Central Coast Council

Candidate Information Session 2

9 April 2024

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we live, work and play.

We pay our respects to Darkinjung country, and Elders past and present.

We recognise the continued connection to these lands and waterways and extend this acknowledgement to the homelands and stories of those who also call this place home.

We recognise our future leaders and the shared responsibility to care for and protect our place and people.

Central Coast Council

Financial Recovery Plan ($200M+ Deficit)

- Approved by major bank in December 2020

Securing revenue

- ✅ Temporary 13%* rate increase for 3 years
- ✅ Maintain temporary 15% rate in the rate base for further 7 years to June 2031 (not a year-on-year increase)
- ✅ Water and Sewer pricing determination

Reducing costs

- ✅ $30m employee cost savings
- ✅ $20m materials and services savings
- ✅ $20m internal restrictions that did not need to be replaced
- ✅ $175m capital expenditure capped
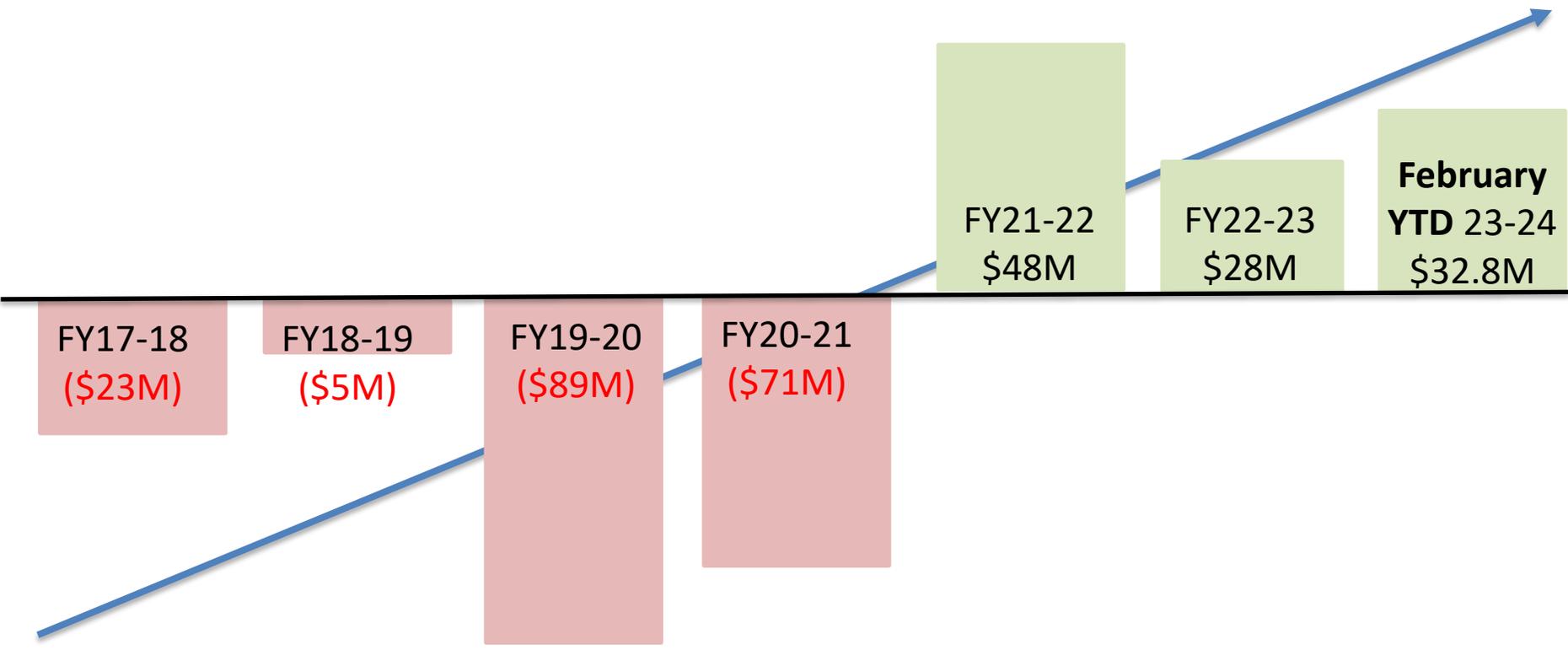- ✅ $60m property asset sales

Go forward plan

- ✅ Bank loans secured and payments on track
- ▶ Productivity Improvement Plan
- ▶ Financial Sustainability Operating surpluses
- ▶ Finding other revenue sources

August 2022

* 13% + 2% rate peg

Council's major financial turnaround

Financial performance

FY17-18
($23M)

FY18-19
($5M)

FY19-20
($89M)

FY20-21
($71M)

FY21-22
$48M

FY22-23
$28M

February YTD 23-24
$32.8M

Financial year

Central Coast Council
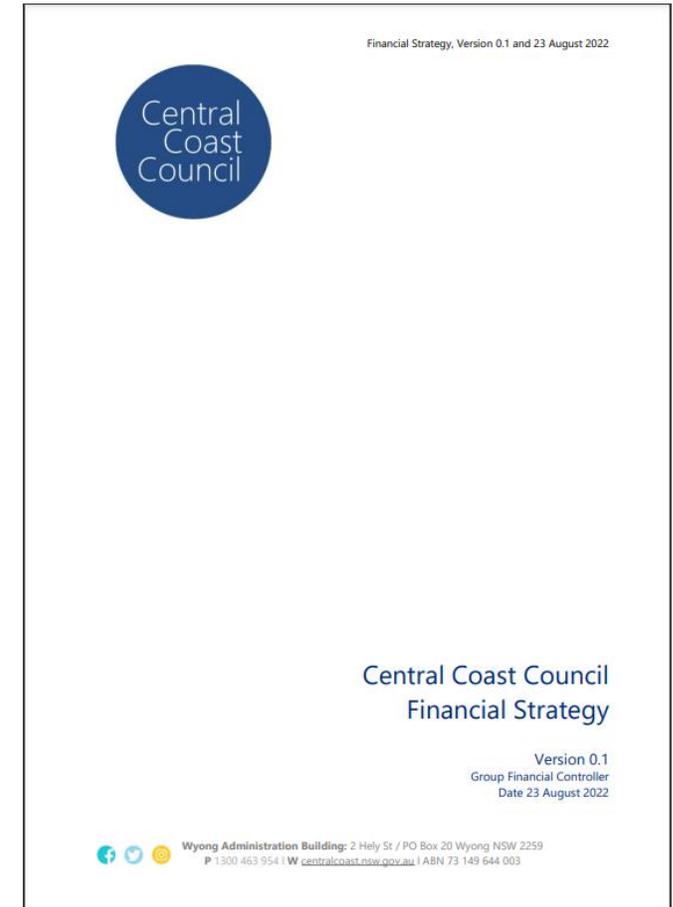
Financial Management

- Council has an adopted **Financial Strategy** –publicly available on CCC website.

- Monthly reporting is mandated

- In December 2023, Council paid down $100M of the $150M in emergency loans. $50M remaining to be paid by December 2026.

- Focused on ensuring CCC is in a stable financial position for the return of councillors in September 2024.

Financial Strategy, Version 0.1 and 23 August 2022

Central Coast Council

Central Coast Council
Financial Strategy

Version 0.1
Group Financial Controller
Date 23 August 2022

Wyong Administration Building: 2 Hely St / PO Box 20 Wyong NSW 2259
P 1300 463 954 I **W** centralcoast.nsw.gov.au I ABN 73 149 644 003

Monthly Finance Report

Consolidated
Operating Statement

February 2024

Central Coast Council

	CURRENT MONTH			YEAR TO DATE				FULL YEAR			
	Actuals	Adopted Budget	Variance	Actuals	Adopted Budget	Variance	Last Year YTD Actuals	Last Year Actual	Original Budget	Adopted Changes (Q2)	Year End Forecast
	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000
Operating Income											
Rates and Annual Charges	34,318	33,771	547	279,172	276,435	2,736	259,575	389,283	421,456	62	421,519
User Charges and Fees	14,461	12,090	2,371	112,150	108,230	3,919	105,874	164,977	163,782	(12)	163,770
Other Revenue	3,099	2,330	770	15,113	9,640	5,473	13,585	21,086	13,683	425	14,108
Interest	3,021	3,017	4	25,181	20,125	5,056	13,540	23,888	15,244	8,428	23,672
Grants and Contributions	3,886	1,576	2,309	18,380	14,494	3,886	18,122	56,621	49,880	(791)	49,089
Gain on Disposal	1,008	24	984	2,007	715	1,292	1,015	7,785	-	812	812
Other Income	789	770	19	6,729	6,367	362	6,308	9,754	8,775	843	9,618
Internal Revenue	4,885	4,835	50	36,563	38,889	(2,325)	39,166	61,923	60,701	(1,928)	58,772
Total Income attributable to Operations	65,468	58,414	7,054	495,295	474,896	20,399	457,185	735,318	733,521	7,840	741,361
Operating Expenses											
Employee Costs	18,793	19,310	516	124,577	129,003	4,426	110,373	184,873	195,069	820	195,889
Borrowing Costs	890	799	(92)	6,485	6,925	440	7,026	13,073	13,746	1,243	14,989
Materials and Services	17,634	17,299	(334)	138,860	151,846	12,987	130,355	216,095	237,509	(1,902)	235,607
Depreciation and Amortisation	15,815	16,023	209	128,058	128,390	332	96,535	174,925	192,226	3,020	195,246
Other Expenses	2,815	2,905	90	28,289	28,605	315	28,686	44,044	44,523	214	44,737
Loss on Disposal	2,324	-	(2,324)	4,661	6	(4,655)	-	17,193	-	6	6
Internal Expenses	4,157	3,727	(430)	31,552	32,411	859	31,610	50,087	47,634	(1,079)	46,555
Overheads	(0)	(0)	-	(0)	(0)	-	(0)	0	0	-	0
Total Expenses attributable to Operations	62,428	60,063	(2,364)	462,483	477,186	14,704	404,586	700,290	730,708	2,321	733,029
Operating Result after Overheads and before Capital Amounts	3,040	(1,650)	4,690	32,813	(2,290)	35,103	52,599	35,028	2,813	5,519	8,332
Capital Grants	3,160	3,454	(294)	25,390	26,024	(634)	20,304	48,684	59,854	9,371	69,226
Capital Contributions	1,919	(89)	2,008	16,874	13,958	2,917	9,521	63,141	17,500	6,634	24,133
Grants and Contributions Capital Received	5,079	3,364	1,714	42,264	39,981	2,283	29,826	111,824	77,354	16,005	93,359
Net Operating Result	8,119	1,715	6,404	75,077	37,691	37,385	82,425	146,852	80,167	21,524	101,691

Central Coast Council

Total Cash Position – February 2024

Fund	General Fund ($'000)	Drainage Fund ($'000)	Consolidated General Fund ($'000)	Water Fund ($'000)	Sewer Fund ($'000)	Domestic Waste Fund ($'000)
External Restricted Funds	226,242	39,148	265,390	17,725	28,708	106,380
Internal Restricted Funds	114,284	68	114,352	974	935	45
Total Restricted Funds	**340,526**	**39,216**	**379,742**	**18,699**	**29,643**	**106,425**
Unrestricted Funds	99,025	(33,107)	65,918	11,018	130,122	20,849
Total funds by Fund	**439,551**	**6,109**	**445,660**	**29,717**	**159,765**	**127,274**

Central Coast Council

10-year Long-term Financial Plan (LTFP)

- Updated LTFP adopted in November 2023.

