

CORPORATE SERVICES

**ATTACHMENT 1**

ADOPTION AND ENDORSEMENT OF COMMUNITY  
STRATEGIC PLAN, DELIVERY PROGRAM (2022-  
2026) & OPERATIONAL PLAN (2022-2023) AND  
RESOURCING STRATEGY

**ORDINARY MEETING**

**29 JUNE 2022**

**From:** [haveyoursay@midcoast.nsw.gov.au](mailto:haveyoursay@midcoast.nsw.gov.au)  
**To:** [MidCoast Council](#)  
**Subject:** Make an online submission - Draft MidCoast Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032 Form Submission  
**Date:** Tuesday, 17 May 2022 9:27:09 AM

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Have Your Say logo



## Make an online submission - Draft MidCoast Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032 Form Submission

There has been a submission of the form Make an online submission - Draft MidCoast Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032 through your Have Your Say website.

**First Name**

[REDACTED]

**Last Name**

[REDACTED]

**Your email address**

[REDACTED]

**Your best contact phone number**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb**

Hawks Nest

**Postcode**

2324

**Please provide your submission here and/or upload your supporting documents below.**

Draft MidCoast Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032

1. Hawks Nest Tea Gardens is a tourist town we have different needs then other towns in our electorate, these should be considered with the zonings in our area.
  2. DAs are being presented to the community that exceed zonings, the community must put in multiple submissions. This is a waste of time for the community and also wasting taxpayers money having to sift through DA's when they clearly do not meet the zonings.
  3. Footpaths and infrastructure are lacking whilst new development applications are being considered when our towns already have problems catering to the community's needs.
  4. Green spaces should be allocated to oversized developments and if trees are removed, they should be replaced on the same block.
  5. Currently we are having an overwhelming number of DAs being presented to our community. Our towns are based on tourism, over half the houses in Hawks Nest are owned and used by the owners as holiday houses, we don't have a housing shortage in our area we have an issue with Unit blocks being built and being used for holiday purposes. We need homes so we can build a community based on families who move to the area. At present there is nowhere for them to move to.
  6. Not enough parking for boat or boat trailers, we are surrounded by waterways this should be considered we already have an issue at peak times with dangerous parking on roadways.
  7. Our koala population in town is slowly decreasing due to poor town planning around developments. When building in our town there should be space for koalas to roam through and over timber fences through yards of houses. House blocks should not be joined to create a unit block as this reduces the area for the koala to move. Trees should be planted on all streets to ensure food for the koalas.
  8. Our community recently attended a meet the councilors meeting in Tea Gardens, a lot of issues were raised, these issues should be noted as community input for the Draft MidCoast Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032.
  9. Midcoast council's website would be advantageous to all communities if there were tabs up the top that referred to different towns, this would make communicating to towns a lot easier and make searching for info easier as well. Forms to submit against developments should have a link on the DA page.
- Thank you for letting me have my say, please don't let the developers come in and ruin our town.

To view all of this form's submissions, visit

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tue, 17 May 2022 15:04:30 +1000  
**To:** "Have Your Say" <haveyoursay@midcoast.nsw.gov.au>; "MidCoast Council" <council@MidCoast.nsw.gov.au>  
**Subject:** 2022 Draft Delivery Program and Operational Plan or Resourcing Strategy

To MidCoast

In relation to the Long Term Financial Plan.

I would like council to clearly elaborate how they plan to bring the Operating Performance Ratio of the General Fund above 0.00%.

Quoted from the report " There are a number of areas that Council will need to review and change. A body of work is required to ensure that asset data is accurate and compete, service reviews will be required and significant engagement and conversations with the community will be required to set service levels that are affordable and deliverable and meet community expectations."

This does not clearly demonstrate the measures that are to be undertaken.

Cash transfer from the water and sewer funds to the general fund appear unbelievably high. Can the services that are delivered for these payment be elaborated on?

full return address:  
telephone number:

[REDACTED]

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**From:** "Have Your Say" <haveyoursay@midcoast.nsw.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 May 2022 11:02:40 +1000  
**To:** "MidCoast Council" <council@MidCoast.nsw.gov.au>  
**Subject:** FW: Community Strategic Plan

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 20 May 2022 7:14 PM  
**To:** Have Your Say <haveyoursay@midcoast.nsw.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Community Strategic Plan

Hi,  
I would like to make the following comments on the Draft Community Strategic Plan.

I believe that the plan needs augmenting as follows:

**Community outcome**

*Section 2.3 Need to incorporate advocacy for community scale batteries*

*Section 2.3.3 Need to incorporate renewable energy into all equipment purchasing.*

*Section 3.1 Need to incorporate 3.1.5 Advocate for improved access to medical - Hospitals and doctors.*

*Need to add support for medical practitioners moving to the various villages.*

**Performance Measures:**

*Section 2.1 Separate targets for reduction of threatened status for each species.*

*Section 2.3 Can immediately adopt no emissions for light vehicles by 2027 and light commercials by 2030.*

*Section 2.3 Need to set a target for emissions reductions for council's heavy vehicle fleet for 2027 and 2032*

*Section 2.3 Need to set a target for emissions for small plant and equipment for 2027.*

*Section 3.1 GDP needs to increase in proportion to population growth.*

*Section 3.1 Incorporate upgrading of the Manning Hospital facilities*

*Section 3.1 Incorporate increase medical practitioners to state average as a ration to population.*

Regards

[REDACTED]



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**From:** [haveyoursay@midcoast.nsw.gov.au](mailto:haveyoursay@midcoast.nsw.gov.au)  
**To:** [MidCoast Council](#)  
**Subject:** Make an online submission - Draft MidCoast Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032 Form Submission  
**Date:** Tuesday, 24 May 2022 2:31:13 PM

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## Make an online submission - Draft MidCoast Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032 Form Submission

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**First Name**

[REDACTED]

**Last Name**

[REDACTED]

**Your email address**

[REDACTED]

**Your best contact phone number**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb**

Taree

**Postcode**

2430

**Please provide your submission here and/or upload your supporting documents below.**

Response to DRAFT Community Strategic Plan

Recommendation 1:

- Ensure the CSP reflects that education is a core value and that the growth and development is a shared aspiration for the local community. This can be achieved by including the word 'education' within the main objectives of the CSP.

Addition requested:

Refer Community Outcome 3 on page 16 – please add education as an outcome.  
That is : A strong regional economy that supports education, business, and jobs growth

Recommendation 2:

Education to be reflected in the performance measures indicators on Page 34-35.

Education is a critical issue for the ongoing well-being and prosperity of the LGA.  
To be measured as in increase in the % of population with degree qualifications.

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wed, 25 May 2022 10:47:43 +1000  
**To:** "MidCoast Council" <council@MidCoast.nsw.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Re: General Urban Planning

Yes - please consider the contents of my email as a formal Submission in relation to Council's Strategic Planning program.

Thank you,  
[REDACTED]



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On Wed, 25 May 2022 at 09:03, MidCoast Council <[council@midcoast.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@midcoast.nsw.gov.au)> wrote:

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email dated Friday 20 May 2022.

**Would you kindly confirm whether the contents of your email are a formal Submission** in relation to Council's strategic planning documents which can be found [here](#). The documents are currently on exhibition until Wednesday 8 June 2022.

Should we not receive confirmation from you by Wednesday 1 June 2022 regarding your email it will be treated as a general enquiry and will be forwarded to the relevant Council Department for response.

*Please note that:*

- *Submissions are considered to be "open access information" in relation to the Government Information (Public Access) Act. By making a submission you understand and accept that it will be reproduced in full in a Council business paper and will then be available for inspection at Council's offices and on our website. For these reasons persons making a submission are advised to refrain from including personal and health information about themselves or other people, defamatory statements or abusive language within submissions.*

- *Personal information (such as name, address and contact number or email address) is required to process your request and will not be used for any other purpose without seeking your consent, or as required by law. Your submission will be retained in Council's Records Management System and disposed of in accordance with current legislation. Your personal information can be accessed and corrected at any time by contacting Council.*

Regards

MidCoast Council

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 20 May 2022 2:31 PM  
**To:** MidCoast Council <[council@MidCoast.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@MidCoast.nsw.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** General Urban Planning

Att General Manager.

Adrian,

It has been suggested that I contact Council to express my views and that of many others it would seem, regarding our thought on how our area should be developed.

It is apparent that a large number of residents of the Hallidays Point, Black Head Red Head Diamond Beach localities are concerned that our valued "village" lifestyle is under threat from several proposed developments, involving medium to high density residential DA's.

My feeling and that of many folk I have spoken to - is that we think that residential block size should be such that a "backyard" is catered for to allow playing space for children, a garden and room for some trees – I would suggest a MINIMUM of 450-500 square metres in size AND the residence no more than TWO storeys in height.

Other factors against any more concentrated type of urban development in our locality are –

The number of roads in and out of the area in the event of an emergency such as fires.

The overall lack of community facilities such as playing fields, cycle and walk ways.

Lack of off street parking for vehicles – already an apparent problem at the Edgewater development at Diamond Beach.

Roads that are inadequate for any increase in traffic volumes.

The generally undesirable effects that increased population density has on us humans.

It is apparent to me that we don't want to go the way Tuncurry, Forster, Port Macquarie etc., have gone with high rise, high/medium density residential dwellings.

It is not as if liveable land is in short supply in Australia – the fact that the type of development we are NOT in favour of is predicated by financial reward should not override the wishes of the existing community.

Thanks for taking the time to read this Adrian, and I look forward to your reply

Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows



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**From:** [haveyoursay@midcoast.nsw.gov.au](mailto:haveyoursay@midcoast.nsw.gov.au)  
**To:** [MidCoast Council](#)  
**Subject:** Make an online submission - Draft MidCoast Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032 Form Submission  
**Date:** Thursday, 26 May 2022 10:01:10 AM

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Have Your Say logo



## Make an online submission - Draft MidCoast Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032 Form Submission

There has been a submission of the form Make an online submission - Draft MidCoast Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032 through your Have Your Say website.

**First Name**

████

**Last Name**

██████

**Your email address**

██

**Your best contact phone number**

██████████

**Suburb**

Fporster

**Postcode**

2428

**Please provide your submission here and/or upload your supporting documents below.**

I submit that the area bounded by Lake St, Hadley St, Bennett's Head Rd and Alice St should be zoned for high rise, as the houses are generally old and on small blocks of land,

and the area is suited to development as a result of services already available and aspect..  
Lake St is a very wide main thoroughfare with all services and transport, and High rise  
apartments are the future, so close to town and within walking distance to beaches and the  
CBD.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thu, 26 May 2022 17:41:20 +1000  
**To:** "MidCoast Council" <council@MidCoast.nsw.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Have your say  
**Attachments:** council sub.cleaned.pdf

Attached please find my thoughts on a few subjects which will help to improve the area in which we live

Regards [REDACTED]

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**If using this form online**, for best results the form should be downloaded and saved to your computer. It can then be edited with Adobe Acrobat Reader. The latest version can be downloaded [here](#).

**Please note:**

If you are using Internet Explorer, forms will automatically open as a PDF. For other browsers, such as Google Chrome, some forms may not be displayed or submitted until they are downloaded and opened with Adobe Acrobat Reader.

## Your details

Name

Postal address

Suburb

Tea gardens

Postcode

2324

Email

Phone

Mobile

Submission relating to Tea Gardens/ Hawks Nest area

Submissions are considered to be "open access information" in relation to the Government Information (Public Access) Act. Should you choose to make a submission on the following page, that page will be reproduced in full in a Council business paper and will then be available for inspection at Council's offices and on our website. Where required, your information may be uploaded to the NSW Planning Portal and by making a submission you consent to such upload. For these reasons persons making a submission on the following page are advised to refrain from including personal and health information about themselves or other people, defamatory statements or abusive language within submissions.

## Declaration

A person making a public planning submission to Council must disclose if they have made any political donations or gifts to a MidCoast Council employee or councillor in the last 2 years.

If you have NOT made any political donations or gifts in the last two years, please tick the box below. If you HAVE made such a donation or gift, you will need to complete a Political Donations and Gifts Disclosure Statement with any submission. PLEASE DO NOT USE THIS FORM.

"I have not made a political donation or gift to any MidCoast Council employee or councillor in the last 2 years."

☐ I agree to this statement.

Name

Signature

Date

## Office use only

Reference number

Submission number

## Submission details

Reference number

Submission relating to

Tea gardens / Hawks Nest area

Address (if applicable)

## Your submission

- 1) I suggest that it is the best interests of all that The Skate Park is left where it is . It is in a good spot with available parking and as new homes are built in the likes of Parrys Cove it will service the area better. I think it could be improved with a few more obstacles if that is the term
- 2) It is important that the PAMP plan for our town is completed as quickly as possible . Especially the one way traffic for pedestrians on the bridge with the underpass on the south western side . Maintenance of the bridge is sadly lacking.
- 3)Re build the viewing platform at Winda Woppa as this was a draw card for nature lovers both young and old as it was a convenient place to view bird , fish and crusteans.Vandalism is not an excuse for not repairing or rebuilding . The Pindimar boardwalk is in a similar situation and yet is maintained and well used
- 4) Parking is a problem for the town and will become greater as the new homes and units go in. We need the carpark that was planned for Myall St to be done including a toilet block and talking about toilets our public toilets leave a lot to be desired they are all dark and dingy, smelly and generally not nice places
- 5) The carparks at Hawks Nest boat ramp and WindyWoppa swimming area where the shower is are simply a disgrace and need urgent upgrade
- 6) The painting of a mural on the water tanks above Shearwater . People were asked to put in suggestions which were done and all I have heard is that an artist has been chosen . Nothing about what has been decided as appropriate for the painting or when it will happen .
- All of the above have been discussed previously but the town hears nothing . Can the council show that they care and are interested in keeping the public informed surely a new topic " Where we are at " in the weekly wrap would not go astray, or maybe a simple spreadsheet would go a long way to stop questions and emails being sent to and from council to people seeking information

## Additional information may be attached

## How to lodge this form

Save this form to your computer and then attach, with any other additional information, to an email to [council@midcoast.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@midcoast.nsw.gov.au). The Email subject will be 'Submission relating to [Reference]'

Forward by Post; or

Lodge at our Customer Service Counters - Monday to Friday (Excluding Public Holidays).

**Privacy:** This information is required to assist with your application and will not be used for any other purpose without seeking your consent, or as required by law. Your application will be retained in our Records Management System and disposed of in accordance with current legislation. Your personal information can be accessed and corrected at any time by contacting us.

MidCoast Council | Yalawanyi Ganya | 2 Biripi Way Taree | PO Box 482 Taree

Phone 02 7955 7777 | email [council@midcoast.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@midcoast.nsw.gov.au)

[www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au](http://www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au)

## Office use only

Reference number

Submission number



27 May 2022

General Manager  
Midcoast Council  
PO Box 482  
TAREE NSW 2430

Dear Midcoast Council,

**Re: Response to the draft 2022-2032 Community Strategic Plan (CSP)**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the draft CSP.

Cancer Council NSW is committed to reducing the impact of cancer on individuals and the community. We are community funded and community focused. We believe health is central to urban planning that can create environments that promote cancer-smart behaviours and reduce exposure to known cancer risks such as solar ultraviolet (UV) radiation.

This submission outlines the importance of the role of built and natural shade in helping to protect the community from over-exposure to UV radiation, and makes specific suggestions for inclusion of shade and UV radiation issues in Council's draft CSP.

Cancer Council NSW works closely with key stakeholders to reduce the incidence of skin cancer by improving access to adequate shade in NSW. Cancer Council NSW is a key partner in the implementation of the [NSW Skin Cancer Prevention Strategy](#) (2017) which defines a comprehensive approach to reducing overexposure to UV radiation and ultimately the incidence of skin cancer in NSW. The Strategy is a multidisciplinary initiative lead by the Cancer Institute NSW which is an agency of NSW Health.

