

COMMUNITY SPACES & SERVICES

ATTACHMENT C

COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

STRATEGIC MEETING

11 APRIL 2018

Introduction

This submission is made on behalf of Arts Mid North Coast, the peak regional body representing the interests of the arts and creative industries of the Mid North Coast. We work closely with State government and our six local government partners plus the key arts, cultural and creative stakeholders in the region.

We consider it important that we be actively involved in the Integrated Planning processes of all local government in our region as this forms the basis of so much strategic planning relevant to our role. Indeed our Strategic Plan 2016-2018 provides as one of our five key goals:

*To encourage and support regional arts, creative industries and cultural development planning to provide leadership to ensure positive outcomes for local, community and regional initiatives.
(Strategic Development)*

Our involvement seeks to highlight matters that we feel are important to either begin or advance conversations we may already be having or need to have with each LGA. We also hope we are able to bring a broader regional context arising not only from our knowledge of the whole region and the work of our partnering Council's but through our involvement with our Network of 14 Regional Arts Development Organisations bring ideas and best practice from across regional and rural New South Wales.

In this submission our focus is on "big picture" issues and trends that will impact on the community over the next ten years and that reflect the particular character and qualities of the local government area involved.

1. Structure of the Plan

As an overall comment we would argue that the Objectives and Strategies across the Plan are too general. It is our view that the objectives would be enhanced by applying the frequently recommended S.M.A.R.T. test. They should be Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Timed. Equally the strategies should indicate how Council will realise the community's vision and objectives through the nitty-gritty world of action. Such strategies should be seen as a method or plan chosen to bring about a desired future, such as achievement of a goal or solution to a problem. We are not confusing this with specific actions but the higher level strategy should give some indication of how things are going to get done. Each strategy needs to broadly answer the question, "How do we get there from here?" (Do we want to take the train? Fly? Walk?) When we consider relevant strategies as we do below they do not meet this test. This particularly applies in section 2 below and the strategy. *Support and encourage our vibrant and creative arts sector.* How? When? and how will it be measured?

2. We value...Our unique, diverse and culturally rich communities

Arts Mid North Coast as the regions peak arts and cultural body which has included for over 15 years both Greater Taree City Council and Great Lakes Council well understands the diversity and richness of the region, now including Gloucester. We support the Statement: *We will embrace the uniqueness and creativity of our communities.*

Indeed we highlight this through our 14 Cultural Trails and specifically feature two of those communities, Stroud and Gloucester, as showcased creative communities of the Mid North Coast with targeted promotion and support from Arts Mid North Coast. However we also recognise the

challenges from the diversity and the sheer size and population of the new MidCoast LGA. It is our view that the way forward to maximise and benefits for all is for the 10 year plan to show a strong commitment to strategic planning.

In the case of the “*vibrant and creative arts sector*” noted in the Plan this would best be achieved through the identification in the Plan of the need for the development of an Arts and Cultural Plan. Arts Mid North Coast has been closely involved in the development of such Plans in the last two years by both Coffs Harbour City Council and Port Macquarie Hastings Council. These have proved invaluable as the reference point for many subsequent decisions in terms of allocation of budgets, securing additional funds from Government and programming and prioritisation for Operations Plans. Such a Plan will provide similar benefits for MidCoast plus the inherent advantages that comes from strong community engagement in the development of such a Plan.

3. We value... a connected community

The Snapshot of Us section of the Plan makes detailed comments on those sectors of the population that are Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and those that have a disability but it only alludes to the fact that the MidCoast has an ageing population. It does so by reference to the number of retirees moving to the region and the importance of the aged care sector. However it is our submission that in considering a 10 year Plan this ageing of the population is a major characteristic that will influence many of Councils decisions on services, infrastructure and future planning.

As at the 2016 census 38.5 percent of the MidCoast population was aged over 60 compared to the NSW average of 21.8 percent. This makes it one of the oldest populations in NSW. This significant demographic characteristic needs greater recognition as it impacts many aspects of Council's services. From our perspective an important need is the development of Creative Ageing strategies that foster greater connection with and participation in the community and also deliver greater health benefits . In this we suggest the addition of a statement or strategy in the section We value ..a connected community such as that in the Coffs Harbour Community Plan along the lines of:

To investigate partnerships and programs using the arts to improve health, in particular mental health and healthy ageing.

4. We value...our thriving and growing economy

Our submission is that a vibrant and creative sector, as noted in the earlier value for rich community life can also provide a further source of richness in terms of the local economy. The strategies in this economic focus of the Plan fail to recognise that potential as indicated by the following:

- Cultural tourism is one of the largest and fastest-growing global tourism markets. Culture and creative industries are increasingly being used to promote destinations and enhance their competitiveness and attractiveness. Many locations are now actively developing their tangible and intangible cultural assets as a means of developing comparative advantages in an increasingly competitive tourism marketplace, and to create local distinctiveness in the face of globalisation. Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)
- Information from Destination NSW Snapshots support this view as does it date on importance to the North Coast region
- Our 14 Cultural Trails feature over 80 venues, attractions and cultural assets in Mid North Coast which contribute to tourism

- Two of the eight designated Creative Communities of the Mid North Coast are in the MidCoast LGA.
- Our directories indicate nearly 100 teachers of art and arts related businesses
- Many others are involved in the broader definition of creative industries such as design, media, event management and digital

Many of these creative opportunities are businesses that are suitable economic drivers for women, those seeking casual or part time work, young entrepreneurs and Aboriginal artists. They are also businesses that can be established across the whole LGA from home locations and in the many smaller towns, villages and rural areas.

Conclusion

As stated in the introduction to this submission Arts Mid North Coast looks forward to being able to discuss these matters with Council as part of an ongoing conversation on a number of the important opportunities available to the LGA into the future and consolidates and expands important initiatives Council has already undertaken.

Kevin Williams

Executive Director

February 17 2018



17 February 2018

Submission

Have your say on Draft Community Strategic Plan with future of the Manning

I thank MidCoast for the public opportunity to have your say on the future of the Manning

I offer two areas where a great opportunity exists to move into the future that IMO would have a tremendous economic and social improvement to this great MidCoast area.

1. Crowdy: Crowdy Harbour and Crowdy Head along with the old school site is one area that I have been pushing for a future plan to utilise a best local government and state asset that is deteriorating and falling into a wasteful state of affairs and infrastructure.

I submit the project again that I signed off on, on behalf of the Australian Anglers Association in conjunction with the New South Wales Fishing Clubs Association which in reality is a Marine Precinct of great importance to the stakeholders listed in the project and MidCoast Tourism/social and economic benefit. See **Attachment 1**

2. Completion of the Manning River Harbour Entrance: The second future proposal is one that has plagued many a person and committee and council member for over a century. WHY! When the future benefits are glaringly obvious.

The Completion of the Manning River Harbour Entrance including a Southern Breakwall/southern headland/training wall.

There has been enough studies and arm waving while being photographed and promises from politicians and councillors alike to complete a dozen projects of same.

The Manning River borders on two state electorates and one federal electorate (all National Party held). Every study has concluded that the economic benefits, social and environmental benefits are outstanding,

Opportunities when state government boast of surpluses have been missed because in my opinion no champion has taken the task at hand.

All I hear is poormouth excuses and reasons why such a project cannot proceed. Flood studies were one reason but there has been a myriad of flood studies. Too much sand was another I hear, (give it back to Old Bar and Manning Point) or use it on site is pretty simple!!

Imagine a river with a stable entrance and a deep channel right the way to Taree. Big boats attract big wallets and big business. The developers would be inundating Councillors. Tourism would be a big winner and places like the dreamland "Brimbin" would proceed. But I believe the state government would be better enticed to commit if there was a potential return on their investment. Not much to offer currently.

I attach (**attachment 2**) a list of studies and reviews that I could quickly find but I am sure there are many more sitting on shelves somewhere.

Please add these suggestions to any future planning



Attachments follow:

Attachment 1 pages 3-7

Attachment 2 pages 8-9

AUSTRALIAN ANGLERS ASSOCIATION NSW 2015 to 2018



President General: Robert Smith BM
Secretary General: Merv McFie
Treasurer General: Roe Martin

Mail : 15 Little St Harrington NSW 2427
Ph 02 65560338, 0413327057.
E tftpfish@bigpond.com, hcag@outlook.com



Re: PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH AT CROWDY HEAD A MUSEUM, EDUCATIONAL and RESEARCH CENTRE BASED ON FISHING AND MARINE RELATED INDUSTRIES

The Hon. Leslie Williams, MP
GPO Box 5341
SYDNEY NSW 2001
(02) 8574 7390
(02) 9339 5556

14 February 2016

Dear Minister (Leslie)

On behalf of The Australian Anglers Association I wish to bring to your attention, and also seek your assistance, support and advice in the establishment of a Marine/fishing museum and education centre at Crowdy Head, New South Wales.

Like all projects of this nature is important to have or establish a suitable site. The Association believes the former Crowdy Head Public School site along with the former Crowdy Head Fish Co-op Building with the utilization of the Crowdy Head Boat Harbour offers a unique set of Government assets to be utilized for the greater good and public benefit. This area is also fortunate to have easy access to The Crowdy Bay National Park.

It is important at this point to make you aware of the property at Crowdy Head, firstly with the former Crowdy Head Public School buildings situated on 2.024 hectares of land. The school has been closed, some infrastructure has been removed and the remaining buildings being unused and are rapidly deteriorating. Photo attached

The second major area is the now defunct Crowdy Head Fishing Co-op building and infrastructure. The Harbour is now a dismal and a virtually defunct fishing industry, albeit a few small lobster fishing

operations. The old Crowdy Head Fishing Co-op building is understood to be subject to a dispute or ownership claims. The public has been informed that the building had been sold to a Port Macquarie Restaurant Operator for removal within two years. That is now over three years with the present legal position unknown.

We understand that the area may have one or two Aboriginal Land Claims which are part of a long State wide list currently being assessed.

