

Draft Climate Change Policy

CONSULTATION REPORT

April 2019

Consultation Approach

Objectives of consultation

On 13 August 2018 Council resolved to place the draft Climate Change Policy on public exhibition. The resolution was amended on 27 August 2018 to include five community workshops across each of the five Wards during the public exhibition period. The draft policy was placed on public exhibition for five weeks, from Monday 4 February through to Friday 15 March 2019.

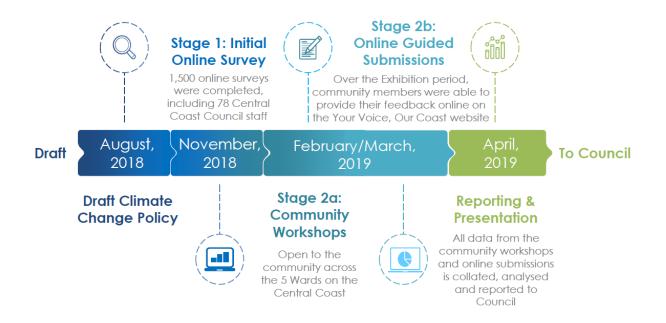
The purpose of consultation for the Draft Climate Change Policy was to:

- Seek and record community feedback about the draft policy
- Identify community sentiment about the commitment statements in the draft policy
- Identify the climate change themes that are most important to the community to help inform the next phase of engagement.

Our engagement framework

Consultation has been designed in accordance with Central Coast Council's Engagement Framework. This framework is available to view at <u>https://www.yourvoiceourcoast.com/Central-Coast-Council-Engagement-Framework</u>

How we consulted



Consultation tools

Method 1: Survey	 Between 12 November and 7 December 2018 Council undertook research via a survey to acquire community feedback about climate change, gauging a better understanding of how residents believe climate change may impact them personally as well as the local and regional environment. Additionally, this survey was undertaken to help obtain an understanding of awareness and attitudes towards the draft policy.
Method 2:	Between 20 February and 13 March 2019, Council held five
Community	workshops (one in each ward) for community members on the draft
workshops	Climate Change Policy.
Method 3: Online	Between 4 February and 15 March guided submissions could be
guided submission	made via yourvoiceourcoast.com. The online component aimed to
forms	reach those who were unable to attend the workshops.
Method 4: Mayor's	On the 30 November 2019, 38 year 10 and 11 students from nine schools participated in a Mayor's Youth Forum.
Youth Forum	The students heard presentations from guest speakers, and workshopped themes and issues at smaller breakout tables.

Promotion of activities

We carried out promotion of each consultation opportunity to ensure the community and affected stakeholders were aware of the opportunity to learn about the Policy and given enough notice to make a submission.

Media releases	Survey promotion:	
	 'Council survey kick starts Climate Change conversation with the community' - 12 November 2018 Workshop and public exhibition promotion: 	
	 'Draft Climate Change Policy Community Workshops kick off in February' – 4 February 2019 A copy of the media releases can be found in Appendix A 	
Print advertising	Survey promotion:	
	 Central Coast Express Advocate, 22 November Peninsula News, 19 November Coast Community News, 22 November Wyong Regional Chronicle, 27 November Workshop and public exhibition promotion: Central Coast Express Advocate, 31 January 	

	 Central Coast Express Advocate – Ad in DA section, 31 January Wyong Regional Chronicle, 6 February Central Coast Express Advocate, 7 February Central Coast Express Advocate – Ad in DA section, 7 February Peninsula News, 11 February Coast Community News, 14 February Central Coast Express Advocate, 14 February Wyong Regional Chronicle, 20 February A copy of the advertisements can be found in Appendix B
Dadia advartisian	
Radio advertising	 Workshop and public exhibition promotion: Southern Cross Austereo: 4 February until 12 March 2019 Star FM: 4 February until 13 March 2019 A copy of the script can be found in Appendix C
Coast Connect E- News	 Workshop promotion: Article in Coast Connect E-News issued 12 February Link to the yourvoiceourcoast.com page promoting the climate change workshops went out in Coast Connect E-News on 26 February. A copy of the Coast Connect E-News articles can be found in Appendix D
Social media	 Survey promotion: Facebook post on 19 November Twitter tweets on 19 November, 5 December and 12 December Workshop and public exhibition promotion: Facebook post on 8 March November Twitter tweets on 18 February, 4 February Copies of the posts can be found in Appendix E
Your Voice – Our Coast website	 Project page launched on 12 November 2018 <u>https://www.yourvoiceourcoast.com/terrigal-boardwalk</u> The page received 8000 views between 12 November 2018 and 15 March 2019.
Postcards	 Promotional postcards distributed at Council's customer service centers.

