

REVISED
COMMUNITY
STRATEGIC
PLAN 2018-2028

ONE CENTRAL COAST

Community Strategic Plan
2025-2035
(Draft)



Community Strategic Plan
2025-2035
(Draft)



Recommendation

Why not give it a name

OUR PLAN

or

OUR FUTURE



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- 22** Belonging
- 24** Smart
- 26** Green
- 28** Responsible
- 30** Liveable



Our People	56
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What are the implications of changing the themes ?

Current Community Strategic Plan outlines a specific "**Green**" theme focusing on environmental sustainability, including conservation, biodiversity, and community involvement in natural resource management.



The Draft Community Strategic Plan lacks a similarly structured environmental theme or specific objectives under a "Green" category, focusing more broadly on sustainability without explicitly naming it as a core theme.

Implication of losing the Green Theme

Current Community Strategic Plan explicitly references the Coastal Open Space System (COSS) as a vital part of the region's green infrastructure and environmental strategy.



The Draft Community Strategic Plan does not mention COSS or **the importance in maintaining the natural environment and community well-being.**

Central Coast Regional Plan 2041

Why losing COSS matters

Strategy 6.3 in the Central Coast Regional Plan 2041, prepared by Planning and Environment states:

Local strategic planning should consider opportunities to strengthen the Coastal Open Space System by expanding its links and extending new corridors to balance growth in the north of the region and protect the network of natural areas across the region.

Recommendation:

The Draft Community Strategy Plan included:

- A discussion on the significance of COSS;
- A map illustrating the current extent of the COSS;
- A map identifying potential areas for future expansion.
- Goals and/or milestones of when Council will expand the system

Implication of losing the Green Theme

The area marked Jilliby State Conservation Area is in fact Porters Creek Wetland, an Industrial area of Warnervale and Central Coast Airport. Plus, the area on the norther side of Sparks Road should not be coloured green as this identified as a future growth area.

Consequently, Jilliby State Conservation Area is not correctly identified. In addition, the following National Parks, Nature Reserves and State Conservation Areas boundaries are not marked correctly or completely missing.

- Dharug National Park
- Brisbane Water National Park
- Popran National Park
- Tuggerah State Conservation Area
- Lake Macquarie State Conservation Area
- Koolewong Nature Reserve
- Kuluwan Flora Reserve
- Palm Grove Nature Reserve
- Colongra Swap Nature Reserve

What is even more critically absent from the map is the 2,700 ha of COSS and the 3,300 ha of Natural Asset land.





CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES



Across the globe, populations of people are growing at a rate never seen before. By the year 2100, Australia's population will be more than double what it is today.¹ In just 20 years, another 1.7 million people will call Sydney home² and here on the Central Coast an additional **41,500 NEW HOMES WILL BE NEEDED TO ACCOMMODATE PROJECTED GROWTH**³

The Central Coast community is our strength. **OUR LAID-BACK FAMILY FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT IS ONE OF THE COAST'S BEST FEATURES**



The Central Coast is a place where towns and villages are surrounded by green landscapes and beautiful oceans and waterways. Our natural environment is important to our coastal identity. **CONSERVING OUR ENVIRONMENT AND KEEPING IT FREE FROM POLLUTION IN LIGHT OF AN INCREASING POPULATION AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT IS VITAL**



Ensuring new development is sustainable, equitable and provides affordable housing is an ongoing challenge. The balance between what exists now and planned future development means that **A SUSTAINED EFFORT MUST BE MADE TO CONSIDER HOW AND WHERE NEW DEVELOPMENT WILL OCCUR**

On the Central Coast we have access to water, transport, health, education and community infrastructure worth billions of dollars.



INVESTING IN INFRASTRUCTURE TO MEET THE DIVERSE NEEDS OF OUR GROWING COMMUNITY WILL ENSURE WE

SERVE THE NEXT GENERATIONS WHO WILL LIVE HERE

A thriving local economy ensures vibrant, liveable communities and local businesses. Currently 25.3% of the Central Coast area's working residents travel outside of the area to work.

OUR FUTURE PROSPERITY AS A REGION DEPENDS ON INDUSTRY DIVERSITY, BUSINESS AND EMPLOYMENT GROWTH



As a coastal region, the Central Coast is vulnerable to climate change impacts. Issues include sea level rise, safety in extreme weather events and secure access to fresh water.

