of all costs including individual consultants fees currently spent on the RPACC/Library to date?*

The answer will be provided by the Director Innovation and Futures on or before the 25 September 2019 Ordinary Meeting.



The following question was submitted by Councillor Best

**Rangers**

*A matter was recently drawn to my attention that it is not appropriate for me to personalise however needless to say, I believe our Ranger Services ought to be congratulated for dealing with a potentially difficult and emotive issue with good measure and understanding around the circumstances. In this instance the Rangers would have been well within their rights to have enacted enforcement and possibly fines however, they have chosen to work with our Community and take a more conciliatory and educational path that has resulted in all parties moving on with improved understandings of their various obligations. I would appreciate if you could in a general sense pass on mine and indeed Council's appreciation for the contribution our Rangers make on a daily basis in often difficult circumstances.*

Response provided by the Director Environment and Planning:

Thank you Councillor Best, I will pass on your positive feedback.

**Attachments**

*Nil.*

**Item No:** 6.1  
**Title:** Deferred Item - Notice of Motion - Water Security  
Emergency  
**Department:** Councillor



25 September 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting

Trim Reference: F2019/00041-02 - D13657051  
Author: Greg Best, Councillor  
Jilly Pilon, Councillor  
Bruce McLachlan, Councillor

## Summary

At its meeting held 9 September 2019, the Council resolved as follows;

- 1 *That Council defer the consideration of items 6.5 and 6.6 to the Ordinary Meeting to be held on 25 September 2019.*
- 1 ***That with New South Wales now almost entirely in drought resulting in many sister Councils such as Armidale, Tamworth, Orange, Tenterfield, Cobar and Bathurst, facing 'zero day' (entirely running out of water) in the next six to twelve months, Council move to an emergency footing around our remaining water supply.***
- 2 ***That with the Central Coast facing scheduled Level 1 water restrictions by Christmas and less than four years supply remaining (no rain), the Hunter going into restrictions on September 19th for the first time in 25 years and Sydney triggering water restrictions, this Council now takes a proactive stance and triggers our restrictions early commencing at Level 2 at 50% of MCD, thereby potentially saving 16% of our total consumption.***
- 3 ***That Council recognises that simply moving to Level 2 restrictions immediately still allows our Community to water gardens and wash vehicles whilst substantially extending our dam life, prior to run out.***
- 4 ***That Council recognises the importance of civic leadership and the lessons learnt from the 2002-2007 drought when MCD reached 10.3%.***
- 5 ***That with MCD now at 51.9% Council uses the next seven weeks remaining before scheduled trigger to begin the Community awareness and education programs around our transition to greater water security.***

## Attachments

- 1 9 September 2019 Ordinary Meeting Report - Notice of Motion - Water Security  
Emergency D13657072

**Item No:** 6.5  
**Title:** Notice of Motion - Water Security Emergency  
**Department:** Councillor



9 September 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting

Trim Reference: F2019/00041-02 - D13648584

Author: Greg Best, Councillor  
Jilly Pilon, Councillor  
Bruce McLachlan, Councillor

Councillors Best, Pilon and McLachlan have given notice that at the Ordinary Council Meeting to be held on 9 September they will move the following motion:

- 1 That with New South Wales now almost entirely in drought resulting in many sister Councils such as Armidale, Tamworth, Orange, Tenterfield, Cobar and Bathurst, facing 'zero day' (entirely running out of water) in the next six to twelve months, Council move to an emergency footing around our remaining water supply.**
- 2 That with the Central Coast facing scheduled Level 1 water restrictions by Christmas and less than four years supply remaining (no rain), the Hunter going into restrictions on September 19th for the first time in 25 years and Sydney triggering water restrictions, this Council now takes a proactive stance and triggers our restrictions early commencing at Level 2 at 50% of MCD, thereby potentially saving 16% of our total consumption.**
- 3 That Council recognises that simply moving to Level 2 restrictions immediately still allows our Community to water gardens and wash vehicles whilst substantially extending our dam life, prior to run out.**
- 4 That Council recognises the importance of civic leadership and the lessons learnt from the 2002-2007 drought when MCD reached 10.3%.**
- 5 That with MCD now at 51.9% Council uses the next seven weeks remaining before scheduled trigger to begin the Community awareness and education programs around our transition to greater water security.**

#### **Councillors Note**

Councillors, I would like to thank you for supporting my Motion earlier this year to raise our restriction trigger levels up to 50%. Since this time, many events have conspired to apply even more pressure on our water supply. I have recently travelled from Brisbane to the Victorian border on leave and have taken time to witness first-hand the utter devastation that is occurring not only in our rural sector but along much of our Coast. This drought knows no bounds. It is beyond politics, it should not be second guessed or taken lightly.

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**6.5 Notice of Motion - Water Security Emergency (contd)**

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I am advocating that we show genuine leadership in managing this critical asset that we are entrusted to by more than 300,000 Central Coast Residents.