**Skin cancer in Australia and in your local government area**

Australia has the highest levels of UV radiation and the highest incidence rates of skin cancer worldwide, where two out of every three people are likely to be diagnosed with skin cancer by the age of 70. UV radiation from the sun causes 95% of melanomas and 99% of non-melanoma skin cancers in Australia. This means skin cancer is highly preventable. In the Midcoast LGA, the age-standardised incidence rate of melanoma between 2013 and 2017 was 79.3 per 100,000 population, which is higher than the NSW average rate.<sup>1</sup>

**The importance of shade in reducing the risk of skin cancer**

Quality shade, which is defined as a well-designed and correctly positioned combination of natural and built shade, can reduce solar UV radiation exposure by up to 75%. This makes shade a critical component to reducing overall skin cancer risk. Shade availability and accessibility are key to shade use; it needs to be readily

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<sup>1</sup> Cancer Institute NSW Statistics Portal <https://www.cancer.nsw.gov.au/research-and-data/cancer-data-and-statistics/cancer-statistics-nsw#/analysis/incidence/>

available across a range of outdoor spaces where children and adults live, work and play.

Councils have a responsibility for a range of health promoting activities intended to benefit their communities. Facilitating sun protection through thoughtful planning and designing of effective shade forms part of these responsibilities.

Prioritising natural shade for UV protection will also assist Council in achieving NSW Government urban heat management and healthy built environment priorities including:

- Achieving proposed tree canopy targets outlined in the draft NSW Urban Design Guide

Further information on shade is available via Cancer Council NSW's website such as:

- [The co-benefits of shade](#)
- [Cancer Council NSW Guidelines to Shade](#)
- [Cancer Institute NSW case studies of well-designed shade.](#)

### **Response to your Community Strategic Plan (CSP)**

Cancer Council NSW would like to commend your Council on mentioning the importance of providing shade in your recent Local Strategic Planning Statement. Council's CSP also plays a key role in ensuring the practical planning and delivery of shade.

Cancer Council NSW urges Council to add the following to your CSP:

- Ensure the value of shade for UV radiation protection and other co-benefits are fully recognised and acknowledge that there is currently a lack of quality shade in public spaces. This may have already been raised in the community engagement you undertook to develop the plan.
- Recognise that quality shade is an asset that is critical to ensuring the health, comfort and well-being of your community.
- The commitment to plan and budget properly in advance for built and natural shade in public spaces including playgrounds, parks, recreation and sporting facilities, active travel networks and town centres.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide comment on your draft CSP. If you would like any further support or information, please feel free to contact me via [Elizabeth.king@nswcc.org.au](mailto:Elizabeth.king@nswcc.org.au) or ph: (02) 9334 1760.

Yours sincerely,



Elizabeth King  
Chair, NSW Skin Cancer Prevention Strategy Shade Working Group  
Skin Cancer Prevention Manager  
Cancer Council NSW

**From:** [haveyoursay@midcoast.nsw.gov.au](mailto:haveyoursay@midcoast.nsw.gov.au)  
**To:** [MidCoast Council](#)  
**Subject:** Make an online submission - Draft MidCoast Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032 Form Submission  
**Date:** Monday, 30 May 2022 8:52:21 AM

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## Make an online submission - Draft MidCoast Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032 Form Submission

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**First Name**

[REDACTED]

**Last Name**

[REDACTED]

**Your email address**

[REDACTED]

**Your best contact phone number**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb**

HALLIDAYS POINT

**Postcode**

2430

**Please provide your submission here and/or upload your supporting documents below.**

Please consider increasing the amount of safe bike paths and walking paths to connect areas. For example, a bike path along blackhead road to Blackhead village would change

the lifestyle of so many families and retirees in Homestead and Tallwoods estates. It would connect our little town together and provide us all with safe, healthy options to access the beach. Please include bike paths in Taree and Forster towns as well. Thank you.

To view all of this form's submissions, visit

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**To:** [MidCoast Council](#)  
**Subject:** Make an online submission Form Submission  
**Date:** Monday, 30 May 2022 7:00:44 PM

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## Make an online submission Form Submission

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**First Name**

[REDACTED]

**Last Name**

[REDACTED]

**Your email address**

[REDACTED]

**Your best contact phone number**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb**

Taree

**Postcode**

2430

**Please provide your submission here and/or upload your supporting documents below.**

Hi

I have just had a read of your Draft Delivery program 2022 - 2026, and have noticed there is no mention of any works for cyclists, there is a healthy cycling community in the Mid Coast area, some trails connecting the local towns that will take cyclists away from the main roads would be good, by doing this you would attract cycling tourists from out of the area to ride the cycle paths, as an example I have ridden the Fernleigh track in Newcastle numerous

times and am meeting people who come from overseas and make a point of doing this ride as part of their holiday

Thank You



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**To:** [MidCoast Council](#)  
**Subject:** Make an online submission Form Submission  
**Date:** Monday, 30 May 2022 7:37:26 PM

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## Make an online submission Form Submission

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**First Name**

[REDACTED]

**Last Name**

[REDACTED]

**Your email address**

[REDACTED]

**Your best contact phone number**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb**

Wingham

**Postcode**

2429

**Please provide your submission here and/or upload your supporting documents below.**

Hello I would like to see council give due consideration in these future planning submissions for safe cycling in the Taree and Wingham area by firstly providing safer cycling accessibility and bike rack parking areas within the city centre to alleviate the dire parking issues we currently have and become a council that is looking out for the health and well being of community members by supporting healthy options for transport and getting people outside and exercising and promoting cycling for improved health and fitness by allowing

for safer cycling connections within the city centre and beyond. To the outer community areas such as Wingham and Tinonee and beyond. Promoting safe cycling for families can improve health and well being . Allowing for cycling commuter corridors in road planning along regular work travel routes can reduce traffic congestion during peak hours and also reduce constant parking issues within the city centre business precinct during working times. So many health and well being benefits for cycling too can be a big promotional boost for tourism in the area . Cycling holidays are becoming very popular due to increased petrol costs and wanting to holiday closer to home and by promoting the area as a safe cycling destination by providing safe cycling cycleways and cycle corridors for locals and visitors that travel to the area . Give the local community some safe cycling corridors between taree and the Wingham country community areas and Include cycleways in all new road designs and restructures with cycling shoulders available for cyclists to ride on roads with safe distance space from cars and especially in new residential planning designs make allowances for cycling paths . Please make the Taree to Wingham area and surrounds a cycle safe community . Please consider allowances for cycleways and safe cycle shoulders in all current and future road infrastructure plans .

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**From:** [Have Your Say](#)  
**To:** [MidCoast Council](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Delivery Program and Operational Plan or Resourcing Strategy  
**Date:** Tuesday, 31 May 2022 3:42:24 PM

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**From:** First [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 31 May 2022 9:56 AM  
**To:** Have Your Say <haveyoursay@midcoast.nsw.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Delivery Program and Operational Plan or Resourcing Strategy

Hello

I would like to request considerations for cyclists in the 10 year plan. Specifically I would like to request to include safe cycle corridors in the local area and include safe cycle shoulders for safe cycling in and around Taree and Wingham areas with all current and new road infrastructure plans . This promotes healthy active lifestyles and impacts positively on mental health and wellbeing.

I would love to see more cyclists to feel safe riding on our roads. With all the current road restructures now is the time to ask for these road changes to include safe cycle shoulders and new cycle safe corridors established in the local area.

Thank you

[REDACTED]

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**Subject:** Make an online submission - Draft MidCoast Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032 Form Submission  
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## Make an online submission - Draft MidCoast Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032 Form Submission

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4<sup>th</sup> June, 2022

The Mayor and Councillors of Mid Coast Council

“ By Email”

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

***Draft Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032-Feedback Submission***

Having reviewed the above document, I submit the following comments, suggestions and recommendations for change for your consideration as follows:

The CSP is the highest-level strategic planning undertaken by Council for a 10+ year timeframe. All other plans (e.g Delivery Program, Operational Plan & Budget, Resourcing Strategy) must support its objectives.

***1. Financial Management a key strategic objective***

Whilst it is admirable to have a long-term vision of where Council wants their LGA to be in the future driven by the outlined aspirational strategic objectives, values and vision the reality is nothing is possible if there are inadequate finances.

As reported in the media, the Central Coast Council is now in administration due to reported serious financial mismanagement and the use of millions of unrestricted funds. As a consequence, ratepayers in the Central Coast LGA now reportedly face significant rate hikes, increased borrowings and interest repayments and reductions in Council staff.

Community Outcome 4 in the CSP is strong leadership and good governance. This Community Outcome states Council is focused on being sustainable, well governed and delivering the best outcomes. Strategic Objective 4.2 requires only that “ governance ensures decisions and transactions are ethical, efficient, safe and fair”. Nowhere in any of the stated strategic objectives for Community Outcome 4 is there a requirement to exercise fiscal responsibility and sound financial management. Whilst this may be elementary and a statutory requirement, it is recommended nonetheless that it should be clearly stated as a strategic objective.

***2. A Changing World***

The downside with long term strategic planning is that circumstances beyond the control of Council can change such as the pandemic, global economic environment, geopolitical risks and a change of Federal or State government. This necessitates revisiting what are the key priorities in the immediate and medium term and making appropriate adjustments. It is recommended therefore the CSP should include the stated ability for Council to make adjustments. It is also suggested the CSP include an appropriate qualification that Council can where necessary suspend any strategic objectives in the Community Outcomes in such circumstances.

### *3. Prioritizing and Funding Advocacy*

Prioritizing the strategic objectives in the four community outcomes in the CSP would also align with the best outcomes for the community with what is really important. For example, climate change demonstrated through extreme and unpredictable weather events over recent years has and will continue to negatively impact communities, livelihoods, built infrastructure including community assets and property values. Another key priority is increasing the supply of available land for more social and affordable housing to attract the younger generations to not only balance the aging demographic in the LGA but also to bring much needed skill sets, labour and innovation which in turn helps development of the economy. Priorities like climate change and more affordable social housing may also feed into eligibility for available funding through grants (in whatever form) from the new Labor Federal government where Councillors have accountability for advocacy in seeking additional funding.

More importantly there needs to be a lot more additional funding for the critical strategic objectives outlined in the CSP which are supported through both the Delivery Program and Operational Plan, for instance climate change, customer service, development assessment, economic development and local and regional roads. In this context, it was noted that in the breakdown of service area expenditure for 2022/23 on page thirty-two (32) of the Delivery Program only \$35,961 was allocated to resilience and recovery services and \$1,686,458 allocated to Stormwater Drainage, Flooding and Coastal Engineering. Both service areas relating to climate change represent only 0.4187% of the total projected LGA expenditure. Irrespective of what sources funding is made available for the relevant strategic objectives related to climate change clearly significant additional funding is required to be meaningful in delivery of the desired outcomes.

### *4. Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework*

With respect to the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework (I.P&R) on page 9 of the CSP there seems to be a serious dislocation between the narrative and the diagram of the framework. The narrative description provided for the I.P&R framework includes the statements "Council planning should be linked to community priorities". It then states that the framework is made up of several different plans which when looked at together show amongst other things "the community has expressed their vision and priorities" and "community members, community groups and others can play an active role in shaping the future". As reported in the May 2022 edition of The Manning Community News on page 16, MidCoast Council adopted a recommendation which in simple terms means that Council no longer engages with communities directly to develop community plans. The logical result is that the I.P&R framework moving forward will be governed by State and Regional Plans, such as the Hunter Regional Plan 2036, and State Priorities which are expected to change leading into and after the next State election in March, 2023.

Given the local Mid Coast Council are elected by its people being ratepayers and are responsible to plan and service their LGA, logically active participation by their communities in planning would address local needs, issues and their future vision. It is obvious that with the Mid Coast LGA comprising 195 localities consisting of 58 regional centres, towns and villages across 10,000 square kilometres with different demographics local planning requirements need to be tailored with local community input to preserve both their unique identity and meet the strategic future vision of each town or village rather than a "one size fits all" approach.

It is suggested with respect that the narrative used for the I.P& R framework be amended to reflect the true position and aligned to the diagram.

Yours Sincerely

[REDACTED]

Telephone: [REDACTED]

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4<sup>th</sup> June, 2022

The Mayor and Councillors of Mid Coast Council

"By Email"

Dear Mayor and Councillors

***Draft Delivery Program 2022-2026 and Operational Plan 2022-2023 -Feedback Submission***

Having reviewed the above document, I submit the following comments, suggestions and recommendations for change for your consideration as follows:

***1. Structure***

As I understand it, legislation (the Local Government Act 1993) requires that this mammoth combined document covering some 287 pages should be unbundled into two distinct separate documents as follows:

***Delivery Program 2022-2026***

Council's commitment to the community about what it will deliver *during its term of office* to achieve its CSP objectives.

AND the:

***Operational Plan 2022-2023***

Shows the individual *projects and activities* a Council will undertake *in a specific year*. It includes the Council's budget and Statement of Revenue Policy.

In addition, the following observations and suggestions are made with respect to structure:

- The Income budget and service area expenditure for 2022/3 on pages 31 and 32 be moved to the Operational Plan
- The section titled Major Project Activities 2022/3 for each key service summary listed in the section Service Statements from pages 33 to 98 be moved to the Operational Plan.
- The Delivery Program should end at page 98 of the existing draft bundled document.
- The Operational Plan should include the Statement of Revenue Policy and the information contained in the first two bullet points above.
- The 10 Year Financial Plan on page 106 should be removed and instead form part of the Long-Term Financial Plan which is part of the Resourcing Strategy.
- The 2022/3 Rates and Charges document from pages 207 to 287 should be either referenced through a text hyperlink or made an Appendix as a separate document.

***2. Delivery Program***

Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework (I.P&R)

With respect to the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework (I.P&R) on page thirteen (13) of this document there seems to be a serious dislocation between the narrative and the diagram of the framework. The narrative description provided for the I.P&R framework includes the statements “Council planning should be linked to community priorities”. It then states that the framework is made up of several different plans which when looked at together show amongst other things “ the community has expressed their vision and priorities” and “community members, community groups and others can play an active role in shaping the future”. As reported in the May 2022 edition of The Manning Community News on page 16, Mid Coast Council adopted a recommendation which in simple terms means that Council no longer engages with communities directly to develop community plans. The logical result is that the I.P&R framework moving forward will be governed by State and Regional Plans, such as the Hunter Regional Plan 2036, and State Priorities which are expected to change leading into and after the next State election in March, 2023.

Given the local Mid Coast Council are elected by its people being ratepayers and are responsible to plan and service their LGA, logically active participation by their communities in planning would address local needs, issues and their future vision. It is suggested that as the Mid Coast LGA comprises 195 localities consisting of 58 regional centres, towns and villages across 10,000 square kilometres with different demographics, local planning requirements need to be tailored to the unique identity and future vision of each town or village rather than a “one size fits all” approach.

It is suggested with respect that the narrative used for the I.P& R framework be amended to reflect the true position and aligned to the diagram.

#### Expenditure

It is noted that in the Delivery Program 2022 to 2026 on page thirty one (31) there is an income and expenditure summary for 2022 to 2023 showing total income of \$310,983,010. On page thirty-two (32) there is a breakdown of the service area expenditure for the same period with no total figure, but all items detailed add up to \$412,491,179. There is no explanation given in the CSP as to why planned expenditure exceeds income for 2022/3 by \$101,508,169. Further there are a number of inconsistencies with the figures shown in the Statement of Revenue Policy included in the Operational Plan and appropriate commentary is provided in the feedback for this particular draft document.

Based on the breakdown of service area expenditure for 2022/3 outlined on page thirty-two (32) of the Delivery Program, some 72.63% of all expenditure comprises roads, water, sewerage and waste operations. Given rising inflation, higher interest rates on borrowings and higher cost of imported and building materials plus labour shortages and weather induced delays in completion of capital works programs it seems obvious that the final cost in delivery of the budgeted projections in these sectors will likely blow out. It is anticipated that the extent of the blow out could be in the range of 12 to 15% in current prevailing economic conditions. Based on the figures outlined in the program, in dollar terms this would equate to an additional \$44,939,395. Given the expenditure related to all other community outcome areas is shown as \$112,895,213 the anticipated additional cost blowout could if materialized represent almost forty per cent (40%) of the planned expenditure in all other service areas for 2022/3. Because it may not be a sensible option to borrow more in a rising interest rate environment the alternative would be to suspend planned expenditure in other service areas and/or cut back on planned new capital works programs in the subject financial year. It is suggested that the options available to Council be outlined as part of the Delivery Program.