THE NEED TO ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE IS IMPERATIVE, AS IS IMPLEMENTING FRAMEWORKS THAT ADDRESS CLIMATE RISKS



Challenges facing the community

Central Coast Council is responsible for the 3rd largest Local Government Area (LGA) by population in NSW and 8th largest in Australia, spanning 1,681 square kilometres of diverse geography, including waterways, coastline, bushland, open spaces and urban communities.



With a LGA of this size and diversity, the region faces interconnected challenges that require careful planning, adaptation, and resilience over the next few years. These challenges include climate change, population growth, increasing demand for services, resource shortages, inflation, cost of living pressures, and more frequent severe weather events. Each of these factors will impact community daily life and long-term sustainability.

Natural Resource Challenges
Another growing challenge is the strain on resources, particularly water, energy, and raw materials. Ensuring a sustainable and reliable supply is becoming increasingly difficult, particularly in the face of climate change. For instance, droughts can lead to water shortages, while reliance on non-renewable energy sources may become more problematic as fossil fuel resources decline.

To address these issues, the development of water saving and alternative solutions, and energy alternative sources, such as wind, solar, and geothermal, is essential, alongside measures to reduce waste and promote recycling.

Council is proactively planning for growth and infrastructure demand while collaborating with state and federal agencies to advocate for funding and long-term support.

"Council is proactively planning for growth and infrastructure demand..."

412,501
by 2046

Increasing Population and Demand for Services
The Central Coast's population is projected to reach 412,501 by 2046, an 18% increase approximately 60,000 people from the 2021 Census. To maintain the community's quality of life, careful planning is essential. Population growth will place greater demand on key services such as healthcare, education, housing, and transportation. Our community's infrastructure, particularly in urban areas, may struggle to keep up, leading to overcrowded schools and hospitals, increased demand for public transport, and housing shortages. Addressing these challenges requires significant investment in infrastructure and resource allocation. Prioritising affordable housing and sustainable urban development will be crucial in supporting a growing population.



"...we must invest in climate adaptation strategies, such as early warning systems, improved flood defences, upgrading infrastructures."

Climate Change and Environmental Challenges

One of the most pressing concerns for our community is climate change. Rising global temperatures are likely to lead to more extreme weather events, such as bushfires, floods, and storms, which can damage infrastructure, disrupt local services, and pose serious health risks. Increased flooding may impact homes and businesses, while worsening air quality can contribute to respiratory issues. Additionally, local ecosystems may struggle to adapt, threatening biodiversity and agriculture, which many local communities rely on for food and employment.

To mitigate these impacts, we must invest in climate adaptation strategies, such as early warning systems, improved flood defences, upgrading infrastructure to withstand extreme weather, and sustainable practices such as energy efficiency and renewable energy adoption.

Inflation and Cost of Living Pressures

Rising inflation is another significant challenge affecting the community. As the cost of goods and services increases, many households will struggle to meet their needs. Escalating the food, fuel, and utility costs, combined with wage growth, leaving many residents vulnerable to financial hardship. For those already living pay by pay, the financial strain will be particularly severe. Local businesses, especially small enterprises, may also face challenges in managing rising operating costs, potentially leading to job losses or closures. Addressing these issues may require partnerships with state and federal governments to alleviate financial stress.



Council Income

Council successfully met all milestones and targets outlined in its Financial Recovery Plan, implemented in late 2020. These actions have strengthened ongoing financial sustainability. Council has prepared a Financial Sustainability Strategy, ensuring continued service provision while maintaining long-term viability. It is recognised that like many councils, challenges remain in sustaining long-term financial health. Factors such as rate pegging limits set by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART), statutory fee limits which do not always allow Council to fully recover costs of services, prevailing inflation and supply chain demands all contribute to revenue constraints. Despite these limitations, Council remains committed to meeting community priorities and maintaining best practices in asset management. To navigate these challenges, Council will actively pursue opportunities to reduce expenditure, diversify income sources, and adapt to changes in global and local economic conditions.



¹ Australian Bureau of Statistics, 3222.0 - Population Projections, Australia, 2021 (base) to 2101, accessed 14 Mar 2018.
² NSW Government, Department of Environment & Planning, 2016, Plan for Progress and Growth Areas.
³ NSW Government Department of Planning & Environment, 2016, Central Coast Regional Plan 2036.

