

Kerb and gutter

Frequently Asked Questions



1. What is kerb and gutter?

Kerb and gutter is a concrete structure typically located at the edge of the road. The main benefit of kerb and gutter is to protect the road from water entering under the road surface. This means the road surface condition is improved and there will be less potholes and defects in the road surface. Kerb and gutter also assists in alleviating stormwater drainage and road maintenance problems and acts a barrier preventing vehicles from leaving the road carriageway.

2. How much of the Central Coast's 2,200 kilometre road network has kerb and gutter?

Approximately 960 kilometres of the Central Coast road network or 60 percent of the urban road network has kerb and gutter on at least one side of the road. Approximately 300 kilometres or 35 percent of the urban road network has been fully upgraded with kerb and gutter on both sides of the road.

3. How are kerb and gutter projects prioritised?

Kerb and gutter is typically constructed as part of a full road and drainage upgrade project and not generally in isolation. In the right location it is the most effective means of protecting the road pavement and managing road drainage issues.

Council has an enormous task to provide kerb and gutter adjacent to all urban properties in the Central Coast region. Current funding

levels for this work mean it will take decades to complete. Therefore, projects are selected and prioritised according to strict engineering criteria including:

- alleviating stormwater discharge through private properties
- reducing ongoing maintenance problems
- resolving road drainage issues
- considering proximity to traffic generators including schools, hospitals, public transport, shopping centres, sports facilities and high-density residential areas.

Kerb and gutter for aesthetic purposes is given low priority.

4. Will I be asked to contribute to the cost of constructing kerb and gutter in front of my property?

No. Unlike most other Council areas, Central Coast has decided that residents will not be asked to contribute to the cost of kerb and gutter construction in front of their properties.

Under the Roads Act 1993, Councils can recover half the cost of kerb and gutter construction from the adjoining land owner and most Councils still do so. Central Coast Council chosen not to.

5. Should all roads be kerb and guttered?

In the right location, kerb and gutter is the most effective means of protecting the road pavement and managing drainage issues. However, in some locations the road will not

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be suitable for kerb and gutter and other options must be considered.

An example is an area with very flat topography and sandy soils. In these locations a water sensitive urban design option may be employed which would include a concrete edge restraint, grassed swales and stormwater infiltration pits.

6. Will kerb and guttering in residential areas solve parking issues?

Kerb and gutter by itself will not solve parking issues. On-street parking improvements generally require consideration of road width and carriageway alignment. In some areas the installation of kerb and gutter can make on-street parking more difficult.

Council enforces road rules including those relating to parking to enhance the safety of all road users, including drivers and pedestrians.

Council does not target parking in residential areas, with the exception of arterial roads and/or where safety issues exist.

Council will respond to complaints in residential areas, where compliance will be initially sought through education of the community member rather than issuing of a penalty notice.

Any other questions or feedback?

Please contact Council on 1300 463 954 during business hours.