In seeking the Federal Government, State Government and our Greater Taree City Council's assistance plus community support to establish a Fishing and Marine museum for this regional area our association believes there are also opportunities to incorporate, develop and establish an education centre along with a marine research facility. The association considers there are numerous opportunities to involve local and external schools plus incorporating the involvement of universities in research and their students studies. With the available land there are also opportunities to develop accommodation for visiting students. The association believes this is a tremendous opportunity to involve our membership, gain support of the local communities and most importantly it opens numerous opportunities not only for the members of local and external aboriginal councils but other involvements especially from the western regions of our state.

The Australian Anglers Association has been in continual existence since its inception in Newcastle NSW in 1947. That was followed by some public meetings which were then formalised with an inaugural foundation meeting at Newcastle Trades Hall in 1949. This was in conjunction with a fishing competition in and around the Newcastle Port Stephens area.

To establish a Museum on this site for our region would be a major tourist attraction, create an education centre whilst surrounding the history of the organised recreational fishing. The association has a vast number of historical memorabilia and records etc.....to highlight and display of the history of recreational and commercial fishing of the region and State.

The association believes it can assist in the support of such establishment through its vast membership,. The NSW Fishing Clubs Association has two hundred member fishing clubs alone

The establishment of a Marine Precinct at Crowdy Head would be an excellent site usage of utilizing the available assets of Crowdy Head with its safe pocket harbour, excellent boat launching facilities, safe and expansive beaches. The Manning River including the estuary with the uncompleted seawalls and breakwalls along with the nearby State Park, the nearby Crowdy Bay National Park, the Cattai Wetlands Nature Reserve, Big Swamp region and nearby forestry area all add to the magnificent opportunities for a rich environmental study area involving and linking into our fishery resources for the state. Therefore by the addition of the proposed project it can only add to the tourist visitations and includes attraction for industry for this whole region, creating opportunities for additional local employment and business investments in the area

A museum involving all facets of maritime/fishing recreational and commercial fishing, surfing, plus underwater diving or various groups and opportunities for training of our sea cadets all add to the increased activity and tourism for the local region. The region has easy access to the Pacific Highway along with excellent rail, bus and air transport through Taree and Port Macquarie.

Additionally the Crowdy Head central location to all the towns and villages of the Manning

Region, plus easy access to the Forster, Port Macquarie, Newcastle Regions makes it an attractive proposition for marine research for all schools in the region. Should a limited residential area be established it would offer further opportunities for study and research, and school visits.

The establishment of the centre at Crowdy Head, would be of tremendous benefit to the Tourist Industry and businesses of the area. This give the impetus for people to visit not only Crowdy Head but it also opens up other tourist activities to the visitors. The manning is generally regarded a socially and economic poor area, and this is another opportunity to create and open the door for a new business activity. Additionally it brings into play government assets that are not being used, and creates an opportunity for the use of those assets for the benefit of the community.

Finally as the Association is fully aware of the many Government Departments and community interests, we do request your assistance , support and advice for the establishment of such a Museum and Marine Centre. We believe there is an urgent need for all interested parties to be involved firstly in establishing the availability of the former Fishing Cooperative building and availability of any harbour facilities and secondly the status of the Crowdy Head school site.

Projects for sustaining this type of community interest have been proposed before through Taree City Council where it is understood that similar projects of such a centre were applied for under the Howard Government Federation Funding back around 2002.

The next step in the equation will be to register the interest and goodwill of those Departments, Council and Community Groups, establish a working party so the as to conduct the necessary feasibility studies, assess the financial details and management arrangements to bring this project home in the overall interest of the community.

The Association(s) believe that this project must be seriously considered by all levels of Government and will assist wherever possible

Personalised correspondence forwarded to the following by email.

Federal:

Prime Minister The Hon Malcolm Turnbull
Deputy Prime Minister The Hon Barnaby Joyce
Senator John Williams
Dr David Gillespie Member for Lyne

NSW

Premier The Hon Mike Baird
The Hon Duncan Gay MLC Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight
The Hon Stuart Ayers Minister for Tourism
The Hon Niall Blair Minister for Land and Water
The Hon Leslie Williams MP Member for Port Macquarie
The Hon Stephen Bromhead MP Member for Myall Lakes

GTCC

Mayor Paul Hogan
GM Ron Posselt

Aboriginal Land Council

MVBC
Mr Steve Atkins

Environment and Cultural Heritage Centre Working Group

On authority:

Robert Smith B.H.

Robert Smith BM
President General
Australian Anglers Association
President
NSW Fishing Clubs Association

Attachments: Crowdy Harbour, Co-Op building, Crowdy School, Crowdy Public Boat Ramp



Crowdy Fish Co-op Building



Co-op building with school top right (in relation)



4 Lane boat ramp with condemned jetty (left)



Crowdy School deteriorating (room to move)



Crowdy School entrance

MANNING RIVER Study links

AN APPRAISAL OF TIDAL & SURVEY DATA FROM THE UPPER REACHES OF THE MANNING RIVER ESTUARY - 00.07.1983 - GC WILLIAMS - PUBLIC WORKS DEPT NSW - CIVIL ENGINEERING DIVISION.

MANNING RIVER BANK MANAGEMENT STUDY - 00.11.1997 - WEBB, MCKEOWN & ASSOC - GREATER TAREE COUNCIL.

MANNING RIVER DATA COMPILATION STUDY PROGRESS REPORT ONE-DATA COLLATION-00.06.1989-D ALLSOP. P ANDERSON-.

MANNING RIVER DATA COMPILATION STUDY PROGRESS REPORT ONE-DATA COLLATION-JUNE 1989-D ALLSOP. P ANDERSON-AUSTRALIAN WATER & COASTAL STUDIES.

MANNING RIVER ENTRANCE STUDY - BACKGROUND & ISSUES OF CONCERN - 00.05.1987 - PH NEVILLE - PUBLIC WORKS - ENGINEERING DIVISION.

MANNING RIVER ESTUARY MANAGEMENT STUDY - NUMERICAL MODELLING DISCUSSION PAPER 1 - 21.02.2000 - WBM OCEANICS AUST - GREATER TAREE COUNCIL.

MANNING RIVER ESTUARY MANAGEMENT STUDY-DRAFT FINAL REPORT-00.12.2000-WBM OCEANICS AUSTRALIA-GREATER TAREE

MANNING RIVER ESTUARY MANAGEMENT STUDY-DRAFT FINAL REPORT-DECEMBER 2000-WBM OCEANICS AUSTRALIA-GREATER TAREE CITY COUNCIL.

MANNING RIVER GRAVEL EXTRACTION - PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT, PWD REPORT 80031 - 00.12.1980 - HG EVANS, JP MESSNER - PUBLIC WORKS DEPT NSW - COASTAL ENGINEERING BRANCH.

THE MANNING RIVER UNPLUGGED - A HISTORICAL OVERVIEW WITH CONCEPT - 00.03.1997 - G STONE - .

WATER QUALITY IN THE MANNING RIVER - 1989-1994 - 00.10.1994 - A KALISKA - GREATER TAREE COUNCIL.

WATER QUALITY IN THE MANNING RIVER - NORTHERN RIVERS STUDY NO 7 - 00.06.1987 -
WR WILLIAMS - ESTUARY MANAGEMENT - STATE POLLUTION CONTROL COMMISSION - ISBN
0730507106.

<https://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/acts/1911-16.pdf> 1 of 2

<https://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/acts/1911-16.pdf> 2 of 2

[http://nsw-coastal-explorer.domorewithmaps.com/documents/MANNING%20RIVER%20EN
TRANCE%20STUDY%20-%20BACKGROUND%20&%20ISSUES%20OF%20CONCERN%20-%2000
.05.1987%20-%20PH%20NEVILLE%20-%20PUBLIC%20WORKS%20%20%20-%20ENGINEERIN
G%20DIVISION.pdf](http://nsw-coastal-explorer.domorewithmaps.com/documents/MANNING%20RIVER%20EN
TRANCE%20STUDY%20-%20BACKGROUND%20&%20ISSUES%20OF%20CONCERN%20-%2000
.05.1987%20-%20PH%20NEVILLE%20-%20PUBLIC%20WORKS%20%20%20-%20ENGINEERIN
G%20DIVISION.pdf)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 19 February 2018 8:40 AM
To: Sarah Wilkinson
Subject: RE: MidCoast Community Strategic Plan

Hi Sarah,
I went on line to make some comments but evidently the document has been taken down.
Regards,
[REDACTED]

Some thoughts:-

I was not intending to make comment on the Strategic Plan but, recently I heard something that changed my mind. The distress of a father and his son when they were advised that the business they both worked for would be closing.

It has been a familiar story for many across our valley.

I was stunned when I heard that Council had out bid a potential employer for the Masters building.

Having witnessed this years ago when the then Council indebted it's selves to build our existing Council Chambers I am of the opinion we have done it again.

This decision will be Mid Coast Councils 'Glass house' and we should divest ourselves of this 'albatross' before it is to late.

My contribution to the strategic plan is:-

'draw a line under our present circumstances, and invite the NSW government to install an administrator rather than a new GM'.

Let us bite the bullet and make some 'hard' decisions and get our valley and our region moving .

Regards,
[REDACTED]

From: Sarah Wilkinson [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 7 February 2018 9:56 AM
To: Undisclosed recipients:
Subject: MidCoast Community Strategic Plan

What's your vision for the future of MidCoast?

We are currently seeking input from the community on our draft Community Strategic Plan - MidCoast 2030: Shared vision, shared responsibility.

The plan documents what we as a community aspire to achieve, what is important to us and how we want our region to grow and evolve over time. It also guides our delivery program and operational plan - so having your say now will impact the activities Council undertakes in the future.

We welcome your input into this plan, and encourage you to check out the information on Council's website and have your say in the online survey - www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/csp

If you are part of a community group that wants to discuss the plan and provide feedback - check out the conversation toolkit, also available on the website.

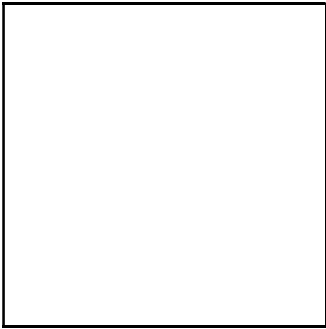
The consultation is open to 23 February 2018.