Method detail

Method 1: Survey

Council conducted a community survey to acquire community feedback about climate change, and gauge a better understanding of how residents believe climate change may impact them personally as well as the local and regional environment.

Additionally, this survey was undertaken to help obtain an understanding of awareness and attitudes towards the draft policy.

The data from the survey was collected via three methods:

- The survey was available online at yourvoiceourcoast.com between 12 November and 7 December
- The survey was emailed to a research company (Micromex) panel of Council residents who had previously been randomly selected to participate in community research. Each panel member received a survey link with a unique access code, with the survey available between the 28 November and 7 December 2018.
- A separate survey was additionally circulated by Council to Council staff directly for their participation.

A copy of community survey can be found in **Appendix F**

A total of **1,500** surveys were completed:

- 1,274 respondents participated in the survey via the link on Council's website
- 148 participated via Micromex's research panel
- 78 Council staff participated in the staff survey via internal circulation

Please refer to <u>Appendix H - Community Survey Report</u> for the key findings and analysis of survey results.

Method 2: Workshops

Between 20 February and 13 March, Council held five workshops (one in each ward) for community members on the draft Climate Change Policy. A total of **372** people attended a workshop.

Workshop details	Attended	Registered
Workshop 1: Wednesday 20 February Mingara Recreation Club Mingara Dr, Tumbi Umbi 6pm - 8:30pm	62	81
Workshop 2: Tuesday 26 February Erina Centre, Erina Fair Terrigal Dr, Erina 6pm - 8:30pm	123	175
Workshop 3: Wednesday 27 February Mantra Ettalong 51-52 The Esplanade, Ettalong Beach 6pm - 8:30pm	128	200
Workshop 4: Thursday 7 March Camp Breakaway 80 Highview Ave, San Remo 6pm - 8:30pm	22	37
Workshop 5: Wednesday 13 March Wyong Civic Centre 2 Hely St, Wyong 6pm - 8:30pm	37	75

Workshop format

Workshop breakout sessions were formatted as follows:

- 1. Themes and policy statements were printed in large format and displayed around the venue
- 2. After a presentation, participants were invited to work their way around each of the themes and policy statement and were asked:
 - Do you agree / disagree with each statement , or are unsure? Response were provided using dot points
 - Written comments were encouraged on each statement using post it notes
- 3. Council staff were at each of the theme areas / stations to address questions or concerns
- Topics that were not covered under specific themes / policy statements were collected at a separate area labled ' General' – participants were asked to add their commentary using post-it notes



A copy of the workshop agenda and themes can be found in Appendix G

Feedback from participants about workshop format

Eighty-nine percent of participants said that the workshop they attend was useful, with the biggest reason being that it was a great opportunity to hear ideas from Council and other community members, share concerns, provide feedback, and to have input in such an important issue. Other common reasons included being a great opportunity to talk to Council staff, make an impact and support the policy.

A common consensus among those who enjoyed the workshop was that it was well organised and had a good structure. In particular, regarding the format, there was a lot of positive feedback about the Q&A and the dots and post-it note system.

A key learning from the feedback was regarding the language used. Many people indicated the language had too much jargon and was acronym heavy, and the use of more simple language could have yielded higher engagement.

Other feedback as to what could have been done better included: more time for questions, better promotion of the workshop, and examples of what other councils are doing and how the draft policy compares to what other LGAs are implementing.

Quite a few people also mentioned that they would have liked to have seen more young people at the workshops.

Of the 11% who did not find the evening useful, the most common reason was because they found it too scripted. Additionally, a few people didn't find it useful because they felt that it didn't address the change in temperature enough or the future effects of climate change, they weren't given enough information and that they didn't get the answers they were looking for.