The Motion is self-explanatory. It seeks to take a proactive and leading role in what is emerging to be possibly one of our most significant challenges. The lessons learnt from the 2002 drought will place us in a more sound position. To put it simply and with a sobering perspective, if inaction is the order of the day and we are not blessed with rain, we will run 340,000 people, Residents, Ratepayers and Businesses out of water. Currently our Region consumes approximately 70-80 mega litres of water per annum and if the worst came to the worst and we had to construct our \$150 million, three year build Desalination Plant, it can only produce approximately 20 mega litres per annum. Even with this technology, our Region will severely struggle.

To sharpen focus around the task we are facing Climate Experts indicate a 70% chance of an El Nino forming in the next few months that will cement even lower rainfall patterns. Since the last major drought, climate variability has become a key issue. Also as in the past we will not be able to rely on the Hunter through a reverse flow in our Northern pipeline. We have forecasts of catastrophic bushfire season looming, thousands of more residents have arrived since our previous drought and the Christmas tourist influx will soon be upon us. It is incumbent upon us to act decisively and swiftly around this developing issue.

At the end of the day, to be prudent and to act will cost us little then the stark contrast that will occur around inaction. I believe our Community as they did in the previous serious drought will step up and will join us in working together to manage this emerging issue. I thank you on behalf of our Community in anticipation of your support.

To assist colleagues in your consideration of this critically important issue, I have taken the liberty of including the most recent Restriction Matrix and most recent Staff Report under water supply issues arising from my previous Motion earlier this year.

**Attachments**

- |   |   |           |
|---|---|-----------|
| 1 | Water Security - Ordinary Meeting 11 February 2019  | D13429083 |
| 2 | Water Restrictions modified after in accordance with resolution and also level 1 refined to reflect level 2 modificationsV1 | D02968729 |

**Attachment 1****Water Security - Ordinary Meeting 11 February 2019**

**Item No:** 3.4  
**Title:** Water Security  
**Department:** Water and Sewer

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11 February 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting  
 Trim Reference: F2018/01339 - D13429083  
 Author: Garry Casement, Section Manager Headworks  
 Manager: Luke Drury, Section Manager Water Services and Design  
 Executive: Bileen Nel, Director, Water and Sewer

**Report Purpose**

At its meeting of 10 September 2018, Council resolved:

- 947/18 *That Council notes New South Wales is now declared 100% drought affected and that extreme weather patterns appear to be prevailing resulting in less (than traditionally expected) annual rainfall.*
- 948/18 *That in response, Council now proactively and responsibly consider all water security options to optimise:*
- a Water usage on the output side.*
  - b Protect current and seek out alternate sources for water collection on the input side.*
- 949/18 *That Council review its water restrictions pathways with a view to adopting the most suitable and timely triggers for all levels of water restrictions.*
- 950/18 *That Council request the Chief Executive Officer report to Council on our general water security status and risk minimisation opportunities. Such a report should pay particular attention to the looming threats to our water security including:*
- a The possible approval of the Wallarah 2 Coal Mine and its effects on our water supply.*
  - b Climate Change*

**Summary**

Council has a number of plans, measures and activities in place to respond to the following variances and risks to water security:

- future water demand requirements and population growth;
- climate risks and changes;
- development that could impact water quantity and/or quality in the drinking water catchments;

- changes to regulatory requirements.

These plans are being reviewed and will be updated to enable Central Coast Council to respond to current and future needs.

### Recommendation

- 1 That Council note the contents of this report in regards to current water resource planning activities and drought response.**
- 2 That Council endorse the Chief Executive Officer to amend the trigger points for the introduction and removal of the existing stages of Central Coast water restrictions to those outlined in Table 1.**

### Context

Central Coast's Integrated Water Resources Plan, previously known as *WaterPlan 2050*, is the long term blueprint for managing the Central Coast's water resources that identified how to:

- further enhance the water supply system;
- continue to use water as efficiently as possible;
- develop additional future sources of water.

Council is undertaking a review of its Integrated Water Resources Plan as part of its ongoing planning, risk management activities and regulatory compliance. This is being undertaken in parallel and in close collaboration with the review of the Lower Hunter Water Plan being led by the NSW Department of Industry in conjunction with Hunter Water Corporation. The purpose of collaboration is to identify any mutual beneficial options available through greater cooperation between the two regions.

The Plan will also take into account NSW Department of Industry's *Greater Hunter Regional Water Strategy* which sets a foundation for better regional water management, covering the Central Coast, Hunter Valley and Mid-North Coast.

### 1. Water Demand

The long term water supply demand for the Central Coast is shown in Figure 1 below. Water restrictions were applied across the Central Coast from February 2002 to May 2012. Once water restrictions were removed, demand has not increased to pre-restriction levels even though there has been considerable population growth over that period. Total system demand has dropped from an average of 329 L/person/day in 2001 to 262L/person/day in 2018.