### 3. Operational Plan

#### *Budgeted Expenditure by Cost Centre*

It is suggested the master dump of all budgeted expenditure items by cost centre from pages one hundred and fifty-four (154) to two hundred and six (206) be replaced by a summary that shows the total difference between the actual present position to the budgeted position for each cost centre. Explanations need to be provided for variances that exceed a nominated percentage given inflation of say 5% or more. The cost centre budget summary could as a suggestion be tabled along the following lines:

Cost Centre	Budget Expenditure 2022/23	Actual Expenditure 2021/22	Variance %	Comments
-------------	----------------------------------	----------------------------------	------------	----------

#### *Transparency of allocated Expenditure in the Budget*

In addition, given the new upcoming harmonisation of rates and charges it would be good for consistency to understand what amount of expenditure in the 2022/23 budget has been allocated to the following categories:

Residential Urban Towns

Residential Coastal Towns

Business Urban Town

Farmland

Mining

It is suggested ratepayers in the LGA should have greater transparency over the allocation of the total expenditure by Council in the financial year. It is appreciated that urban towns given their size, corresponding greater number of community assets and larger populations would require more funding however, if this was to continue over many years there would be an inequitable gap of expenditure in communities in the other categories.

*Inconsistencies in reported expenditure- the numbers do not add up*

Despite rounding there are a number of inconsistencies in the outlined expenditure numbers for the 2022/23 budget as highlighted in the Table below

Expenditure Item	Council's Budget (Page 100)	2022-23 Capital Works Program (Page 144)	10 Year Financial Plan (Page 106)
Employee Costs	\$96,000,000		\$85,771,909
Transport Infrastructure (e.g roads, bridges, drainage, footpaths)	\$60,500,000	\$66,000,000	
Sewer Infrastructure	\$20,710,000	\$22,200,000 and \$22,210,000 (page 150)	
Water Infrastructure	\$30,135,000	\$31,400,000 and \$31,435,000 (page 149)	
Borrowings	\$8,625,000		\$8,893,172

Whilst it is noted that the combined Delivery Program 2022-2026 and Operational Plan 2022-2023 is a draft, from a governance perspective having inconsistencies in the numbers as highlighted in the table above may perhaps be considered both embarrassing and unacceptable. It is surprising given the required Australian and local government accounting standards should if applied uniformly throughout the 2022-2023 budget produce no inconsistencies in the figures as highlighted. Nor as an observation is having a bundled 287-page document considered endearing to the trust of the community where a lot of time is required to review such a large draft document in detail, try and understand the reason for the noted inconsistencies and provide feedback with only a short three-week deadline.

Yours Sincerely

[REDACTED]

Telephone: [REDACTED]

**From:** [haveyoursay@midcoast.nsw.gov.au](mailto:haveyoursay@midcoast.nsw.gov.au)  
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**Postcode**

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## Feedback on the Draft MidCoast Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032



As this is a 10 year plan with local communities at its very heart, I am somewhat disheartened by the fact that there is no mention of cycling (bicycling) given the relevance and importance of cycling as a form of exercise and for achieving positive health outcomes, community interaction and as a serious option for commuting. If cycling is excluded from this plan does this mean we have to wait a further 10 years in order to get cycling on the agenda? And in the meantime cyclists such as myself continue to use the roads in their current form despite the extreme safety risks involved, and at the frustration of drivers?

As a recently returned and former resident of the mid-coast over more than 30 years I can see little change in infrastructure support for cycling in that time. This seems unfathomable given the direction other parts of the country have taken in terms of cycling infrastructure. Cycling provides a number of benefits including positive health outcomes, affordability, community engagement and the opportunity for reduced road maintenance costs as some hours ordinarily spent driving a car are reduced as commuters opt for cycling instead of private vehicles for at least part of the time.

Being a resident of Wingham, and a cyclist for leisure and commuting I would hope that at the least there would be a safe option to cycle between Wingham and Taree, in addition to options for cycling to coastal villages such as Old Bar. There is virtually no safe option for cycling between Taree and Wingham, despite their close proximity. I would often cycle with my 5 year old daughter in a child seat, however it is not at all possible to travel anywhere by bicycle beyond Wingham town due to safety concerns. In addition, when I cycle between Wingham and Taree for example it feels very unsafe, and on much of the journey I am forced to slow the traffic as I navigate sections that force me to enter the left most vehicle lane due to proximity of guard rails or lack of road shoulders. This often results in frustration and anger from passing vehicles, which I can appreciate as it seems unfair for motor vehicles to be forced to drive at extremely slow speeds (often as slow as 10kms/hr) as a cyclist in front of them tries to navigate along a road that is simply not designed to support bicycles in its current form.

I have recorded a number of sections along the Wingham to Taree road which have little or no shoulder and provide a cyclist only one of two options – to hold up traffic (sometimes forcing vehicles to pass by crossing into oncoming traffic lanes) or to cycle off the road into the gravel edge or in many instances a drainage trench running beside the road. Frequently the line marking indicating the outer road edge is followed immediately by gravel or a drainage channel, providing absolutely no shoulder for safety. While some parts of the Wingham-Taree road provide for an adequate shoulder these are mostly limited to the section between Potoroo road and Kolodong road. The least safe section, and the one I believe requires the most attention in terms of providing a safe option for cycling is between the Lincoln Brickworks and Kolodong road. I have provided a few photographs below which I took in June 2022 to demonstrate the inadequacy of road shoulders and associated safety concerns. I can provide precise coordinates of these locations if useful.



The 6 photographs shown here demonstrate the inadequacy and safety concerns associated with the section of road between the Lincoln Brickworks and the western end of Kolodong road where it meets Wingham road.

The two photographs shown below I took along Wingham road close to the intersection with Hargreaves drive. These I believe are two examples where the shoulder provided is an adequate width for cyclists and provides vehicles with a safe distance to be able to pass safely and without the need to reduce speed. Shoulders of this width are rarely seen along Wingham road currently. I would like to see shoulders of this width be incorporated into the entire length of Wingham road between Wingham and Taree, in addition to be included in all future road upgrades in the region, especially where there is a link between villages, places of home and work, locations of interest or other significant locations.





At this stage in my submission I have focused my attention on the Wingham road. This is not to take away from the importance of implementing these measures in other locations both on and off-road. The ideal solution for both cycle commuter safety and healthy lifestyles for communities would be to design and build cycling routes off-road that join major centres and ideally to coastal communities. However, I realise this would come at greater cost compared with focusing attention on on-road cycling options as commuter corridors and as a leisure activity.

An alternative option, and one which is demonstrated on the road between Taree and Purfleet, is to have a bicycle path that runs on only one side of the road and supports cyclists and pedestrians travelling in both directions.

A few examples of strategies and research that support my submission follow here.

I note here the National Road Safety Strategy (<https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/operations/walking-and-bike-riding/guides-tools-and-useful-links>) as supported by Transport for NSW which states the following relating to cycling as a national commitment:

The Australian government supports measures to increase all aspects of active transport in our communities. The design, project deployment and funding of cycling and pedestrian facilities is high on the agenda of our state, territory and local governments.

Around 1,200 people are killed each year on our roads, and almost 40,000 are seriously injured. The Draft National Road Safety strategy for 2021-30 sets targets to reduce these numbers over the next 10 years with the ultimate goal of achieving Vision Zero (zero deaths and injuries) by 2050.

I believe that improvements in safe on-road cycling can contribute to reducing the number of deaths on the road, including those that are cycling-related. This strategy has likely already had this affect in other locations across Australia where measures for improving the safety of on-road cycling have been put in place.

In addition to the National Road Safety Strategy, a State Government initiative is the Get NSW Active program (<https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/projects/programs/walking-and-cycling-program>) which “invests in projects that support safe, easy and enjoyable walking and cycling trips”. The projects funded by the program include walking and cycling infrastructure as well as the development of strategies that support walking and cycling in local communities. Information taken from the Transport for NSW website states that the program demonstrates that the NSW Government is committed to encouraging people to walk or cycle as part of their everyday travel:

“Walking and cycling for commuting and short trips relieve pressure on our roads and public transport networks, and are part of a healthy lifestyle for our communities”. Further, the Get NSW Active’s strategic objectives are aimed at:

improving bike riding to and within centres, neighbourhoods and to key destinations

improving walkability in centres, neighbourhoods and at key destinations, and

enable vibrant centres and liveable neighbourhoods through the creation of street environments that prioritise walking and cycling.

Transport for NSW under this grants program, encourages Councils to plan ahead, develop a program of works and consider different funding options for proposed projects. This approach enables Transport for NSW to progressively plan and expand networks and support Councils to develop a sustainable forward program of walking and cycling projects that provides tangible benefits for our communities and customers.

Given the above, it seems reasonable and logical that MidCoast Council should integrate such strategies into a strategic plan which has a 10 year lifespan in order to plan ahead and develop appropriate programs and plans for infrastructure that can support cycling.

A [research paper](#)<sup>1</sup> from The Parliament of NSW on Cycling and Transport Policy in NSW identified a number of points relating to cycling in NSW including the costs and benefits of cycling, and the rates of cycling, stating:

“Research on the costs and benefits of cycling has increased markedly in recent years. This research has identified transport, environmental, economic, social and health benefits that may arise from increased levels of cycling. Cost-benefit analyses have also been conducted on cycling infrastructure projects around the world.”

This clearly suggests a number of benefits that come with cycling as both a transport and leisure activity.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/researchpapers/Pages/cycling-and-transport-policy-in-nsw.aspx>

In addition, the paper identifies key factors that influence cycling uptake, two of which are bicycle infrastructure and safety.

In summary, the increased demand for and interest in cycling for commuting and as a leisure activity should be supported by Council by incorporating cycling into current and future plans. The benefits of cycling, alluded to throughout this submission, are numerous and provide a positive outcome for the entire community whether as a cyclist or someone who is directly impacted by those choosing to cycle.

Thank you.

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## **Feedback on the Draft Delivery Program 2022-2026 and Operational Plan 2022-2023**



Please note that much of the contents contained in this document are also contained in my submission in response to the Draft MidCoast Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032.

Like the Community Strategic Plan, there is no mention of cycling (bicycling) in this document. As a “statement of commitment to the community” this draft delivery program and plan excludes an important part of the community, of which I refer to cyclists (both leisure and commuter cyclists).

Given the relevance and importance of cycling as a form of exercise and for achieving positive health outcomes, community interaction and as a serious option for commuting, the exclusion of cycling from this plan I believe must be reconsidered.

As a recently returned and former resident of the mid-coast over more than 30 years I can see little change in infrastructure support for cycling in that time. This seems unfathomable given the direction other parts of the country have taken in terms of cycling infrastructure. Cycling provides a number of benefits including positive health outcomes, affordability, community engagement and the opportunity for reduced road maintenance costs as some hours ordinarily spent driving a car are reduced as commuters opt for cycling instead of private vehicles for at least part of the time.

Being a resident of Wingham, and a cyclist for leisure and commuting I would hope that at the least there would be a safe option to cycle between Wingham and Taree, in addition to options for cycling to coastal villages such as Old Bar. There is virtually no safe option for cycling between Taree and Wingham, despite their close proximity. I would often cycle with my 5 year old daughter in a child seat, however it is not at all possible to travel anywhere by bicycle beyond Wingham town due to safety concerns. In addition, when I cycle between Wingham and Taree for example it feels very unsafe, and on much of the journey I am forced to slow the traffic as I navigate sections that force me to enter the left most vehicle lane due to proximity of guard rails or lack of road shoulders. This often results in frustration and anger from passing vehicles, which I can appreciate as it seems unfair for motor vehicles to be forced to drive at extremely slow speeds (often as slow as 10kms/hr) as a cyclist in front of them tries to navigate along a road that is simply not designed to support bicycles in its current form.

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At this stage in my submission I have focused my attention on the Wingham road. This is not to take away from the importance of implementing these measures in other locations both on and off-road. The ideal solution for both cycle commuter safety and healthy lifestyles for communities would be to design and build cycling routes off-road that join major centres and ideally to coastal communities. However, I realise this would come at greater cost compared with focusing attention on on-road cycling options as commuter corridors and as a leisure activity.

An alternative option, and one which is demonstrated on the road between Taree and Purfleet, is to have a bicycle path that runs on only one side of the road and supports cyclists and pedestrians travelling in both directions.

A few examples of strategies and research that support my submission follow here.

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Around 1,200 people are killed each year on our roads, and almost 40,000 are seriously injured. The Draft National Road Safety strategy for 2021-30 sets targets to reduce these numbers over the next 10 years with the ultimate goal of achieving Vision Zero (zero deaths and injuries) by 2050.



I believe that improvements in safe on-road cycling can contribute to reducing the number of deaths on the road, including those that are cycling-related. This strategy has likely already had this affect in other locations across Australia where measures for improving the safety of on-road cycling have been put in place.

In addition to the National Road Safety Strategy, a State Government initiative is the Get NSW Active program (<https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/projects/programs/walking-and-cycling-program>) which “invests in projects that support safe, easy and enjoyable walking and cycling trips”. The projects funded by the program include walking and cycling infrastructure as well as the development of strategies that support walking and cycling in local communities. Information taken from the Transport for NSW website states that the program demonstrates that the NSW Government is committed to encouraging people to walk or cycle as part of their everyday travel:

“Walking and cycling for commuting and short trips relieve pressure on our roads and public transport networks, and are part of a healthy lifestyle for our communities”. Further, the Get NSW Active’s strategic objectives are aimed at:

improving bike riding to and within centres, neighbourhoods and to key destinations

improving walkability in centres, neighbourhoods and at key destinations, and

enable vibrant centres and liveable neighbourhoods through the creation of street environments that prioritise walking and cycling.

Transport for NSW under this grants program, encourages Councils to plan ahead, develop a program of works and consider different funding options for proposed projects. This approach enables Transport for NSW to progressively plan and expand networks and support Councils to develop a sustainable forward program of walking and cycling projects that provides tangible benefits for our communities and customers.

Given the above, it seems reasonable and logical that MidCoast Council should develop appropriate programs and plans for infrastructure that can support cycling.

A [research paper](#)<sup>1</sup> from The Parliament of NSW on Cycling and Transport Policy in NSW identified a number of points relating to cycling in NSW including the costs and benefits of cycling, and the rates of cycling, stating:

“Research on the costs and benefits of cycling has increased markedly in recent years. This research has identified transport, environmental, economic, social and health benefits that may arise from increased levels of cycling. Cost-benefit analyses have also been conducted on cycling infrastructure projects around the world.”

This clearly suggests a number of benefits that come with cycling as both a transport and leisure activity.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/researchpapers/Pages/cycling-and-transport-policy-in-nsw.aspx>

In addition, the paper identifies key factors that influence cycling uptake, two of which are bicycle infrastructure and safety.

In summary, the increased demand for and interest in cycling for commuting and as a leisure activity should be supported by Council by incorporating cycling into current and future plans. The benefits of cycling, alluded to throughout this submission, are numerous and provide a positive outcome for the entire community whether as a cyclist or someone who is directly impacted by those choosing to cycle.

Thank you.

**From:** [Have Your Say](#)  
**To:** [MidCoast Council](#)  
**Subject:** FW: StrategicCommunity Plan.  
**Date:** Monday, 6 June 2022 9:54:15 AM

---

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Sunday, 5 June 2022 11:07 PM  
To: Have Your Say <haveyoursay@midcoast.nsw.gov.au>  
Subject: StrategicCommunity Plan.

My name is [REDACTED], Together with my wife we own [REDACTED]  
Our thoughts for the years to come are that Council include us in the future plans.  
We would like the MCC conducts meaningful consultation with all land owners to create plans for the near future .  
NAC should be recognised and included as potential priority in the Council Strategic Community Plan, instead of Environmental Zone.  
NAC is one of the largest Rate Paying Communities in the middle Coast and also the largest paper subdivision with large potential for the council As well. The Council alone owns a thousand block of land so they can benefit from this if the area is rezoned the Council land will become more valuable and their rates will go up as well.  
We want consultations with Community of NAC to be held separately from Tea Gardens due our bigger population.  
NAC geographic situation should be taken in consideration as well .Tea Gardens is an area prone to to flash flooding.  
Council future plans should include utilising opportunities in NAC to provide housing and therefore employment ,economic development and business grow. New families will have a new place to live.  
We hope that Council can improve local infrastructure as well ,but NAC can be a model of Ecofriendly Houses also.  
Council role is delivering of a fair partnership with the community and move toward our vision of NAC.  
We think the develop of NAC will be a big contribution to the MCC.

