



The Hon. Shelley Hancock MP
Minister for Local Government

Your ref: A4575467
Our ref: MD21/1265

Mr Dick Persson AM
Administrator
Central Coast Council
49 Mann Street
GOSFORD NSW 2250

By email: theadministrator@centralcoast.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Persson

I refer to your letter to the Premier, the Hon. Gladys Berejiklian MP, seeking financial reimbursement for emergency coastal erosion works undertaken at Wamberal Beach and The Entrance North Beach. I have been asked to respond to your correspondence as coastal management is in my portfolio responsibilities.

As you are aware, through the NSW Government Coastal and Estuary Grants Program, Council applied for and was awarded \$992,501 towards the emergency works at Wamberal Beach in November 2020. I have been advised that these funds have been provided to Council.

At the same time, Council applied for funding for emergency works at The Entrance North Beach. The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, which administers the program, determined that The Entrance North application did not meet the eligibility requirements under the program. As such, the Department did not approve the funding application.

The NSW Government is supporting Council with technical expertise to develop long term solutions at these locations. Since 2016, the NSW Government has provided seven grants totalling \$1,936,319 to support Council with coastal and estuary management across the Central Coast local government area.

I encourage Council to apply for grants for eligible works in certified Coastal Management Programs in future funding rounds.

I have arranged for Leah Andrews, Manager Contestable Grants – Coast, Estuary and Flood, Office of the Coordinator-General, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, to be available to speak with you if you have any further questions or concerns. Ms Andrews can be contacted on 9895 6533 or at leah.andrews@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Thank you for taking the time to bring this matter to the Government's attention.

Yours sincerely

The Hon. Shelley Hancock MP
Minister for Local Government

26 APR 2021