Attachment 1

Water Security - Ordinary Meeting 11 February 2019

Central Coast Weekly Water Demand

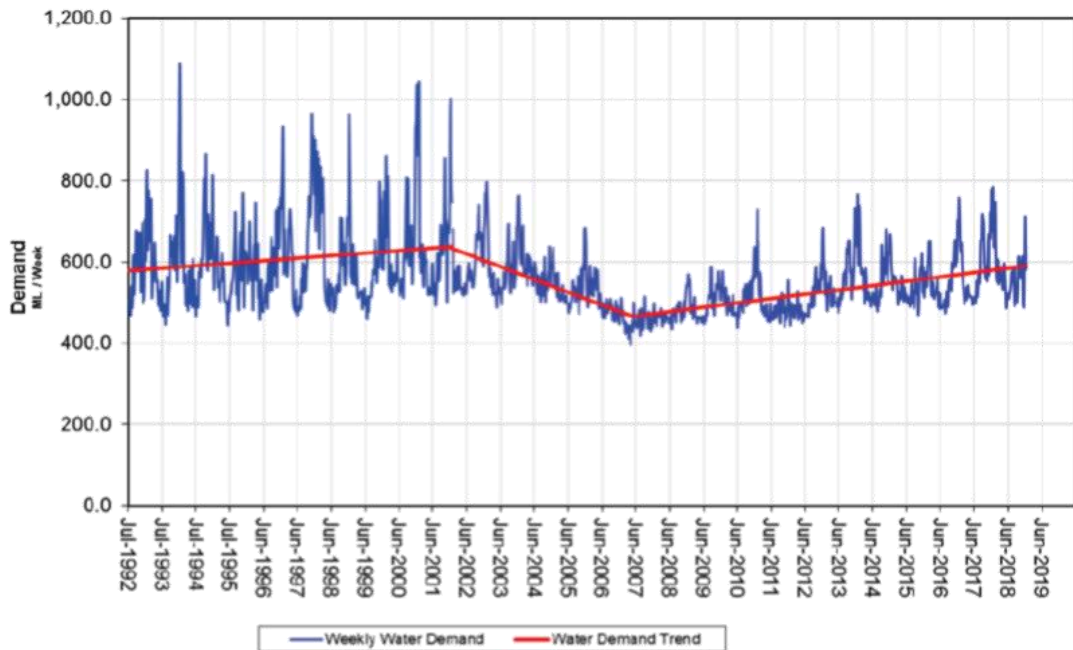


Figure 1 Central Coast water demand

**2. Water Supply**

Most of NSW is currently affected by drought including the Central Coast. Council has entered the current declared drought in a better position than when it entered the Millennium Drought .

This is reflected in the Water Storage Level in Figure 2 below which shows current storage levels are approximately 60% at the commencement of this potential drought phase as compared to levels approximately 45% prior to the Millennium Drought.

Attachment 1

Water Security - Ordinary Meeting 11 February 2019

Total Central Coast Water Storage

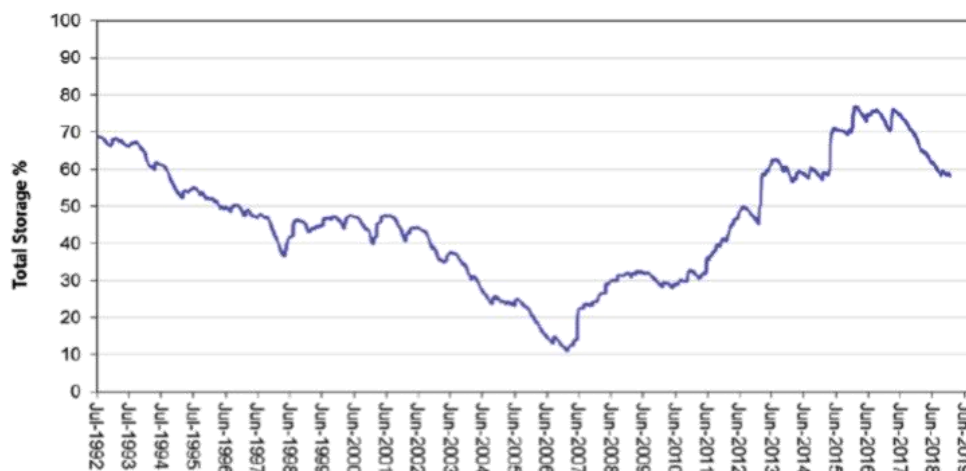


Figure 2: Central Coast water storage level

A number of improvements have also been made to the system that enables it to perform relatively better than during the Millennium Drought. Key improvements are shown in Figure 3, and include the following:

- A transfer main between Hunter Water and the Central Coast;
- A major link between the Mardi Dam and Mangrove Creek Dam including a new Wyong River pump station and fishway, Mardi to Mangrove Pump Station;
- Mardi Water Treatment Plant - Dual Power Supply;
- Mardi Dam to Mardi Treatment Plant Transfer system, including pump station and dam tower;
- The establishment of a number of small groundwater sources.

Since the Millennium Drought, increased environmental flow requirements for Wyong River have reduced Council's access to water during low to medium stream flows.

To address this, the Mardi Mangrove Link project included a larger pump station on Wyong River to extract more water during wet periods for storage in Mangrove Creek Dam. A new low flow fishway was also installed on the Wyong Weir to improve fish passage. This means that, on average, more water can be harvested for the water supply which it is done in a more environmentally sustainable manner.



Attachment 1

Water Security - Ordinary Meeting 11 February 2019



Figure 3: New assets and improvements since start of millennium drought

### 3. Risk mitigation opportunities

Council is currently undertaking a number of activities to proactively ensure water security for the Central Coast water supply.