Kind Regards [REDACTED]

Email secured by Check Point

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MidCoast Council](#)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Draft Community Strategic Plan feedback  
**Date:** Monday, 6 June 2022 6:33:07 PM

---

Dear Council,

This email provides feedback on the draft Community Strategic Plan, as follows:

1. For community outcomes 1.4.2 and 2.1.1 Councils role includes that of Regulator.  
Regulation and enforcement are essential to achieving these community outcomes.  
Please include Regulator in the Council Role column.
2. Performance measures general comment – there far too many performance measures to monitor – I counted 62.  
With some of them Council has no control or little influence over, such as NBN rollout and the % of dwellings with solar panels.  
Performance measures should be targeted and be for issues that Council has control or a direct influence over.  
There is heavy reliance on the Customer Satisfaction Survey – I counted 42 measures that rely on this survey. A survey that contains so many issues would be a big turn off, and respondents would soon get sick of it and many would not be bothered to complete it.  
I feel that the use of performance measures needs a complete rethink. Whatever performance measures are chosen they should also be transferable to individual staff position's so staff know what their performance is being assessed against.
3. Suggested performance measures – consider including close out rate of customer complaints/reports etc. This is an area that Council is falling down on and it generates a lot of dissatisfaction and complaints within the community.  
Can water quality in Bundabah and Bulga Creeks be included as these have a big influence on water quality in North Arm Cove?

Regards,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Email: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

Email secured by Check Point

**From:** [haveyoursay@midcoast.nsw.gov.au](mailto:haveyoursay@midcoast.nsw.gov.au)  
**To:** [MidCoast Council](#)  
**Subject:** Make an online submission - Draft MidCoast Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032 Form Submission  
**Date:** Tuesday, 7 June 2022 7:22:12 PM

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Have Your Say logo



## Make an online submission - Draft MidCoast Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032 Form Submission

There has been a submission of the form Make an online submission - Draft MidCoast Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032 through your Have Your Say website.

**First Name**

[REDACTED]

**Last Name**

[REDACTED]

**Your email address**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb**

[REDACTED]

**Postcode**

2324

**Please provide your submission here and/or upload your supporting documents below.**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft MidCoast CSP 2022-2032. I am the owner of the non-urban land in North Arm Cove and an active future residents.

It is unfortunate that thousands of individual landowners of so called 'non-urban' land in North Arm Cove have not been given an opportunity to comment and provide input into the CSP released in 2018. It would be against the provisions of the planning legislation not to

recognise the landowners of the land zoned RU2 Rural Landscape within North Arm Cove as part of the community. Our vision and our interest have not been taken into consideration although it is secured by the NSW legislation. A Community Participation Plan should be developed in collaboration with the North Arm Cove community (urban and non-urban landowners) on how to progress from this point. The Plan should reflect the requirements of community participation embedded in the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act (1979), Division 2.6 Community Participation.

The frictions and animosity between the most vocal representative (NIMBYs) of the existing NAC community and the owners of land under dwelling prohibition is becoming increasingly fierce. Council's officers and planners have done nothing to assist these two groups to talk to each other and resolve their differences. None of the Social Justice principles listed in the Draft (Equity, Access, Participation, Rights) have applied to Council's dealing with non-urban land owners in North Arm Cove.

Council's CSP and LSPS does not provide for sustainable population growth to facilitate the delivery of the Hunter Region's vision. People aged 65+ years currently represent around 30% of the total population, making it one of the highest concentrations of an ageing population in NSW and Australia. Still, Council keeps refusing to allow lifting of dwelling prohibition in NAC and let more, hopefully younger people in. There are innovative solution for sustainable infrastructure and there are ways to progress development of NAC in stages. It makes no sense that only existing residents should enjoy their private property rights while the rates paid by thousands of non-urban land owners are used to finance projects in other parts of the LGA.

Despite the fact that there is no elected representative from our part of the LGA, we are still hopeful that Council will finally organise meaningful community consultation with the owners of non-urban land at North Arm Cove. There are thousands of us. The idea about reducing the MLS to 2ha or so makes no sense at all. The existing subdivision is the legacy of Walter Burley Griffin and it must be preserved. Lets try to come up with a more sensible solution.

To view all of this form's submissions, visit

[https://haveyoursay.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/index.php/dashboard/reports/forms\\_new/data/105](https://haveyoursay.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/index.php/dashboard/reports/forms_new/data/105)

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**From:** [haveyoursay@midcoast.nsw.gov.au](mailto:haveyoursay@midcoast.nsw.gov.au)  
**To:** [MidCoast Council](#)  
**Subject:** Make an online submission - Draft MidCoast Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032 Form Submission  
**Date:** Tuesday, 7 June 2022 8:31:11 PM

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Have Your Say logo



## Make an online submission - Draft MidCoast Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032 Form Submission

There has been a submission of the form Make an online submission - Draft MidCoast Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032 through your Have Your Say website.

**First Name**

[REDACTED]

**Last Name**

[REDACTED]

**Your email address**

[REDACTED]

**Your best contact phone number**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb**

Balmain East

**Postcode**

2041

**Please provide your submission here and/or upload your supporting documents below.**

The non urban land at North Arm Cove is a unique opportunity for Council to support the NSW governments initiatives for affordable housing and renewables based living. Council

can make a difference to support local community and help develop a template for future subdivision design. Constraints can be overcome, and brave policies can improve our children's future. Why is it so hard?

To view all of this form's submissions, visit

[https://haveyoursay.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/index.php/dashboard/reports/forms\\_new/data/105](https://haveyoursay.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/index.php/dashboard/reports/forms_new/data/105)

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MidCoast Council](#)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Draft delivery program and operational plan  
**Date:** Tuesday, 7 June 2022 8:54:23 PM

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Dear Council,

This email provides feedback on Council's draft Delivery Program and 2022/23 Operational Plan.

The feedback is as follows:

1. According to Council's draft Community Strategic Plan, "The Operational Plan and Budget line up with the focus areas in the Delivery Program and show the individual projects, activities and services that Council will deliver each year."

Unfortunately this isn't happening, with very few individual projects being shown in operational plans.

As an example, in the Hawks Nest/Tea Gardens/North Arm Cove/Pindimar there are a number of important projects such as the Singing Bridge pedestrian walkway, footpaths, boat ramps, North Arm Cove park redevelopments etc that are not included in the operational plan, or the delivery program, despite these projects being listed as high priorities by the communities and discussed in Southern Reference Group meetings, and promises being made by Council on these projects. Communities in the southern part of the LGA are starting to feel they are being ignored by Council, with little funds being spent on improvements in these areas, and the Taree and Forster areas being given preference.

Individual community infrastructure projects over a value of say \$100k should be listed in operational plans. By doing this communities will know that Council is serious when it makes promises for improvements in their areas.

Council should give consideration to having more improvement projects in its southern towns and villages.

2. With regard to Regulatory Services, the key service description should be changed to "Investigates and undertakes compliance and enforcement activities including illegal dumping, illegal building, illegal land clearing, companion animals (dogs and cats), animal noise complaints, parking and abandoned vehicles, public area usage"

This is because Council has failed to enforce illegal activities including illegal land clearing and illegal development and buildings within its paper subdivisions, particularly at North Arm Cove. Council staff say this is because there is not enough staff to investigate and enforce, so it is a low priority. Unfortunately this means that when landowners observe Council taking no action for illegal activities, they feel that Council is a soft touch and they can do whatever they like. The result of this is that illegal activities escalate as is happening in North Arm Cove.

Council needs to get some teeth and start taking action as a deterrent.

I have been advised that there are not enough staff in the regulatory department – this being the case Council should employ additional staff, and start doing what it's community expects it to do and Council states is one of its community values – protecting the natural environment. Council must regulate and enforce legal requirements otherwise our natural environment will be trashed.

Council's failure to enforce legal requirements is a dereliction of its duties.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

Email secured by Check Point

**From:** [haveyoursay@midcoast.nsw.gov.au](mailto:haveyoursay@midcoast.nsw.gov.au)  
**To:** [MidCoast Council](#)  
**Subject:** Make an online submission Form Submission  
**Date:** Tuesday, 7 June 2022 10:41:10 PM

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Have Your Say logo



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**First Name**

[REDACTED]

**Last Name**

[REDACTED]

**Your email address**

[REDACTED]

**Your best contact phone number**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb**

North Arm Cove

**Postcode**

2324

**Please provide your submission here and/or upload your supporting documents below.**

Whilst there are a lot of words and lots of pages, there isn't really a lot of substance, for example Business only mentions Forster - what about the Port Stephens North shore which is closer to Sydney and a wealth of unrealised options. Open Spaces - the only options mentioned are cemeteries - I think that sums this report up!

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tue, 7 Jun 2022 21:40:18 +1000  
**To:** "MidCoast Council" <council@MidCoast.nsw.gov.au>  
**Subject:** community strategic plan-focus on our future  
**Attachments:** Submission-07 june-2022.cleaned.pdf

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

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**If using this form online**, for best results the form should be downloaded and saved to your computer. It can then be edited with Adobe Acrobat Reader. The latest version can be downloaded [here](#).

**Please note:**

If you are using Internet Explorer, forms will automatically open as a PDF. For other browsers, such as Google Chrome, some forms may not be displayed or submitted until they are downloaded and opened with Adobe Acrobat Reader.

## Your details

Name

Postal address

Suburb

Postcode

Email

Phone

Mobile

Submission relating to

Submissions are considered to be "open access information" in relation to the Government Information (Public Access) Act. Should you choose to make a submission on the following page, that page will be reproduced in full in a Council business paper and will then be available for inspection at Council's offices and on our website. Where required, your information may be uploaded to the NSW Planning Portal and by making a submission you consent to such upload. For these reasons persons making a submission on the following page are advised to refrain from including personal and health information about themselves or other people, defamatory statements or abusive language within submissions.

## Declaration

A person making a public planning submission to Council must disclose if they have made any political donations or gifts to a MidCoast Council employee or councillor in the last 2 years.

If you have NOT made any political donations or gifts in the last two years, please tick the box below. If you HAVE made such a donation or gift, you will need to complete a Political Donations and Gifts Disclosure Statement with any submission. PLEASE DO NOT USE THIS FORM.

"I have not made a political donation or gift to any MidCoast Council employee or councillor in the last 2 years."

☒ I agree to this statement.

Name

Signature

Date

## Office use only

Reference number

Submission number

## Submission details

Reference number

Submission relating to

Address (if applicable)

## Your submission

Focus on our future

-I have land at NAC and wish to have a part in the near future living there.

As stated in your justice principles

the plan is revised to ensure that no one is excluded or disadvantaged, this is not the case for us at NAC, we want to be included and have equal rites to build, and live on our land and in our region as we pay rates too and work with the council to achieve this.

It is also stated understanding of community trends, at NAC we want innovative and sustainable living ideas as a future trend other states already have embraced this .

.Under community outcome it is stated growth in all areas

so NAC is a answer for affordable housing comming from the 1000 lots the council owns ,rental,jobs all for the growth of the FUTURE as stated 30%increase by 2036

I have just visited the region and was told by many locals of the urgent need for more housing its a crisis Growth is the future, innovation and community we as new locals could only contribute to all of this

Thank you

## Additional information may be attached

## How to lodge this form

Save this form to your computer and then attach, with any other additional information, to an email to [council@midcoast.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@midcoast.nsw.gov.au). The Email subject will be 'Submission relating to [Reference]'

Forward by Post; or

Lodge at our Customer Service Counters - Monday to Friday (Excluding Public Holidays).

**Privacy:** This information is required to assist with your application and will not be used for any other purpose without seeking your consent, or as required by law. Your application will be retained in our Records Management System and disposed of in accordance with current legislation. Your personal information can be accessed and corrected at any time by contacting us.

MidCoast Council | Yalawanyi Ganya | 2 Biripi Way Taree | PO Box 482 Taree

Phone 02 7955 7777 | email [council@midcoast.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@midcoast.nsw.gov.au)

[www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au](http://www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au)

## Office use only

Reference number

Submission number

**From:** [haveyoursay@midcoast.nsw.gov.au](mailto:haveyoursay@midcoast.nsw.gov.au)  
**To:** [MidCoast Council](#)  
**Subject:** Make an online submission - Draft MidCoast Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032 Form Submission  
**Date:** Tuesday, 7 June 2022 10:24:11 PM

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Have Your Say logo



## Make an online submission - Draft MidCoast Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032 Form Submission

There has been a submission of the form Make an online submission - Draft MidCoast Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032 through your Have Your Say website.

**First Name**

[REDACTED]

**Last Name**

[REDACTED]

**Your email address**

[REDACTED]

**Your best contact phone number**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb**

North Arm Cove

**Postcode**

2324

**Please provide your submission here and/or upload your supporting documents below.**

Allow North Arm Cove land owner to build on their blocks.

Do not rezone North Arm Cove RU2 to environmental Zoning



To view all of this form's submissions, visit

[https://haveyoursay.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/index.php/dashboard/reports/forms\\_new/data/105](https://haveyoursay.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/index.php/dashboard/reports/forms_new/data/105)

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**From:** "Gloucester Business Chamber" [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wed, 8 Jun 2022 10:30:08 +1000  
**To:** "MidCoast Council" <council@MidCoast.nsw.gov.au>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Budget Submission- Gloucester Business Chamber  
**Attachments:** MCC Budget Submission.cleaned.pdf

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Click [here](#) if the original attachments are required (justification needed).

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Good Morning,

Please find attached a submission to the 22/23 Budget.  
Kind Regards,



✉ hello@gloucesterchamber.com.au  
🌐 www.gloucesterchamber.com.au  
📍 PO Box 111, Gloucester NSW 2422



Email secured by Check Point

8 June 2022

## Submission for Proposed Budget

To the Councillors and Executive- MidCoast Council,

Our Chamber wish to thank the Council overall for their renewed focus on Economic Development throughout the entire LGA.

On this point, we have noted in the 22/23 Budget and Delivery Plan there is no detailed budget for ED, specifically any lines relating to specific stimulus activities or programs. While we appreciate the budget is produced with consolidated expenses in single line liabilities and in some cases income, it is concerning that there is a lack of detail around how the budget will be spent.

Without adequate funding for ED through the proposed budget, the region will not realise any significant opportunities or growth which is available.

Therefore, Gloucester Business Chamber requests that a review of the current budgetary allocations for ED are reviewed and amended to reflect the commitment, from Council and all 8 Chambers of Commerce within the LGA to Economic Development within the principals of Infrastructure, Attraction and Growth. It is our request that funds that are currently allocated to ED, which are otherwise categorized in other lines on the budget are reviewed and reapportioned to an additional line in the budget specifically for **Economic Development**. Further, any future externally sourced funding for ED is also allocated to the same ED line such as ED specific Grants.

Consideration and endorsement of our request, shows commitment, other than verbal, that Council and the communities in the Mid Coast LGA are united in the prioritization of ED and the expectation of immediate delivery of short-term positive outcomes all the while the longer-term Strategic Plan is developed and implemented.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide feedback on such a crucial component of the operation of our Council.

Kind Regards,  
Gloucester Business Chamber  
Executive Committee

**PO Box 111  
Gloucester  
NSW 2422**

[www.gloucesterchamber.com.au](http://www.gloucesterchamber.com.au)  
[hello@gloucesterchamber.com.au](mailto:hello@gloucesterchamber.com.au)  
f @gloucester.chamber  
@gloucesterbusinesschamber



The General Manager.  
Mid Coast Council.  
Biripi Way, Taree.

8<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

**Submission on behalf of Team Taree (Taree Business Chamber)**

To the General Manager & the Elected Body of Councillors,

Team Taree is represented by a diverse group of local business people and exists to showcase Taree as a great place to live, work, play and do business. Our strong community and business network covers a broad industry range including Agriculture, Fishing and Oyster Industry, Financial and Legal, Retail, Travel, Manufacturing, Real Estate, Pest Management, Construction (Civil and Housing), Planning, Medical, Aged Care, Social Services, Sports and Entertainment, Accommodation, Clubs and Education, to mention a few. During consistent consults with this network, it is apparent that our collective vision is to see our communities thrive. A key focus of our group is Economic Development, where we; the Business Community, continue to foster an environment for business to grow and invest and simultaneously provide job creation within our growing community. We continuously disseminate information to this community and receive ongoing feedback across a range of platforms including calls, emails, meetings, and our social media pages, as well as feedback from our monthly newsletter sent out to our far reaching and highly active database.