Apologies if you have already received this email. We are utilising a number of email databases to get the word out to as many people as possible.

Thanks for your time!

Kind Regards,

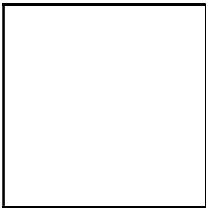
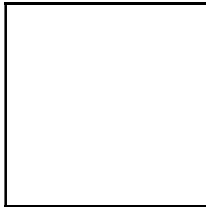
Sarah Wilkinson
Community Development Coordinator



Direct 02 6591 7322

Sarah.Wilkinson@MidCoast.nsw.gov.au

www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au or follow us



From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 15 February 2018 4:53 PM
To: Community
Subject: Community Strategic Plan: Horses and horse riding

The vision and values expressed are beyond reproach. There is however a regrettable failure to explicitly include horses and horse riding as part of the Community Strategic Plan.

Horses and horse riding are part of the cultural heritage of New South Wales. Only recently the story “of these beautiful animals that have shaped our society, environment and identity”, was the subject of a major exhibition by the National Museum of Australia, Canberra: “*Spirited – Australia’s Horse Story*”, National Museum of Australia Press, 2014.

Mid-Coast Council is fortunate that horses and horse riding still remain strong in our area. Indeed, recreational trail horse riding is a rapidly growing activity. It generates significant economic activity while maintaining a vital part of Australia’s heritage. Our community would be enriched by having local bridle paths, and horse riding trails from Tuncurry to Barrington Tops and from Karuah to Forster.

Quoting from the draft plan –

We value ... Our unique, diverse & culturally rich communities

Where do we want to be?

We will embrace the uniqueness and creativity of our communities

How will we get there?

Support the preservation and protection of our unique heritage, and the individual qualities of towns, villages and special places.

We value ... a connected community

Where do we want to be?

It is safe and easy to get around our region

How will we get there?

Provide a safe, accessible and connected network of walking and cycling options.

We value ... our thriving and growing economy

Where do we want to be?

A region is a popular place to visit, live, work and invest

How will we get there?

Develop and promote our region as an attractive visitor destination offering a broad range of experiences for visitors and residents.

Provide an environment to attract, grow and strengthen local businesses. (Is our Council aware how many horse-related businesses - saddlery, farriers, veterinary services and supplies - exist here?)

Increase opportunities for quality education and training. (Is our Council aware that equine studies courses are provided at Taree TAFE?)

This draft Community Strategic Plan explicitly particularises certain heritage matters, and embraces certain activities such as cycling.

Having regard to the strong horse background of the Mid-Coast Council area and its value looking to the future, I submit that the Community Strategic Plan should equally particularise and embrace horse riding and equestrian activities, in the categories listed above.



Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.

This email (including all the attachments) may contain personal information and is intended solely for the named addressee. It is confidential and may be subject to legal or other professional privilege. Any confidentiality or privilege is not lost because this email is sent to you by mistake. If you have received it in error, please let me know by reply email, delete it from your system and destroy any copies.

This email is also subject to copyright. No part of it should be reproduced, adapted or communicated without the written consent of the copyright owner.

Any personal information in this email must be handled in accordance with the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth).

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 8 February 2018 11:04 AM
To: Sarah Wilkinson
Subject: FW: China is leading the world into the future
Attachments: IMSTP9.gif; 2017-11-20-VIDEO-0000111311.mp4

Hi Sarah.....long time no see.....hope you`re well & happy.....as I am.
I`ll cut right to the chase.....re. the Councils Strategic Planning.
Irregardless of all the submissions,ideas etc.which the survey will produce.....they ALL need money to achieve.
I`m sure after looking at the clip I sent you ,(it was sent to me by a Manning friend),& if you Google the items in
it,you will be suitably impressed.
All of these things neededfirst off....the idea.....then the expertise & money to achieve.....I`e ridden a few
times on the High Speed Trains & they`re smmmmmoooth.....hostess`s serving food & drinks & really comfortable.
I`ve also seen the buildings with all the greenery & other buildings ,roads & bridges.....yes & all the old stuff too.
You have to admire them.....I think their work ethic is unbeatable.....history shows that.....now they are assisting
South America,Africa,India,Malaysia & others by building dams,railways,roads & infrastructure etc.....the world
today is moving at a very fast pace & because of communication & transport...shrinking....Australia...today is more &
more an important part of Asia.....the whole world is in a state of flux & to many Asians Australia is a Garden of
Eden.

Look at what [REDACTED] has done in China,you have to admire his achievements.....also his foresight,
because he`s not a Johnny come lately to Australia.....he sees what CAN be done here & has set about doing
it.....MONEY brings POWER & in many cases all around the world...including Australia....CORRUPTION....but that`s
the way it`s always been done in Asia.....not saying it`s right or that I condone it....but I understand it.....fi you
want a machine to work efficiently,you have to oil it & in most cases,MONEY is the lubricant.

Now...he of course would like things to run smoothly & that should be everyone`s aim.....I believe he needs TO
BE CONTROLLED & that needs a very skillful uncorruptible negotiatorwith an OPEN mind.(NOT an OPEN HAND)..
of course this requires State & Federal input as it`s too big & costly for Council to handle on it`s own.....it can be &
should be a WIN/WIN situation.....

If & when he comes on board,there are other things I would like to suggest.....WATER being the most
important.....NO LIVING THING will survive without it & not many things can be achieved without it.

I`ll get off my soapbox for now.....you sure have a lot to think about.....cheers... [REDACTED]

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, February 3, 2018 6:36 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: China is leading the world into the future

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "[REDACTED]"
Date: 29 January 2018 at 4:39:50 pm AEDT
To: undisclosed-recipients
Subject: Fw: China is leading the world into the future

INPUT TO DRAFT COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

We have two major inputs to make into the draft Community Strategic Plan.

1. Opportunities for participation in Culture and the Arts.

While “community connectedness” can involve physical connections such as roads and transport, it more often describes social connectedness and cohesion. It has been reported that social connectedness is a much stronger predictor of the perceived quality of life in a community than the community’s income or educational level. Participation in the arts and culture is an important driver of community connectedness.

Community involvement in the arts and culture provides benefits in terms of economic growth (investment in infrastructure, local jobs creation, tourism draw and local spending), but also enhances personal wellbeing and health.

It is well documented that participation in arts and culture improves health and happiness; it also improves mental acuity and delays ageing. It reduces the incidence and impacts of mental health issues, such as depression. Involvement in cultural and arts activities reduces social isolation and enhances community cohesiveness. All of these benefits go towards community connectedness.

Participation in culture and the arts also builds creativity and innovation within the community and this has a flow on effect to other sectors, and again ultimately improving economic outcomes.

The MidCoast region needs to grow and enhance opportunities for residents to experience culture and the arts. This needs to include participation as an audience or viewing member, as well as active participation in the creation of the arts through workshops, classes and other learning opportunities. There needs to be more thought given to investing in community arts spaces and opportunities for collaboration between artists. Provision of physical space for this work to occur would enhance the connectedness and vibrancy of the region.

2. Sustainability and use of renewables

Under the heading of our environment, there should be mention of actively pursuing and encouraging the use of renewable energy and improving sustainability.

Council could be a leader in this area through the use of renewable energy and energy saving technology in all of its buildings and facilities, and seeking out innovative use of renewables throughout its range of projects and programs. This would stimulate innovation and improve budget outcomes.

And by taking on this ambassador role, it would stimulate uptake in the community. Council could do outreach work to hasten community uptake.

Use of renewable energy is a key way of protecting our community.

With thanks for your consideration

██████████
██████████
████████████████████

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 8 February 2018 3:20 PM
To: Community
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: What's your vision for the future of MidCoast?

The document is poor. There is no supporting information regarding demographics, or visions for significant areas. The survey is poorly designed and cannot be relied upon to represent community views. Please do a more professional job

[REDACTED]

On 8 Feb 2018, at 11:29 am, Community <Community@MidCoast.nsw.gov.au> wrote:

Good morning

As a valuable member of our community we are interested in your feedback on a plan that will become a blueprint to guide our direction over the next decade - our Community Strategic Plan, *MidCoast 2030: shared vision, shared responsibility*. And it's currently open for feedback.

The plan documents what we as a community aspire to achieve, what is important to us and how we want our region to grow and evolve over time. It also guides our delivery program and operational plan - so having your say now will impact the activities Council undertakes in the future.

We welcome your input into this plan, and encourage you to check out the information on Council's website and have your say in the online survey - www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/csp If you are part of a community group that wants to discuss the plan and provide feedback - check out the conversation toolkit, also available on the website.

Submissions and survey responses close on 23 February 2018.

Thanks for your time!

Apologies if you receive an email on MidCoast 2030 more than once. We are using a number of different databases to ensure we get the message out to as many people as possible, we hope you understand and we promise we are not trying to spam you!

<image001.png>

community@midcoast.nsw.gov.au

www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au or follow us <image002.png>

<image003.jpg>

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 8 January 2018 8:43 PM
To: Sarah Wilkinson; Marcelle Boyling; Donna Hudson; Rob Griffiths
Cc: MidCoast Council
Subject: [REDACTED] Community Strategic Plan Comments
Attachments: Comments on draft MCC CSP.docx

Dear Sarah and Marcelle,

I have just completed the CSP survey and hit the button to submit it and was told the system is under maintenance. I hope all I did is not lost!

Attached is a copy of my recent attempts to communicate with Councillors and Management. However, no response from any Councillors to the original email. One Councillor said she had read it and one said he had no intention of reading my email as I send too many emails.in the attached document

No debate on the Agenda Item apart from one Councillor asking the GM to respond to my email

As you can see I am not very happy that Council is not really giving the CSP the attention it truly deserves.

However, I have taken the time to provide my suggested measurements, targets and comments.