The Water and Sewer Directorate has established the Drought Management Working Group whose functions are to:

- Monitor water demand and the effects of drought conditions on the Central Coast water supply;
- Review and advise on actions to manage emerging drought conditions.

Council is also investing in capital works such as:

- The \$7.8M Mangrove Creek Dam Spillway Upgrade and Capacity Restoration project which will enable Mangrove Creek Dam to be filled to 100% (from its current maximum operating limit of 80%) Under current plans this work would be completed by 2022.
- The \$61M Mardi to Warnervale Trunk Water Pipeline programmed to commence construction in 2020.

**Please note:** These capital works are subject to the IPART determination expected in May 2019.

### 4. Other Risks

Whilst improvements to the water supply system have been made and are continuing, a number of other risks that have the potential to negatively impact the security of the supply, such as:

1. Wallarah 2 Coalmine.
2. Greater climate variability than previously recognised and changes to the hydrologic cycle and demand.
3. Future water demand requirements.
4. Changes to regulatory requirements.

#### 4.1. Wallarah 2 Coalmine

The proposed Wallarah 2 Coalmine presents a risk to the streamflows that the Central Coast water supply sources from Wyong River. Council formally objected to the proposed coalmine proceeding on the basis of this and other risks and impacts.

Notwithstanding the risks the mine poses to the water supply, the conditions of consent contain compensatory water arrangements for the Central Coast water supply to offset the impacts on the amount of water available for the water supply. A no net loss of water condition was sought by Council and is considered essential. As the compensatory water

would be used as a raw water supply, the discharge water quality would need to meet broader parameters than just the usual environmental parameters.

#### **4.2. Climate Variability**

There is emerging research indicating that the climatic conditions in eastern Australia are more variable than the relatively short instrument records indicate (approximately 130 years). This has the potential to impact our understanding of the yield and security of the water supply as the duration, frequency and severity of dry periods may be more extreme than has been previously captured in the instrument records on which the system has been designed.

As part of the review of the Integrated Water Resource Plan, Council is reassessing the historical hydrology of the source catchments. To achieve this, a new rainfall runoff model is being developed for the source catchments using the eWater hydrology tools. These tools were established by the eWater Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) which established the National Hydrologic Modelling Platform. This is being applied in conjunction with more advanced rainfall data analysis that is now available.

The development of the new rainfall runoff model for the catchments will provide a better tool for modelling the impacts of changes to climatic parameters on the available stream flows and system behaviour. However, there is still significant uncertainty as to the level of change and rate of change of specific climatic parameters, particularly at the local scale.

To address the inherent uncertainties regarding future climate conditions, it is proposed that the analysis and options assessment incorporate system resilience criteria and identify possible future development pathways. This will allow for the ongoing development of a system that can accommodate and adapt to future conditions and opportunities as required.

#### **4.3. Future Water Demands**

Due to the long lead times involved with developing water supply infrastructure, a good understanding of the future water demands under various climatic conditions is required. There are a number of factors that influence demands including: population size/ demographics, socio economic factors, industrial/commercial activities, development patterns, housing types, water use behaviour, appliance efficiencies, customer service level expectations, development requirements, local climatic attributes and community response under drought conditions.

To better assess future demands, Council:

- has recently developed a water supply demand model to inform future water demand needs;
- is collaborating with other water supply organisations to improve understanding of water use behaviour and trends.

#### **4.4. Regulatory Changes**

Council's water business is highly regulated. Many standards and regulations have the potential to impact on the water security through changes in requirements affecting the ongoing development and operation of the water supply. Examples of issues that impact the water supply include:

- Changes to the assessment of extreme flood hydrology limiting the ability to fill Mangrove Creek Dam until it is upgraded;
- Regulations impacting Council's development and funding of the water supply.

Council manages these risks by keeping abreast of emerging regulatory changes, providing input to review process and amending plans as appropriate. A key consideration in developing longer term water supply strategies and options is to assess their resilience to a range of regulatory changes.

#### **5. Water Restrictions**

The Central Coast Council's water restriction rules and guidelines were last reviewed in 2011 following the completion of the Mardi to Mangrove Link project and partial storage recovery after the millennium drought. A copy of the current Water Restrictions Rules Matrix is shown in Appendix 1.

The level at which the water restrictions are triggered mainly involves balancing the duration/frequency at which restrictions are likely to be required against the risk of the storages declining to low levels.

Previous optimisation analysis (2010) for the water supply identified that in the longer term the initiation of level 1 water restrictions should occur when Mangrove Creek Dam storage level dropped to 50%. Similar increases were also identified for the other restriction levels, with the increases to occur as customer demand approached the water supply system's capacity (yield).

In light of emerging information on climate variability being more extreme than recognised in the previous analysis (likely lower yield), it is considered prudent to increase the restriction guideline triggers to the longer term levels identified in the 2010 optimisation analysis. In effect this would allocate the current excess yield capacity (while demands are lower) to reducing the risk of running out of water, rather than the current approach of allocating it to

**Attachment 1****Water Security - Ordinary Meeting 11 February 2019**

reducing the amount of time spent on restrictions. The consequences of increased time on restrictions are significantly less for a community than reaching critically low storage levels. The current water restriction guidelines along with proposed changes to these restriction level triggers is shown in Table 1 below.