Challenges and Opportunities



Current CSP

- 41,000 new homes
- Laid back family friendly environment
- Conserving our environment
- Sustained effort to consider where new development to occur
- Infrastructure needs
- Industrial, business diversity
- Climate Change



Draft CSP

- 3rd largest LGA by population
- Growth will strain council resource
- 60,000 population increase
- Climate Change
- Inflation and cost of living
- Council Income



Ranking of Council's based on population

LGA	Population (2021)	Total Budget (2023/24)	Area (km ²)
Blacktown City Council	396,776	\$767 million	246.9
City of Canterbury-Bankstown	371,006	\$406.7 million	110.8
Central Coast Council	346,596	\$815 million	1,681

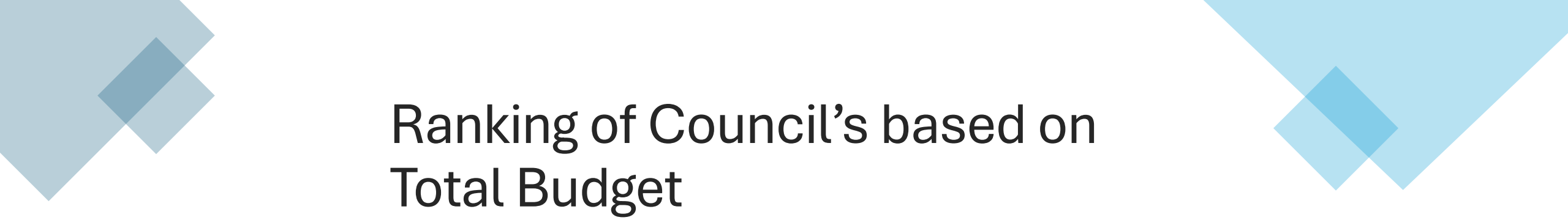
Key Insights:

1. Population Density:

- Blacktown City Council and City of Canterbury-Bankstown have significantly higher population densities compared to Central Coast Council due to their smaller land areas.
- Central Coast Council covers a vastly larger area, which impacts infrastructure maintenance costs and community service distribution.

2. Budget Allocation:


- Despite having a slightly smaller population, Central Coast Council has the highest budget, reflecting the challenges associated with managing a larger geographical area.



Ranking of Council's based on Total Budget

In the previous slide the Central Coast Council has the **largest budget among the compared councils.**

In fact, the Central Council Council has the largest total budget compared to all other Council's in NSW including the City of Sydney that comes in at \$755 million.



Our Environment

The protection and celebration of our natural landscape, including beaches, waterways, bushland, open spaces, parks, reserves.

Protection, Retention and Enhancement of our bushland and our tree canopy in urban areas.

- Invest in urban forest canopy in areas of high pedestrian and cyclist activity to mitigate urban heat island effect.
- Develop a program to provide free long-lived large shrubs and trees to the community to assist them in reducing urban heat islands.

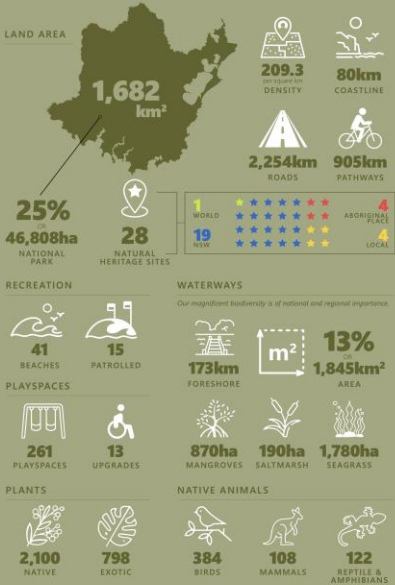
Sustainable Waste Management: Significant investment will go into new engagement and education programs, alongside improved waste collection methodologies and services.

- The Council is committed to improving resource recovery by:
- Reducing waste generation;
 - Reducing waste required to go to landfill; and
 - Increasing reuse and recycling options.

A key initiative that has been identified as part of Council's Resource Management Strategy is a Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) facility and service. This would enable the collection and diversion of food and garden waste from across the Central Coast and potentially broader.



Our Environment Quick Facts



Our Environment

Our Environment encompasses the natural landscape that serves as the backdrop of our community, offering a sense of place, identity, and connection to the environment. The environment is not just a physical space, it holds cultural, emotional, and spiritual significance for the community, offering a place for recreation, reflection, and connection to nature. Ensuring all members of the community have access to enjoy nature is pivotal. This includes our beaches, waterways, mountains, valleys, bushland, open spaces, parks, reserves and the flora and fauna within.