Please ring me to discuss

Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, 6 January 2018 3:47 PM
To: David West; Katheryn Smith; cr.bell@midcoast.nsw.gov.au; Karen Hutchinson; Jan McWilliams; Dr David Keegan; Peter Epov; Len Roberts; Brad Christensen; Troy Fowler; Rob Griffiths; Donna Hudson
Cc: MidCoast Council
Subject: Re: Community Strategic Plan Council Meeting 20 December 2017

Dear Mr Mayor and Councillors,

This email is to register my disappointment that not one Councillor had taken the time or effort to respond to my original email dated 19 December 2017.

It raises in my mind that both the elected councillors and management of MidCoast Council place little emphasis on responding to genuine questions and comments on the Community Strategic Plan.

Council has taken the easy path of simply asking the community to comment on the draft CSP and to suggest ways in which Council can measure how well Council has performed in achieving the stated "How will we get there" strategies or goals.

In my opinion these measurements should have been developed by Council as part of the original CSP engagement strategy by facilitated focus workshops across the MCC community.

The stated CSP Vision is :

We aspire to be a place of unique environmental significance where our quality of life and sense of community is balanced by sustainable and sensitive development, which fosters economic growth

To be effective the Vision needs to present a visual representation that is clear to all the community so that we know where MidCoast Council actually plans to take us.

Maybe Councillors and Management need fully explain what is actually meant or envisaged by:

- A place of Unique Environmental Significance
- Quality of Life
- Sense of Community
- Sustainable and sensitive development
- Economic Growth

With the Vision, multiple strategies and goals the message is complex

To be really effective strategies and goals need to be Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic and Time based.

It will be interesting to see how well management engages with the community in the proposed CSP comments process.

I would really welcome some comments from Council and Management

Regards

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, 19 December 2017 1:14 PM
To: David West; Katheryn Smith; cr.bell@midcoast.nsw.gov.au; Karen Hutchinson; Jan McWilliams; Dr David Keegan; Peter Epov; Len Roberts; Brad Christensen; Troy Fowler; Rob Griffiths; Donna Hudson
Cc: MidCoast Council
Subject: Community Strategic Plan Council Meeting 20 December 2017

Dear Mr Mayor and Councillors,

I have eagerly awaited the publishing of the draft Community Strategic Plan (CSP) for MidCoast Council.

Unfortunately, I am really disappointed with the draft CSP and the accompanying Community Engagement Strategy for the CSP.

The MidCoast Council Community Strategic Plan (CSP) should be a roadmap for the future of the MidCoast Region of NSW. It needs to define the community's vision and sets a direction for everything that Council must do over the next decade to make the vision a reality.

But, it appears to me as if Management has adopted a low cost, poorly structured engagement approach to developing the CSP and the draft product shows this.

In taking this approach Council has missed a unique opportunity to develop a quality CSP that the community owns and can be proud of.

The NSW Office of Local Government states the following:

The Community Strategic Plan represents the highest level of strategic planning undertaken by a local council. All other plans developed by the council as part of the Integrated Planning and Reporting framework must reflect and support the implementation of the Community Strategic Plan.

The Community Strategic Plan should identify the main priorities and aspirations of the community, providing a clear set of strategies to achieve this vision of the future. Building the Community Strategic Plan takes time and must involve a whole-of-community [engagement](#) process. It is important to note that while the council is the custodian of the Community Strategic Plan, it may not be responsible for the delivery of all of the activities the Plan identifies. It is important that the Community Strategic Plan identifies who is responsible for its implementation, including other partners such as State agencies, non-government organisations, business partners and community groups.

The Community Strategic Plan essentially addresses four key questions for the community:

- Where are we now?
- Where do we want to be in ten years' time?
- How will we get there?
- How will we know when we have arrived?

The Community Strategic Plan must be based on the social justice principles of access, equity, participation and rights. It should also address the [quadruple bottom line](#) (social, environmental, economic and civic leadership) issues. It is recommended that a council uses a multi-disciplinary team to manage and implement the integrated planning process

On the issue of Community Engagement OLG states:

The Community Engagement Strategy must identify relevant stakeholder groups in the community and outline the methods that the council will use to engage each of these groups.

Effective local councils needs a combination of representative and participatory democracy, and particularly during the development and review of the Community Strategic Plan. Some councils find it challenging to effectively involve the community in planning processes, but it is important for the long-term success of the Community Strategic Plan (and the plans that fall out of it) that a diverse and representative group of people, and in fact anyone who has an interest, has the opportunity to participate.

Please note that Council has only now prepared a Community Engagement Strategy for the proposed final consultation period. At no stage was a documented strategy for the development of the draft CSP made public or discussed.

Council appears to be placing great faith in the consultation that took place for "What is MidCoast?" as a means of understanding what people had to say regarding what they value about living in the MidCoast Council area. The major output of the consultation was the development of a new branding and logo concepts for Council. From that point on there has been no specific

community consultation and only a review of the previous Council documents, discussions between staff and Councillors etc.

I am not aware that the 4 identified values were developed by putting the 4 OLG questions to the community at any stage.

To be useful and manageable the CSP needs to incorporate specific, measurable, attainable, realistic and time based goals - backed up by well thought out strategies.

Local Government Best Practice:

Can I please encourage Councillors to have a look at the CSP prepared by Northern Beaches Council as an example of how a CSP is developed with well thought out Community Engagement. see the following link: <http://yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/communitystrategicplan2>

FINAL COMMENT:

It is interesting to see the engagement processes that Council has at its disposal, namely:

Inform - to provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, benefits and/or solutions

Consult - to obtain public feedback on alternatives, projects and/or designs

Involve - to work directly with the public throughout the decision-making process to ensure that community concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.

Collaborate - to partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.

Empower - where Council and community work in partnership to implement action and build community capacity

In my opinion there is no real evidence that the higher level engagement methods of involve, collaborate and empower have been effectively used by Council to develop the CSP and finally to seek feedback on the draft.

The proposed \$5,000 budget for this final engagement phase is completely inadequate for the scope of engagement proposed let alone what should be done.

It is interesting to compare the \$5,000 above with the projected \$860,000 to prepare a strategic local environmental plan.

QUESTIONS:

- 1. How can Council embark upon developing other strategic plans and policies if Council does not have a quality CSP?**
- 2. Why isn't it possible for Council to reject the Business Paper Recommendations and to request management to revise the community engagement process to ensure that the OLG objectives for the CSP are achieved?**

I trust that Council will consider my comments in its decision making on this important Agenda Item

Yours Sincerely

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

8 January 2018

Ms Marcelle Boyling
Media and Communications Manager
MidCoast Council

COMMENTS ON COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

Dear Marcelle,

I wish to take this opportunity to provide my comments on the subject Community Strategic Plan (CSP)

I have reviewed the draft CSP and the associated community engagement plan and make the following comments:

1. Our Vision

We aspire to be a place of unique environmental significance where our quality of life and sense of community is balanced by sustainable and sensitive development, which fosters economic growth

To be effective the Vision needs to present a visual representation that is clear to all the community so that we know where MidCoast Council actually plans to take us.

It would be beneficial to explain what the meaning of the following terms are:

- Unique Environmental Significance
- Quality of Life
- Sense of Community
- Sustainable and sensitive development
- Economic Growth

2. Our Values

We value ... our unique, diverse and culturally rich communities

Our diverse communities offer active and social opportunities, are safe and are places where we work together with a creative focus acknowledging our rich history and culture.

We value ... a connected community

Our roads, footpaths and technology are upgraded and well maintained so we can easily and safely connect with each other.

We value ... our environment

Our natural environment is protected and enhanced, while we maintain a delicate balance with our growing urban centres and managing our resources wisely.

We value ... our thriving and growing economy

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

We value ... leadership and shared vision

We work in partnerships towards a shared vision, that provides value for money and is customer focused.

These are high level values that are only meaningful once strategies and measurements are added.

3. It is interesting to note the OLG stated that Councils should adopt a quadruple bottom line approach to developing the CSP as shown below

Social	Environmental	Economic	Civic Leadership
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access and equity issues • Cultural activities • Recreation and active living • Built environment – urban design and planning for growth • Providing and maintaining community facilities • Heritage issues • Consultation networks • Public health and safety • Affordable housing • Education • Transport links between communities in our LGA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total water cycle management • Preserving biodiversity • Waste management • Protecting specific environmental features • Climate change impacts and initiatives • Alternative energy sources • Air quality • Environmental impact of development • Environmentally sound operation of assets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional economic profiles and opportunities • Economic sustainability strategies • Commercial and industrial opportunities • Small business strategies • Tourism • Providing vocational pathways • Supply chain issues • Transport and trade links with other centres • Financial sustainability of the council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy frameworks • Decision-making principles and allocation of priorities • Leadership and representation • Levels of service • Council's role as a responsible employer • Business efficiency and probity expectations of the council • Ethical practices • Consultation and community participation in decision making • Community ownership and implementation of the strategic plan

4. The following tables have been developed to take the first 2 columns for the 49 “How do we get there” strategies and to add suggested measurement, targets, times and comments.