**Table 1: Current Water Restriction Guidelines (Endorsed 2011) and Proposed New Levels**

Restriction Level	Initiate Restriction when Mangrove Creek Dam reduces to	Remove Restriction when Mangrove Creek Dam rises to	Target Reduction during restriction level	Proposed New Restriction Level. Mangrove Creek Dam reduces to	Remove Restriction Level when Mangrove Creek Dam rises to
	2012	2012		2019	2019
Level 1	42%	44%	8%	50%	52%
Level 2	34%	36%	16%	40%	42%
Level 3	30%	32%	24%	35%	37%
Level 4	26%	28%	27%	30%	32%
Level 5	22%	24%	30%	25%	27%

The restrictions are presented as guidelines that should be applied within the overall context of the relevant factors influencing the security of the supply such as:

- The seasonal outlook (for stream flows, rainfall and temperature);
- Achievement of the current restriction target;
- The timing and risk associated with any contingency water supplies, and
- Any other relevant information.

It should be noted that the trigger to remove restrictions is 2% higher than the trigger to introduce that restriction level. For example level 2 water restrictions would be introduced when Mangrove Creek Dam (MCD) dropped to 40 % but would change to level 1 water restrictions when MCD rose to 42%.

## 6. Drought Management Response

Council operates the water supply system to perform over a range of climatic conditions. This includes normal ongoing activities to reduce water demands on the system such as leak management and community engagement and education.

The operating rules incorporate triggers for utilising various sources to provide water security for the Central Coast. These include stream flows, water stored in dams, groundwater, inter regional water transfers and water restrictions.

However, in the event that the system was to undergo a prolonged and consistent decline associated with severe drought conditions, additional actions could be undertaken to extend the remaining supplies until storage levels were to recover. These include consideration of:

**Attachment 1****Water Security - Ordinary Meeting 11 February 2019**

- The establishment of a drought management forum with the NSW Government to coordinate agency drought responses;
- Introducing rebate programs to invest in water saving appliances and practices;
- Increased community engagement and education to further reduce water consumption;
- Consider desalination as a last option.

**7. Link to Community Strategic Plan**

Theme 4: Responsible

We're a responsible Council and community, committed to building strong relationships and delivering a great customer experience in all our interactions.

It is recognised that a secure water supply is essential for economic development and a liveable community.

**Goal H: Delivering essential infrastructure**

R-H4: Plan for adequate and sustainable infrastructure to meet future demand for transport, energy, telecommunications and a secure supply of drinking water.

**Attachments**

- |   |   |           |
|---|---|-----------|
| 1 | Water Restriction Rules                       | D02968729 |
| 2 | Wallahah Coal Project Compensatory Agreements | D13429551 |

## Attachment 2

## Water Restrictions modified after in accordance with resolution and also level 1 refined to reflect level 2 modifications V1