Below is a breakdown of how people found out about the workshop:

- Email: 46%
- Word of mouth: 18%
- Advertising in the paper: 16%
- Social media: 15%
- Other: 3%
- Poster: 1%
- Radio: less than 1%
- Preferred not to say: less than 1%

Please refer to <u>Appendix I - Community Consultation Stage 2 Report</u> for the key findings and analysis of results from the workshops.

Method 3: Online submission forms

Guided submissions:

A total of **141** online guided submissions were received as part of the exhibition period. Guided submissions could be made via yourvoiceourcoast.com. The online component aimed to reach those who were unable to attend the workshops.

The guided submission form determined the level of support and provided the opportunity for comments on the Policy Purpose, Strategic Principles and the 22 Draft Policy Commitment Statements.

Respondents were asked to rate each clause on a five-point support scale (similar to the sticky dot exercise used by the workshop participants):

- Not at all supportive
- Not very supportive
- Supportive
- Supportive
- Very supportive
- Unsure

NOTE: the participants may not have provided a rating for all 22 clauses, so the number of responses will vary per sizes will vary per clause.

Additional submissions:

A total of **195** additional submissions were received as part of the exhibition period. Many were from those that had attended the workshops and wished to provide further detail, feedback and information on their concerns or reason for support.

Additional submissions were also received from concerned residents in specific geographic areas who feel they will be directly impacted from this Draft Policy. For example, 70 identical submissions were received expressing the concerns of residents on St Huberts Island. Other submissions were from the general community, community groups (e.g. Community Environment Network, Northern Lakes Disability Tourism Precinct and Bouddi Peninsula Senior Citizens Association) and local businesses such as building and development companies, Australian Conservation Foundation and Central Coast Local Health District.

A wide range of key themes emerged from the additional submissions, with many very similar to those identified during the community workshops.

Please refer to <u>Appendix I - Community Consultation Stage 2 Report</u> for the key findings and analysis of results of submissions.

Method 4: Mayor's Youth Forum

On the 30 November 2019, **38** year 10 and 11 students from nine schools participated in a Mayor's Youth Forum.

The students heard presentations from guest speakers, and workshopped themes and issues at smaller breakout tables.

Students were encouraged to think about climate change, what's important now and in the future, and to look at the Central Coast region from a variety of perspectives.

Appendices

Appendix A

Media release

12 November 2019

Council survey kick starts Climate Change conversation with the community

Central Coast Council will kick start comprehensive engagement with the community on a draft Climate Change Policy with an online survey which opens today.

Council endorsed a draft Climate Change Policy in August 2018 for public exhibition. The draft policy provides a framework to support future actions around planning for the possible impacts of climate change. This will enable Council to align its operations and strategic planning with the NSW State Climate Change Policy Framework.

Council will now commence engagement activities with the community to ensure residents have the opportunity to learn more about the policy, participate in discussion and provide submissions to help shape the final policy to be adopted by Council.

Mayor Jane Smith said climate change is not only an environmental issue, but also an economic and social issue.

"It is crucial Council shows leadership in addressing climate change and its impacts through responsible planning and collaboration in the best interests of our community," Mayor Smith said.

"Council is serious about reducing emissions, energy efficiency, resilience planning and infrastructure protection and planning. This draft policy provides us with a clear pathway to become more resilient to climate change."

Consultation with the community will kick start with a short online survey where residents can view and provide initial feedback on the draft policy, express concerns about the possible impact of climate change as part of daily life and impacts on the Central Coast more broadly.

"I strongly encourage the community to complete this short survey and register their interest in working with Council to discuss planning for impacts of climate change so we can collaboratively work towards building a vibrant and sustainable Central Coast."

The survey will also give the community the opportunity to register their interest in the workshop series commencing in February 2019 to discuss the draft Climate Change Policy.

The survey is available at yourvoiceourcoast.com and will close on 7 December.

Media release

4 February 2019

Draft Climate Change Policy Community Workshops kick off in February

Central Coast Council has announced a series of community workshops to be held in each Ward across the coast as part of its public exhibition and community consultation on its draft Climate Change Policy.

Council endorsed a draft Climate Change Policy in August 2018 for public exhibition. The draft policy provides a framework to support future actions around planning for the possible impacts of climate change. This will enable Council to align its operations and strategic planning with the NSW State Climate Change Policy Framework.

As part of Council's engagement activities with the community, five community workshops will be held across the coast in February and March where the community will have the opportunity to build on their understanding of key themes around climate change and provide feedback on how they would like to be involved in future planning around these themes.