We value ... our unique, diverse and culturally rich communities

Where do we want to be?	How will we get there?	Measurement	Target	Time	COMMENT
We are a community that has carefully planned for Jobs and Growth	1. Review existing demographics for MCC Region and set jobs and population targets for the next 10 years	# of new jobs	1000 pa	12/2018	Not provided for in CSP Review targets annually
		# of population	100,000	12/2019	
		% economic growth	3% pa	12/2018	
We are a community that cares for all our members	2. Provide equitable access to services, programs, spaces and facilities to support and encourage improved health, safety and wellbeing.	Number of new services etc introduced	2	12/2018	Consultation required to identify the demand for new services
	3. Acknowledge, celebrate and empower our local Aboriginal communities.	Number of joint MCC and aboriginal activities	2	06/2019	Improved collaboration required
	4. Strengthen the capacity of our young people to participate and thrive in community life.	Number of new youth programs	2	06/2019	Consultation with youth required first
	5. Support a diverse housing mix that provides choice and meets the needs of all community members.	% of new developments that provide new housing types	10%	06/2019	Council to give strong guidance and incentives for innovative and affordable housing

	6. Support the strengthening of social connectedness through programs and partnerships.	Number of new programs	2	06/2019	Consultation required first to identify priority needs
We will embrace the uniqueness and creativity of our communities	7. Support communities to identify priorities for ensuring they are sustainable into the future.	Survey to identify priorities	Annual survey	06/2019	Identify projects and provide funds annually
	8. Support the preservation and protection of our unique heritage, and the individual qualities of towns, villages and special places.	Value of Heritage grants approved	\$50,000	06/2020	Incorporate into annual Operational Plan Budget
	9. Support and encourage our vibrant and creative arts sector.	Value of grants to arts sector	\$25,000	06/2019	Consult first
We feel connected to each other	10. Encourage and expand volunteering opportunities.	Number of volunteers	Increase by 5% annually	12/2018	Advertising program and training Work for the Dole programs
	11. Encourage programs and activities that strengthen social connections.	Survey to identify weak connections	Annual survey	06/2019	
	12. Welcome people of all abilities and backgrounds.	Number of welcoming programs	3	12/2018	Specific programs for different cultures
	13. Implement designs to support accessibility by all community members.	Accessibility surveys of all public buildings	2 buildings pa	Start 06/2019	Develop project plans, funding and procurement

It is safe and easy to get around our region?	14. Plan for, provide and maintain a road network that meets current and future needs and allows safe travel.	Road Network analysis	Every 3 years	06/2020	Planning for new roads and connections eg Forster Tuncurry road Bridge duplication
		Integrated Transport Asset Management Plans	Updated annually	06/2019	Technology One Solution plus improved condition assessment and mapping
		Roads Capital Expenditure Budget	Update Annually	06/2018	Detailed analysis of costs and benefits to prioritise road projects
	15. Provide a safe, accessible and connected network of walking and cycling options.	Footpath and cycleway network plans	Update annually	12/2019	Detailed analysis of costs and benefits to prioritise network projects
	16. Increase the provision of community and public transport to meet the needs of our growing and ageing communities.	Meetings with public and private transport providers	2 pa	12/2018	Need to assess supply and demand changes Identify what role Council needs to play eg Taree Airport
We utilise technologies to connect us locally and beyond	17. Use technology and innovation to improve the way we live, work, learn and connect.	IT Strategy	Updated annually	12/2018	Public Review
	18. Advocate for improved telecommunications and utilities to provide consistency across the region	New technologies adopted	1 annually	12/2018	Business case required
		Number of submissions made to State and Commonwealth Govt telecommunications	2 pa	06/2018	Identify Regions needs and prepare submissions to agencies and Ministers

		and energy departments			
We protect the health and safety of our communities	<p>19. Work together to promote and enhance community safety.</p> <p>20. Continue to develop a sustainable network of water, sewer and storm water systems to meet community need and health and safety standards.</p> <p>21. Increase the capacity of community, businesses and organisations to understand and meet public health standards.</p>	<p>Community Safety Plan</p> <p>Water System Plans</p> <p>Sewerage Plans</p> <p>Stormwater plans</p> <p>Public Health Education Plans</p>	<p>Develop and Review annually</p> <p>Develop and Review annually</p> <p>Develop and Review annually</p> <p>Develop and Review annually</p> <p>Develop and Review annually</p>	06/2020	<p>Collaborate with the community to develop and review. Prepare project plans to obtain funds</p> <p>MidCoast Water Services</p>

**We value ...
our
environment**

Where do we want to be?	How will we get there?	Measurement	Target	Time	COMMENT
We manage our resources wisely	22. Sustainably manage our waste through reduction, reuse, recycling and repurposing.	% increase in volume of waste recycled	10% pa	12/2018	Review contract with Richards and Resource Recovery
	23. Proactively manage our energy consumption.	% increase in use of renewable energy sources	5% pa	12/2018	Develop energy management systems for all major buildings
	24. Environmentally sound operation of assets	Road making Plant operating costs	5% pa reduction	12/2018	Focus on reducing fuel and energy costs by better operating practices and / or new more efficient equipment and plant.
		Open space and cleaning plant operating costs	5% pa reduction		
		Water and sewerage plant operating costs	1% pa reduction		
		Swimming pool operating costs	2% pa reduction		
	25. Total Water cycle management planning	Review plans	Annually ongoing	12/2018	MidCoast Water Services planning and monitoring
26. Biodiversity protection plans	Review Plans				

<p>We balance the needs of our natural and built environments</p>	<p>27.Ensure growth and new development complements our existing natural assets and heritage sites.</p> <p>28.Optimise land use to meet our environmental, social and development needs.</p> <p>29.Protection of specific environmental features</p> <p>30.Provide for Climate Change Impacts</p> <p>31. Minimise the environmental impact of new development</p> <p>32 Floodplain management</p>	<p>% Reduction in natural and heritage assets</p> <p>Difficult to measure</p> <p>Coastline</p> <p>Waterways</p> <p>Open Space Reserves</p> <p>Forests</p> <p>National Parks</p> <p>Impact Plans</p> <p>Assessment procedures</p>	<p>0%</p> <p>Plans of Management</p>	<p>06/2020</p>	<p>Do not allow any reduction in natural assets</p> <p>Identify a new strategy and goals</p> <p>Ensure protection built into planning docs</p> <p>Plans updated</p> <p>Forests NSW</p> <p>NPWS</p>
--	---	--	--------------------------------------	----------------	--

**We value
...our thriving
and growing
economy**

Where do we want to be?	How will we get there?	Measurement	Target	Time	COMMENT
A region is a popular place to visit, live, work and invest	33. Develop and promote our region as an attractive visitor destination offering a broad range of experiences for visitors and residents.	Destination Management Plan Projects and actions	1 project pa	12/2018 ongoing	Develop project plans. Obtaining fund and implement
	34. Provide an environment to attract, grow and strengthen local businesses.	Meetings with Business Groups and companies	4 pa	06/2018 On going	Identify key issues and act Provide incentives if feasible
	35. Increase opportunities for quality education and training.	Submissions to State and Commonwealth Govt	2 pa	12/2018	Possible training courses for MCC staff and regional businesses
Our villages and business precincts are vibrant commercial, cultural and social hubs	36. Implement innovative programs and projects to support business precincts in creating and maintaining vibrant spaces.	Number of new programs and projects	3 pa	12/2018	Collaborate with business community
	37. Support and encourage the development and attraction of strategic events.	Number of strategic events	3 pa	06/2019	

	38.Ensure strategies and processes recognise, maintain and support sustainable economic growth.	Quadruple bottom line analysis of business plans	All Business plans	06/2018	
	39.Use existing knowledge, expertise and technology to develop businesses based on new ways of thinking	Number of new businesses developed	1 pa	12/2019	

**We value ...
strong
leadership
and shared
vision**

Where do we want to be?	How will we get there?	Measurement	Target	Time	COMMENT
We work with the community and government to ensure the long term sustainability of our Council	40. Develop and maintain a sustainable council through a strong corporate governance framework, effective leadership, skilled staff and a customer focused culture.	Community Satisfaction survey results	80% satisfied	12/2018	Continue to improve over time to achieve 95% by 2027
		AUDIT, Risk and Improvement Committee recommendations	100% actioned	12/2018	Independent community member on Committee by 03/2018
		Customer service guarantees	90% compliance	12/2018	Develop CSG by 03/2018 improve compliance % annually
	41. Provide strong corporate and financial management that is ethical, fair, transparent and accountable.	OLG Financial Indicators	All benchmarks achieved or exceeded	06/2020	Available in annual financial statement by 10/2018 Progressively improve annually
		T Corp Fit for the future assessment	Fit for the Future	06/2020	
	42. Develop and deliver services and programs that provide value for money.	Cost benefit analysis of business cases	100% with CBR greater than 1.0	06/2018	Public review of Business cases on all major projects

	43. Implement customer focused systems to support simple and convenient ways to access and do business with our Council.	Customer satisfaction survey	95% satisfied	12/2018	Continuous improvement required over time
We ensure there are opportunities for community to be part of decisions that shape our future	44. Provide clear, accessible, timely and relevant information to meet community needs and support active participation in community life.	Key information available to the community via web or library	100%	06/2018	Integration of existing records and information systems a high priority Challenge to reach senior members of the community
	45. Improve community understanding of how decisions are made for the local area.	Public information sessions on Council operations	3 pa	12/2018	Facilitated Q & A style meetings in each region
	46. Enable community members to participate in decision making by providing a broad range of engagement opportunities.	Community engagement plans	100%	06/2018	Plans to be endorsed by the Community prior to engagement for key projects
		Number of confidential meetings	0	12/2018	Not including tenders or personal matters. Make business cases public.
We develop and encourage community and civic leadership	47. Inform, educate and empower council, business and community leaders to respond and adapt to challenges and change.	Joint Council / Community Strategic Planning Sessions	2 pa	12/2018	Review CSP annually and modify accordingly if required Identify new trends or challenges

	48. Identify and participate in initiatives for regional cooperation and collaboration.	Number of meetings with Regional organisations	2 pa	12/2018	Identify new assistance projects and seek grants
	49. Provide opportunities for the development of local leaders.	Training Scholarships	2 pa	12/2019	Work with local training and educational organisations to develop and fund courses

CONCLUSION

I trust that you find my comments and suggestions for measurement of the strategic goals are helpful in your deliberations in finalizing the CSP.

I am happy to discuss if necessary

Yours sincerely

From: Julienne Richardson <friendsmanningvalley@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, 21 February 2018 2:01 PM
To: Community
Subject: Submission for Draft Community Strategic Plan
Attachments: Community Strategic Plan Submission.docx; COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN SUPPORT PAPER TO ONLINE QUESTIONS.docx

Please find enclosed two papers with feedback from the Friends of the Manning Regional Art Gallery addressing the criteria found in the survey for the Draft Community Strategic Plan. I had trouble in inserting the data in the form on your website so have provided the information in a document. The other document is an addendum to the survey which should be read in conjunction with our comments.