Current Water Restriction Rules						
Target saving	Anticipated Water Wise Rules 4 %	Level 1 8%	Level 2 16%	Level 3 24%	Level 4 27%	Level 5 30%
Lawns & Garden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Watering including with sprinklers and irrigation systems is permitted any day before 10am and after 4 pm to avoid heat of the day</li> <li>All hand held hoses to have a trigger nozzle</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No fixed hoses or sprinklers (including micro spray)</li> <li>Hand-held hoses (with a trigger nozzle) and drip irrigation systems can be used any day before 10am and after 4 pm to avoid heat of the day</li> <li>Watering cans may be used to water at any time on any day.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No fixed hoses or sprinklers (including micro spray)</li> <li>Hand-held hoses (with a trigger nozzle) and drip irrigation systems can be used for 1 hour a day on three days of the week, between the hours of 6.00 am - 9.00 am and 4.00 pm - 7.00 pm (Odd numbered homes Mon, Wed &amp; Sat, Even numbered homes Tues, Thur &amp; Sun)</li> <li>Watering cans may be used to water at any time on any day.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No fixed hoses or sprinklers (including micro spray)</li> <li>Hand-held hoses (with a trigger nozzle) and drip irrigation systems can be used for 1 hour a day on two days of the week, between the hours of 6.00 am - 9.00 am and 4.00 pm - 7.00 pm (Odd numbered homes Wed &amp; Sat, Even numbered homes Thur &amp; Sun)</li> <li>Watering cans may be used to water at any time on any day.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No hoses or sprinklers (including micro spray)</li> <li>Watering cans may be used to water at any time on any day.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All external use of town water banned</li> </ul>
Vehicle / Boat Washing**	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All road vehicles (including cars, trucks, caravans and cars in car yards) and boats and their trailers may be washed with a bucket or a hose provided a trigger nozzle or pressure cleaner is used</li> <li>Hose to flush boat engines is permitted</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All road vehicles (including cars, trucks, caravans and cars in car yards) and boats and their trailers may be washed with a bucket or a hose provided a trigger nozzle or pressure cleaner is used</li> <li>Hose to flush boat engines is permitted</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All road vehicles (including cars, trucks, caravans and cars in car yards) and boats and their trailers may be washed with a bucket or a hose provided a trigger nozzle or pressure cleaner is used</li> <li>Hose to flush boat engines is permitted</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All road vehicles (including cars, trucks, caravans and cars in car yards) and boats and their trailers may be washed with a bucket or a hose provided a trigger nozzle or pressure cleaner is used</li> <li>Hose to flush boat engines is permitted</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All road vehicles (including cars, trucks, caravans and cars in car yards) and boats may be washed with a bucket</li> <li>Boats trailers may be washed with a bucket or a hose provided a trigger nozzle or pressure cleaner is used (max 5 mins).</li> <li>Hose to flush boat engines (max 5 mins)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All external use of town water banned.</li> <li>Vehicles windows can be cleaned using a bucket.</li> </ul>
Hard Surfaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No hosing of paths and driveways.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No hosing of paths and driveways.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No hosing of paths and driveways.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No washing or wetting of any external surface is permitted, including paths, driveways, building surface, outside furniture or structures.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No washing or wetting of any external surface is permitted, including paths, driveways, building surface, outside furniture or structures.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All external use of town water banned</li> </ul>
Private Pools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Topping up of existing pools using a hose from the town water supply is permitted.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Topping up of existing pools using a hose from the town water supply is permitted.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Emptying and refilling of existing pools using a hose from the town water supply is not permitted.</li> <li>Topping up of existing pools using a hose from the town water supply is permitted.</li> <li>Filling of new pools from the town water supply is permitted.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Topping or refilling of existing pools using a hose from the town water supply is not permitted. A bucket may be used or supply other than the drinking water supply system.</li> <li>Filling of new pools from the town water supply is permitted.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Topping or refilling of existing pools using a hose from the town water supply is not permitted. A bucket may be used or supply other than the drinking water supply system.</li> <li>Filling of new pools from the town water supply is not permitted.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All external use of town water banned</li> </ul>
Bowling Greens, Golf greens & Cricket Pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Watering including with sprinklers and irrigation systems is permitted any day before 10am and after 4 pm to avoid heat of the day</li> <li>All hand held hoses to have a trigger nozzle</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fixed watering system up to 2hr per day 6.00 -8.00 am 6.00 -10.00 pm</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fixed watering system up to 2hr per day 6.00 -8.00 am 6.00 -10.00 pm</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Watering systems for a total of 1 hour per day on Monday, Wednesday and Friday between the hours of 6.00 am - 8.00 am and 6.00 pm - 8.00 pm are permitted.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Watering systems for a total of 1 hour per day on Monday, Wednesday and Friday between the hours of 6.00 am - 8.00 am and 6.00 pm - 8.00 pm are permitted.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All external use of town water banned</li> </ul>
Nurseries & Commercial Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Watering including with sprinklers and irrigation systems is permitted any day before 10am and after 4 pm to avoid heat of the day</li> <li>All hand held hoses to have a trigger nozzle</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fixed watering system up to 4hr per day -6.00 -8.00 am 6.00 -8.00 pm</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fixed watering system up to 2hr per day 6.00 -8.00 am 6.00 -8.00 pm</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Watering systems for a total of 1 hour per day between the hours of 6.00 am - 8.00 am and 6.00 pm - 8.00 pm are permitted.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Watering systems for a total of 1 hour per day between the hours of 6.00 am - 8.00 am and 6.00 pm - 8.00 pm are permitted.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All external use of town water banned</li> </ul>
Sporting Fields, School Ovals and Grassed Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Watering including with sprinklers and irrigation systems is permitted any day before 10am and after 4 pm to avoid heat of the day</li> <li>All hand held hoses to have a trigger nozzle</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fixed water systems three times a week between 6.00 -10.00 pm</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fixed water systems two times a week between 6.00 -10.00 pm</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All external use of town water banned.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All external use of town water banned.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All external use of town water banned.</li> </ul>
Water Cartage from Town Water Supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Permitted</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Permitted for domestic internal Use Only</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Permitted for domestic internal Use Only</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Permitted for domestic internal Use Only</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Permitted for domestic internal Use Only</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Permitted for domestic internal Use Only</li> </ul>
Auto Flush urinals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Timer controlled operation is not permitted.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Timer controlled operation is not permitted.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Timer controlled operation is not permitted.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Timer controlled operation is not permitted.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Timer controlled operation is not permitted.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Timer controlled operation is not permitted.</li> </ul>
Public Beach showers, fish tables and boat ramp taps.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Permitted.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Permitted.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Permitted.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Permitted.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not permitted.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not permitted.</li> </ul>
Customers with an annual demand greater than 3,500KL and hotels, motels, resorts, caravan parks and public pools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preparation and implementation of a Water Management Plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preparation and implementation of an approved Water Management Plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preparation and implementation of an approved Water Management Plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preparation and implementation of a Water Management Plan is required to achieve a minimum of 24 % reduction on pre restriction (2001) water usage.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preparation and implementation of a Water Management Plan is required to achieve a minimum of 24 % reduction on pre restriction (2001) water usage.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preparation and implementation of a Water Management Plan is required to achieve a minimum of 24 % reduction on pre restriction (2001) water usage.</li> </ul>
Voluntary residential target	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>150 Litres per person per day.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>150 Litres per person per day.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>150 Litres per person per day.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>150 Litres per person per day.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>150 Litres per person per day.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>140 Litres per person per day.</li> </ul>