- Shows a 10-year view where deficits in the General Fund are projected from 2028-29, but **positive cash is maintained** throughout the period of the LTFP on a consolidated basis.

Long Term Financial Plan

Central Coast Council

10-year Long-term Financial Plan (LTFP)

Central Coast Council
10 Year Financial Plan for the Years ending 30 June 2034
INCOME STATEMENT - CONSOLIDATED
Scenario: Scenario 3 - Maintain Current Income

	Actuals 2022/23 $	Current Year 2023/24 $	2024/25 $	2025/26 $	2026/27 $	2027/28 $	Projected Years 2028/29 $	2029/30 $	2030/31 $	2031/32 $	2032/33 $	2033/34 $
Income from Continuing Operations												
Total Income from Continuing Operations	783,670,000	750,620,306	785,474,253	813,247,406	820,885,600	842,818,448	866,929,250	891,782,794	917,402,190	943,811,268	971,034,607	999,097,557
Expenses from Continuing Operations												
Employee Benefits & On-Costs	184,872,000	195,068,980	211,279,635	224,926,179	228,896,087	238,023,978	247,516,145	257,387,136	267,652,077	278,326,699	289,427,362	300,971,079
Borrowing Costs	14,530,000	12,446,852	11,538,198	13,086,583	13,297,320	12,308,617	11,604,180	10,922,228	10,131,254	9,357,961	8,645,393	7,997,961
Materials & Contracts	204,252,000	224,442,666	235,325,084	248,130,567	251,287,248	259,109,433	270,736,893	275,795,363	284,686,151	294,105,775	307,779,571	314,160,405
Depreciation & Amortisation	176,601,000	192,226,427	205,120,156	212,438,339	222,410,417	228,841,944	235,588,549	242,670,799	249,967,857	257,592,939	265,398,013	273,537,217
Impairment of Investments	(2,414,000)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Impairment of receivables	956,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Expenses	44,043,000	44,522,780	46,034,656	47,042,281	48,476,059	49,956,219	51,484,269	53,061,769	54,690,329	56,371,610	58,107,330	59,899,262
Net Losses from the Disposal of Assets	14,276,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenses from Continuing Operations	637,116,000	668,707,705	709,297,729	745,623,949	764,367,131	788,240,189	816,930,037	839,837,296	867,127,667	895,754,984	929,357,668	956,565,923
Operating Result from Continuing Operations	146,554,000	81,912,601	76,176,524	67,623,457	56,518,469	54,578,259	49,999,213	51,945,498	50,274,523	48,056,283	41,676,939	42,531,634
Net Operating Result before Grants and Contributions provided for Capital Purposes	28,501,000	4,558,530	22,307,758	13,233,445	5,305,826	4,823,234	244,189	2,190,474	519,498	(1,698,741)	(8,078,085)	(7,223,390)

Council rates comparison
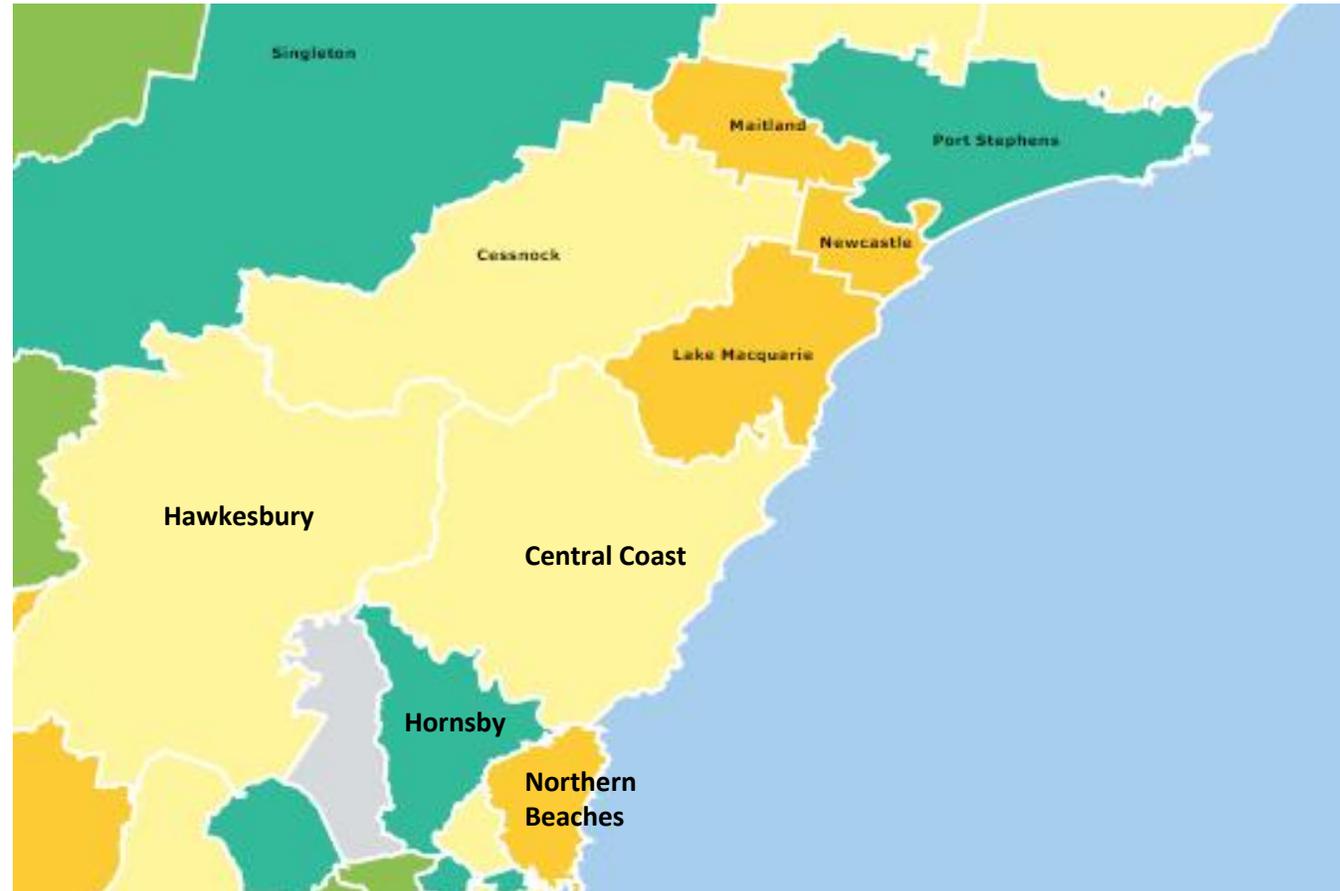
Data sourced from NSW government's website www.yourcouncil.nsw.gov.au
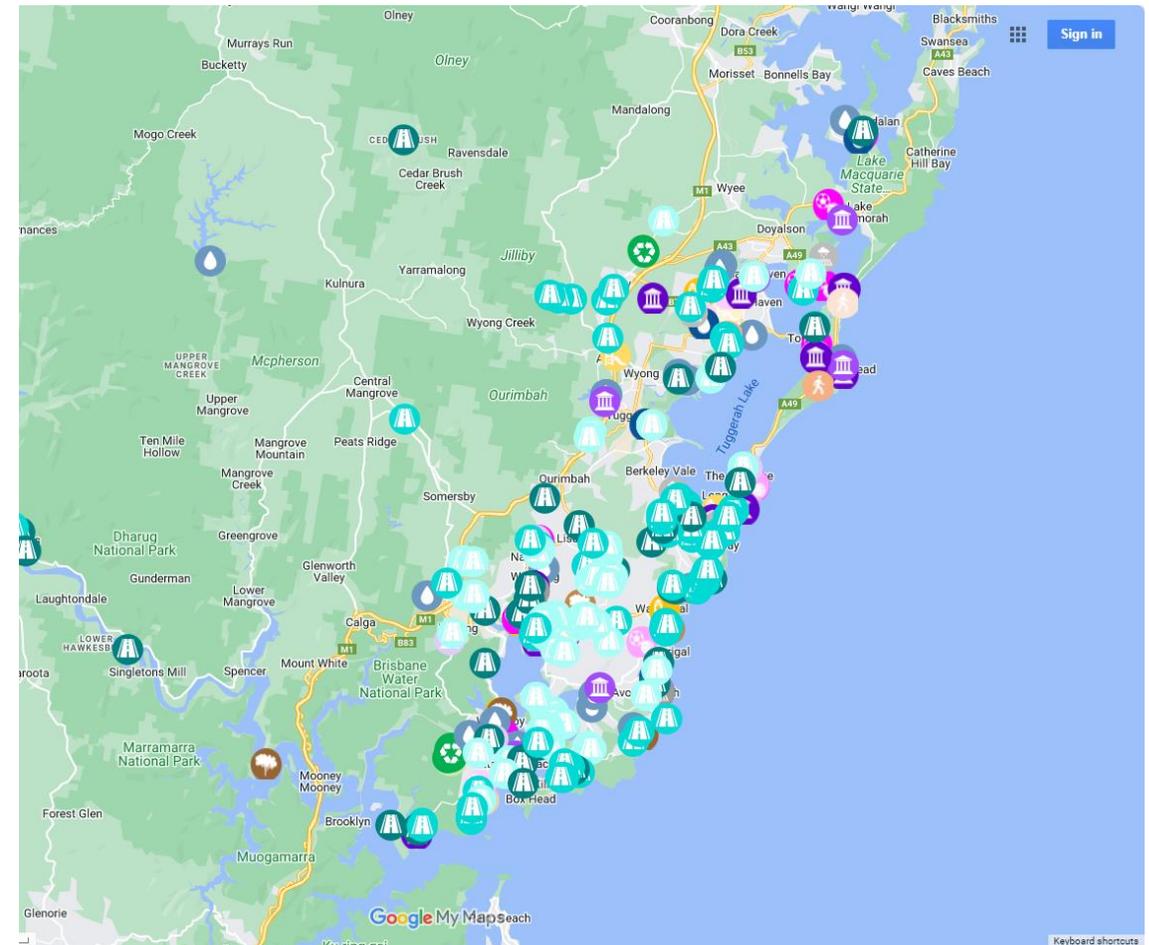Accessed 20 March 2024

NSW Special Rate Variations (SRV)

- In 2021, Central Coast Council was approved to implement a total **13%** (+2% rate peg) increase to general rates for three years.

- In 2022, Central Coast Council was approved to implement this for a further seven years, equalling 10 years in total.

- For Water rates, CCC is the 5th cheapest in Australia, and the cheapest in NSW, based on 22/23 National Performance data.

- **30% of Councils (37 out of 128 Councils) in NSW have sought SRVs in the last 4 years.**

2021	2022	2023	2024
8 Councils	4 Councils	17 Councils	9 Councils
Average approved SRV: **22.11%**	Average approved SRV: **19.86%**	Average SRV approved: **41.60%**	Average SRV sought*: **35.03%**

Data sourced from publicly available IPART media releases issued between 2021-2024
* Nine councils have sought rate increases in 2024, with IPART yet to release its determination.

centralcoast.nsw.gov.au

Capital Works Map – **Overview**

- Council plans capital works as part of its operational plan to upgrade/renew our roads, water and sewer, and other community infrastructure.