Mayor Jane Smith said it was vitally important that the community have a voice in the development of Council's Climate Change Policy and related strategies, plans and actions.

"The purpose of these community workshops is to further educate and work directly with the community to develop the first Climate Change Policy for the Central Coast," Mayor Smith said.

"We know the community have a very keen interest in climate change and there has already been a lot of discussion and commentary on the draft Policy and how it may impact the community.

"It is crucial Council demonstrates leadership in addressing climate change and its impacts through responsible planning and collaboration in the best interests of our community and we are doing this by involving the community every step of the way in this policy development.

"Council is serious about managing risk on behalf of and with our community.

"We need to reduce emissions to start solving the long term challenges of climate change but also adopt to the changes that we know are already happening."

Public exhibition starts today (Monday 4 February) and will run until Friday 15 March 2019.

Workshops will be held as follows:

The Entrance Ward

Wednesday 20 February 6pm – 8.30pm Mingara Recreation Club Mingara Drive Tumbi Umbi

Gosford East Ward

Tuesday 26 February

6pm - 8:30pm Erina Centre, Erina Fair Terrigal Drive, Erina

Gosford West Ward

Wednesday 27 February 6pm - 8:30pm Mantra Ettalong 51-52 The Esplanade, Ettalong Beach

Budgewoi Ward

Thursday 7 March 6pm - 8:30pm Camp Breakaway 80 Highview Ave, San Remo

Wyong Ward

Wednesday 13 March 6pm - 8:30pm Wyong Civic Centre 2 Hely Street, Wyong

To register for a workshop and receive a Climate Change Community Information Pack, go to www.yourvoiceourcoast.com/climatechange or contact Council on 1300 463 954.

Appendix B

Print advertising examples



Central Coast Council is developing the first Climate Change Policy for the entire region.

Join the conversation to learn more about climate change, view the draft policy and help us better understand your thoughts on how climate change may impact the local and regional environment.

Go to **yourvoiceourcoast.com/climatechange** to complete a short online survey, register for future workshops, and sign up to stay informed.

The survey closes on 7 December 2018.



yourvoiceourcoast.com/climatechange



Climate Change Community Workshops

Central Coast Council is developing the first **Climate Change Policy** for the entire region in consultation with our community. The draft policy will provide a framework for Council to develop strategies, plans and actions to adapt and mitigate the impacts of Climate Change for our local government area.

As part of the public exhibition, a series of Community Workshops to discuss the draft policy will be held in every Ward across the coast in February and March 2019.
The Entrance Ward Gosford West Ward Wyong Ward

Wednesday 27 February 6pm – 8:30pm Mantra Ettalong

Camp Breakaway 80 Highview Avenue, San Remo

51-52 The Esplanade Ettalong Beach

Budgewoi Ward Thursday 7 March

6pm - 8:30pm

The Entrance Ward Wednesday 20 February 6pm - 8:30pm Mingara Recreation Club Mingara Drive, Tumbi Umbi Gosford East Ward Tuesday 26 February 6pm - 8:30pm Erina Centre, Erina Fair Terrigal Drive, Erina Wyong Ward Wednesday 13 March 6pm - 8:30pm Central Coast Council Wyong Office 2 Hely Street, Wyong

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Public exhibition closes Friday 15 March, 2019.

To register for a workshop and receive a Climate Change Community Information Pack, go to yourvoiceourcoast.com/climatechange

Appendix C

Radio advertising script

Central Coast Council is developing its first ever Climate Change Policy.

The draft policy will provide a framework to develop strategies to adapt and mitigate the impacts of climate change.

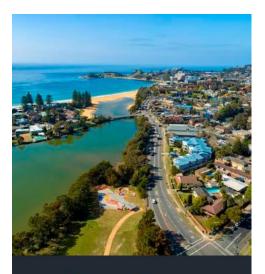
To learn more and have your say on the draft policy, go to one of five Community Workshops across the coast between February 20 and March 13.

To register for a workshop and receive your Information Pack, go to yourvoiceourcoast.com/climatechange

Feedback on the draft Climate Change Policy closes 15 March.

Appendix D

Coast Connect E-News



Climate Change Workshops

As a local council there is a lot we can do to ensure our community and the places we all love and look after are better able to cope with the impacts of climate change.