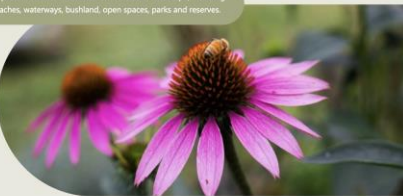
Protecting these areas is crucial for preserving biodiversity, maintaining the balance of local ecosystems, and ensuring their enjoyment for future generations.

Community take pride in their environment, actively work to safeguard our green spaces and local wildlife. Whether through local events, environmental education, or conservation initiatives, all helps to foster a collective responsibility to care for Our Environment. Sustainability, respect, and a shared commitment to the preservation of the environment are key community values.

What our community told us

- Protecting and maintaining natural spaces - including waterways, beaches and bushland
- Improving the appearance of green spaces - litter, overgrown weeds and grass. This also links to having a sense of pride
- Ensuring easy access to nature through amenities, infrastructure and events
- Recognising the appeal of the Central Coast due to the natural environment - appeal for new residents and visitors
- Protecting and maintaining the bushland
- Protecting and preserving the Aboriginal heritage and cultural sites of significance
- Expanding green spaces - with a need for more parks
- Addressing the impacts of climate change and resilience to extreme weather events
- Investing in renewable energy to support sustainability

The protection and celebration of our natural landscape, including beaches, waterways, bushland, open spaces, parks and reserves.



Goals and strategies

The protection and celebration of our natural landscape, including beaches, waterways, bushland, open spaces, parks and reserves.

KEY: D Deliver P Partner A Advocate

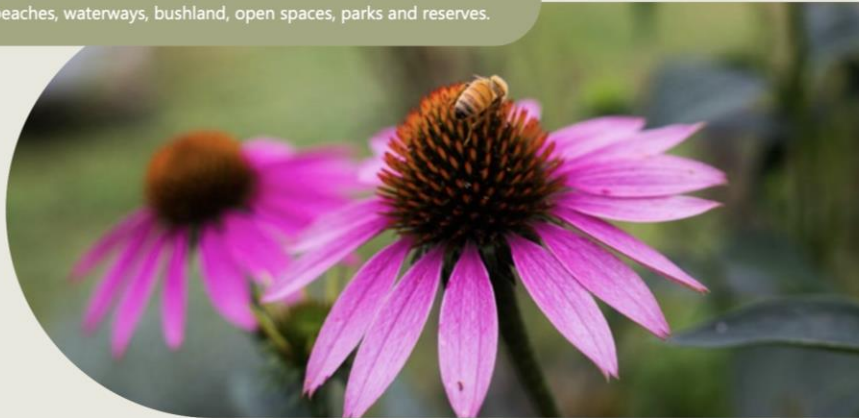
GOAL	HOW WILL WE GET THERE?
EN1: Cherished, protected and maintained natural heritage sites, land and waterways.	EN1.1: Build awareness, regenerate and celebrate the environment and cultural sites of significance. EN1.2: Protect, conserve and maintain our beaches, waterways, bushlands, wildlife corridors, inland areas and local native species. COUNCIL'S ROLE: D P A
EN2: Accessible spaces and places for people to enjoy the natural environment.	EN2.1: Provide and maintain accessible amenities, playspaces and facilities to enjoy the natural environment. EN2.2: Maintain parks, reserves and open spaces that are aesthetically appealing and encourage usage. COUNCIL'S ROLE: D P
EN3: Climate change is mitigated, and communities are prepared and supported through natural disasters.	EN3.1: Prepare and respond to climate change and its impacts. EN3.2: Provide renewable energy sources and resource recovery solutions. COUNCIL'S ROLE: D P A



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Central Coast Local Environmental Plan 2022

[2022-308]



New South Wales

Status Information

Currency of version

Current version for 6 September 2024 to date (accessed 8 January 2025 at 20:29)