- The Map gives the community an easy and accessible view all of Council's Capital Works projects in the one place.

- It's updated monthly.

- To view the map, visit *https://www.centralcoast.nsw.gov.au/council/about-council/current-works-and-projects/capital-works-program*

Capital Works Map – **Updates**
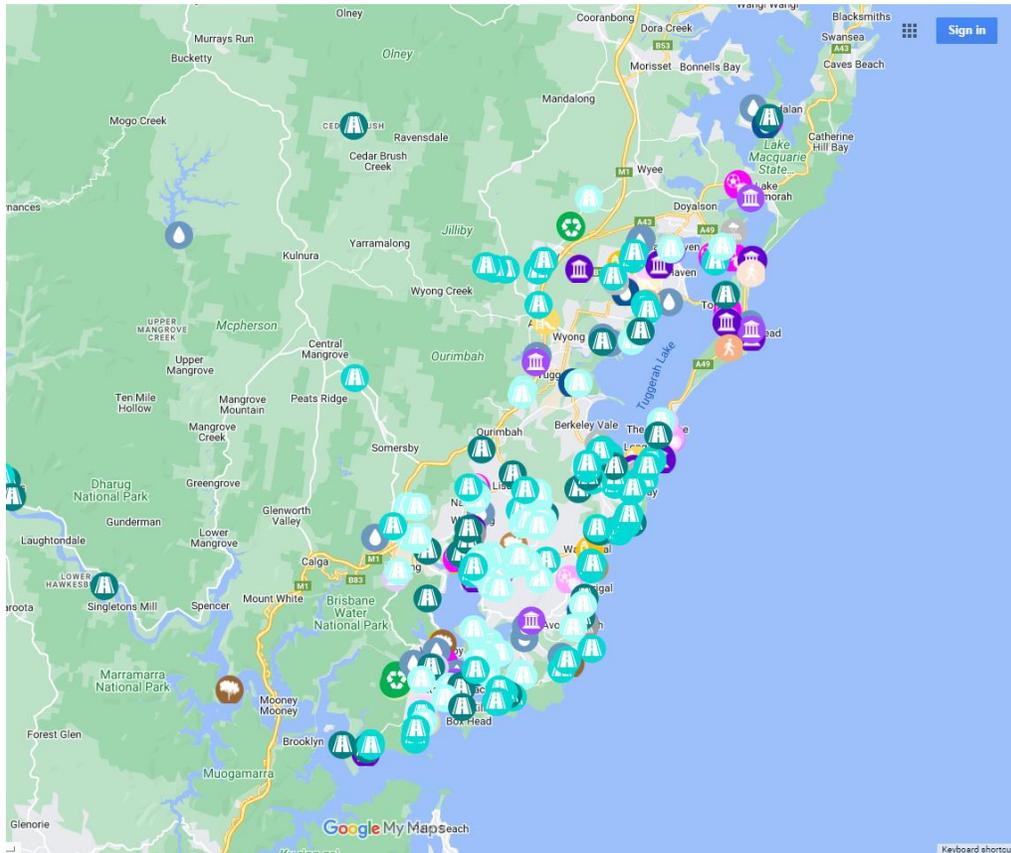
- The Map now includes capital projects that are subject to grant funding.

- As Council develops projects which are contained within a program, they will be added to the Capital Works Map.

- These can include:

  - a playground soft fall
  - water and sewer renewal
  - bus stop improvement
  - sewer pump stations and treatment plants
  - refurbishment of water reservoirs
  - road construction

  - renewing drainage
  - footpaths and boat ramps
  - improving sporting grounds
  - public toilets
  - boat ramps
  - play spaces
  - other community facilities.

Central Coast Council

Capital Works Map – **Searching**

To see what projects are planned for this financial year you can:

1. Search 'central coast capital works map' in Google.

2. Visit the website page directly.

3. Or, visit Council's website centralcoast.nsw.gov.au, and search:
   'interactive capital works map' or
   'annual operational plan'
   in the main search bar at the top of the page
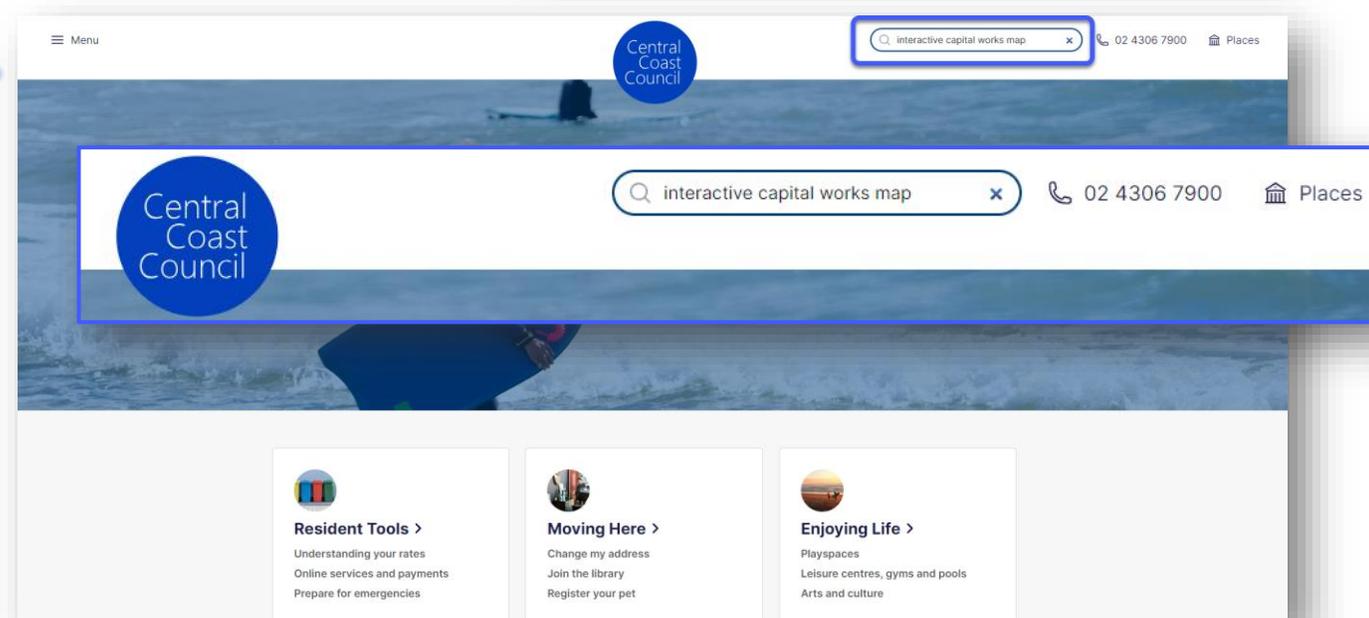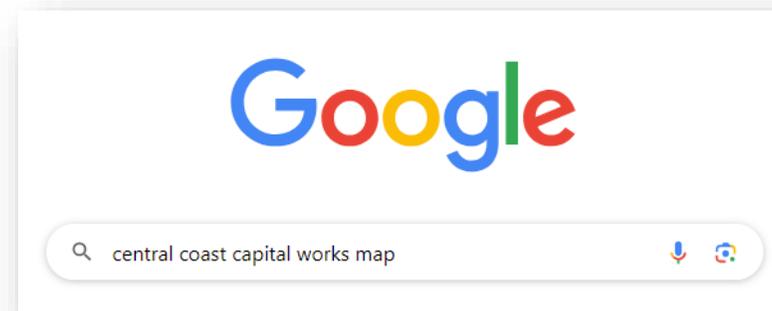
Capital Works Map – **Example**

- The map describes project details, budget information and progress of projects and allows viewers to find works within their street or suburb

- Simply scroll through the map, zoom in and click on a pin to view the project details which appear to the left of the screen such as: Funding Source; Budget; and Project Status.

← Road upgrade with drainage, k...

Project
Road upgrade with drainage, kerb and gutter, footpath and pavement works

Location
Lushington Street from Brougham Street to Wattle Street

Suburb
East Gosford

Funding Source
Grant Funded

Project Category
Roads and Carparks

Budget $ 2023-24
$ 2,000,000

Budget $ 2024-25
-

Project Status - February
Commenced

Project Comment - February
In February, Council continued construction of footpath, kerb and gutter works in preparation for resurfacing of the road.
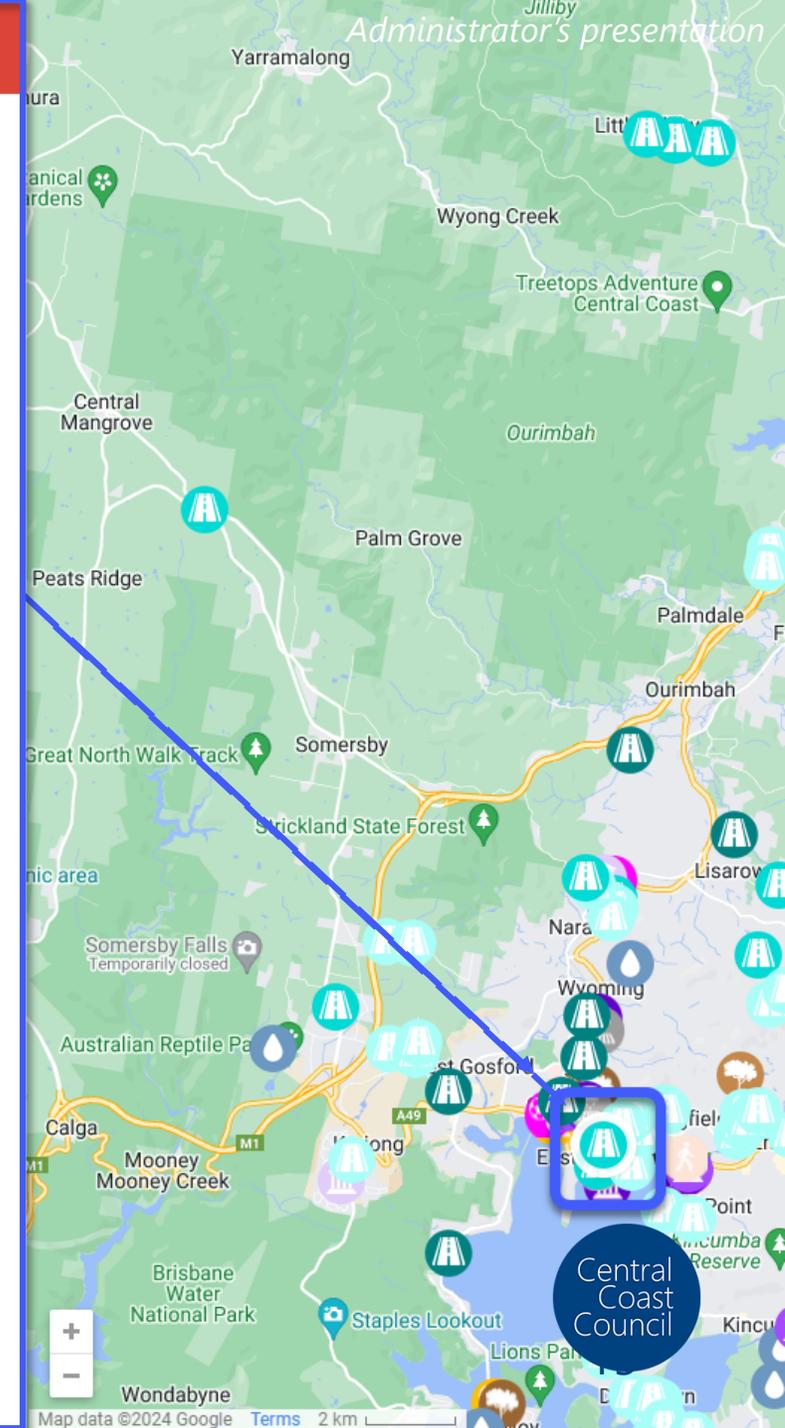
Updated Capital Works Map