Should you have any problems with the attached please contact Julienne Richardson, Secretary, on 0413007765.

Many thanks
Peter Hugill
Chairman

Submission For Draft Community Strategic Plan – Survey Questions

Answers

1. Our Vision - Agree

After discussion the Friends of the Manning Regional Gallery (Friends) felt that the vision was a motherhood statement which was a sound vision in principle but what we would like to see from this plan are actionable processes for achievable outcomes.

2. Our Values

Feedback for this is addressed in the following categories and in the attached paper.

3. A snapshot of us

- a. In the snapshot of us Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population is identified as 6.9%. In statistics from Id 2016 population is listed as 6.2% in this area with the state average being 5.5%. With a significant proportion of our community identifying as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander there was no recognition by the Council of National Apology Day this year. The Friends believe that all significant days for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people be recognised throughout the Midcoast Region such as National Sorry Day, National Apology Day, NAIDOC week etc. The other ways Midcoast Council could recognise the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community would be to have an appropriate email signature acknowledge of the Gathan speaking nation.
- b. Lifestyle is not only about the environment. Visitors and people relocating to the area would be looking at cultural pursuits. This section titled “Snapshot of us” does not reference the Arts and cultural sector.

4. We value our Unique, Diverse and Culturally Rich Communities - Disagree

- a. Equitable access to services includes transport in the district. At the Manning Regional Art Gallery schools are prevented from accessing programs and exhibitions by the cost of transport to the gallery. Whilst some schools such as Taree High are in walking distance to the gallery, other schools whether public or private do not visit because of the prohibitive cost of hiring a bus. The Midcoast Area would benefit from the use of community buses overseen by the Council and sponsored by other groups such as Rotary, or larger businesses in towns. The involvement of school children in the Gallery would also strengthen their participation in community life.
- b. Support the development and sustainability of a vibrant Aboriginal arts industry in our region by supporting artists working in the region, providing opportunities for Aboriginal people to participate in creative activities and creating creative and professional development opportunities through project funding.
- c. Embracing the uniqueness and creativity of our communities by supporting and encouraging our vibrant and creative arts sector: The Committee feels that the Arts sector in the Midcoast area needs a comprehensive and strategic framework such as a Cultural Plan within which to work and plan for the future and in recognising our strengths such as: a Regional Gallery, a Regional Theatre, a thriving arts community both performance and visual. Establishing a cultural plan for the region will increase funding opportunities from State and Federal Government and address any gaps in the market such as cultural tourism, and will support the merging of the needs of the former three Council entities.
- d. Friends have a strong connection to the Manning Regional Art Gallery and its current level of service is only maintained by our contribution averaging 5,000 volunteer hours per annum and substantial financial support through infrastructure projects.

5. We value our connected community

In reference to Section 3 – A snapshot of us: To develop the arts in this area to provide community activities for those interested in artistic and cultural pursuits we need to consider the following:

- a. With the merger of three councils into the Midcoast Council, we now have the perfect opportunity to build upon our existing Gallery to provide outreach services to other areas providing the Council can provide the necessary funds and staff to do so. Supplying this to the larger community can only benefit the economy of the area, having tourists travelling wider to other towns in the area and encouraging existing residents to explore other parts of our community thus ensuring that previous disparate communities in becoming more connected.
- b. Upgrade gallery space to create an art and culture hub. There is currently a multipurpose studio/storage space. The addition of extra workshop space would be of great benefit to the drawing in of community into the art space.
- c. Increase community transport specific to schools and community groups to access the gallery (also addressed in part 4a.)
- d. Upgrade computers in the gallery to allow for more efficient processing of marketing and administrative tasks.
- e. Upgrade technology into the gallery space to allow for live streaming and video conferencing as a way of taking the gallery to schools and community groups unable to access the gallery.
- f. Engage with local training organisations to use technology as training pathways, IE film, digital media, communications etc. EG to host streaming service and undertake artist interviews and short documentaries etc
- g. The previous General Manager of MCC promised \$400,000 for a much needed upgrade to the carpark adjacent to the Gallery (known generally as the dirt patch). The Friends of the Gallery has been in consultation with Council since 2006 in regard to this site. The Friends of the Gallery would like to have consultation on the proposed new carpark design. Visitors and volunteers to the Gallery are often unable to find car parking. Volunteers are there for over 3 hours mostly and are unable to find suitable parking without having to move their cars on a regular basis in the day.

6. We value our environment

- a. Culture and the arts play a pivotal role in addressing environmental issues. Arts can help to raise awareness about and catalyse a public response to environmental insecurities and risks, illuminate issues of environmental justice, and imagine more sustainable futures. Arts can speak to emotion as well as to reason in finding new ways to articulate the richness and diversity of relationship between people and their environment. Together, the arts and the environmental sciences can help us understand and ascertain our place in the world. They offer complementary ways of knowing how we live on the Earth in the present. Moreover, exchange and combination of ideas among seemingly disparate disciplines can spark ways of imagining and envisioning how we might live in the future. (<http://www.environment.arizona.edu/arts-environment>).
- b. By supporting a strong Arts community we can provide a different approach to sustainability and the protection of our environmental heritage that is so valuable to the economic health through tourism in our region.

7. We value our thriving and growing economy

- a. Arts and culture are important to state economies. Arts and culture-related industries, also known as “creative industries,” provide direct economic benefits to states and communities: They create jobs, attract investments, generate tax revenues, and stimulate local economies through tourism and consumer purchases. These industries also provide an array of other benefits, such as infusing other industries with creative insight for their products and services and preparing workers to participate in the contemporary workforce. In addition,

because they enhance quality of life, the arts and culture are an important complement to community development, enriching local amenities and attracting young professionals to an area (<https://www.nga.org/files/live/sites/NGA/files/pdf/0901ARTSANDECONOMY.PDF>)

- b. According to Tourism Research Australia, in 2012, 11.5 million Australians took a cultural and heritage day trip. Visiting Museums or Art Galleries was the most popular cultural activity for both domestic overnight visitors and day trippers with attendance of 46% and 38% respectively. Visits to historical/heritage buildings, site or monuments attracted 29% of overnight visitors and 21% of day visitors. Research has shown that tourists are motivated by an overall package of attractions, of which cultural activities may be one component along with many others. Within the cultural tourism sector, there is a significant trend for people to want to understand the lifestyle of others and how it has been influenced by environmental factors (refer to Section 6).
- c. It has been noted in the gallery that many people travelling through coastal New South Wales do so by gallery hopping. Providing a rich cultural space for the Arts attracts such tourists to our region. By also expanding the work of the gallery into other major towns such as Forster and Gloucester, we can access the professional services of the gallery staff in supporting other communities to have a vibrant arts presence. This can only be done with the input of more funds and staffing.

7. We value strong leadership and shared vision

- a. Our leaders need to be fair and equitable in providing funds to more cultural pursuits not just sport and infrastructure. We value our relationship with gallery staff and the previous Greater Taree City Council. In the past 30 years we have worked with Council to provide a vibrant and sustainable cultural community and trust that there will be an ongoing partnership between the Friends, the Gallery and the Midcoast Council.

COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN
ADDITIONAL SUPPORT PAPER FROM FRIENDS OF THE MANNING REGIONAL ART GALLERY

In support of our response to the Midcoast Community Strategic Plan the Friends of the Manning Regional Art Gallery (Friends) we would like to add the following:

1. Friends of the Manning Regional Gallery have been supporting the Gallery since 1988. We are proud of the Manning Regional Art Gallery and all it achieves but it is evident when comparing our Gallery with other Regional Galleries across the state that we are underfunded both in staffing levels and our total exhibition space which is dramatically reduced compared to other galleries. For example, Tamworth Regional Art Gallery has a total of 404m² with 172 paid staff hours per week. MRAG has a total of 200m² with a 85 staff hours per week.
2. We recognised that funding is the key to everything: capital, operations, maintenance. We have noticed that the Gallery building has suffered in the past from a lack of maintenance. Upgrading of areas need to be done urgently. The Friends have applied for funds from exterior sources such as additional state government infrastructure funding but have not been successful as most funding seems to go to sporting groups etc. Is there a perception by those other government agencies that these funds should come from Council? How can Council support us to access these funds to be able to upgrade the Gallery? Friends of the Gallery are currently supporting Council applications to State government funds such as Stronger Country Communities Fund, Regional Cultural Fund with the offer of financial and in-kind support to upgrade disability access.
3. The Gallery requires upgrading of its technology to engage the community in the arts and to support the employees of the Gallery. Friends would like to be treated as a business partner to enable us to assist in funding of such items for better outcomes in relation to administration, technology and engagement between the Gallery and the Community.
4. Members of Friends and the wider community contribute to approximately 5,000 hours per year saving the Council considerable money. Other galleries pay for people to break down and install new exhibitions. Our volunteer base is aging. We have developed a new website to attract younger members (our database is therefore growing) however younger people have other commitments such as employment and family so are not able to volunteer as much as the current database.
5. Currently we identify the following as requiring immediate action in relation to the Gallery:
 - a. Upgrade of disability access including paths, ramp and automatic door (included in the Midcoast Council Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2018-2021).
 - b. Internal doorways need to be widened, which lead from the front gallery space to the heritage gallery space. Some wheelchairs find it very difficult to fit through that doorway that leads through to the bathrooms.
 - c. Lighting: Total upgrade of lighting is required to bring the gallery to a regional standard. The lighting is inefficient, unsustainable, dangerous with some sections 30 years old.
 - d. Air conditioning needs to be upgraded to prevent water leakage onto valuable exhibitions.
 - e. Toilets are a disgrace. There is only one toilet for males and one for females. To add to the inadequate facilities for groups, NSW Service Centre sends its clients over to the gallery to use the facilities as their new upgrade precluded people from using the facilities in that building.

In addition Friends have identified the following areas to work towards over the next few years:

1. Larger working studio : currently workshop attendance has been limited due to space. As this can bring funds into the gallery, this issue needs to be addressed for revenue raising.
2. Acquire more of the Taree Public School ground for Gallery expansion as required which would include exhibition space, café/restaurant and outdoor sculpture garden.