**Item No:** 6.2  
**Title:** Deferred Item - Notice of Motion - Council welcomes the Central Coast Local Planning Panel  
**Department:** Councillor

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25 September 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting

Trim Reference: F2019/00041-02 - D13657118

Author: Jilly Pilon, Councillor  
Greg Best, Councillor  
Troy Marquart, Councillor  
Chris Burke, Councillor

## Summary

At its meeting held 9 September 2019, the Council resolved as follows;

*880/19 That Council defer the consideration of items 6.5 and 6.6 to the Ordinary Meeting to be held on 25 September 2019.*

- 1 That Council notes that the Central Coast Council is now managing a large and growing population and economy.**
- 2 That Council supports and recognises the position taken by the State Government, to appoint a Local Planning Panel to the Central Coast Council expected to commence early in 2020 for developments between \$5million and \$20million.**
- 3 That Council notes that the Local Planning Panel will consist of independent government-endorsed experts who make decisions on sensitive, complex and high-value development applications on behalf of council.**
- 4 That Council recognises this will bring greater transparency and accountability to our region's planning system.**
- 5 That Council acknowledges Independent reviews of existing panels in NSW have demonstrated they are performing very well to deliver better planning outcomes, which is why an LPP has been established for the Central Coast.**
- 6 That Council is aware this change has been backed by the Gosford/Erina & Coastal Chamber of Commerce, the Peninsula Chamber of Commerce, the Darkinjung Aboriginal Land Council, and the Central Coast chapter of Urban Development Australia.**



**6.2 Deferred Item - Notice of Motion - Council welcomes the Central Coast Local Planning Panel (contd)**

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- 7 *That Council notes that the panel will free up Councillors to focus on the long-term strategic planning to deliver the region's goals and priorities across its large jurisdiction.***
- 8 *That Council notes that Council can now focus on establishing the LEP which is overdue to set the planning guidelines.***

**Attachments**

- 1** 9 September 2019 Ordinary Meeting Report - Notice of Motion - Council Welcomes the Central Coast Local Planning Panel D13657128

**Item No:** 6.6  
**Title:** Notice of Motion - Council welcomes the Central Coast Local Planning Panel  
**Department:** Councillor



9 September 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting

Trim Reference: F2019/00041-02 - D13648664

Author: Jilly Pilon, Councillor  
Greg Best, Councillor  
Troy Marquart, Councillor  
Chris Burke, Councillor

Councillors Pilon, Best, Marquart and Burke have given notice that at the Ordinary Meeting to be held on 9 September 2019 they will move the following motion:

***That Council:***

- 1 Notes that the Central Coast Council is now managing a large and growing population and economy.***
- 2 Supports and recognises the position taken by the State Government, to appoint a Local Planning Panel to the Central Coast Council expected to commence early in 2020 for developments between \$5million and \$20million.***
- 3 Notes that the Local Planning Panel will consist of independent government-endorsed experts who make decisions on sensitive, complex and high-value development applications on behalf of council.***
- 4 Recognises this will bring greater transparency and accountability to our region's planning system.***
- 5 Acknowledges Independent reviews of existing panels in NSW have demonstrated they are performing very well to deliver better planning outcomes, which is why an LPP has been established for the Central Coast.***
- 6 Is aware this change has been backed by the Gosford/Erina & Coastal Chamber of Commerce, the Peninsula Chamber of Commerce, the Darkinjung Aboriginal Land Council, and the Central Coast chapter of Urban Development Australia.***
- 7 Notes that the panel will free up Councillors to focus on the long-term strategic planning to deliver the region's goals and priorities across its large jurisdiction.***
- 8 Notes that Council can now focus on establishing the LEP which is overdue to set the planning guidelines.***

**Attachments**

*Nil.*



**Item No:** 6.3  
**Title:** Notice of Motion - Council Seeks to Avoid Dismissal  
**Department:** Councillor

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25 September 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting

Trim Reference: F2019/00041-02 - D13659859

Author: Greg Best, Councillor  
Troy Marquart, Councillor  
Jilly Pilon, Councillor

Councillors Best, Marquart and Pilon have given notice that at the Ordinary Council Meeting to be held on 25 September 2019 they will move the following motion:

- 1 That Council notes with great concern recent media statements attributed to our State MP for Terrigal Mr Adam Crouch that identifies Council as being in "a state of chaos."**
- 2 That Council recognises that such a view could be considered a vote of no confidence in this Council .**
- 3 That Council now urgently seek to engage the State Government through offering a 'without prejudice' whole of Council Meeting, (i.e. All Councillors) with our respected State Member and his Advisors.**
- 4 That such a Meeting should seek to re-establish a more congenial working relationship whilst looking at various issues from a strategic perspective, important to our broader Coast Community.**

Councillors Note

In my some two decades now serving my Community on many Councils and working with numerous State Governments of all complexions, I have never witnessed a situation like this. For a respected State Member to feel the need to issue such a Press Release just highlights the level of frustration that now currently exists.