This submission is aimed at Economic Development and highlights that even though Economic Development is one of the main pillars of the Community Strategic Plan, our Council does very little to execute Economic Development projects. Team Taree also wish to highlight that the Community Strategic Plan puts Council's role as one of advocacy when the community clearly wants ACTIONS to be the focus. Advocacy does not deliver projects. Actions deliver projects.

Working through the chain of documents which are on exhibition and open for review, the 2022/23 Delivery Plan has no actual actions listed for Economic Development. Furthermore the 2022/23 Budget has little to no allocation for Economic Development Projects. In fact, Council is intending to spend around \$2.45M to deliver \$430K (Destination Management \$310k and Economic Development \$120K)...all remaining to deliver a plan that is to be presented to the Council by the end of 2023. There are no other committed actions in the Delivery Plan for ED. This we see as a gross misspend of Community Funds and a massive waste of economic and social opportunity for the seventh consecutive year.



It is our request that Council review the Community Strategic Plan, the Delivery Plan and the Budget and make imperative changes to fund and resource Economic Development projects for the 2022/2023 financial year. The sum of \$400,000 - over and above the current allocation put into an Economic Development Fund for deliverable Projects would be a fantastic start. We are firm in the belief re allocation of \$100K from I.T. and \$50K from each of the following – Executive Management, Customer Service, Engagement & Communications, Governance, Human Resources and Legal & Property would provide the desired amount required to fund and drive a range of income producing Economic Development Projects. Adopting this reallocation would generate **Social and Economic benefits** to the **whole** LGA whilst delivering the Community's views and desires for the progressive Economic development of our region.

1. Amend the Community Strategic plan to put more emphasis on Delivery of E.D. Projects rather than Advocacy.
2. Include deliverable E.D. projects in the Delivery Plan.
3. Re allocate the Budget items necessary to create a \$400,000.00 Economic Development Fund to be used for deliverable projects.

Following is an extract of the answers to questions which were asked pre Election by Local News' Julie Driscoll. We draw your attention to the answers on the Economic Development subjects. These responses in the main are why the local community supported and voted for the newly Elected Councillors. Our submission is simply aimed at achieving the Economic Development goals we all share. To waste another year would not be acceptable.

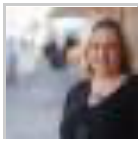
John Caldon  
President.  
Team Taree.

EXTRACT.

**FREE**

NOVEMBER 30 2021 - 8:00PM

# MidCoast candidates answer our questions on important issues



**Julia Driscoll**

## Local News

With 80 candidates contesting the election, we have asked the lead candidate for each group, plus the one ungrouped candidate, to answer a set of questions on topics important to the community. The responses are listed in the order on which the groups/candidates appear on the ballot.

**Related:** [Get to know the MidCoast election candidates: an introduction](#)

The questions posed to the lead candidates were:

**Economic development:** In the past, local councils have played a role in the economic development of our towns through paid positions. What is your position on economic development? Would you support a specific budget allocation?

**Roads and infrastructure:** MidCoast Council's road network stretches for 3600 kilometres and is the biggest source of criticism from visitors and locals alike. What is your position on the broader management of the LGA's road network and road maintenance program?

**Climate and the environment:** How do you see council's role in acting on climate change and environmental protection? What are some practical measures council can work to achieve for residents in keeping with the Mid Coast Climate Change Strategy and Policy?

**Barrington Coast and events tourism:** Other areas attract big events in the areas of sport and performing arts. Do you agree the area lacks a facility that is capable of holding major events, sporting or cultural? Would you support the Barrington Coast as a flagship event destination? What would you do to achieve this?

**Affordable housing:** What will you do on council to advance efforts on provision of housing in the Mid Coast, whether that be low-cost housing for our vulnerable, or opening up land for residential development? What are the challenges in doing so? What else needs to be considered when looking to increase residential development?

## **GROUP A - ALAN TICKLE**

### **Economic development**

I need to disclose that I have previously served on the former Greater Taree City Council Economic Development Board, part of the Team Taree compilation of an Economic Development Plan and a member of the committee of the Taree Business Chamber following their recent AGM.

Given that background, it is obvious that my answer to those questions is one of support to economic development including a budget allocation.



The Economic Development Plan prepared by Team Taree has not yet drilled down to specific actions or measurable outcomes attached to those actions, but it does set a platform. The plan comes from a community base that is aimed at delivering a consistent message that this area is a great place to play, live, work and that we are open to do business.

Economic development is not just about supporting business, it encompasses provision of infrastructure that enables sport, cultural and short stay event led tourism to be targeted. Council needs to be onboard with this and shift the attitude of the too hard basket, to one of council partnering those stakeholders in delivering economic development outcomes. That extends to recognition and managing of high level development applications where there is employment or economic significance and having a senior staff member case managing so that any issues are addressed early.

### **Barrington Coast and events tourism**

We don't have a stadium as such but I don't agree that the area lacks a facility that can hold major events, sporting or cultural events. Taree Hockey Centre and Iron Arena, once complete are flagships capable of targeting high level events.

The natural attributes of the rivers and beaches obviously can attract events. The Regional Art Gallery, The Taree River Stage, the Manning Entertainment Centre are all something we can be proud of but the fact that the community drove their establishment tells us that it is the community that will create increased event tourism not council by itself. There is a very good Cultural Plan adopted by council which the community gave input.

Wingham Akoostik Festival and the Rotary RiverStage entertainment headed by Donna Ballard (Group A) the driving force, illustrates what can be done with community drive and initiative. I support the Barrington Coast as a flagship event destination. Those outside the area who are the tourists told us that they know where the Barrington Tops is and that the coast was obviously the sea. They also told us that Mid Coast was Coffs Harbour, thought the Great Lakes were in the USA and had little awareness of the Manning River. The brand Barrington Coast label has proven itself.

### **Affordable housing**

The Local Environment Plan for MidCoast Council is still in its consultation stage but that is the mechanism for council to provision for housing development and land rezoning for residential development, so its completion needs to be a priority.

We can't keep carving up farmland or destroying significant habitat without ecological and economic consequences. This means that we must be realistic in catering for a variety of housing including low cost and medium density. The "not in my backyard" call won when leadership was needed to explain the long term consequences of failures in land use planning 30 years ago. The state government has a role in increasing public housing but that too is impacted by availability and the Social Security Act is administered by the Commonwealth government. They have to take a role here because expecting council to pull a rabbit out of the hat to solve housing for the vulnerable is not going to happen without a three-tier approach.

Group B, Jeremy Miller fourth from left.

### **GROUP B - JEREMY MILLER**

#### **Economic development**

Let's talk about what we mean when we say "Economic Development". We're talking about support for small businesses, new jobs and training opportunities, affordable housing, better services and infrastructure. Developing our economy means a better standard of living for everybody. It's business and the community and council working together. This is a core role for council and will be a key focus for me if I am elected.





There is already a specific budget allocation for economic development, just over \$400,000 in this year's budget. What we need to do now is introduce specific performance measures to ensure that money is spent in the right areas, partnering with business and the community to leverage the investment.

Along with direct investment, there are many other things that Council can do to support the local economy. Reducing red tape and assisting people who want to create local jobs, getting the infrastructure right, engaging state and federal government as partners, advocating on behalf of the community and working closely with chambers of commerce, sport organisations, tourism advisory groups, etc. These are all low-cost ways for Council to make a real difference.

### **Barrington Coast and events tourism**

The Barrington Coast is a flagship event destination with huge potential, but we must recognise our strengths and weaknesses and go after the events where we have a unique advantage.

I have worked on large events in Sydney - outdoor events with hundreds of thousands of people and broadcast around the world, international conferences and business events as well local events. I co-founded the Australian Event Awards. Locally, I used to DJ the finish-line party when the Ironman Triathlon was in Forster and I worked on the first Groovin the Moo when it was held in Gloucester. As manager of the Manning Entertainment Centre, I attracted two major conferences to our area and worked on many more. I understand event tourism and what event managers look for in a region.

The MidCoast region is perfectly suited to sporting events and music festivals. We already attract major events in hockey, surfing, rowing, speedboats and other sports. Festivals such as Akoostik, Lakeside and Grow Your Own are huge attractors to our region. These types of events work well with the accommodation and other tourism infrastructure that we have now. Then, by supporting and growing these events, we can grow our infrastructure and capabilities to attract new, larger and different events that will bring new investment into our local economy.

### **Affordable housing**

Affordable housing is often seen as a state issue, but there is much that can be done at the council level. Earlier this year, the NSW government established an independent Regional Housing Taskforce which published its recommendations a few weeks ago. It was interesting to note that many councils made submissions to the report but, even though housing affordability is a major issue here, **MidCoast Council did not.**

The Taskforce looked at several ways that councils can help. For example, some areas require any major developments to set aside a percentage for affordable housing, either directly or through a contributions scheme. Bellingen is trialling a pilot project for Community Land Trust incentives that lower the barriers to home ownership. Right now, there are local families with young children living in old motel rooms because they can't find a place to rent. People who want to move here to take up a job can't come because they can't find a place to live.

So what can council do to help? We can look at council-owned land that could be used for affordable or key-worker housing, setup partnerships with government housing providers to deliver new social housing and partner with the private sector to deliver short-term solutions (two local examples are the sleepbus proposal and a proposal from a local group to use shipping containers as emergency accommodation).





Peter Epov, Group C

## **GROUP C - PETER EPOV (CHOOSE WISELY - MID COAST)**

### **Economic development**

Economic development is critical to the future of our LGA.

We would encourage sustainable, economic development across industry, commerce, farming, tourism and construction. What is required is a precise understanding of what key economic drivers are genuinely essential to the stability and the future growth of all our local economy/s through the MidCoast LGA.

We need to identify and strategically plan based on our local circumstances and not by generic plans that are developed across the state for all the regions. The most successful regions throughout Australia have established customised unique and targeted solutions for their local economies. The key to our success is not to copy but to be original. This requires collaboration and detailed consultation with our local communities to ensure we can take full advantage of all the unique circumstances of each area.

This also requires the establishment of a framework of support, assistance and quality service to all sectors of our local economy. We need to introduce a targeted program of incentives aimed at bringing new, compatible industry and commerce to key locations across our LGA. Such incentives as an example could include exemptions from council and water rates for up to 10 years. We support a dedicated percentage of council's annual budget dedicated for economic development initiatives.

### **Barrington Coast and events tourism**

When Peter Epov initially voted for the acquisition of the Masters building in 2017 it was with the expressed intention of using the building as a large indoor arena for events, concerts, conferences and tradeshow, regrettably there was no support for this initiative. The building could have been transformed into one of the largest indoor events arenas on the entire northern coast of NSW, potentially seating up to 4000 people.

MidCoast needs several major marquee events which could be of national and potentially international status. The most obvious choice is an event around the Manning River. A further event could be hosted on the Forster coastline. Having directed a number of major international events such as the Coolangatta Gold, Peter Epov understands the key essentials that are required to stage major events.

It is also important to have a structured program of regular smaller ongoing events through the entire LGA. Council needs to allocate dedicated internal resources to support and facilitate events.

### **Affordable housing**

Affordable housing is a very serious and significant issue which cannot be resolved simplistically. Council does have a key role and the capacity to create incentives and facilitating opportunities for the provision of affordable housing throughout the LGA.

This can be achieved through much better targeted land use planning both through our LEP and DCP as well as advocacy to the NSW government on future land release. To facilitate affordable housing council could release some of the land it owns for development based on very strict affordable housing criteria in strategically relevant areas where population growth may be of economic value to a township.

Whilst we recognise that housing and construction are key economic drivers in our LGA, we also understand that our LGA needs balanced and sustainable development, which encapsulated the natural characteristics and the setting of the locality and its biodiversity.



We also need to factor in and balance development against the capacity of the existing infrastructure to cope with increased population growth and to advocate to government on this issue. Council needs to better regulate manufactured homes estates and caravan parks.

#### **GROUP D - PAUL SANDILANDS**

##### **Economic development**

This is critical to our future and future growth and employment for our youth. What financial resources can be directed to this is dependent on our overall budget picture which currently doesn't look that good.

##### **Barrington Coast and events tourism**

We have many sporting bodies that would love to, and are capable of attracting major events. We need to encourage and support groups that are trying to do this. [We need to seek as much funding as we can in order to develop top flight facilities.](#) Port Macquarie are currently working with Football Mid North Coast to develop a ground specific to football. The view is to attract a visiting Women's World Cup team to base in the area. We do not have anything of this standard.

##### **Affordable housing**

As a council we need to be strong in sticking to things such as height restrictions, density etc. Currently there is a development application for a building that is applying for five stories in an area where the limit is three stories. There is no point having limits if they are ignored.

In terms of low cost housing I do have an idea that involves use of Section 94 returns. This would need support of the council.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond. All of us that respond are doing so knowing that we would be one of 11 councillors that collectively make these decisions. You can have the best ideas in the world but the others need to support it.

Group E, The Greens (Dheera Smith third from right)

#### **GROUP E - DHEERA SMITH (THE GREENS)**

##### **Economic development**

Future prosperity for our large LGA requires a diverse, innovative and productive economy with an educated and skilled workforce.

A prosperous and sustainable economy relies upon a healthy natural environment. Economies exist within, and are dependent upon, natural systems. Environmental stewardship is, therefore, central to sound economic management.

Attracting new manufacturing businesses of solar, recyclable and sustainable products could add permanent not seasonal jobs to our region. Food and organic waste is being wasted and should be collected and composted for use around the district. Council should also be bound to hire local companies first and source local supplies.

The Greens support a regime of economic development that promotes transparency, accountability and stewardship that ensures maximum benefit to the public.

##### **Barrington Coast and events tourism**

While The Barrington Coast marketing has proven successful so far, it has always been a problem combining the whole area for visitor purposes.

Eco tourism is an economic winner especially with younger travellers and their families. This could be developed and promoted so that visitors find reasons to tour all around the area, possibly using public and low carbon transport.



Trade shows such as Ag Quip and Floriade are annual events that are known Australia wide and internationally. A convention centre with adjacent grounds for such events would be a welcome addition to the existing, smaller venues. Supporting and fostering cultural gatherings to celebrate art and dance would also be a way to support our Biripi and Worimi people and attract visitors. Visitors should be encouraged to come by bus or train like they do to the Elvis Festival in Parkes.

#### **Affordable housing**

The Greens are acutely aware of the housing and homelessness crisis in the MidCoast. We believe that council does have a role to play in responding to this crisis.

Having a safe place to live is a human right and every bit as important as food and water. Appropriate, secure housing is also a determinant of physical and mental health and important for the ongoing economic and social prosperity of the region. We understand many businesses struggle to find staff in the region as there is nowhere for them to live. Greens on council would act to improve housing availability by:

- advocating for all relevant levies to be imposed on developers to ensure they contribute to social infrastructure and social housing
- instigating an audit of council owned buildings to determine their suitability for social or emergency housing
- advocating for a budget for homelessness services and funding towards the women's refuge in Taree.

Group F, Katheryn Smith top left

#### **GROUP F - KATHERYN SMITH**

##### **Economic development**

We need strong economic development within our whole region. Every area is unique and as we move forward to identify what each town or village needs, its important to remember one solution does not fit all areas and strong communication is needed to set a pathway.

Council staff are employed under the current budget to assist with economic development, that funding already exists. The Regional Economic Development Strategy (REDS) for our region is due for renewal, so it is the perfect time to start the conversation. Council will be going out to chat with the business community for the next strategy, understanding what worked and did not work with the last plan and identifying bench marks.

This will ensure the next pathway is the correct pathway moving forward which will be used to attract funds to benefit economic development for the region.

##### **Barrington Coast and events tourism**

I support the Mid Coast holding large events as well as smaller events. I have been involved as a panel member on the grant committee which is set up for financial assistance to help organisations hold events in our local government area. I recognise the importance events play in adding vibrancy, attracting visitors and adding to the economy and I will continue to support event sponsorship in council's annual budget.

Larger facilities for large events require infrastructure which is big dollars. These types of funds come from state or federal government programs from rounds like Building Stronger Communities and generally built on council land.

I have no reason not to support a larger facility if it benefits the community without a large maintenance budget for the community to fund, eg self-funded. We are so lucky to have stunning beaches which hold many annual



surfing competitions and I do hope they continue. With our big area, I must stress the importance of small events to the local economy and every area is unique and important.