Volunteer rosters have been an ongoing issue since 1994. As agreed then, volunteer rosters would be managed by the Friends as an interim measure until paid gallery staff would be appointed by Council. Friends are still responsible for rostering of volunteers at the front counter.

In light of the amalgamation of the three Councils, structural changes in Midcoast Council, change in staffing within the Gallery and changes to the Friends of the Gallery committee, we feel it would be an opportune time to develop a Memorandum of Understanding between the Manning Regional Art Gallery and the Friends of the Manning Regional Art Gallery.

In closing we have provided time and funds to support the gallery in various areas including funding of infrastructure. We are prepared to continue to provide assistance to embrace the Midcoast Council area and look forward to working and integrating other organisations and working in partnership with the Council and community groups.

We are interested in learning about more funding models such as sponsorships, bequests, and the Manning Art Prize and request that Council assist in working with us to achieve mutual objectives to assist the Gallery.

We believe that a partnership between the Friends of the Gallery and Council will achieve the objectives outline above.

Your consideration of this submission is appreciated. We trust that this will open a dialogue between the Friends of the Gallery and appropriate staff in the Midcoast Council.

Yours sincerely

Peter Hugill

President

On behalf of the Friends of the Manning Regional Gallery Committee

For consideration in development of Midcoast Community Strategic Plan of 13/6/17.

What area of the MidCoast do you live in?

FORSTER

Received by Sarah Wilkinson

23/1/18

How many people participated in your Kitchen Table Conversation that are:

	Number
1 - 21 years	1
22 - 40 years	3
41 - 55 years	1
56 - 70 years	5
Over 70	2

	Number
Males	4
Females	8
Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander	—

Host Details

Name	Great Lakes Carers' Action Network (Cathy Mugiven - Secretary)
Address	29 Belton Way Forster 2428
Phone	6555 3021
Email	themugivens@bigpond.com

Please list the type of disabilities of the participants (eg vision, intellectual, mobility, etc)	Intellectual, mobility. (Carers of people with disabilities)
---	---

Thank you for participating in the Kitchen Table Discussion and contributing to the development of the MidCoast Disability Inclusion Action Plan

Please return the Feedback Form by post to:

Community Development Coordinator
MidCoast Council
PO Box 450
Forster NSW 2428

Or email:
Lyndie Hepple

lyndie.hepple@midcoast.nsw.gov.au

Phone: (02) 6691 7490

MID-COAST COUNCIL
1 MAR 2018
RECORDS

Our organisation would love to be involved in any further feedback or consultation. Please think of our group, as we are all parent/carers of people with disabilities.

Cathy M.

The feedback form

Question 1 Do you feel welcome and included in the community? What works well?

- All happy & included, BUT more can always be done.
- Continuation of Midcoast Council's Ageing & Disabilities service. The majority of carers use this as their first stop for community inclusion, social engagement, information, respite, outings & referrals/advice for our dependants.

Question 2 What is the main thing that stops you feeling able to access places, activities or services our area?

- Lack of pedestrian crossings. Needed near:
 - Lakes Way - near Macca's - near Woolies - Kularoo Dr (near Likely) - Breese Pd (Lifeline cnr - access for Nthn Pkway, Baptistcare, new Glacia development). General lack of crossings in general
- Public rest rooms. Woolworths (desperately needed. Public access stopped when BWS added. Were restrooms in original/subsequent PAs? Too far to Stockland's. Bunnings - no signage of public restrooms available in the building (unless you're in the building)
- Lack of info.
 - Community directory - desp. needs updating!
 - Include in 'mobility' map brochure: info on wheelchair hire at Main Beach (signage would be good), Midcoast facilities where Companion Card may be used (push for more to adopt acceptance of this card), Ymca pool's chairlift, make this brochure available at all accom. facilities, etc.
- MLAK Key. Are all Midcoast toilet facilities using this system? Safety, cleanliness. Panic button?
- More footpaths needed urgently.

Question 3 What do you think would make the biggest difference to making our area better to live, work, learn and visit - and why?

- Employment for pwd. How many do council employ?
(Esp. intellect disability - ie; distributing mail at council, distributing council brochures to outlets/motels/accom. facilities, distributing tourist info brochures, helping at library (- See local services providers for volunteers))
 - % of social housing designated for our Midcoast area?
 - Billboards for our area highlighting walks, toilets, beach access for wheelchairs, medical facilities, leisure activities suitable for pwd. (need urgent updating)
 - Disabled sensory walks - Green Cathedral / Celitto Beach, community garden, lake boardwalks, native food walk with local elders.
 - Cape Hawke Hospital - local & tourist access? esp during holiday times for rehab, for the hydrotherapy pool.
 - Opening up the McDonald Houses to all service providers for respite for local groups/families, visiting disability groups/families. Have heard they are under-utilised & a low cost would be a great incentive & encourage more visitors.
 - Council's Main Beach concept plan: Council to explore grants.
 - Liberty Swing (pwd, wheelchairs, even the elderly love to swing) Access via MLAK key?
 - Mobi-Mat (beach access matting) ie; for amputees, pwd, elderly.
- These would help make our area attractive to pwd & their families.

Question 4 What do you think is the most important priority that must be addressed?

DISABILITY - SPECIFIC
HOUSING!!

- Especially 24/7 supported accommodation
- 2/3 bedroom villas for more independent pwd who only require drop-in support.
- Does Council own the block on the corner of Goldens Rd / Breese Pde? Could this be a possible location, with grants & Community Housing?

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Thursday, 18 January 2018 12:52 PM
To: Community
Subject: Draft Community Strategic Plan

Dear Council,
Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the subject plan.

I very much like the plan, the intent, the layout and the content and offer the following brief observations.

1. In the section 'Our Values' I would like to see something like.... "We Value a healthy and active community". This value speaks to the demographic where a retired and ageing population very much values staying healthy and when needed, able to access first class health and allied health services.
2. I like the way each value is broken down into;
 - a. Where do we want to be?
 - b. How will we get there?
 - c. Who can help?

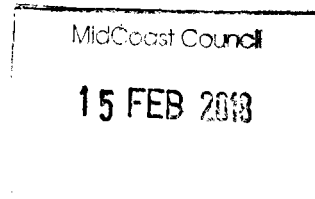
I would like to see added to each table; "how do we know we're there? In other words, what constitutes completion, or a 'measure/s' if you like for each 'How will we get there'. Without a measure we won't know our progress or if we're heading in the right direction. By looking at how we can practically measure each activity will further assist in refining the measure. If you cant measure the activity, why have it in there. Without measures and frequent reporting, the CSP risks being produced (at great cost and effort)and collecting dust on a shelf.

3. In the section, "We value....our environment, I would like to see mention of our commitment to renewable energy. As a community we should be looking for every opportunity to either use or encourage our use of renewable energy and storage. There are many ways we could capture this in the CSP and achieve the objectives from, for example, providing rate discounts for those with renewable energy installations, having council and community facilities using 100% renewables to partnering with an electricity wholesaler to create micro grids using emerging technologies.

As energy supply/security and the environment are at the forefront of State and National Policy discussion, it is incumbent on us as a community to do our bit and perhaps even lead by example therefore it should be in our CSP. This objective could also tightly couple with our economic objectives.

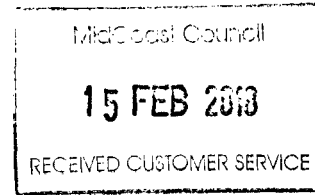
Thanks and Regards,

[Redacted Signature]



15 .2.2018

RE COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN



Dear Sarah Wilkin son,

I commend council for all the work so far in drafting the Community Plan.

I would like to add some suggestions which should arise from the Plan, but may not be thought of.

1. Locals are keen to contribute their time to their town or area. Could the strategic heritage advisory committee for Taree, and similar committee for the other two main towns be re introduced? A lot of work has been done and it should be continued. Valuing heritage in the landscape and more generally makes for an improved environment and enriches our culture. It also attracts people to the area.
2. A social development committee in each major area will help to address the disadvantaged people of the midcoast area. Councillor David Keegan knows the details of this, as he chaired the last committee in Taree. It enriches and improves the life of residents helping the many people in our area who suffer from financial or other disadvantage.
3. The tree preservation order which existed in the Great lakes area could be introduced to the whole area. This should come to council and be discussed. It is in line with the environmental strategy in the Plan.
4. Also, instead of just 'ensuring climate change risks are understood and managed" [as suggested in the Plan] Council should be a good Australian citizen and actively work to address lowering green house gas emissions and encouraging residents to do so.
5. There is insufficient low cost housing in our area, with many people not having a home. While the general statements in the Plan are good, it needs to be specified exactly how this situation can be improved, perhaps also through the LEP.

Please consider these suggestions,





John Clarke <jclark@tide.org.au>

Community Strategic Plan. Cycle ways between Taree-Wingham. Overhead Walkway between Taree Estate and Tinonee. Taree to Cundletown. Internal Cycleways around and in Taree Township. Cycle ways in Wingham /Tinonee and Old Bar. Cycle Ways in Great Lakes/Forster. Employment opportunities for Aboriginal people with MCC. Annual Celebration of The Manning River. Celebration of Families in the maning/Great Lakes and Promoting Mid Coast Council area as a safe place for families.. Sarah these are some of my thoughts. John Clark

1 message

John Clarke <jclark@tide.org.au>
To: Sarah.Wilkinson@midcoast.nsw.gov.au

Thu, Feb 15, 2018 at 9:24 AM

From: Mark Anning <oneearthmedia-markanning@yahoo.com.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 28 February 2018 4:25 PM
To: Sarah Wilkinson
Cc: Community
Subject: Re: MidCoast 2030: Shared Vision, Shared responsibility
Attachments: 20180228 MidCoast 2030 community conversation.docx

Thank you Sarah for allowing us extra time to tidy up our submission. Please find this attached.

If you have questions or further interest, we're only too pleased to help.

On behalf of the Manning Valley Creative Collective ...