Councillors, I need not remind you that this Council only exists technically at the good grace of the Minister. This exact situation of dismissal occurred overnight in the lead up to amalgamation.

We now have an opportunity to build a strong working relationship with our State and Federal partners. a cohesive working relationship with our two key core funders who provide billions of dollars to Local Government is critical.

### **6.3 Notice of Motion - Council Seeks to Avoid Dismissal (contd)**

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We have an obligation to our Ratepayers to have a more harmonious relationship, however this does not exclude the need to from time to time to respectfully raise issues without fear or favour.

When one looks back over our public record Podcasts, some comments attributed to various Councillors are in my view politically charged, hurtful and unhelpful and the reaction we have now received is not unexpected.

Our Council 'Chamber' has recently just lost its Planning Powers (DA's over \$4 Million) . The Government has also sought to provide our largest landowner, The Darkinjung, with an independent process for Approvals, bypassing Council while the Joint Regional Planning Panel deals with all large developments. I do not believe the State Government is taking these measures lightly, however over the past two years this Council's track record around Development Application rejections and the staggering escalation of Land and Environment Court costs has in my view been the catalyst to strip away 'Councillors powers' .

Not to mention the insult to our professional Staff who with CEO Mr Murphy, work so diligently in making their carefully considered recommendations that are all too often rejected on spurious grounds. These actions over this term of Council alone has cost our Ratepayer \$10s of millions of dollars.

Please see Mr Crouch's September 9 Media Release attached.

#### **Attachments**

- |          |  |           |
|----------|--|-----------|
| <b>1</b> | 190909 Adam Crouch statement - Chaos at Council still no decision on \$4.6 million | D13659904 |
|----------|--|-----------|



## ADAM CROUCH MP

Phone: (02) 4365 1906 | Email: terrigal@parliament.nsw.gov.au  
Office: Shop 3 Fountain Plaza, 148-158 The Entrance Road (PO Box 3618) Erina NSW 2250



### MEDIA STATEMENT

Monday, 9 September 2019

### CHAOS AT COUNCIL: STILL NO DECISION ON \$4.6 MILLION

Tonight Central Coast Council has demonstrated itself to be in a state of chaos.

Despite receiving clear instructions from Infrastructure NSW to vote yes or no for the \$4.6 million Winney Bay Cliff Top Walk, Labor-Independent Councillors voted to make more changes to the project.

"Plan B" and "Plan C" options have been put forward, even though time has run out to consider new options. The Labor-Independent Councillors have dragged this Council into chaos.

Council has until 18 September to advise Infrastructure NSW it will proceed with the project, or else the \$4.6 million grant will be lost. Such an act would be a tragedy for the Central Coast region.

**MEDIA: Ben Sheath – 0403 767 636**



**Item No:** 7.1  
**Title:** Rescission Motion - DA/708/2018 - Multi-dwelling housing comprising 54 dwellings and community title subdivision - 7 Stratford Avenue, Charmhaven  
**Department:** Councillor

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25 September 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting

Trim Reference: F2019/00041-02 - D13656845

Author: Greg Best, Councillor  
Bruce McLachlan, Councillor  
Jilly Pilon, Councillor  
Troy Marquart, Councillor  
Rebecca Gale Collins, Councillor

Council, at the Ordinary Meeting held on 9 September 2019 gave consideration to a report regarding DA/708/2018 – Multi-dwelling housing comprising 54 dwellings and community title subdivision – 7 Stratford Avenue, Charmhaven.

At that meeting, Council resolved as follows:

- 1 *That Council defer the matter to allow for a site visit for interested Councillors and residents regarding traffic and road issues.*
- 2 *That Council in the interim request the Chief Executive Officer to seek advice as to whether an additional condition of consent can be imposed to regulate car parking on site and the likelihood of success.*

A Rescission Motion has been received from Councillors Best, Marquart, McLachlan and Pilon to be moved at the Ordinary Council Meeting of Council to be held on Wednesday, 25 September 2019, as follows:

*MOVE that the following resolution carried at the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 9 September 2019 be rescinded:*

- 1 *That Council defer the matter to allow for a site visit for interested Councillors and residents regarding traffic and road issues.*
- 2 *That Council in the interim request the Chief Executive Officer to seek advice as to whether an additional condition of consent can be imposed to regulate car parking on site and the likelihood of success.*

Should the above Rescission Motion be carried, further notice is given that Councillors Best, Marquart, McLachlan and Pilon will move the following motion:

*MOVE*

**7.1 Rescission Motion - DA/708/2018 - Multi-dwelling housing comprising 54 dwellings and community title subdivision - 7 Stratford Avenue, Charmhaven (contd)**

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- 1 *That Council grant consent subject to the conditions detailed in the schedule attached to the report and having regard to the matters for consideration detailed in Section 4.15 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and other relevant issues.*
- 2 *That Council advise those who made written submissions of its decision.*

**Attachments**

*Nil.*