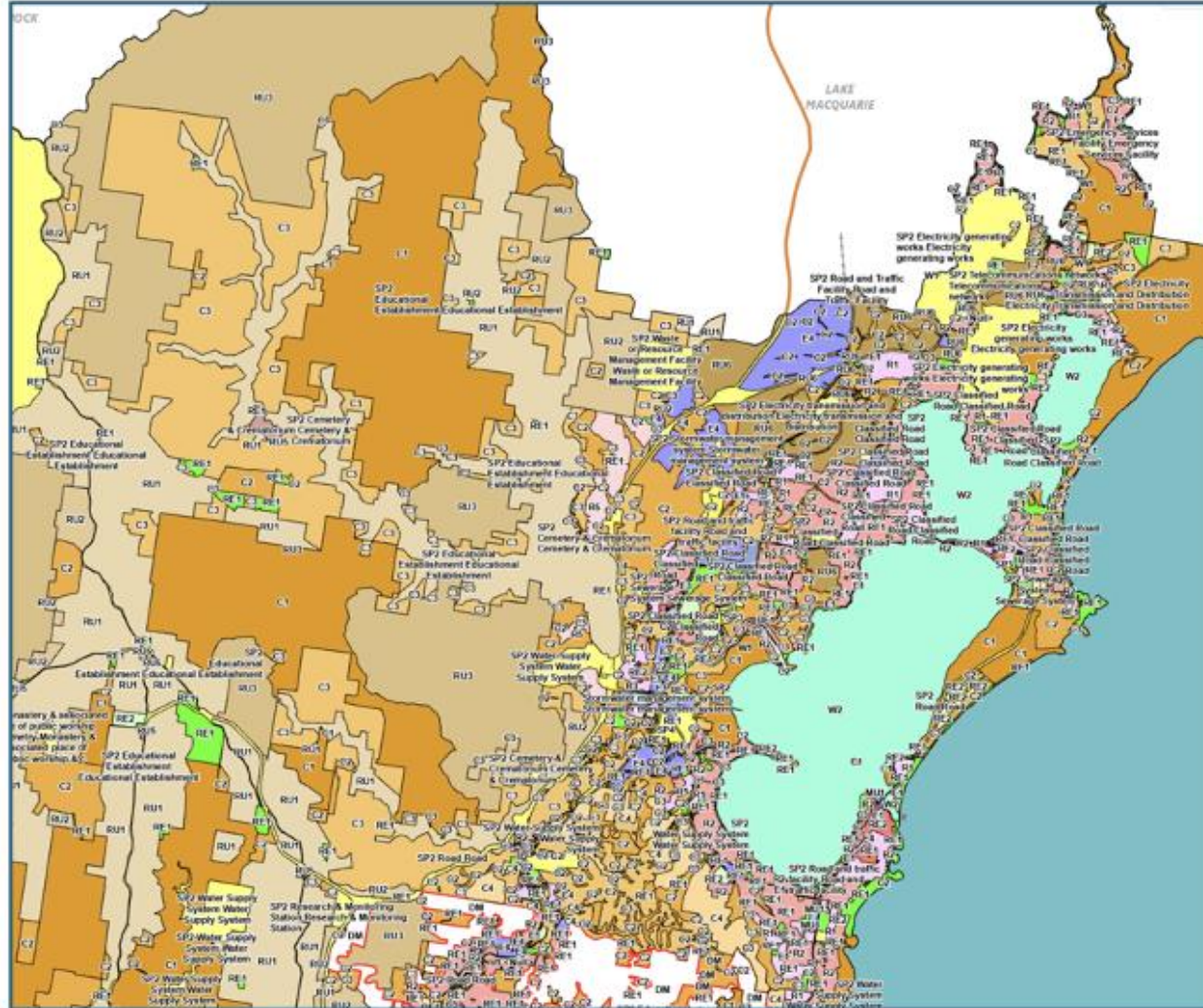
Legislation on this site is usually updated within 3 working days after a change to the legislation.

Provisions in force

The provisions displayed in this version of the legislation have all commenced.