- Launching July 2024

- The updated Capital Works Map from 1 July 2024 will include financial details such as commentary and year-to-date (YTD) financial status.
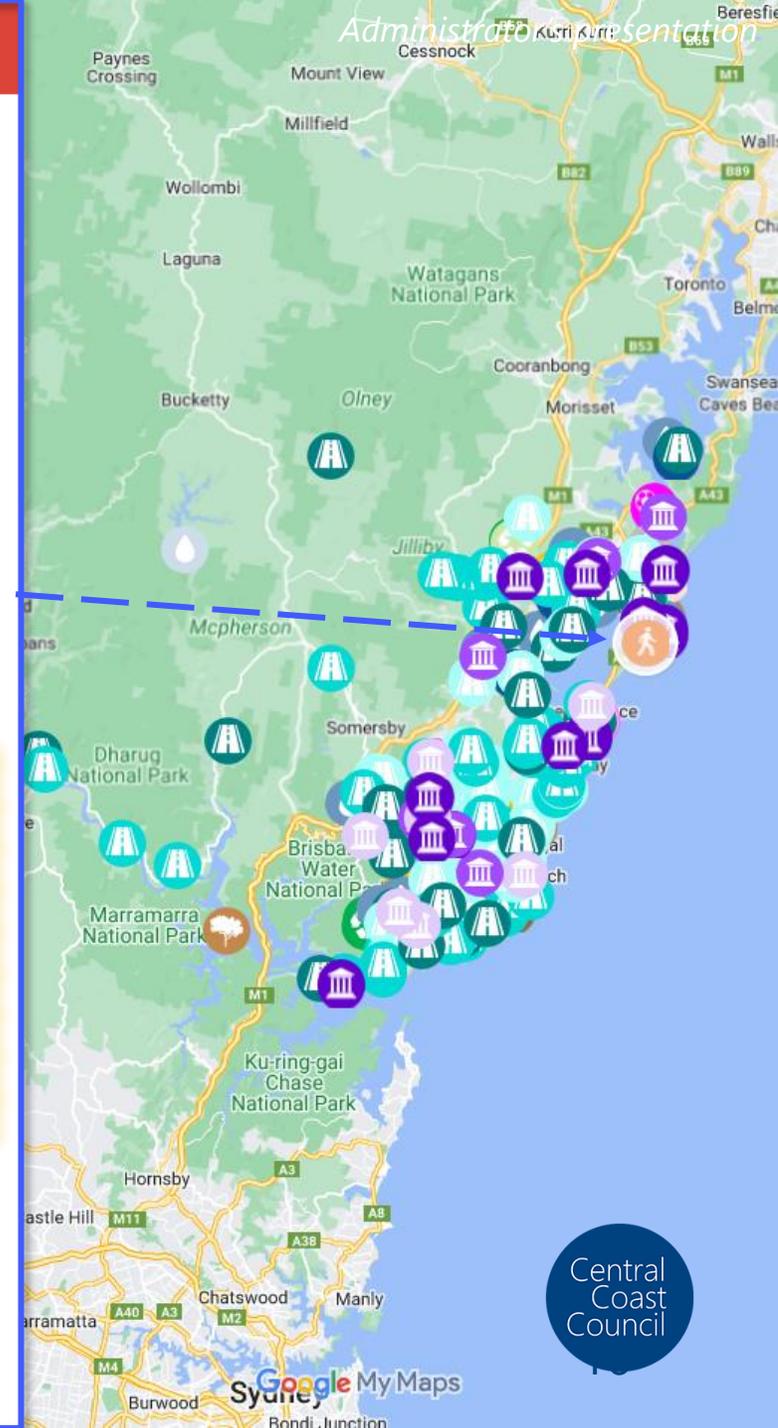
10-Year Road Renewal

- An interactive **10-Year Road Renewal Program Map** will be mapped into the award-winning Capital Works Map.

- The pavement condition index (top right image) informs the road renewal program.

- The community will be able to see what segments of roads will be renewed and when, by way of the familiar pinpoint system used in Google Maps (and our current interactive map).

- These details are being refined and more information is to come.

ntralcoast.nsw.gov.au
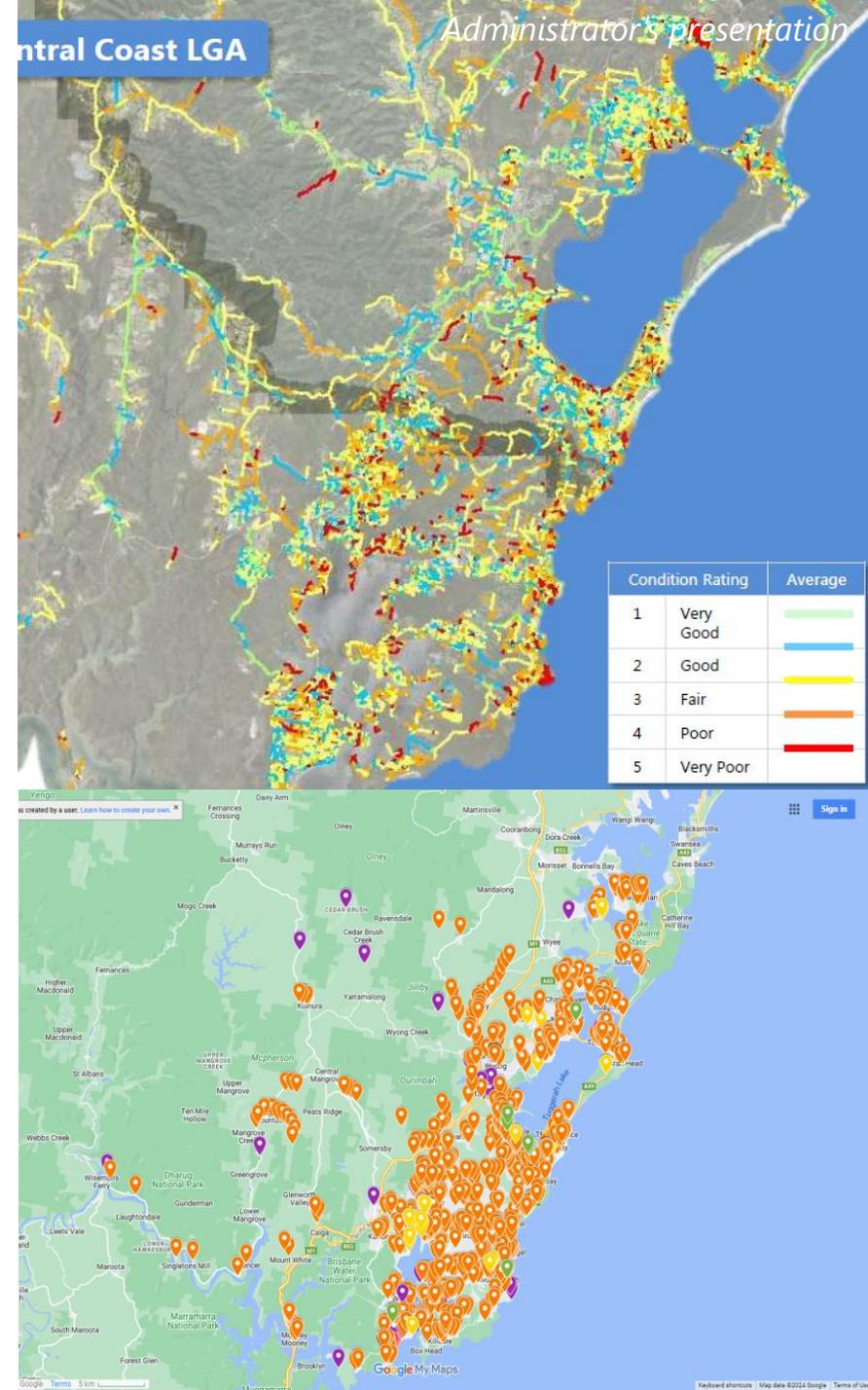
Looking forward – Pothole Status Map

- From July 2024, Council staff will be using an internal Pothole Status Map to help answer community queries about pothole works. Example

- Live data will inform the number of outstanding defects and total number of outstanding potholes.

- Plans to make this public in due course.

Central Coast Council
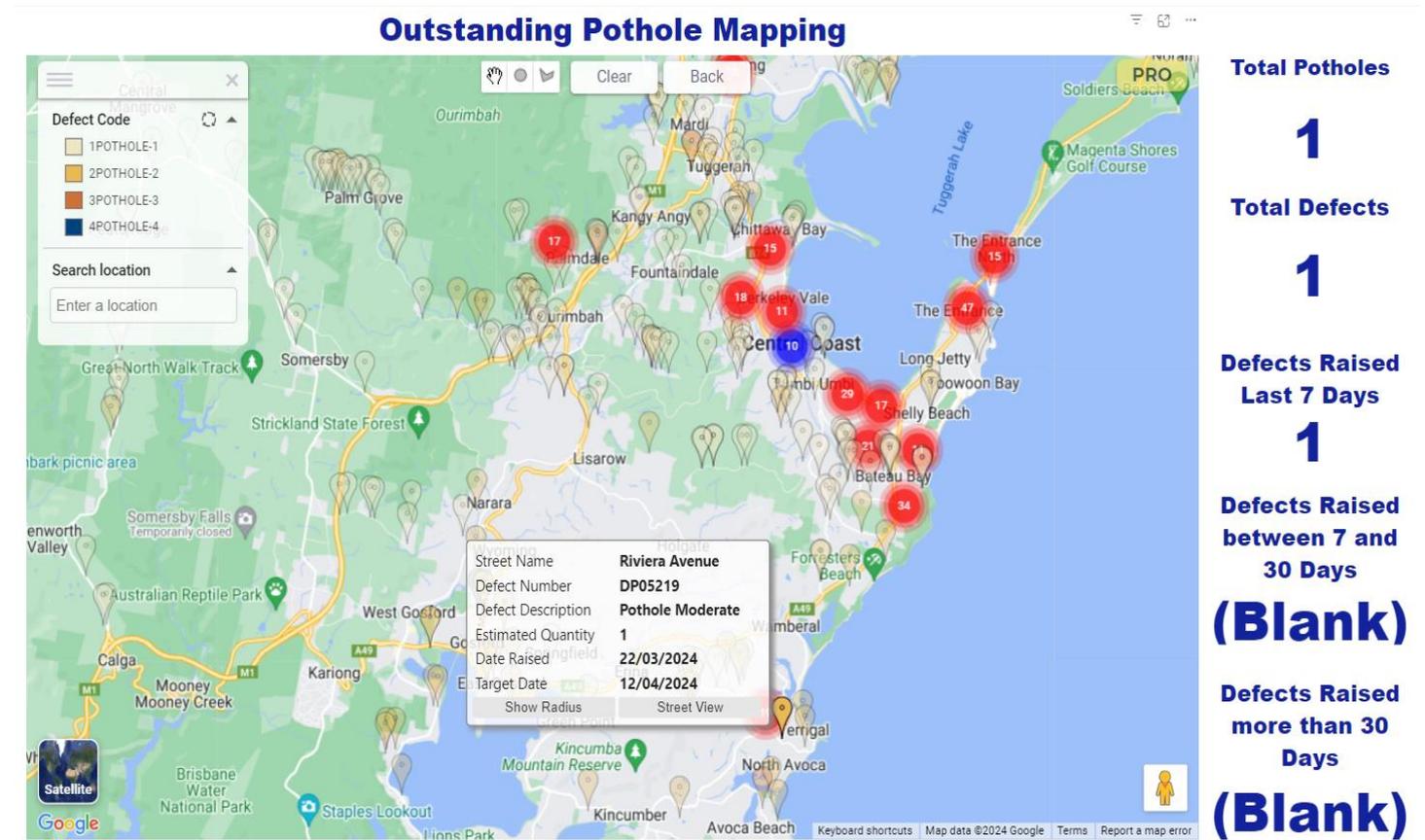
Accessing information as a Councillor