#### **Affordable housing**

Housing prices have gone through the roof and rental properties are in high demand. Everything requires a balance and right now council has been looking at housing density, smaller subdivision lots and height increases to assist with the demand and opportunities.

The challenges are huge, the most recent challenge in the news is regarding land release and changing zones.

Environment is an important factor when council looks at land release and as soon as a parcel of land has had a change of use, you are labelled that you do not care about the environment. This statement could not be further from the truth. The truth is we need a balance and I do take each application on its merit including a town's character and the surrounding environment.

Council requires clever planning, open spaces and enough infrastructure to support the extra growth. Council currently has three Local Environment Plans from each of the former areas. The new future plan has had extensive work involved which should make it a lot less confusing when putting in a development application, the new vegetation management plan will also ensure the sensitive parts of land for koala habitat is preserved.

#### **GROUP I - Kathryn Bell Economic development**

Economic Development is one of the principles for local government as contemplated in Section 8 of the Act and I quote "The object of the principles for councils is to enable councils to carry out their functions in a way that facilitates local communities that are strong, healthy and prosperous". It's my view that economic development is one of the cornerstones that must guide council's decision making.

Our aspiration is to see council, industry and community working together to create a business-friendly environment; ensuring regulatory framework protects community, while not hindering business enterprise, to facilitate local economic development initiatives that better address the needs of community and forges a joint commitment toward better outcomes. This aligns with the guiding principles of the Local Government Act quoted. We support a paid position on council for the officer to liaise with local chambers, listen to their proposals, encourage manufacturers into our area, openly talk with our councillors and report to Council at meetings.

#### **Affordable housing**

Local government can play a major role in facilitating and developing affordable housing in NSW. Its principle role is the preparation and implementation of a local housing strategy which provides appropriate and affordable housing for residents with diverse needs.

The major challenge is to provide land use strategies and planning mechanisms that provide both social and financial incentives for developers to offset a portion of the land yield from subdivisions for affordable housing.

We would like to see council develop and build affordable housing (with state government grants) on the portion of new land set aside by developers. It is in this way we believe council will be showing true community leadership and walking the walk, not just talking the talk when it comes to provision of affordable housing.

#### **GROUP K - TROY FOWLER (LIBERALS) Economic development**

Would we support a paid position in MidCoast Council to further Economic Development? Council has already made a significant move in this direction not so much with a single paid position but through its Economic Development Working Group. Economic Development is a partnership between business, council and



governments. Economic development is the domain of those with exceptional skills working together to achieve results. It requires people with up to date marketing skills. The purpose of the working group directly from council's web page indicates council's commitment to economic development.

Specifically, the working group has been established for the purpose of:

- Identifying, recommending and supporting projects and initiatives that will foster sustainable growth and economic development within the Mid Coast region in alignment with the Regional Economic Development Strategy.
- Supporting the promotion of Mid Coast based business and industry to broader markets.
- Supporting initiatives that enhance the professionalism and competitiveness of Mid Coast based business and industry.
- Cooperatively engaging with other relevant bodies including but not limited to the MidCoast Business Chamber, Regional Development Australia and the private sector to gain maximum benefit for the local community and the region.
- Contributing to council's strategic and business planning process.

#### **Barrington Coast and events tourism**

Other areas attract big events, is Barrington Coast branding and event tourism brand absolutely. Do we have the facilities to attract major events? Absolutely. Taree Rec Ground is one of the premier recreational facilities on the east coast possessing hockey fields that attract state and regional titles, first class and state netball courts, touch football fields second to none. We have albeit in different, sporting fields that can cater for all ball sports. Bearing in mind a single football stadium is not suitable for all ball sports, due to the rough treatment of the playing surface by different codes.

Our aquatic centres are first class both indoor and outdoor. We have a significant regional art gallery, the envy of other locations. Our entertainment centre is first class; this venue is currently undergoing a multimillion dollar addition that will lift it to a different level in the cultural scene.

#### **Affordable housing**

The most difficult and complex question of the five to address. For a community that bears the title of being one of the lowest (socio-economic) postcodes in this state, affordable housing is of major concern. We believe (it is) the most difficult social problem for any government to overcome and not the domain solely of councils.

We have land banks owned by the Crown. One of the most practical ways of adding to the housing market, be it renter or own, is to work with the state government in developing land and increasing rental properties that could be a rent to buy proposition for those that earn minimum wages. Land currently occupied by what used to be called housing commission homes, that are on very large pieces of land, would ideally be suited to redeveloped and establish units of a modest size to accommodate people in need of housing.

This is a subject councils need to put on the table for our state and federal members and another reason why we need councils that support government and not single minded independents. Being a member of a political party at a local government level is the opportunity to build trust with the state or federal government and still think for yourself.

**Our journalists work hard to provide local, up-to-date news to the community. This is how you can access our trusted content:**

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wed, 8 Jun 2022 13:13:04 +1000  
**To:** "MidCoast Council" <council@MidCoast.nsw.gov.au>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Submission for Delivery Program and Operational Plan  
**Attachments:** MCBC Submission for Proposed 2223 Delivery Plan and Budget 080622.pdf, MCC ED Services Summary.pdf

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The original attachments were not modified.

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To whom it may concern,  
Please find attached a submission from MidCoast Business Chamber as part of the Future Plans Delivery & Operation draft documents currently on exhibition.  
Please provide a confirmed and timed receipt of delivery.  
Anna Godfrey  
President  
MidCoast Business Chamber  
info@midcoastbusinesschamber.com.au  
[REDACTED]

Email secured by Check Point



### **Submission on Proposed 22/23 Budget**

To the Councillors and Executive of MidCoast Council,

Across our LGA, the Business Community has warmly welcomed a new prioritisation and commitment for Economic Development. We thank you for the time that has been invested to date to engage with the Business Community through the individual Business Chambers and the Regional Chamber.

It is in light of these verbal commitments that the absence of any financial commitment specifically for Economic Development in the proposed 22/23 Delivery Plan and Budget, documents that the current Council oversaw the development of, is a cause of great concern and confusion. Without allocated resourcing to enable the implementation of Economic Development initiatives, Council is limiting any meaningful progress in this vital dimension of our region. The budget allowance falls far short of fulfilling much of the delivery plan (see supporting document in email> MCC ED Services Summary).

Therefore, the MidCoast Business Chamber (MCBC) requests an immediate review of the current financial commitment to Economic Development and amend the budget accordingly. We recommend the addition of a new dedicated ED line allocation supported by 1) new funds accumulated across the proposed budget 2) existing funds recategorized from the proposed budget (Council spend and externally committed Grant funding).

This change demonstrates that Councillors and Communities are committed to prioritising Economic Development immediately as well as building towards further funding in the 23/24 budget once a ED Strategic Plan has been developed and endorsed.

Kind Regards,

MCBC

President: Anna Godfrey, Team Taree (Vice President)

Vice President: John Sahyoun, Bulahdelah Chamber of Commerce & Tourism (President)

Minute Secretary: Megan Lewis Forster Tuncurry Business Chamber (Vice President)

Treasurer: Liz Jarvis, Wingham Business Chamber (Committee Member)

Directors

Donna Ballard, Wingham Chamber of Commerce (Committee Member)

Matt Clinch, Gloucester Business Chamber (President)

Mike Parsons, Harrington and Surrounds Business and Community Associations Incorporated (Vice President)

Mel Rosamond, Old Bar – Manning Point Business & Community Association (President)

Rick Wraight, Myall Coast Chamber of Commerce & Tourism (Committee Member)

MidCoast Business Chamber (MCBC) is a group which was formed in 2017 across the MidCoast LGA's eight business chambers as a united way to drive Economic Development and be the go-to for council in relation to Business and Community matters. It is a Company Limited by Guarantee with Directors from each of its member chambers – Taree, Forster/Tuncurry, Gloucester, Wingham, Hawks nest/Tea Gardens, Bulahdelah, Harrington/Crowdy Head and Old Bar. It's Directors and representatives from all chambers, actively and voluntarily give their time and energy to supporting local business, community groups and MidCoast Council in driving Economic Development across the LGA. MCBC is supported by Business NSW and meets both formally and informally with a variety of organisations across the MidCoast on a regular basis.

# SERVICES SUMMARY

The table below shows the list of services Council provides and how they align to the strategic objectives in the Community Strategic Plan.

Objectives in the Community Strategic Plan.																	
Key services	Community Outcome 1				Community Outcome 2						Community Outcome 3			Community Outcome 4			
	A resilient and socially connected community				An integrated and considered approach to managing our natural and built environments						A thriving and strong economy			Strong leadership and good governance			
	STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE																
	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.6	3.1	3.2	3.3	4.1	4.2	4.3	4.4
LIVEABLE COMMUNITIES																	
Aged Care Support																	
Arts & Culture																	
Building Services																	
Business																	
Community Assets																	
Community Development																	
Customer Service																	
Development Assessment																	
Disability Services																	
Engagement, Communication & Education																	
Environmental Health																	
Land Use Planning																	
Libraries																	
Natural Systems																	
Open Spaces & Recreation																	
Regulatory Services																	
Resilience & Recovery Services																	



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wed, 8 Jun 2022 13:35:46 +1000  
**To:** "MidCoast Council" <council@MidCoast.nsw.gov.au>  
**Subject:** BUDGET 2023  
**Attachments:** Mcc 2023 budget comments.doc, Budget 22 23 summary analysis.xls

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Hi

Too many words! You have released a lot of documents at the same time for comment.

see attached

Email secured by Check Point

**Submission – budget 2022 -2023, MCC****Introduction**

I firstly apologise to the community for my short submission on last years budget and the 2021 financial statements.

Secondly I apologise to the Councillors for not providing further analysis on last years budget. Last years budget was analysed but I decided not to send and leave it to the officers to make it clear on the decisions required by Councillors on the single most important annual document. I have this time made a brief analysis as it is the officers job to explain the budget and the current financial situation.

Can I just ask that the statements be presented in conventional standard with surplus and deficit correctly displayed. I seem to have missed the Council meeting that approved the change in accounting policy/principles at MCC.

The budget summary is contained within the document and forecasts the following results for the 2022 - 2023 financial year.

Fund	Net Operating Result	Net Operating Result before Capital	Net Budget Result
General	\$2,489,549 (deficit)	\$33,766,935 (deficit)	\$6,756,259 (deficit)
Water	\$16,814,059 (surplus)	\$9,564,059 (surplus)	\$0 (balanced)
Sewer	\$16,402,800 (surplus)	\$11,902,800 (surplus)	\$0 (balanced)
MidCoast Assist	\$739,224 (surplus)	\$739,224 (surplus)	\$0 (balanced)
Consolidated	\$31,466,533 (surplus)	\$11,500,853 (deficit)	\$6,756,259 (deficit)

**Conclusion**

The annual budget is a very important report. The budget is not merely a document that conforms to the format or information as stated in the LG finance regulations. MCC can rise above the minimum and clearly inform the community. It is the blueprint of the Councils upcoming actions.

The financial situation is serious. It is not a "business as usual" situation as stated in the budget papers. The Councillors need to take decisive and immediate action to arrest the current trend.

I would welcome an interim report and a public meeting as to the actions being taken concerning this dire financial situation.

**Comment****General**

I would have liked to have seen a further report that aligns the income and expenditure with the strategic directions. This assists the measurement against the plans and policy of the current Council.

I am not sure but if not required I would have liked to see in the main reports a demonstration of the outer three years To me the long term financial plan (LTFP) was not updated with the current figures (at the 2.5% rate peg). I have had to assume that the budget we are commenting on is at the rate peg of 0.09%. Other council's had their changed

upgraded rate peg approved in early May.

For me the current cashflow report to be included in the annual budget is a key document. The LTFP shows a deterioration in the cashflow for the next 2 years (this is at the higher rate peg of 2.5%). The cash expense cover looks very low.

In the LTFP the general fund deteriorates even further, during the life of the current council.

A further report I would be looking for is the dollars being spent on addressing asset management. This would demonstrate clearly the funding model and the extent of the Asset Renewal Allocation and the Asset Renewal Backlog.

The budget document is also an opportunity for council to outline the planned savings and efficiencies.

MCC was compiled from 4 organisations in the 2016. In 2017 the elections returned the LGA to democracy. We in mid 2022 are not seeing the achievement that would be expected after some 5+ years of work to get the benefits of the amalgamation. So what has happened?

The budget document is also an important read for the average ratepayer When I am asked as to what they should look at as a minimum, I inform them;

- the rate chart for their type of property,
- the cashflow report for the current year (and the 3 outer years),
- the surplus or deficit in the current year (just the final result),

Therefor the documents as presented should be clear. I would suggest additional read on the alignment of the total dollars spend on the strategic plan by category even if only the area of your interest.

#### Climate Emergency

Is there any plan by MCC to obtain carbon neutral certification?

From Climate Policy June 21

*"Climate emergency a situation in which urgent action is required to reduce or halt climate change and avoid potentially irreversible environmental damage resulting from it".*

*"In March 2020 the NSW Government released its Net Zero Plan Stage 1: 2020-2030, which lays the foundation for NSW's action on climate change and its goal to reach net zero emissions by 2050.*

*MidCoast Council will achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions and 100% renewable energy for its operations by 2040, by implementing actions to reduce its emissions and offsetting those emissions that can't be mitigated by investing in renewable energy and local carbon sequestration initiatives such as wetland restoration, where feasible.*

*Council will use its influence to lead and support the community to reduce its own emissions, which encompasses action around strategic planning, education and capacity building, incentives and financial support, advocacy and collaboration, infrastructure development and land use planning. Council will also plan and implement measures to increase the resilience of Council's assets and operations and to help the MidCoast community adapt to the impacts of climate change, in particular to the increased inundation of low-lying areas as a result of sea level rise,*

*accelerated coastal erosion, and the reduction in annual rainfall, stream flow and water supply".*

- *Budgeting and resourcing climate change mitigation and adaptation action through Council's annual Operational Plans, and for each term of Council through its Delivery Program."*

It is not clear from the budget as to whether MCC are providing sufficient funding to fully address the emergency. I have been previously informed that there is no overall budget to address climate emergency. It is not apparent, the amount of reliance MCC has on the purchase of offsets to achieve the stated targets by 2040. The tips operated by Council will continue to emit gases. I am uncertain of the current method of power to run the pools. This would be good to acknowledge and a \$ figure placed on the the correction action for these difficult to control emitters. A commitment to an emissions reduction target to ensure organisations do not rely solely on offsetting, but rather actively cut emissions and reduce the need to offset over time. Having a specific and time-bound emissions reduction target provides Council with the opportunity to strengthen its current commitments, drive further targeted action in our climate emergency response. Interim target reviews are recommended in 2024, 2027 and 2030 which will provide opportunities for more accurate analysis of financial implications.

Also there is not disclosed the amount of funding being provided to the review of the LEP and DCP due to climate disruption.

A simple summary by way of note as to the total spend on the climate emergency measure would be helpful. Better still the suggested report aligning the dollars with the strategic direction. This would give Council and/or the community to comment if it considers, not enough is being to reduce emissions in response to the climate emergency.

I trust that the target will not be reached due to lack of investment in required technologies.

It does appear that the council officers are not aware, of the full ramifications of the declaration by council and as this is a commentary on finances, the full dollar cost of Resolution 355/19.

Circular economy

Again no separate disclosure of initiatives being considered or taken.

Staff

Staff numbers have been disclosed as 874 There is no indication as to the full staffing level nor if this is the current or expected staff FTE's during the current budget period.

Debt level

The previous financial statements in the current asset disclose around \$20M would be repaid. MCC consolidated are then to borrow \$8,4m so approx of \$12M nett in debt movement in 2022 -23. MCC are further faced with new borrowings to fund the matching grant funds for the roads till 2024 or is it 25. Please make it clear?. The reduction for the rest of this council term is largely due to loans in the other funds reaching maturity and due date. There has

been much gossip about the debt level of the previous organisations but that is now irrelevant as we go forward and the management handle what has been served up post amalgamation. How about a clear debt management plan presented to the punters?

Financial Ratios - see below and excel

Again MCC can disclose more ratios to provide a snapshot of performance. The currently disclosed financial ratios do not paint a good picture of the finances of MCC.

Assets held for Re-sale

In the long term financial plan there is no movement in the current asset or non current asset values. Is this the case?

Strategic Direction

The comments made under climate emergency apply to other strategic directions that Council have set.