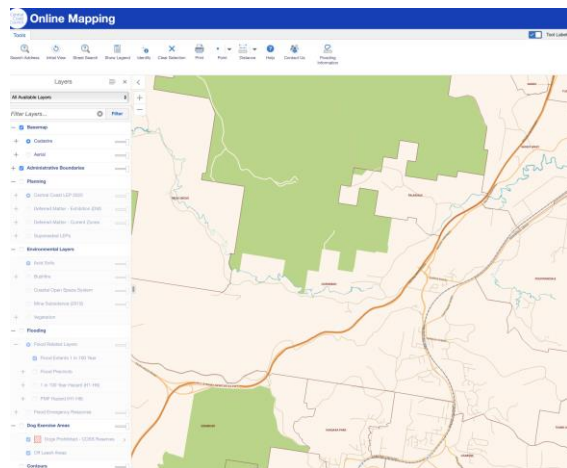
About this plan

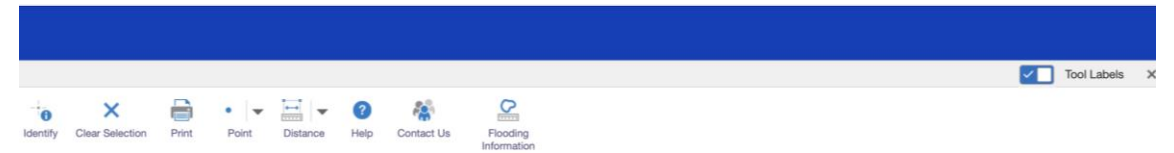
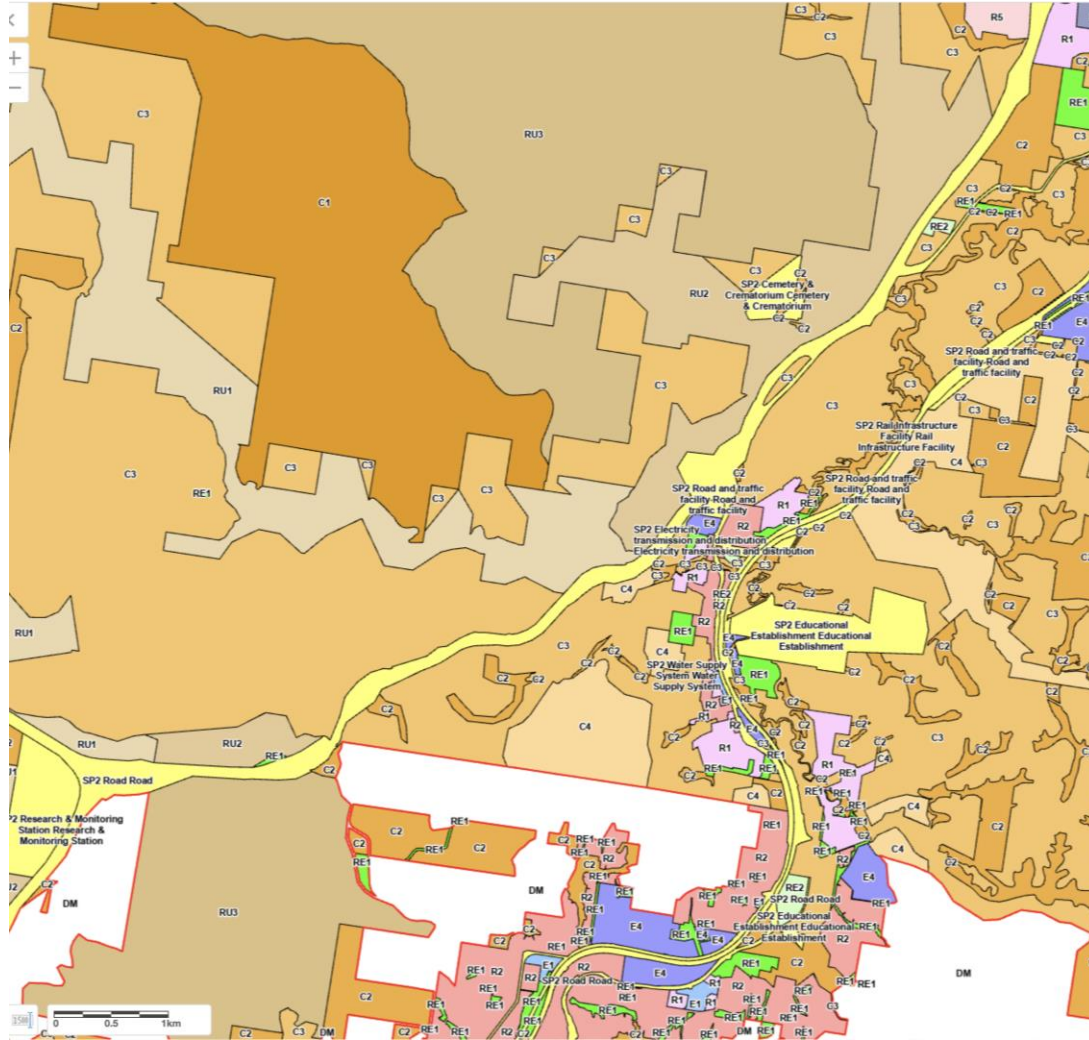
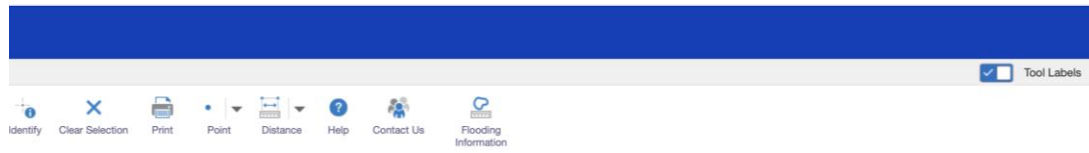
This Plan is a [standard instrument local environmental plan](#) under the [Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979](#).