We have developed a draft <u>Climate</u> <u>Change Policy</u> to set guiding principles to continue preparing for this future.

Find out more

More across the Coast

25 February 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting Highlights

Climate Change Policy and Workshops

Buff Point Infrastructure Upgrades

Somersby to Erina Corridor Strategy

LEP/DCP planning controls

Appendix E

Social media examples

Council's Climate Change Policy Workshops kick off this week. The draft Policy will provide a framework to develop strategies, plans & actions to adapt & mitigate the impacts of climate change for our local government area. Register for a workshop today. ow.ly/ANwe30nrr9T



CLIMATE CHANGE COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS

9:55 AM - 18 Feb 2019

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Council's public consultation on its first ever Climate Change Policy is closing on Friday 15 March. If you haven't already had your say, make sure you jump online and let us know what you think.

The draft Policy will provide a framework for Council to develop strategies, plans and actions to adapt and mitigate the impacts of climate change for our local government area.

For more information and to make a submission go to www.yourvoiceourcoast.com/climatechange.

Public exhibition closes Friday 15 March, 2019.



Appendix F

Central Coast Council Community Survey – Climate Change November 2018

Thank you for your interest in this short climate change survey.

As we develop our first Climate Change Policy for the entire region your input in this initial survey will help us to better understand your thoughts on how climate change may impact the local and regional environment.

The survey has two purposes:

- To obtain initial community feedback about climate change, and
- To obtain expressions of interest from the community about participating in some workshops about climate change in early 2019.

This survey should take approximately five minutes to complete. Please answer all questions in one session as you cannot save and return to the questionnaire once it has been closed.

Whilst Council is hosting this online survey, we have asked local research company Micromex Research to help us analyse the results – Micromex will also manage the community workshops in 2019.

Please note that your responses to these questions will only be reported in aggregate form – and your name/contact details will not be shared with anyone else.

To answer the questions, either select one or more of the listed responses, or type in your response (please provide as much detail as possible).

Q1a. What is your age?

- O Under 14 years (Terminate)
- 0 14-17
- O 18-24 O 25-34
- 0 35 49
- 0 50 59
- 0 60 69
- O 70-84
- O 85 years and over

Q1b. What is your gender?

- O Male
- O Female
- O Other
- O Prefer not to say

Q2. Which, if any, of the following describe your involvement in the Central Coast Local Government Area? Please select all that apply. (MR)

- O I live on the Central Coast
- O I own a business on the Central Coast
- I am a senior manager (eg: General Manager, Store Manager, etc) of a business on the Central Coast
- O I work on the Central Coast
- O I own one or more properties on the Central Coast
- O None of the above

Q3a. [If 'live' on Q2] Thinking of where you live, how far away from the closest bushland/nature reserve are you? (SR)

- O Less than 100 metres
- O 100 metres to 1 kilometre
- O More than 1 kilometre
- Q3b. [If 'live' on Q2] And how far away from the closest <u>lake, estuary or ocean beach</u> are you? (\$R)
 - O Less than 100 metres
 - O 100 metres to 1 kilometre
 - O More than 1 kilometre
- Q4a. How, if at all, do you think <u>you personally</u> may be impacted by climate change in the future? Please provide as much detail as possible.
- Q4b. And how, if at all, do you think <u>the Central Coast region</u> may be impacted by climate change in the future? Please provide as much detail as possible.
- Q5a. Council has recently posted a Draft Climate Change Policy on the 'Your Voice Our Coast' webpage. Were you aware of this Draft Policy?
 - O No, was not aware of it
 - O I have heard of it, but have not looked at it
 - O I have looked at it very briefly (Ask Q5b,c)
 - O I have looked at it in some detail (Ask Q5b,c)
- Q5b. What, if anything, do you like about Council's Draft Climate Change Policy? Please provide as much detail as possible.

- Q5c. And what, if anything, do you dislike about Council's Draft Climate Change Policy? Please provide as much detail as possible.
- Q6a. In February next year, Council will be convening five community workshops across the Coast - full details about dates, times and locations are yet to be announced. The workshops will be held on week nights, and run for approximately two and a half hours each. Would you be interested in participating in one of the workshops to discuss the Draft Climate Change Policy in more detail?
 - 0 Yes (Ask Q6b, then go to Q7a) 0 No (Go to Q7a)
- Q6b. Please provide your details so we can notify you when workshop dates are announced.