- Information and systems available to Councillors include:
  - A **Councillor Request Portal** (for providing information to Councillors that assists them in conducting their civic duties – 10 working days.)
  - The **Customer Service Portal** (for raising operational matters on behalf of a constituent – 5 working day acknowledgement – response to the customer.)
  - **The Hub** (a platform/intranet for Councillors to access key documents like business papers, briefing materials, forms and memos.)
  - **Briefings, meetings, site visits etc.** (for Councillors to understand complex matters, and to help them make good decisions during Council meetings on behalf of the Central Coast community).

Central Coast Council

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What is 'governing'?

- Good governance involves decision-making, strategic planning and the monitoring financials.
- Councillors will be required to make decisions about Council's strategic priorities:
  - Community Strategic Plan (10-year plan set by the community)
  - Delivery Program (4-year plan)
  - Operational Plan (1-year plan)
  - Strategies

Local Government Act 1993

- The Local Government Act states that the role of a Councillor is (in part):

  "...to be an active and contributing member of the governing body to make considered and well-informed decisions as a member of the governing body," and

  "to represent the collective interests of residents, ratepayers and the local community."

- Once elected, the Local Government Act states that the Councillor must make an oath (or affirmation) which reads as follows:

  "I [name of councillor] swear that I will undertake the duties of the office of councillor in the best interests of the people of the Central Coast and the Central Coast Council and that I will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the Local Government Act 1993 or any other Act to the best of my ability and judgment."

Governance

Council's governing body

- Elected by the community
- Reinvesting in the community
- Makes decisions for ALL residents
- Sustainable business (maintain assets)
- Sets policy and strategic direction (CSP, Operational Plan)
- Long-term planning (LTFP, strategies)
- Cannot direct staff (other than the CEO, by resolution of Council)

Public company board

- Elected by shareholders
- Best return for stakeholders (staff, customers, shareholders)
- Sustainable business (ensure business continuity)
- Setting policy and strategic direction
- Long-term planning
- Cannot direct staff(other than the CEO, by resolution of a board)

Constitutional Referendum

- On 14 September 2024, the community will be asked:

  "Do you favour a reduction in the number of Central Coast councillors from fifteen to nine? This will result in three Wards with each Ward electing three councillors."

- This is a constitutional referendum, meaning voting is compulsory.

- If carried, the outcome will come into place from the following term.

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Current Ward Structure

Three Ward Structure
Example 1

Three Ward Structure
Example 2

Central Coast Council - DRAFT Ward Boundary Option 2

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Three Ward Structure
Example 3
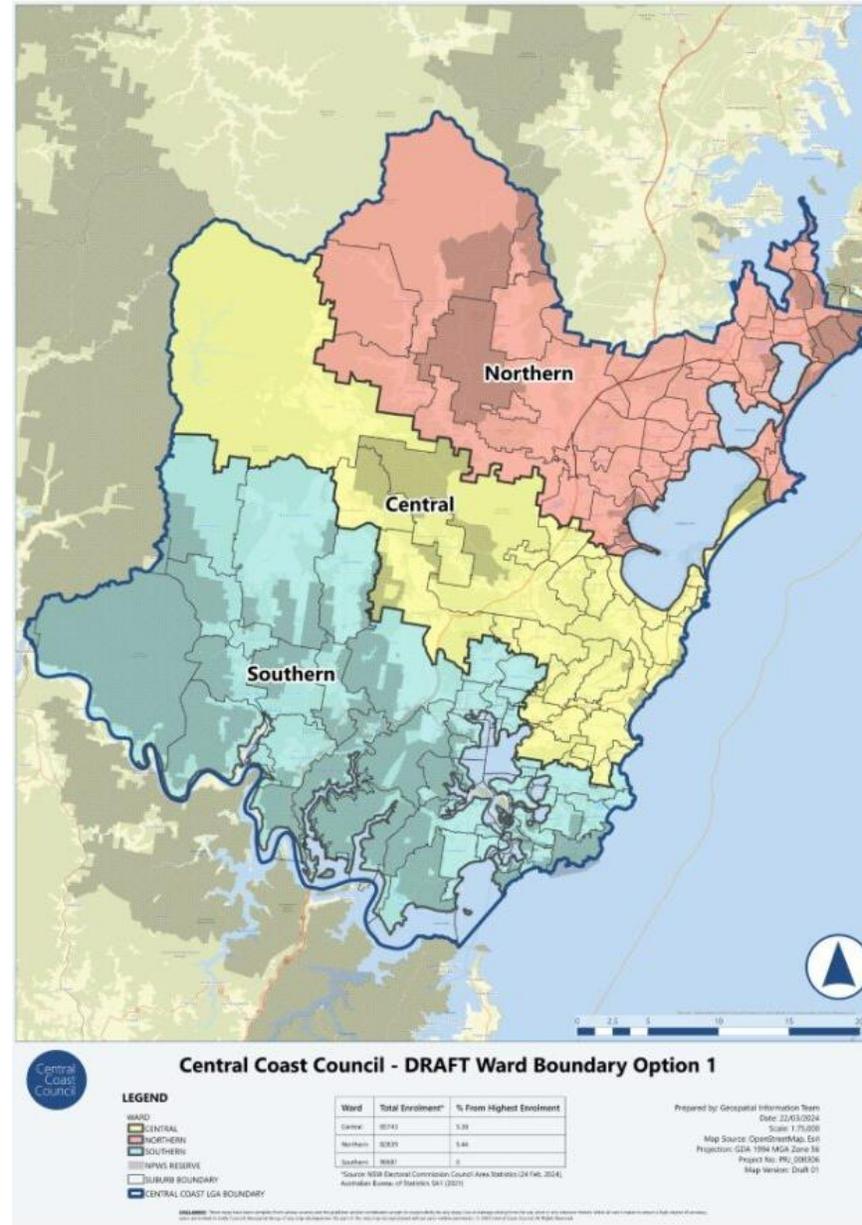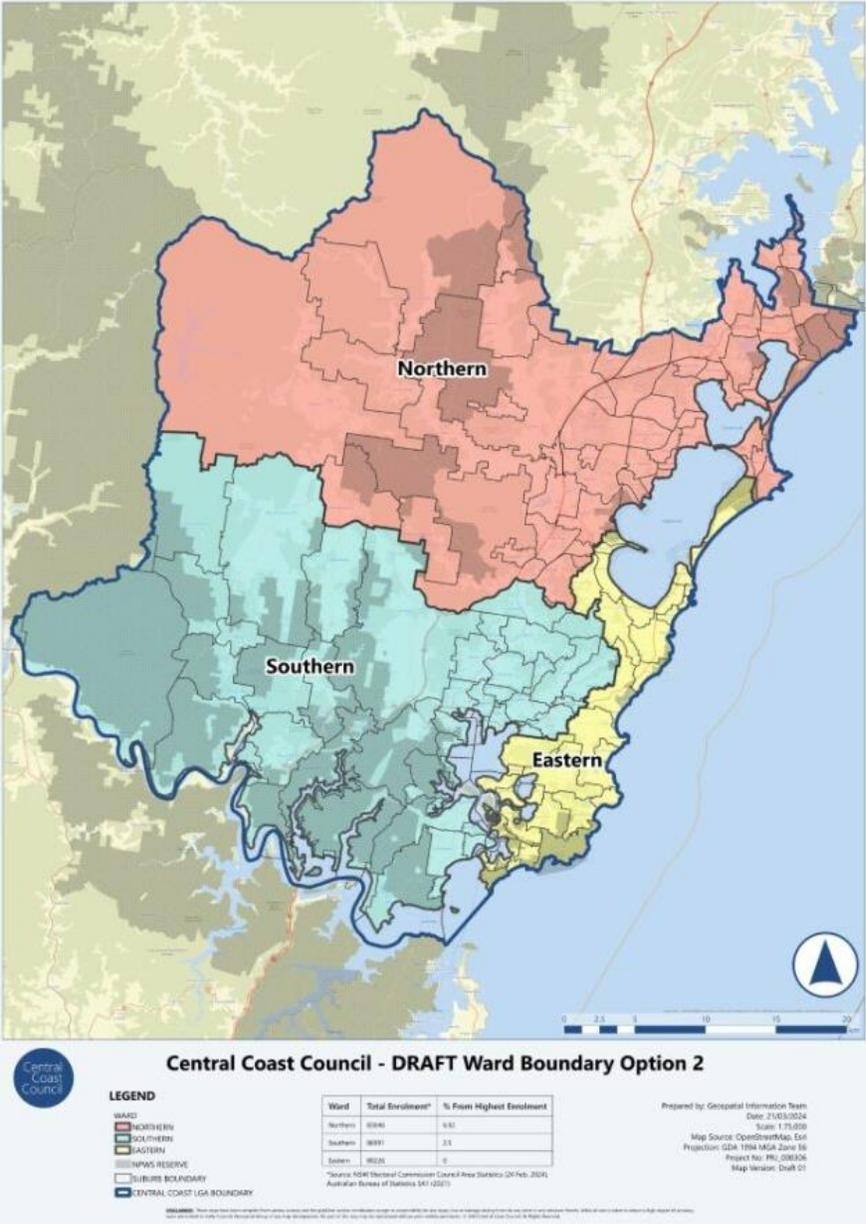
Central Coast Council - DRAFT Ward Boundary Option 3
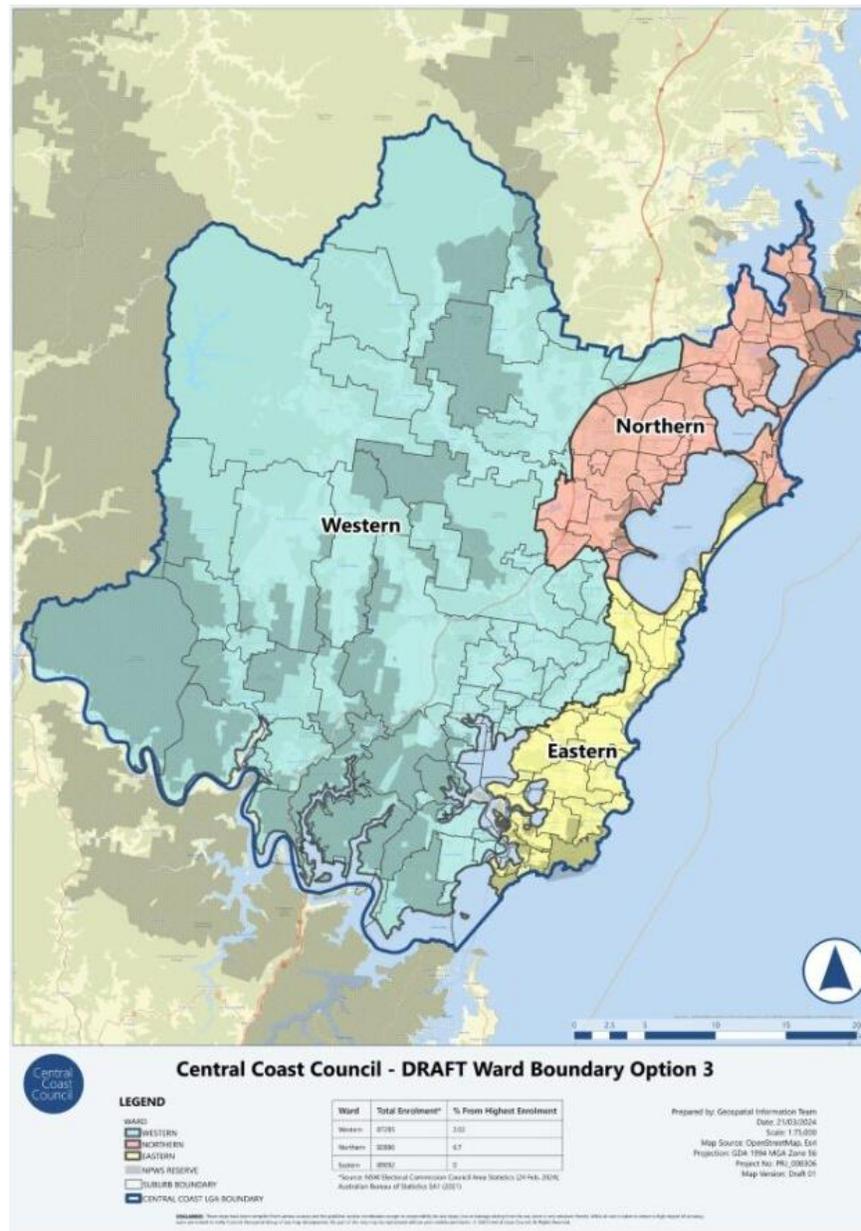
Benefits of the referendum