Follow Up

Again there is more but that is up to the council officers to draw to the attention of the Councillors before they vote. I may have missed some of the key ideas in the budget that was buried in the words. I am mainly interested in the budget figures. I can't see anywhere that I can register my interest in attending the budget submissions hearing.

I welcome any correction to my statements and as always I am available to discuss local government matters.

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the speaker.

6/6/22

MCC 22/23 Budget breakdown by fund  
The projected

2022 2023	Consolidated	General	Water	Sewer	MidCAssist
Net Result	\$31,456,533	\$2,489,540	\$16,814,059	\$16,402,800	739,224
Net Budget	\$6,756,259	\$6,756,259	\$,0	\$0.00	0

Compare

2021 2022	Consolidated	General	Water	Sewer	MidCAssist	Fin Stat
Net Result	\$6,440,189	\$13,214,785	\$8,535,662	\$9,856,684	\$1,262,628	
Net Budget	\$12,507,981	\$2,435,742	\$10,531,026	\$458,787	\$0 (balanced	

MCC	Budget 22/23	Budget 22/23	2023
Budget Summary Statement		Budget Summary Statement recast	
Income	\$	Summary Consolidated Fund	\$
Rates	166,961,431	council income	
User Charges	56,452,765	Rates	166,961,431
other		User Charges	56,452,765
		Lease Income (1 <sup>st</sup> time in 22 from Building?)	2,273,600
Total Income	310,983,010	Other	7,256,741 adj??
			232,944,537 0.0%
Total Expenses	279,516,476	Internal Exp	
Net Operating result Continuing Operation	31,466,534	Total Expenses	279,516,476
		Internal deficit/ excess (or Loss)	-46,571,939
Less Cap Grant	43,027,386	External Income	
Net operating result before capital income	-11,560,852	Grant – operating (mostly is untied)?	35,011,087
Internal Income and allocations	58,971,243	Net recurring Inc & Exp deficit/excess	-11,560,852 0
most are recovery from Funds and capital works			
Internal Expenses and allocations	48,570,340	Grant - capital tied or untied???	43,027,386
	10,400,903		
Net operating results from continuing operations	41,867,436	Net Operating result Excess or profit Continuing Operation	31,466,534 0
after internal transactions		or all operational activities Profit or Loss	
B S movement & non cash		Reconcile	
Total BS	58,794,182	Internal move	10,400,903
To/from Reserves	-10,170,486		41,867,436
	48,623,696	BS & non cash & reserves	48,623,696
Net result consolidated fund	deficit -6,756,260	net internal juggle	-38,222,793
Approx\$16.5M swing and less than 20/21 ??		All operational activities deficit	-6,756,260
le 21 is 4 \$m surplus 22 is 12.5 deficit			

Needs to have a discussion.

21-22  
Internal Transfer  
Internal over-  
Internal  
Internal job cc  
Plant hire

## Summary Consolidated Fund

310983010 75%

Split on each funds result				
Consolidate	General	Water	Sewer	Assist
31,466,534	-2,489,549	16,814,059	16,402,800	739,224

Change In equity? Reduction ?

Inc	Exp	net
#####	13,977,705	0
2,655,500	3,585,434	-929,934
#####	24,542,281	11,146,106
6,110,368	4,678,168	1,432,200
#####	46,783,588	11,648,372



MCC approved ratePeg0,9% as published 26 April2022	Budget 22/23	Budget 22/23	2023	
Budget Summary Statement – General fund		Budget Summary Statement recast		
Income	\$	GenFund 0.9%	\$	
Rates	112,209,509	Council income		
User Charges	15,610,365	Rates	112,209,509	
other		User Charges	15,610,365	
		Lease Income (1 <sup>st</sup> time in 22 from Building?)	2,093,600	
Total Income	201,468,467	Other	6,380,394	
			136,293,868	0.0%
Total Expenses	203,958,016	council Exp		
Net Operating result Continuing Operation	-2,489,549	agreed Total Expenses	203,958,016	
		Internal deficit/ excess (or Loss)	-67,664,148	
Less Cap Grant	31,277,386			
Net operating result before capital income	-33,766,935	External Income		
		Grant – operating	33,897,213	
Internal Income and allocations	43,918,243	Net recurring Inc & Exp deficit/excess	-33,766,935	
most are recovery from Funds and capital works				
		Grant - capital	31,277,386	
Internal Expenses and allocations	22,987,915			
	20,930,328	Net Operating result Excess or profit Continuing Operation	-2,489,549	-2,489,549
Net operating results from continuing operations	18,440,778	or general council activities used in the y/e finState		
after internal transactions				
		Reconcile		
B S movement & non cash		Internal move	20,930,328	
Total BS	17,270,455		18,440,778	
To/from Reserves	7,926,582	BS & non cash & reserves	25,197,037	
	25,197,037	net internal juggle		-4,266,709
Net result general fund	deficit -6,756,259			
Increasing Loss from last yr and increasing over next 3 yrs		General council operational activities deficit	-6,756,259	-6,756,259
test above????		this because of the Div or reallocation of Expenses		

Needs discussion to understand my thought

Internal Transfer  
Internal overHead  
Internal  
Internal job costing  
Plant hire  
Gen council fund  
  
Con funds compare

GenFund 0.9%

201468467 68% Is % of own MCC LG income to total income

-67,920,627 256,479 compare to 2021-22 budget

21360681 -12406254

nb relation to infrastructure to borrowings

Profit or Loss 18871132  
-13,214,785 Compare 21-22

No Rateable property's

Change In equity? Reduction ?  
-2,425,747 compare to 21-22

Inc	Exp	net	21-22
#####	1,542,821	#####	
2,655,500	3,387,375	-731,875	
#####	#####	7,933,306	
6,110,368	4,386,003	1,724,365	39.3%
#####	#####	#####	
#####	#####	#####	
		-9,712,309	

MCC From LTFP as published 26 April2022	Budget 22/23		Budget 22/23	2023	
Budget Summary Statement – General fund			Budget Summary Statement recast		
Income	\$		General fund LTFP	\$	
Rates	110,175,413		Council income		
User Charges	23,973,575		Rates	110,175,413	
other			User Charges	23,973,575	
			Lease Income (1 <sup>st</sup> time in 22 from Building?)	2,103,600	
Total Income	209,380,554		Other	6,839,494	
				143,092,082	0.0%
Total Expenses	190,940,633		council Exp		
Net Operating result Continuing Operation	18,439,921	agreed	Total Expenses	190,940,633	
			Internal deficit/ excess (or Loss)	-47,848,551	
Less Cap Grant	31,277,386				
Net operating result before capital income	-12,837,465		External Income		
			Grant – operating	35,011,087	
Internal Income and allocations	43,890,991		Net recurring Inc & Exp deficit/excess	-12,837,464	
most are recovery from Funds and capital works					
			Grant - capital	31,277,386	
Internal Expenses and allocations	22,530,310				
	21,360,681		Net Operating result Excess or profit Continuing Operation	18,439,922	18439922
Net operating results from continuing operations	39,800,601		or general council activities		
after internal transactions					
			Reconcile		
B S movement & non cash			Internal move	21,360,681	
Total BS	5,812,935			39,800,602	
To/from Reserves	4,768,702		BS & non cash & reserves	10,581,637	
	10,581,637		net internal juggle		10,779,044
Net result general fund	29,218,964	deficit			
Increasing Loss from last yr and increasing over next 3 yrs			General council operational activities deficit	29,218,965	29,218,965

Needs discussion to understand my thought

Internal Transfer  
Internal overHead  
Internal  
Internal job costing  
Plant hire  
Gen council fund  
  
Con funds compare

General fund LTFP

209380555      68% Is % of own MCC LG income to total income

21360681      8523217

*nb relation to infrastructure to borrowings*

Profit or **Loss**      39800603

No Rateable property's

Change In equity? **Reduction** ?

Inc	Exp	net
#####	1,542,821	#####
2,655,500	3,387,375	-731,875
#####	#####	7,933,306
6,110,368	4,386,003	1,724,365
#####	#####	#####
#####	#####	#####
		<b>-9,712,309</b>

39.3%

Cash Flow 2022 23  
General Fund

MCC From LTFP as published 26 April 2022

using rate peg of 2.5%

Gen Fund

	\$000							
Summary over time	now	movement	23	movement	cashflow LTFP 24	movement	25	2022 to 2025
end balance	137,445	211	137,656	8,441	146,097	-1,011	145,086	7,641
					8823 net borrow			

Cashflow statement by activity over budget estimate

	\$000						
Nett cash from operating activities			72,952		75,834		48,788
Cash from investing activities			-72,512		-76,215		-41,718
Cash from financing activities			-230		8,823		-8,082
Nett increase (decrease) in cash and equivalent			210		8,442		-1,012
Cash at beginning of year			0		210		8,652
Cash at end year			210	8,442	8,652	-1,012	7,640
							movement 3 yrs 7,430

Investment current and non current Fin asset	137,445	0	137,445	0	137,445			0
end balance	137,655	8,442	146,097	-1,012	145,085	7,430	7,430	7,430
check	1	-1	0	1	1			

Ratio 2022 23	From LTFP	Consolidated	Gen Fund	
Operating performance			-7.21%	
Own Source operating revenue			68.34%	analysis
Unrestricted current			2.31	
Debt service cover			4.41	
Cash expense cover			0.02	
Cash expense cover in mths	0.083			
Debt service			6.47%	
Above as supplied				

Ratio 2022 23	From Op Plan			
Operating performance		-4.31%	-19.84%	
Own Source operating revenue		53.69%	55.70%	
Own Source operating revenue (usercharges)		71.84%	63.44%	
Unrestricted current				
Debt service cover				
Cash expense cover				very low
Cash expense cover in mths				very few months
Debt service				

above not supplied my calc see below

**Efficiency** No of assessment 55621

Expenditure (cost) level		\$3,667
Revenue level		\$3,622
staff t/over	%	

## Borrowing

	2022	2023	2025	Movement in term	Gen	water
Current Liab	19,510,000	18,015,000	17,955,000	1,555,000		
Non Current Liab	163,760,000	153,808,000	132,949,000	30,811,000		
	183,270,000	171,823,000	0 150,904,000	32,366,000 reduction	0	

<b>Equity</b>	3,736,846,730	3,778,762,623	3,857,247,704	120,400,974 increase from water and sewer is?
				check reval

analysis

0.0

sewer

2025

Page 10

rates	166961431	Total	97019000	79096852	96,168,414	0
user charges	56452765	Gen Fund	70984215		69,783,565	
	223,414,196	FTE as disclosed analysis	831	831	874	43
		Ave employee cost	116,750	95,183	110,033	5.2%
staff to rates and user				??		
	96,168,414					
	43.0%					

Dep'n  
Total asset Value

80,301,300

loss on disposal

923,500

Rates  
User Charges

No of properties

??

[Update of the :Know your council website](#)

Ratio Calc 2022 23

Op performance

op Rev	310,983,010	201468467
cap Grant	43,027,386	31277386
op Exp	279,516,476	203958016
	-11,560,852	-33766935

op Rev		
op Rev	310,983,010	201468467
cap Grant	43,027,386	31277386
	267,955,624	170191081

Operating Performance ratio (over 0%)

-4.31% -19.84%

Own Sourcing Rev

Rates and Annual charges	166,961,431	112209509
user charges	56,452,765	15610365
Inc from Continuing Op	310,983,010	201468467
	53.69%	55.70%
	71.84%	63.44%

,60%

Efficiency assessments 55621

op Exp	203958016
op Rev	201468467

Page 11



-96168414

0

0

-96168414

-100.00%

#DIV/0!

-100.00%

FTE 07/02/2021

831  
analysis

Exp level	\$3,667
Rev level	\$3,622

analysis

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This email's attachments were cleaned of potential threats by Check Point SandBlast.  
Click [here](#) if the original attachments are required (justification needed).

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wed, 8 Jun 2022 14:18:49 +1000  
**To:** "MidCoast Council" <council@MidCoast.nsw.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Cancer Institute NSW submission to MidCoast Council CSP  
**Attachments:** MidCoast Council Community Strategic Plan Submission Cancer Institute NSW.cleaned.pdf

Dear General Manager

Please find attached a submission to your draft CSP from Sarah McGill A/CEO of the Cancer Institute NSW.

I am happy to assist with any queries.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]  
Project Officer, Skin Cancer Prevention and Healthy Lifestyles  
Cancer Screening & Prevention  
[Cancer.nsw.gov.au](https://cancer.nsw.gov.au)

T (02) 8374 4539 E [REDACTED]  
Level 4, 1 Reserve Road, St Leonards NSW 2065  
Locked Bag 2030, St Leonards NSW 1590

**Working days** Monday to Friday, 8:30am - 5:00pm



**Cancer Institute NSW**



**The NSW Cancer Plan**  
A plan for NSW to lessen the impact of cancers

View the  
new plan  
online



I acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land and pay respects to Elders past and present. I also acknowledge all the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff working with NSW Government at this time.

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

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Views expressed in this message are those of the individual sender, and are not necessarily the views of NSW Health or any of its entities.

Email secured by Check Point

General Manager  
MidCoast Council  
PO Box 482  
Taree NSW 2430

Dear General Manager,

**Re: Submission to Draft MidCoast Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032 and also to forthcoming *Draft Delivery Program* – regarding shade and UV protection**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the *Draft Community Strategic Plan* (CSP) recently prepared by Council. This letter should also be considered a submission to Council's forthcoming *Delivery Program*.

The Cancer Institute NSW (the Institute) is the state government's cancer control agency responsible for the delivery of the *NSW Cancer Plan* to reduce the incidence of cancer in NSW and the *NSW Skin Cancer Prevention Strategy*. The Institute works closely with key stakeholders with health and built environment expertise to reduce the incidence of skin cancer by improving access to adequate shade in NSW. The Institute also promotes sun protection and healthy lifestyle behaviours, including physical activity, which reduce the risk of certain cancers.

The Institute is committed to supporting your Council to reduce skin cancer and improving access to adequate shade in your LGA and has prepared the following submission that:

- outlines the importance of well-designed shade for the prevention of skin cancer
- offers specific comments and suggestions regarding the draft CSP and the forthcoming DP
- provides further information and contacts to assist Council in budgeting, planning, designing and constructing good quality shade.

## **1. Skin cancer and shade in your LGA**

Skin cancer is the most common cancer in Australia, and it is estimated that cases of non-melanoma skin cancers exceed all other cancer types combined.<sup>1</sup> At least 99% of non-melanoma skin cancers<sup>2</sup> and 95 per cent of melanoma skin cancers<sup>3</sup> are caused by overexposure to ultra-violet radiation (UVR) from the sun. UVR is a class 1 carcinogen, and two in three Australians are expected to develop skin cancer before the age of 70.<sup>4</sup> In your LGA, the incidence rate of melanoma skin cancer in 2017 was 79.3 per 100,000 population, which was higher than the state average.<sup>5</sup>

Across NSW, Bureau of Meteorology records show UVR levels are high enough to damage unprotected skin for at least 10 months of the year. Unlike temperature, UVR can't be seen or felt and damage to unprotected skin can still occur on cool or overcast days.

The good news is that skin cancer is highly preventable. In addition to personal protective behaviours (*Slip Slop Slap Seek Slide*), there is evidence that well-designed and correctly positioned shade, from both natural vegetation and built structures, can reduce exposure to UVR by up to 75 percent.<sup>6</sup>

Record number: E22/01964~56

The provision of good quality shade is integral to assisting the community in reducing its exposure to UVR. However, quality shade needs to be planned, provided and maintained with careful thought if it is to be effective. This is where your Council can play an important role through the budgeting, planning, design and construction of good quality shade.

The flyer *[Shade: A planning and design priority that helps prevents skin cancer](#)* gives Council staff and Councillors an excellent overview of the benefits of well-designed shade.

## 2. Specific comments regarding the draft CSP and forthcoming Delivery Program

The Institute recognises that the CSP is the highest level of planning undertaken for your LGA, and is a shared community vision that will inform Council's projects and programs for the next 10 years.