Name [MUST PROVIDE]
Email [Preferred]
Phone
Suburb

Finally, some questions about you...

Q7a. What is your household type?

- 0 Single/living alone
- 0 Single parent (children at home)
- 0 Couple (children at home)
- 0 Couple (no children at home)
- 0 Group/shared household
- 0 Living at home with one or more parents
- 0
- Q7b. [Suburb NOI provided on Q6b] Which suburb do you live in?
- Other (please specify)

- Q7c. [If 'live' on Q2] Which of the following best describes the dwelling where you are currently living? (SR)
 - 0 I/We own/are currently buying this property
 - 0 I/We currently rent this property

Q7d. [If 'live' on Q2] How long have you lived in the Central Coast area? (\$R)

- 0 Less than 12 months
- 0 1 – 3 years
- 0 4-7 years
- 0 8 - 10 years
- 0 11 - 19 years
- 0 20 or more years

Q7e. What is your highest level of education? (SR)

- 0 Some high school
- 0 Higher school certificate
- 0 Vocational (TAFE, trade certificate, etc)
- 0 Advanced diploma
- 0 Bachelor degree or higher

Q7f. Are you of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin? (SR)

- 0 Yes
- 0 No

Q7g. Do you speak a language other than English at home? (SR)

- 0 Yes
- 0 No

Thank you for completing this survey and for expressing interest in attending a community workshop in February if you have done so.

We will contact you in the New Year once details of the workshops are finalised. In the meantime, please visit www.yourvoiceourcoast.com/climatechange for more information.

We would like all those who attend the workshops in February to have read the Draft Policy.

This market research is carried out in compliance with the Privacy Act, and the information you provided will be used only for research purposes.

Appendix G

Workshop Agenda

Item	Time	Presenter
Introduction	10 minutes	Facilitator
 Presentation: Myth busting Climate change overview What is a policy and why it's needed Draft Climate Change Bolicy evention 	15-20 minutes	Council officers
 Draft Climate Change Policy overview Key high level themes identified in initial survey 		
Workshop format explained	10 minutes	Facilitator
Workshop breakout	45 minutes	All participants
Workshop summary – what you said	20 minutes	All and Council officers
Q&A session	20 minutes	All
Close and next steps	10 minutes	Facilitator

Workshops themes and the topics covered

Property and Services	 Land use planning Planning controls Population growth Urbanisation Infrastructure planning Water storage and supply Drainage and catchment management Sewerage Waste Roads Recreation planning
Disaster Management and Coastal Hazards	 Disaster response Recovery activities Open beaches Resilience planning Storms

	Floods
	 Heat waves
	 Bushfires
Sea Level Rise and	Drought preparedness
	Rising sea level planning levels
Adaption	Estuaries, coastal lagoons and lakes
	Local area adaption planning
	Long term planning options
Biodiversity	Natural resource management planning
-	Urban greening
	Threatened species
	Ecosystems
	Wildlife corridors
	Riparian corridors
	 Natural areas and open space
	 Environmental living
	Scenic quality
Corporate	Whole of Council responsibility
Response	 Align greenhouse gas emission reduction targets with
Response	Australian and NSW Government
	Greenhouse gas inventory
	 Climate risk assessments
	 Energy Electricity generation (coal, cilland gac)
	Electricity generation (coal, oil and gas) Benerwahle energy supply (wind, color, and hydro)
	 Renewable energy supply (wind, solar and hydro) Battery storage
	Battery storage
	Energy efficiency
	Plant and fleet fuel use
	• Landfill gas
	Develop corporate framework for climate action
	Develop Climate Change Action Plan
	Innovation and technological investments in systems and
	evidence based planning for climate action
	Business community partnerships
	Community partnership
	 Community engagement and education
	 Social responsibility and accountability
General	Vulnerable communities
	 Community services (libraries, community centres)
	Food availability
	Liveability
	Transport
	Cultural heritage
	European heritage
	Employment opportunities
	Health services
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Appendix H

Community Survey Report

Available to download at:

yourvoiceourcoast.com/climatechange

Appendix I

Community Consultation Stage 2 Report

Available to download at:

yourvoiceourcoast.com/climatechange