- Creation of three wards which each represent a cross-section of the Central Coast community (beach, town centre, bush).

- Reducing the number of councillors should lead to greater cohesion and improved decision-making.

- Reducing the number of councillors will provide an ongoing cost saving for Council (including salaries, expenses and facilities, on-costs etc.).

- Larger wards help Councillors to think of the 'whole' community – as they are directed to under the Local Government Act 1993.

- Fewer decision-makers doesn't equal less representation. Nine decision-makers should lead to better group decisions for everyone.

- 17 elected representatives for the Central Coast (local, state, federal).

- Breaks up the North vs South mindset.

Central Coast Council

**Guest speaker
Michael Regan MP**

Central Coast Council

**Guest speaker
Kath Roach**

Central Coast Council

Candidate Information Session #2

Kath Roach

9 April 2024

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COMMUNITY
VISION

WE ARE ONE
CENTRAL COAST

A SMART, GREEN
AND LIVEABLE
REGION WITH A
SHARED SENSE OF
BELONGING AND
RESPONSIBILITY

Candidate Session

Focus for Day

- Legislation, Roles & Responsibilities
- Function Responsibilities of CCC
- Interaction between Councillors & Staff
- Ethics & Integrity

Central Coast Council

What do Councillors do?

Councillors shape the future of the local area by making plans and taking decisions:

Councils need strategies, policies and plans to achieve the vision for the local area, making the best use of resources and meeting the needs of local communities.

As a Councillor you will help create these.

REVISED
COMMUNITY
STRATEGIC
PLAN 2018-2028

ONE
CENTRAL COAST

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Rule Ladder...

- ## Legislation –

    - Local Government Act 1993 – eg requires all Councils to have an Audit
Risk   and Improvement Committee

    - Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979

- ## Regulations –

    - Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 – eg requires all councils to have a risk management framework and an internal audit function etc

    - Code of Conduct

    - Code of Meeting Practice

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Rule Ladder....

- **Guidelines** – made under s23A of LGA by the Office of Local Government - with concurrence of Minister; a council must take any relevant guidelines issued under this section into consideration before exercising any of its functions; eg Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit for local government in NSW

- **Policies** – align to above eg Investment Policy; Councillor Expenses & Facilities Policy; or Councillor and Staff Interaction Policy

- **Procedures** - more process detail which aligns to the above eg Access to Council Information

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Local Government Act 1993 - Purpose

To provide the legal framework for the system of local government for NSW

To set out the responsibilities and powers of councils, councillors and other persons and bodies that constitute the system of local government

To provide for governing bodies of councils that are democratically elected

To facilitate engagement with the local community by councils, councillors and other persons and bodies that constitute local government

To provide for a system of local government that is accountable to the community and that is sustainable, flexible and effective

Principles of Local Government

The object of the principles is to provide guidance to enable councils to carry out their functions in a way that facilitates local communities that are strong, healthy and prosperous

Councils should:

a) Provide strong and effective representation, leadership, planning and decision making

b) **Carry out functions in a way that provides the best possible value for residents and ratepayers**

c) Plan strategically, using the IP&R framework, for the provision of effective and efficient services and regulation to meet the diverse needs of the local community

d) **Apply the IP&R framework in carrying out their functions so as to achieve desired outcomes and continuous improvements**

Councils should:

e) Work co-operatively with other councils and the State government to achieve desired outcomes for the local community

f) **Manage lands and other assets so that current and future local community needs can be met in an affordable way**

g) Work with others to secure appropriate services for local community needs

h) **Act fairly, ethically and without bias in the interests of the local community**

i) Be responsible employers and provide a consultative and supportive working environment for staff

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Councils should:

a) Recognise diverse local community needs and interests

b) **Consider social justice principles**

c) Consider the long term and cumulative effects of actions on future generations

d) **Consider the principles of ecologically sustainable development**

e) Decision-making should be transparent, and decision-makers are to be accountable for decisions and omissions

Community Participation:

Actively engage with their local communities, through the use of the integrated planning and reporting framework and other measures

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Principles of Sound Financial Management

a) Council spending should be responsible and sustainable, aligning general revenue and expenses

b) **Councils should invest in responsible and sustainable infrastructure for the benefit of the local community**

c) Councils should have effective financial and asset management, including sound policies and processes for the following:

    i. **performance management and reporting**

    ii. **asset maintenance and enhancement**

    iii. **funding decisions**

    iv. **risk management practices**

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FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Principles of Sound Financial Management

d) Councils should have regard to achieving intergenerational equity, including ensuring the following -

i. **policy decisions are made after considering their financial effects on future generations**

ii. the current generation funds the cost of its services

What does everybody do?

Role of the Governing Body

a) to direct and control the affairs of the council in accordance with the LG Act

b) to provide effective civic leadership to the local community

c) to ensure as far as possible the financial sustainability of the council

d) to ensure as far as possible that the council acts in accordance with the guiding principles and the plans, programs, strategies and polices of the council

e) to develop and endorse the community strategic plan, delivery program and other strategic plans, programs, strategies and policies of the council

f) to determine and adopt a rating and revenue policy and operational plans that support the optimal allocation of the council's resources …

Code of Meeting Practice

The Governing Body exercises their functions at formal Meetings

Contents

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Role of the Administrator/Mayor

- Leader of Council and a leader in community
- Advance community cohesion and promote civic awareness
- Principal member and spokesperson of Council
- Ensure strategy/plan development and promote implementation
- Exercise, in cases of necessity, the policy making functions of the Council between meetings of Council
- Preside at meetings of the Council and ensure they are conducted efficiently and effectively
- Carry out the civic and ceremonial functions of the Office
- Exercise such functions of the Council as the council determines
- Lead the performance appraisal of CEO in consultation with Councillors

Councillors' Role and Obligations - LGA

- ✓ Be active and contributing member of council
- ✓ Make considered and well-informed decisions
- ✓ Participate in development of IP&R Framework
- ✓ Represent the <u>collective interests</u> of residents, ratepayers and local community
- ✓ Facilitate communication between community and council

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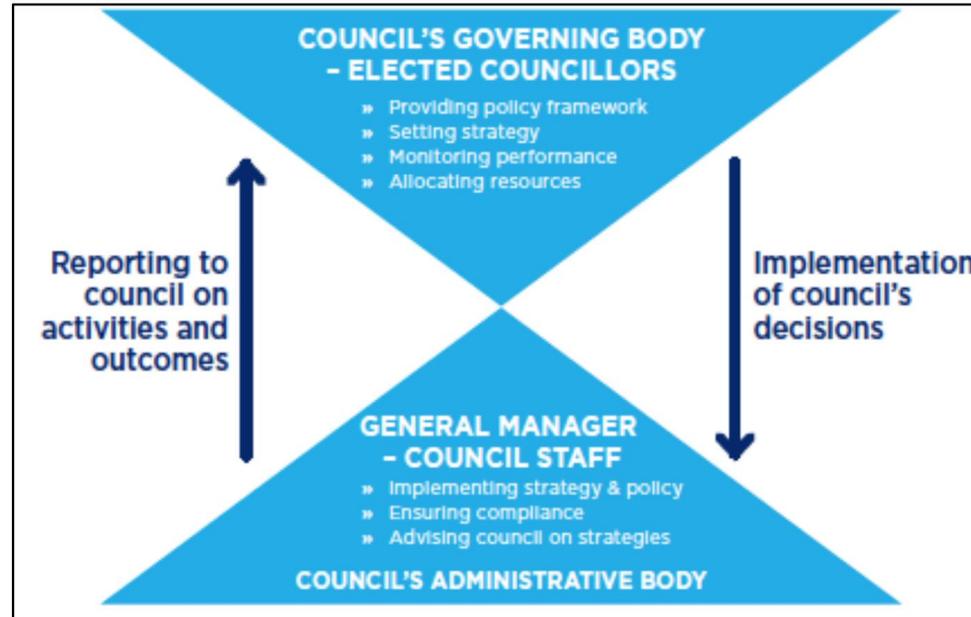strategic independent consulting

Councillors' Role and Obligations - LGA

- ✓ Uphold and represent <u>accurately</u> the policies and decisions of council
- ✓ Make all reasonable efforts to acquire and maintain skills necessary to perform role of councillor
- ✓ Accountable to community for performance of council

Bring a fair and impartial mind to decision making

A Council's Structure

COUNCIL'S GOVERNING BODY – ELECTED COUNCILLORS
» Providing policy framework
» Setting strategy
» Monitoring performance
» Allocating resources

Reporting to council on activities and outcomes

Implementation of council's decisions

GENERAL MANAGER – COUNCIL STAFF
» Implementing strategy & policy
» Ensuring compliance
» Advising council on strategies