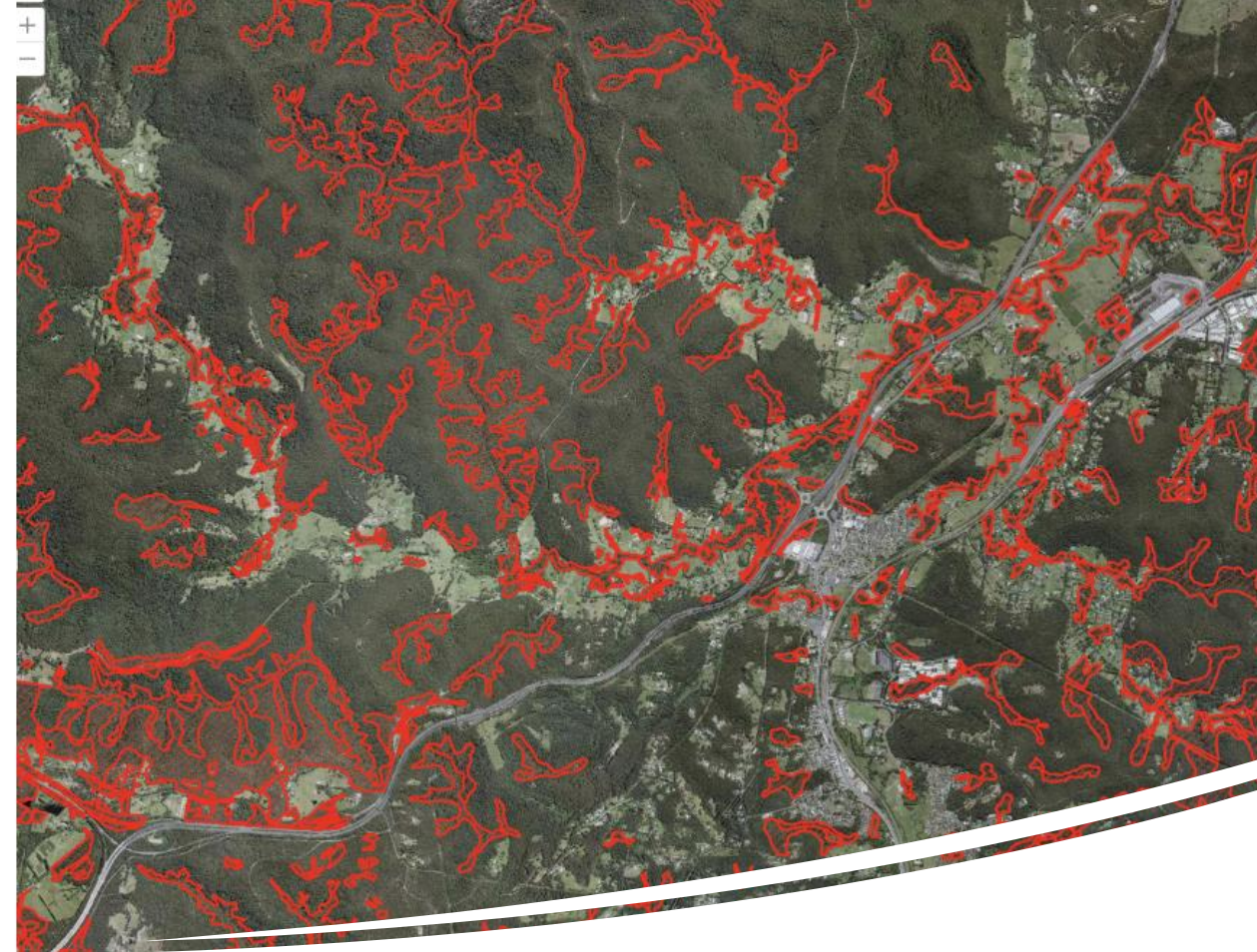
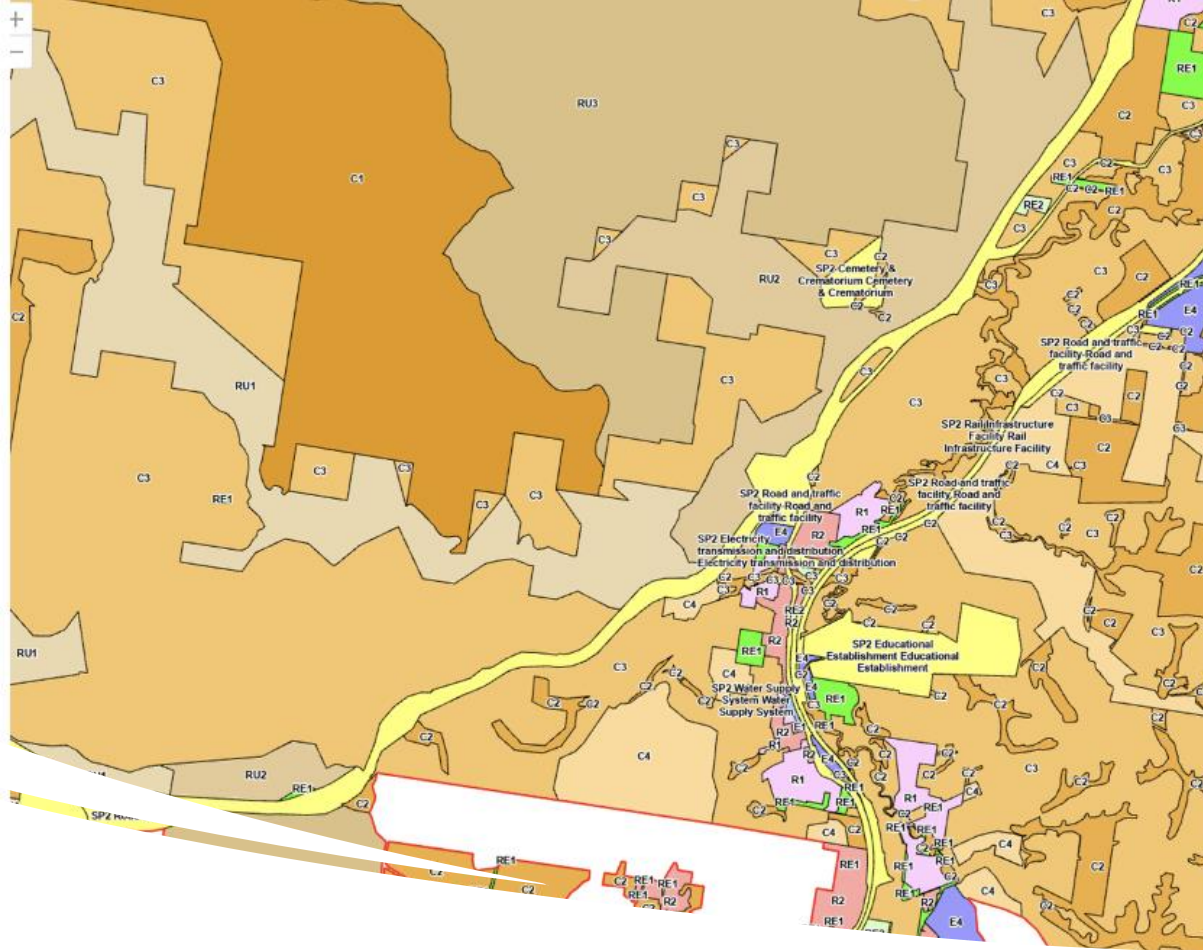


Scoping Report into the land uses, ecological, scientific, cultural and aesthetic values of the C3 Zone in Central Coast Local Environmental Plan 2022

7 May 2025







Recommendation:

The Draft Community Strategic Plan include a project to commence and implement an Environmental Review of all Environmental Lands in the former Wyong Shire Council as a priority.