The Institute is concerned that shade is not mentioned in the CSP and suggests that the importance of built and natural shade is included in the following relevant sections (suggested additions are shown in *italics*):

- On p20, add to Strategy 1.4.3: Encourage physical health and fitness and social connectedness by providing safe, *shaded* and appropriate recreational facilities.
- On p22, add another Strategy to Objective 2.2 'We understand and manage environment and climate change risks and impacts': *2.2.3 Prepare a Shade and UV Strategy to mitigate against over-exposure to UV radiation.*
- On p25, add another Strategy to Objective 3.3 'Our integrated transport networks meet the needs of our businesses and the community': *3.3.3 Provide a network of shaded footpaths and cycleways.*
- Add to the Performance Measures: *% of residents satisfied that they can find shade in public places when it is needed.*

To support these suggestions, Council may like to consider the following evidence:

1. The Institute is aware that the provision of shade to public spaces has consistently been a concern of the community over many years. For example, analysis in 2018<sup>7</sup> found that:
  - around 41% of the NSW adult population always or often sought shade when they were out in the sun for more than 15 minutes between 11am and 3pm; although
  - 35% of the population were not able to easily find shade in sporting areas; and
  - people use shade when it is provided.
2. In recent Cancer Institute NSW research regarding benchmarking shade in NSW playgrounds (as yet unpublished), it was found that 19% of the 2592 audited NSW playgrounds (over 91 LGAs) had no shade over play equipment. In the shaded playgrounds, shade was found most commonly over only ¼ of the playground area.

Feedback from stakeholders indicated shade in community-based playgrounds to be extremely important, with specific feedback being:

- a desire for built shade to be used while waiting for immature trees to grow, and
- a desire to improve planning and design of playgrounds to match seasonal and regional variations with preference for some winter sun, and shade in summer to reduce heat.

The Institute suggests that Council, the CSP and forthcoming DP recognise that well-designed built and natural shade:

- **is an asset** that is critical to ensuring the health, comfort and well-being of your community, and has many benefits.
- **should be provided in all public spaces** including playgrounds, parks, recreation and sporting facilities, key footpaths and cycleways, town centres, adjacent to community buildings, within parking areas and at public transport approaches and waiting spaces including bus stops and train stations.
- **is a natural hazard akin to heatwaves, floods and bushfires.** As an explanation - overexposure to solar UV radiation is a meteorological hazard caused by the interaction of the sun, ozone and other natural processes. As explained earlier, this hazard is present in the region at levels high enough to damage unprotected skin for at least 10 months of the year. As such, UV radiation could be recognised as a natural hazard in the CSP.
- **needs dedicated planning and budgeting.** In this respect, the Institute recommends that the planning and construction of well-designed built and natural shade is recognised in Council's forthcoming DP.

The Institute also made a submission to Council's *Local Strategic Planning Statement* (LSPS) and was pleased to note that the report to Council regarding the draft LSPS stated:

"The provision of shade could be a consideration of the Open Space and Recreation Needs Assessment that will inform the development of the Open Space Strategy for the MidCoast. The development of the Strategy is an action of the LSPS. The Greening Strategy will guide how we manage, maintain, sustain and enhance urban greening across the MidCoast. A potential outcome of the Greening Strategy is a shade for parks program."

The Institute is keen to understand whether such a 'shade for parks' program has been pursued. The Institute is also happy to offer assistance to Council in scoping such a program.

### 3. Further information and assistance regarding shade for all staff within council

The Institute's key message is that the provision of well-designed, appropriately located and properly budgeted built and natural shade is integral to assisting the community in reducing its over-exposure to UVR, and hence in reducing the risk of skin cancer in the community.

As such, the Institute will be pleased to provide support to Council that will assist in the planning, design and construction of shade. Some resources are provided in the *Additional Information* section below. Further technical documents, information and assistance can be obtained from the Institute:

Nikki Woolley, Skin and Lifestyle Cancer Prevention Portfolio Manager  
Email: [CINSW-SkinCancerPrevention@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:CINSW-SkinCancerPrevention@health.nsw.gov.au) or Phone: 8374 5604

A consultant Registered Planner, Jan Fallding RPIA (Fellow), has been engaged to assist in preparing this submission and to offer further support to Council via the Institute. She will only be available until the end of June 2022.

You may like to forward this offer of assistance to the various staff within Council who are responsible for different areas relating to shade planning and construction – for example:

- planning staff writing Development Control Plans or other planning strategies
- infrastructure and recreation staff designing and budgeting for built and natural shade

Record number: E22/01964~56

- staff involved in community programs where education about sun smart behaviour can be beneficial.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft CSP, and the forthcoming Delivery Program. Please keep the Institute informed as to the progress of the CSP, the Delivery Program and any further relevant policy or strategy related to shade.

Yours sincerely,



Ms Sarah McGill

A/ Chief Executive Officer

Cancer Institute NSW

8 June 2022

Copy:

Hunter New England Local Health District

## References

1. Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2016. *Skin cancer in Australia*. Canberra: AIHW; 2016 [cited 2021 Aug 11]. Available from: [www.aihw.gov.au/getmedia/0368fb8b-10ef-4631-aa14-cb6d55043e4b/](http://www.aihw.gov.au/getmedia/0368fb8b-10ef-4631-aa14-cb6d55043e4b/)
2. Armstrong BK. 2004. *How sun exposure causes skin cancer: an epidemiological perspective*. In: Hill D, Elwood JM, English DR, editors. *Prevention of Skin Cancer*. Dordrecht: Springer Netherlands; 2004. p. 89–116.
3. Arnold, M., de Vries, E., Whiteman, D. Jemal, A., Bray, F., Parkin, D, Soerjomataram, I., 2018. *Global burden of cutaneous melanoma Attributable to ultraviolet radiation in 2012*. *International Journal of Cancer* 3(6):395-401.
4. Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2016. *Skin cancer in Australia. Cat. no. CAN 96. Canberra: AIHW*
5. Cancer Institute NSW Statistics Portal [https://www.cancer.nsw.gov.au/research-and-data/cancer-data-and-statistics/cancer-statistics-nsw#/\(Accessed February 10 2022\)](https://www.cancer.nsw.gov.au/research-and-data/cancer-data-and-statistics/cancer-statistics-nsw#/)
6. Parsons, P., Neale, R., Wolski, P. & Green, A. 1998, *The shady side of solar protection*, *Medical Journal of Australia*, 168: 327-330.
7. Cancer Institute NSW 2021. *Sun protection behaviours in target populations for skin cancer prevention: Analysis of the 2018 NSW Adult Population Health Survey*

Record number: E22/01964~56



## Additional information

General information about skin cancer, UV exposure and shade: [cancer.nsw.gov.au/shade-and-uv](https://cancer.nsw.gov.au/shade-and-uv)

Numerous resources for local government regarding planning and designing shade are available here <https://www.cancer.nsw.gov.au/prevention-and-screening/preventing-cancer/preventing-skin-cancer/shade-and-uv-protection/helpful-shade-resources> , including the following:

- A 2 page summary about the benefits of shade (Cancer Institute NSW, 2019): [\*Shade: A planning and design priority that helps prevent skin cancer.\*](#)
- [\*Shade design - UV, climate and comfort\*](#) (Cancer Institute NSW, 2020) – a 2 minute introductory video to designing effective shade
- Cancer Council NSW, 2013: [\*Guidelines to Shade - A practical guide for shade development in New South Wales\*](#)
- [\*Shade Design Planning Considerations\*](#) (Cancer Institute NSW, 2020)
- [\*Shade Audits\*](#) (Cancer Institute NSW, 2020) – flyer giving simple advice about how to conduct a shade audit
- Sunsmart's online [\*Shade Comparison Check\*](#) – an online shade audit
- [\*Physical Shade Structures, Natural Shade and Shade Sails\*](#) (Victoria State Government, Municipal Association of Victoria and SunSmart, undated)
- [\*Shade Design for Public Places - selecting appropriate, innovative and cost effective shade measures\*](#) (Municipal Association of Victoria, undated)
- [\*Shade: A Resource for Local Government\*](#) (Municipal Association of Victoria, undated)
- [\*How schools, councils, community groups and sporting organisations created shade: 10 Case Studies\*](#) (Cancer Institute NSW, 2015)
- [\*NSW Skin Cancer Prevention Strategy\*](#) (Cancer Institute NSW, 2017)
- Health and wellbeing statistics, including data at LGA level: [healthstats.nsw.gov.au](https://healthstats.nsw.gov.au)
- [\*UV radiation index widgets available for locations across Australia\*](#)
- [\*Australian Standard AS 4174:2018 : Knitted and woven shade fabrics\*](#)

Record number: E22/01964~56

Cancer Institute NSW

ABN 48 538 442 594

Document Set ID: 15844944

Version: 1, Version Date: 08/06/2022

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[cancer.nsw.gov.au](https://cancer.nsw.gov.au)

e [information@cancer.nsw.gov.au](mailto:information@cancer.nsw.gov.au)

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wed, 8 Jun 2022 14:24:23 +1000  
**To:** "MidCoast Council" <council@MidCoast.nsw.gov.au>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Draft delivery program and operational plan

Dear Council,

Further to my email of 7 June 2022 with feedback on this draft plan, I would like to add one more feedback point in relation to Regulatory Services, as follows:

- The performance measures proposed/used for Regulatory Services are totally inadequate – they are measures that have no relation at all to investigating and resolving complaints. The really important regulatory issues within the LGA are not school zone parking or companion animal ownership or registration, but illegal dumping, illegal development and illegal land clearing. Performance measures must include % resolution of reported illegal issues, separately for illegal dumping, illegal development and illegal land clearing.

Regards,

[REDACTED]  
Email: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 7 June 2022 8:54 PM  
**To:** 'MidCoast Council' <council@MidCoast.nsw.gov.au>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Draft delivery program and operational plan

Dear Council,

This email provides feedback on Council's draft Delivery Program and 2022/23 Operational Plan.

The feedback is as follows:

1. According to Council's draft Community Strategic Plan, "The Operational Plan and Budget line up with the focus areas in the Delivery Program and show the individual projects, activities and services that Council will deliver each year."  
Unfortunately this isn't happening, with very few individual projects being shown in operational plans.  
As an example, in the Hawks Nest/Tea Gardens/North Arm Cove/Pindimar there are a number of important projects such as the Singing Bridge pedestrian walkway, footpaths, boat ramps, North Arm Cove park redevelopments etc that are not included in the operational plan, or the delivery program, despite these projects being listed as high priorities by the communities and discussed in Southern Reference Group meetings, and promises being made by Council on these

projects. Communities in the southern part of the LGA are starting to feel they are being ignored by Council, with little funds being spent on improvements in these areas, and the Taree and Forster areas being given preference.

Individual community infrastructure projects over a value of say \$100k should be listed in operational plans. By doing this communities will know that Council is serious when it makes promises for improvements in their areas.

Council should give consideration to having more improvement projects in its southern towns and villages.

2. With regard to Regulatory Services, the key service description should be changed to "Investigates and undertakes compliance and enforcement activities including illegal dumping, illegal building, illegal land clearing, companion animals (dogs and cats), animal noise complaints, parking and abandoned vehicles, public area usage"

This is because Council has failed to enforce illegal activities including illegal land clearing and illegal development and buildings within its paper subdivisions, particularly at North Arm Cove. Council staff say this is because there is not enough staff to investigate and enforce, so it is a low priority. Unfortunately this means that when landowners observe Council taking no action for illegal activities, they feel that Council is a soft touch and they can do whatever they like. The result of this is that illegal activities escalate as is happening in North Arm Cove.

Council needs to get some teeth and start taking action as a deterrent.

I have been advised that there are not enough staff in the regulatory department – this being the case Council should employ additional staff, and start doing what it's community expects it to do and Council states is one of its community values – protecting the natural environment. Council must regulate and enforce legal requirements otherwise our natural environment will be trashed.

Council's failure to enforce legal requirements is a dereliction of its duties.

Regards,

[Redacted]  
Email: [Redacted]  
Phone: [Redacted]

Email secured by Check Point

**From:** [haveyoursay@midcoast.nsw.gov.au](mailto:haveyoursay@midcoast.nsw.gov.au)  
**To:** [MidCoast Council](#)  
**Subject:** Make an online submission - Draft MidCoast Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032 Form Submission  
**Date:** Wednesday, 8 June 2022 2:59:13 PM

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Have Your Say logo



## Make an online submission - Draft MidCoast Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032 Form Submission

There has been a submission of the form Make an online submission - Draft MidCoast Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032 through your Have Your Say website.

**First Name**

[REDACTED]

**Last Name**

[REDACTED]

**Your email address**

[REDACTED]

**Your best contact phone number**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb**

Wingham

**Postcode**

2429

**Please provide your submission here and/or upload your supporting documents below.**

Thank you for this opportunity; unfortunately my comments are offered in haste as I've been away. You will note from these that I believe education needs to be a pillar of the CSP.

Refer p15: Suggested change re ... thriving and growing economy:

We are a place where people want to live, learn, work and play, and where business is resilient and adaptable to change by having access to educational opportunities and by utilising knowledge and expertise that supports innovation.

Refer p16: Suggested change to Community Outcome 3:

A strong regional economy that supports education, business and jobs growth. (Repeated on p34.)

Refer p20, 1.3.3: Name Taree Universities Campus as having a role

Refer p25, 3.1.2 Name Taree Universities Campus (TUC) as having a role; also name Commonwealth Department of Education as funding for TUC and other programs such as the Regional Partnerships Project Pool Program (RPPPP) are funded (in full or in part) by the Commonwealth Government. (In other words, the Commonwealth as well as the State now has a role in funding/providing educational opportunities in our LGA.)

Refer p34: 3.1 'MidCoast is a great place to visit, live, learn, work and invest

Performance indicator / measure to include % of population with a university degree (currently low compared with NSW/Australia as a whole)

To view all of this form's submissions, visit

[https://haveyoursay.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/index.php/dashboard/reports/forms\\_new/data/105](https://haveyoursay.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/index.php/dashboard/reports/forms_new/data/105)

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wed, 8 Jun 2022 15:47:05 +1000  
**To:** "MidCoast Council" <council@MidCoast.nsw.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Community Strategic Plan, Delivery Program and Operational Plan or Resourcing Strategy  
**Importance:** Normal

Dear Sir, Ma'am

I am writing to voice my interest and concern with the above subject

I am writing to request that NAC should be included in Strategic Community plan, as we are a part of the largest paper subdivision with huge opportunities demonstrated by the NACRPA for using the areas and developing the land owned by mum and dads, this can be achieved by

Engaging all land owners and producing plans for the future.

Sustainability Research Centre framework can be achieved by working with keen land owners regular mum and dads people who are ready to participate in the project and help the development, bring back some kindness and help people achieve the sanctuary that we are all dreaming about by sharing the workload helping each other with win win strategy.

I am urging all counselor to bring alive the dream that was once dreamt by Sir Walter Burley Griffin and his family, the designs are there just time to implement.

Your kindness and strategic planning and support will help the community and sustain the wildlife in the surrounding area.

[REDACTED]

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**From:** [haveyoursay@midcoast.nsw.gov.au](mailto:haveyoursay@midcoast.nsw.gov.au)  
**To:** [MidCoast Council](#)  
**Subject:** Make an online submission Form Submission  
**Date:** Wednesday, 8 June 2022 4:22:11 PM

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## Make an online submission Form Submission

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**First Name**

[REDACTED]

**Last Name**

[REDACTED]

**Your email address**

[REDACTED]

**Your best contact phone number**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb**

Port Macquarie

**Postcode**

2444

**Please provide your submission here and/or upload your supporting documents below.**

Great work, well done. Proposed plan looks to have a good balance of vision and aspirational goals with practical considerations. Recommendation is that there is a similar focus on assurance to help obtain maximum value from the exercise, ie checking that actions match plans, there is consistent reporting of actual results vs targets, and there are clear responsibilities and accountabilities.

To view all of this form's submissions, visit

[https://haveyoursay.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/index.php/dashboard/reports/forms\\_new/data/106](https://haveyoursay.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/index.php/dashboard/reports/forms_new/data/106)

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**From:** "Have Your Say" <haveyoursay@midcoast.nsw.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Mon, 23 May 2022 11:02:49 +1000  
**To:** "MidCoast Council" <council@MidCoast.nsw.gov.au>  
**Subject:** FW: Operational Plan and Budget

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 18 May 2022 6:12 PM  
**To:** Have Your Say <haveyoursay@midcoast.nsw.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Operational Plan and Budget

The budget for road maintenance needs to be increased. The roads in Lansdowne Valley are dangerous and substandard. Potholes take many weeks to fix, with MV damage and risk of serious injury. The road renewal program needs to include Lansdowne Valley and Upper Lansdowne.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

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