COUNCIL'S ADMINISTRATIVE BODY

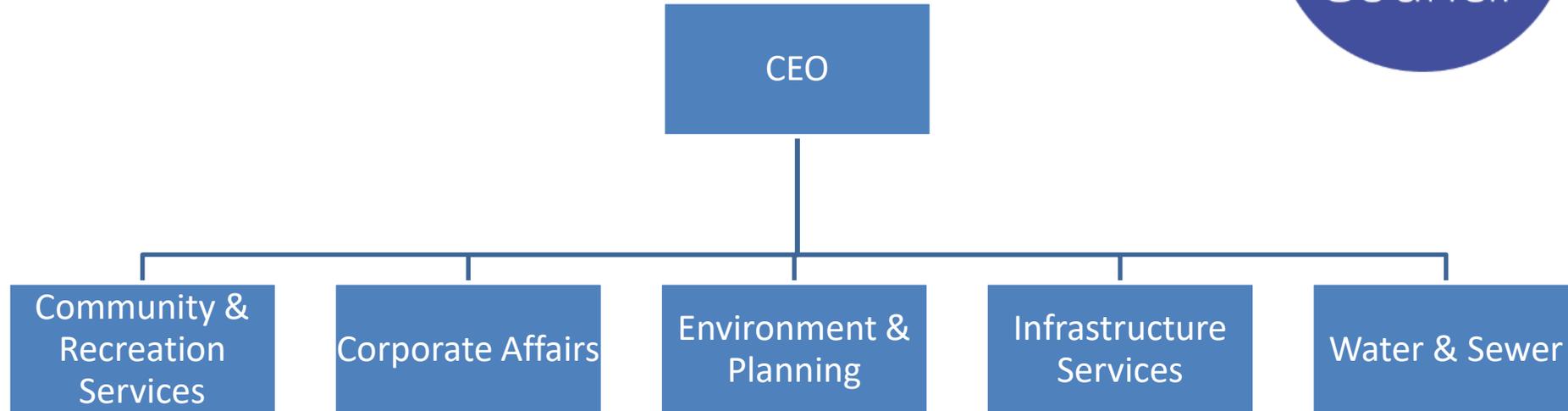www.olg.nsw.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/2021-Councillor-Handbook-final.pdf

Finding: There were instances of improper interference by some councillors in operational matters

It was discussed, in part, that "*there were clear transgressions into operational matters. The purposed justification for them offered by those Councillors fortifies my view that they did not fully understand their roles and responsibilities as Councillors, nor perform them adequately, reasonably or appropriately at all times.*"

WINGECARRIBEE SHIRE COUNCIL PUBLIC INQUIRY

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Functional Responsibilities

Central Coast Council

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                          ┌─────────┐
                          │   CEO   │
                          └────┬────┘
         ┌──────────┬──────────┼──────────┬──────────┐
┌────────────┐ ┌──────────┐ ┌──────────┐ ┌──────────┐ ┌──────────┐
│ Community &│ │Corporate │ │Environment│ │Infrastruct│ │ Water &  │
│ Recreation │ │ Affairs  │ │    &     │ │ure Services│ │  Sewer   │
│  Services  │ │          │ │ Planning │ │          │ │          │
└────────────┘ └──────────┘ └──────────┘ └──────────┘ └──────────┘
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The only staff member the Governing Body appoints is the CEO

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Functional Responsibilities

Chief Executive Officer

- Exercise any functions delegated
- Conduct day to day management of the Council
- Implement lawful decisions
- Appoint, direct & dismiss staff, and implement workforce strategy
- Give timely info, advice & support to Administrator/Mayor and other Councillors
- Advise Council on development & implementation of strategic plans, programs, strategies & policies
- Prepare, in consultation with Administrator/Mayor & governing body, the IP&R
- Advise Administrator/Mayor and governing body on form of community consultation

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Functional Responsibilities

Community & Recreation Services

- Community & Culture
- Leisure, Beach Safety & Community Facilites
- Libraries & Education
- Open Space & Recreation
- Communications, Marketing & Customer Engagement

Corporate Services

- Goverance, Risk & Legal
- Information Technology
- People & Culture
- Plant & Fleet
- Chief Financial Officer

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Functional Responsibilities

Infrastructure Services

- Engineering Services
- Facilities & Asset Management
- Roads & Drainage Infrastructure
- Roads Construction & Maintenance
- Waste & Resource Recovery
- Procurement & Project Management

Water and Sewer

- Headworks & Treatment
- Assets & Projects
- Operations and Maintenance
- Asset Security & Reliance
- Business Performance

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Functional Responsibilities

Environment and Planning

- Development Assessment
- Environment Compliance and Systems
- Environmental Management
- Strategic Planning
- Economic Development and Property

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Councillor and Staff Interaction

Central Coast Council

Councillor and Staff Interaction **Policy**

March 2021
Policy No: CCC 016

Contents

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Councillors Access to Information

1. **Customer Service Portal –** for operational matters raised on behalf of a constituent

2. **Councillor Request System** – for providing information to a Councillor/s that assists them in conducting their civic duties

3. **The Hub** – a repository for Councillors to access key documents

4. **Briefings/Workshops** – to assist Councillors to understand complex matters or matters of high significance, which will further Councillors understanding of the issues.

5. **Council Meetings** – Decision Making Forum whereby additional information may be provided during the course debate or from staff in response to questions.

Councillors who have a private interest only in council information have the same rights of access as any member of the public.

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Integrated Planning and Reporting

The delivery of services and infrastructure by councils is guided by the integrated planning and reporting (IP&R) framework. This assists councils to identify their community's needs and to deliver services and infrastructure to meet those needs in a financially sustainable way. It also keeps councils accountable to their community for the delivery of the goals set through the IP&R framework.

https://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/story.html

Integrated Planning and Reporting
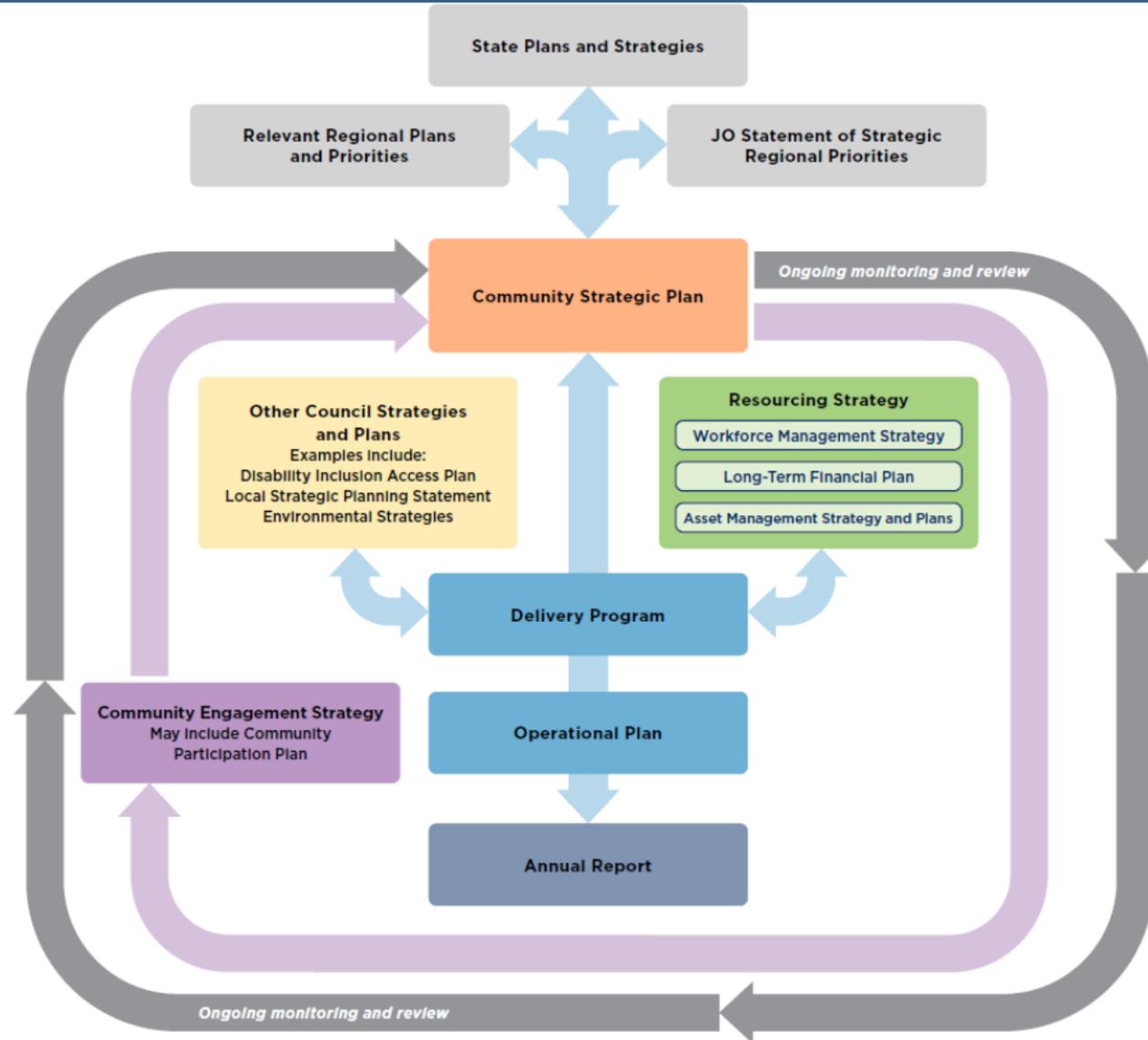
Who are the main parties in IP&R?

Community

To provide the best value and outcomes for residents, ratepayers, businesses and visitors by working together to develop the strategic plan for their area—from high-level visioning and aspirational thinking to providing feedback on specific IP&R outcomes.

Stakeholders

Non-government organisations and groups, NSW and Commonwealth Government agencies and community organisations.

Elected council

Mayor and Councillors for determining, developing, endorsing and reviewing the IP&R strategies and plans.

Administration of council

Staff, contractors and volunteers of the council organisations are responsible for formulating, delivering and reviewing each IP&R document.

# Councillors are 'Strategic Decision Makers'

Noses in.... Fingers out!

Conflict of Interests

All councillors and, where applicable, all other persons, must identify, declare and manage any conflict of interests they may have in matters - at workshops, briefing sessions, Council Meetings - in accordance with the Council's code of conduct.

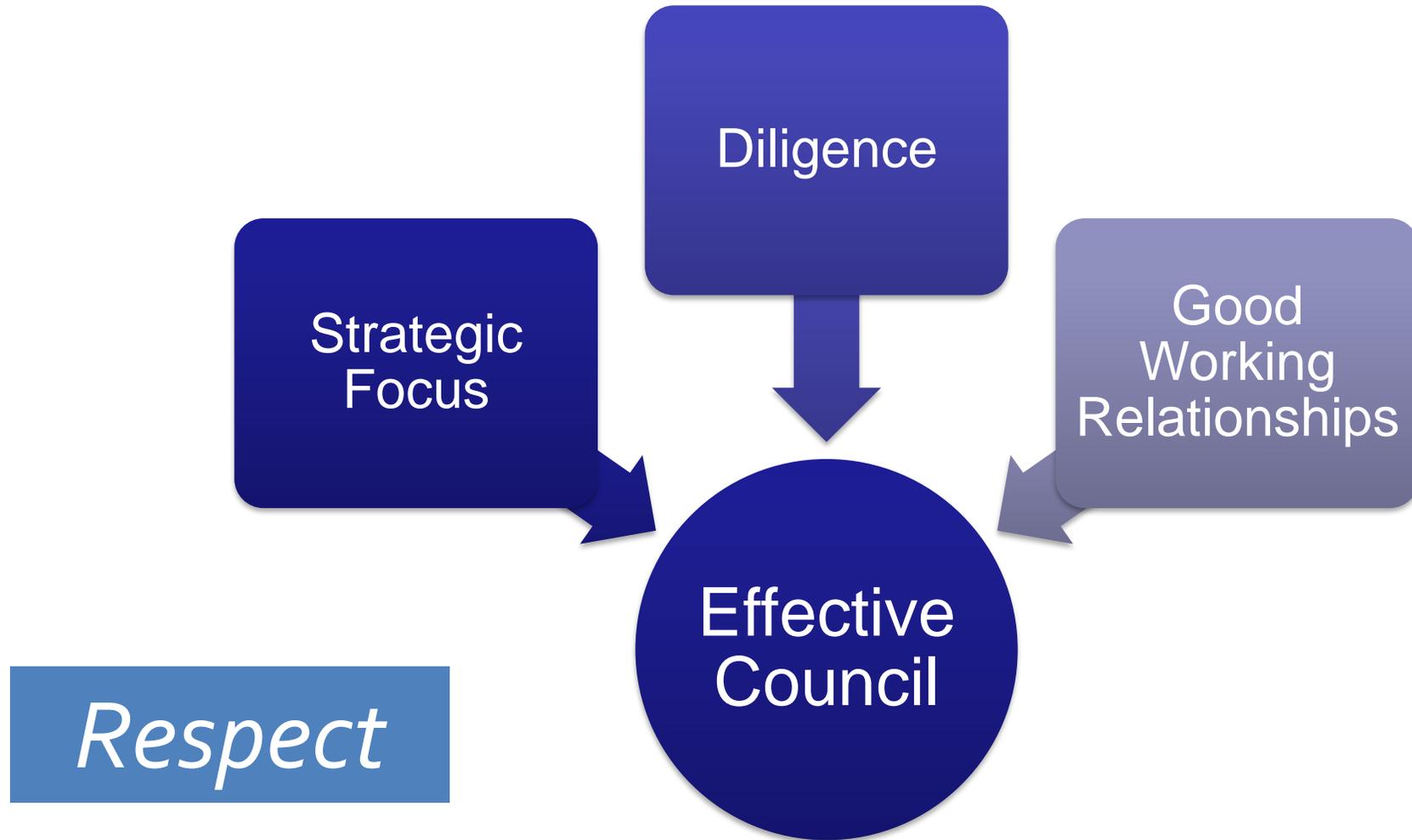# Conflict of Interests cast long shadows

Vested Interests → Potential → Perceived → Conflicts of Interest
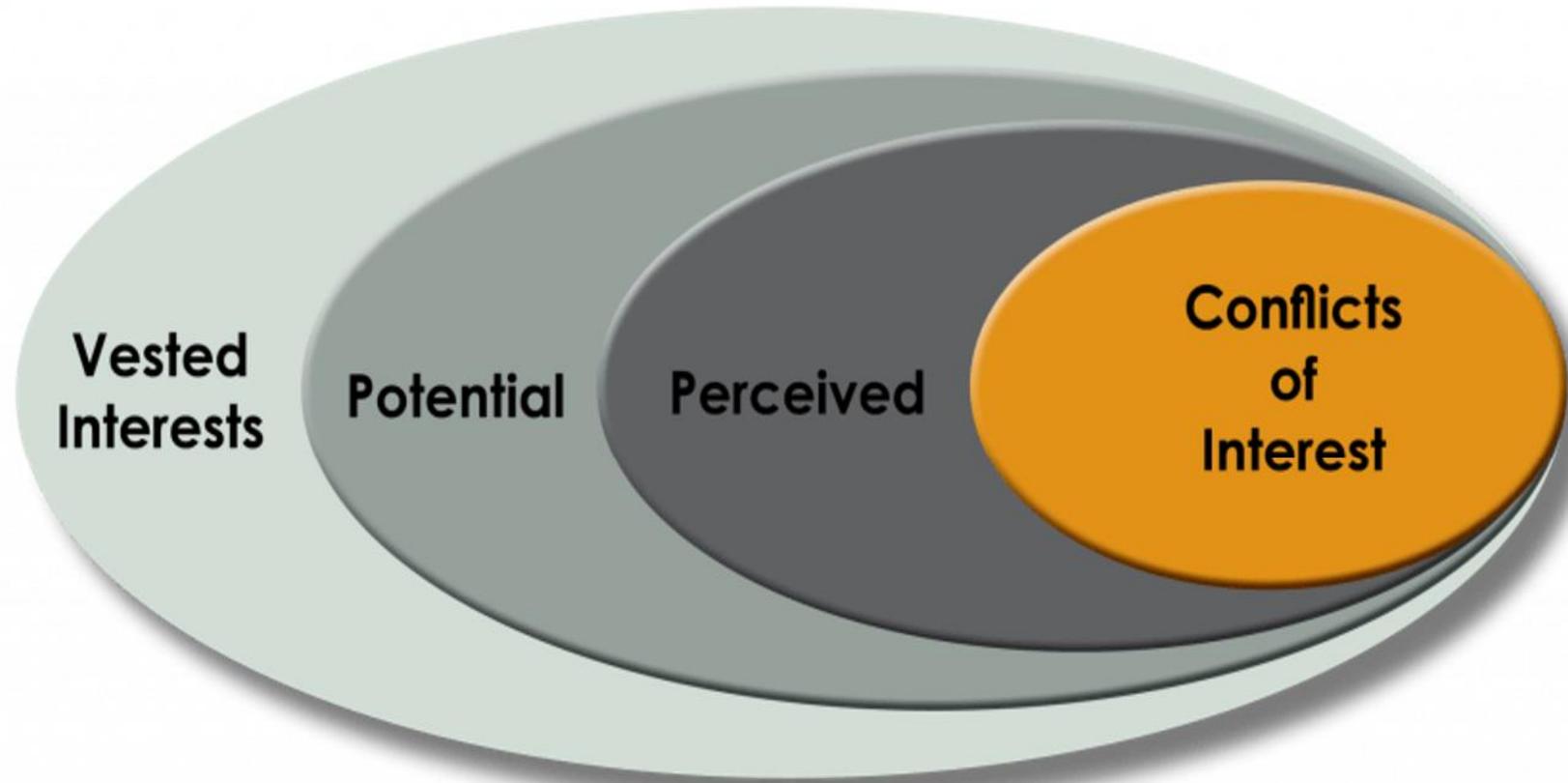
Must be alert to possibilities

> > > > Increased levels of intervention > > > >

Must be managed to ensured impact controlled

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Social Media

What makes a Council Effective?

Diligence

Strategic Focus

Good Working Relationships

Effective Council

Respect

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Tips …

Work as a Team, even when you don't want to!

You need yourself plus the majority of your colleagues to make your Motion become a reality

Act with Integrity and show respect

Beware of standing on a platform – you might not be able to bring a fair and impartial mind to the matter when it comes before Council for decision
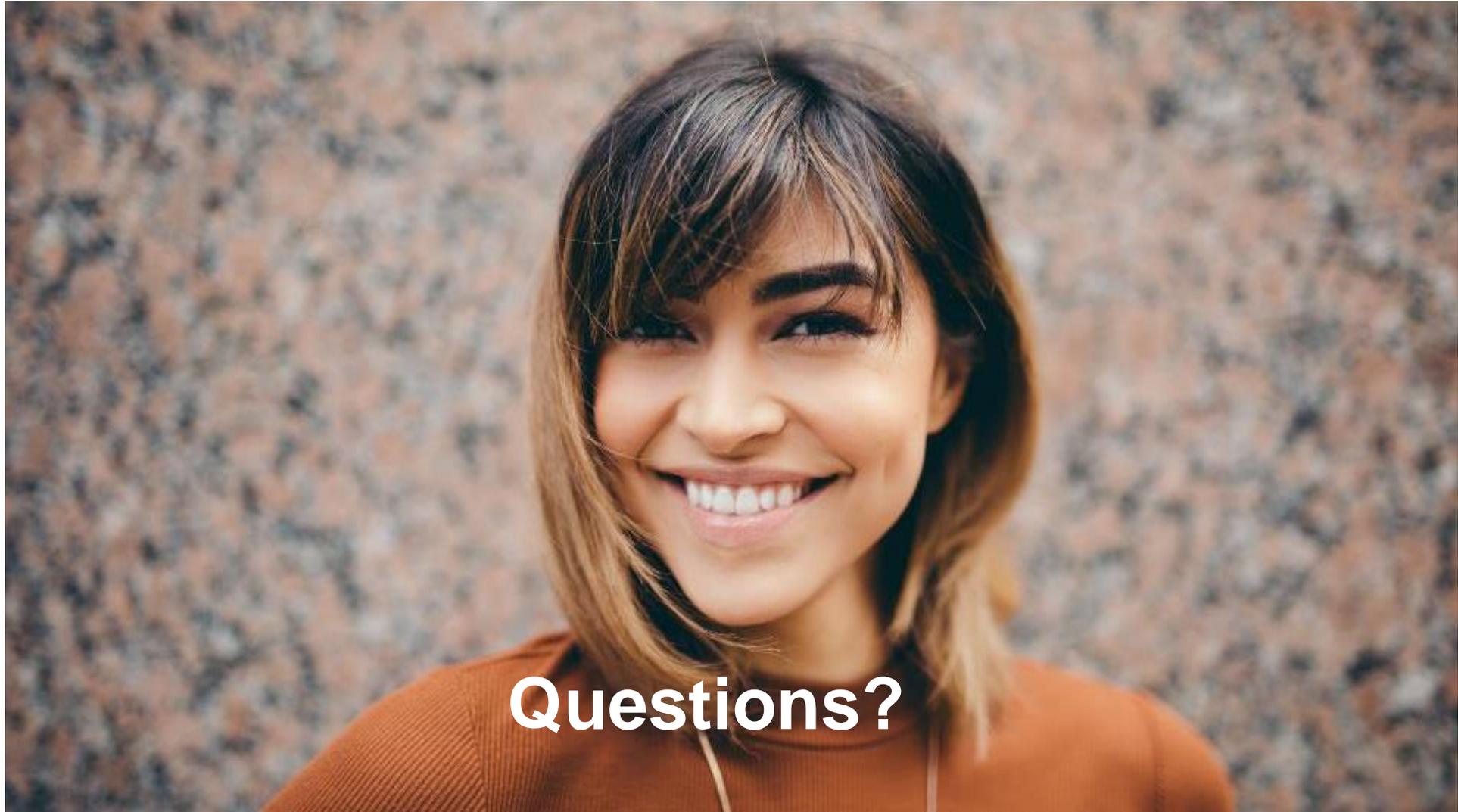
Tips...

Think Strategically... What's good for the whole LGA, not just your Ward?

Staff will help you – use their knowledge and skills to assist

Read the business papers

Be brave and positive

Be the best version of yourself during the campaign and when you are elected...

Questions?

Thank you