Mark Anning

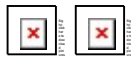
Media Management & Production

1Earth Media

m: 0459-023550

a: PO Box 311, Wingham,
NSW, 2429 Australia

e: oneearthmedia-1@yahoo.com.au



On Friday, 23 February 2018, 15:17, Mark Anning <oneearthmedia-markanning@yahoo.com.au> wrote:

Hello Sarah

Please find attached the draft notes from the Community Conversation we had at the Manning Valley Creative Collective.

Could we please have an extension for the final report - until Monday?

regards,

Mark Anning

Draft notes:

MidCoast 2030: Shared Vision, Shared responsibility.

Addressing Question 1)

- We want to be a creative consultation between the Council and the community.
- More cultural engagement events
- Let us be able to do creative programs so that we can show the Council what we

are capable of.

- To evaluate this, to take photographs of the events we organize, the number of people, the various cultures involved
- Include culturally diverse events/programs, including people with various abilities and their carers.
- What can we offer as the MVCC: inclusive nurturing creativity; what does the community want?: to organize creative events that consolidate what the community wants; pop-up creative crafts and artworks; drawing murals; turning things into other things (upcycling); including innovative activities that can be fun
- For council to give us the money to do different arts and crafts activities.
- Marketing development
- Possibly to involve Linguere.

Addressing Question 2)

- Connecting people through a central hub of arts and craft. A place where people can go and connect.
- In 5 – 10 year's time, to bring in people from outside. To put Taree on the map, known for that. The cultural hub for connectedness. A place where people who come through can come and experience the arts hub.
- To compliment what the Regional Art Gallery is doing.
- To look at the strategies the other towns that got by-passed did with the money they received, which Taree didn't get.
- To have another draw card for people (tourists) to stop by in Taree.
- To create an arts precinct that is culturally rich.
- Room for experimentation of what the community requested. Transparency around the response of the community. For the public to see what we have done.
- Social media is really important for a connected community.
- The arts scene is there but it just hasn't been promoted.
- Studio spaces, creative spaces available for upcoming artists
- Developing strong relationship with local community organizations to assist in small local communities to develop small grass root arts hub.
- We can assist council in their connected communities.
- We can expand their (Council's) connected communities.
- To include MVCC in Council's projects. For us to be included in community events, eg markets, consultations etc.
- An open communication pathway with Council.
- We want to connect with Vibrant Spaces, more community consultations and there to be an action plan resulting out of it.
- Increased social media and this is how we will measure the outcomes.
- Keep doing what you're doing and practice the precautionary principle, if it appears unsafe, not to do it.
- Benchmarking against other groups that are doing something similar: To look at the Sunshine Coast Council and what they have done and to use it as an example for us.
- To attract more people into the area, to foster a healthy cultural community.

Addressing Question 3)

- For Council to identify which areas can be developed.
- To measure via social media as well as traditional feedback forms for people who are not on social media.
- More transparency around the community consultation.
- Hearing what the community wants to have protected and enhanced and in 2030 to see it done.
- We want areas identified as needing protection and this to happen now: Key habitat areas, water quality improvement and protection, Purvis turtle protection,

koala protection.

Addressing Question 4)

- More for small businesses and upcoming business.
- More funding for small business upstart.
- To measure by the growing economy. Business confidence measured by phone interview question.
- Boosting the morale amongst the young generation through arts and crafts
- Reinstalling hope in the younger generation that there are jobs here.
- Through events come jobs.

Addressing Question 5)

- Transparency
- Accountability
- Listening to the community and act on it
- And all the above in a timely manner
- To measure: to work together without putting down another.
- Cohesiveness as a team.

Question 6)

- We would love to be involved in this collective vision.

Mark Anning

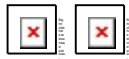
Media Management & Production

1Earth Media

m: 0459-023550

a: PO Box 311, Wingham,
NSW, 2429 Australia

e: oneearthmedia-1@yahoo.com.au





Manning Valley Creative Collective

PO Box 311, Wingham NSW 2429

Phone: 0403 931520 (Secretary) * 0459 023550 (Treasurer)

Sarah Wilkinson

Community Engagement Officer
MidCoast Council

Re: MidCoast 2030: Shared Vision, Shared responsibility.

Dear Sarah,

The Manning Valley Creative Collective (MVCC) held a 'community conversation' to workshop the MidCoast 2030, on Tuesday 20th Feb. Our group is very supportive of Council's plans and efforts to consult the community.

Addressing Question 1) Diverse & Culturally Rich Communities

- In encouraging MidCoast Council to value our unique, diverse & culturally rich communities, Manning Valley Creative Collective aims to develop and enhance the creative consultation between the Council and the community and is working towards increasing the participation of those from different economic, social and ethnic backgrounds in our events.
- More cultural engagement events and creative programs are on our agenda as we develop our own network and reputation with existing arts bodies and event organisers.
- We measure and evaluate our success in hitting our cultural diversity targets by noting the number of people at events, the various cultures and minority groups involved as participants and visitors, the participation in social media discussions about the event, the effectiveness of our mainstream media publicity and by taking photographs of the events we organize & participate in, in much the same way as we evaluate performance indicators during the grant acquittal process.

Mission Statement

- * Develop our artist's careers by organising the local artists to showcase and market their work.
- * Promote and contribute to the Manning Valley arts and events calendar.
- * To provide a collaborative, cooperative community space, aimed to nurture and develop creativity within the local community.

Meetings with key stakeholders & participants soon after an event help to measure success and potentially identify areas of concern and possible remedies.

- We encourage our artist members and the general public to participate in culturally and socially diverse events and arts & crafts programs, including people with various abilities and their carers, and from different ethnic backgrounds. Event marketing for these events might want to target ethnic communities within a day trip of the MidCoast area, for example in Newcastle and northern Sydney to increase participant numbers.
- Council is encouraged to apply for the various state & federal grant funding with a focus on activities (events & programs) that promote cross-cultural exchange - MVCC is doing that.

Addressing Question 2) Connected Community.

- MidCoast Council's strategy to develop a connected and inclusive culture could be best achieved by supporting MVCC's aim to provide a collaborative, cooperative community art space which connects people through a central hub of arts and craft - a place where people can go and connect, participate & experience, learn and possibly pass on their skills.
Similar shared art spaces in other regions are supported and encouraged in their success by their local council, for example, Newcastle Artspace and Cooroy Butter Factory, amongst others. These facilities achieve multiple goals in increasing tourism and economic activity, local career development and employment statistics, and enhancing the social & cultural quality of life in the region.
- We note that many regions have undergone great upheaval and transformation during highway by-passes (eg. Goulburn, Mittagong, Bowral, Berrima, Cooroy, Kempsey, etc). These country towns attracted funding and began programs to transform their economies from reliance on passing traffic to one that is more locally reliant, diverse and sustainable.
These by-passed towns all used various strategies unique to their towns and lessons can be learned from them (their strategies are often found online). For some reason, perhaps just perception, Taree hasn't fully made that transformation into a locally independent economy.
MVCC believes that this 'Shared Vision, Shared Responsibility' might go a long way in addressing that issue, and encourage Council to consider what other regions have done in their highway by-pass strategies.
- An arts & crafts hub (shared art space) provides another draw card for people (tourists) to stop by in Taree, and compliments what the Regional Art Gallery & other arts & tourism event organisations are doing by developing local artist's careers and work. The arts scene is here in the Manning Valley but it just hasn't been promoted and developed. Social media is really important for a connected community.

Mission Statement

* Develop our artist's careers by organising the local artists to showcase and market their work.

* Promote and contribute to the Manning Valley arts and events calendar.

* To provide a collaborative, cooperative community space, aimed to nurture and develop creativity within the local community.

- The MVCC can assist and expand Council's future 'connected communities' programs such as the with Vibrant Spaces program.

We are working on opening communication pathways with Council in developing strong relationships with local community organizations to assist in small local communities to develop a grass-roots arts hub.

By providing studio, creative, exhibition and sales spaces available for upcoming and established artists, our planned arts space plans to play a pivotal role in career and industry development.

- Another flow-on effect from an arts space is possibly creating an arts precinct that is culturally rich and fosters a healthy cultural community. Once a fully functioning arts industry is established, the region becomes a more desirable place for arts practitioners to permanently move to the region.
- Council must be seen as being transparent with their programs and responsive to the needs of the community. The public needs to see what has been done and is being planned, especially with ratepayer's money.

Addressing Question 3) Environment.

- One strategy in the development of the Sunshine Coast in Queensland - a rapidly growing region with large areas of land needing environmental protections - was to first identify which areas need to be preserved, any infrastructure projects which impact on the environmentally sensitive area which leaves the areas which can be developed.

The Sunshine Coast clearly identified that they did not want to become like the Gold Coast. In many ways the MidCoast's current situation is similar to the Sunshine Coast experience of identifying and developing their uniqueness, based on a protected and sustainable natural environment.

- It is vital that the forward planning for 2030 environmental protections be 'locked-in' and unable to be overturned or by-passed by developers. This ensures that in 2030, the vision is fulfilled. Long term goals for environmental planning is essential.
- We want areas identified as needing protection and this to happen now: Key habitat areas, water quality improvement and protection, Purvis turtle protection, koala protection.

Addressing Question 4) Thriving Economy.

Mission Statement

* Develop our artist's careers by organising the local artists to showcase and market their work.

* Promote and contribute to the Manning Valley arts and events calendar.

* To provide a collaborative, cooperative community space, aimed to nurture and develop creativity within the local community.

- As discussed above, MVCC is focused on developing the arts industry in our region. We believe this is the best strategy to develop a long term sustainable local economy that is a desirable tourist and 'sea/tree change' destination.
- Boosting the morale and job opportunities amongst the young generation through arts and crafts and events which creates jobs.
- One excellent statistical measure of a thriving economy is to conduct Quarterly Business Confidence Surveys by phone interview questions. These surveys include questions on the local business' future staffing & investment plans, confidence in local council & business networking organisation (such as Chambers of Commerce), identify problems such as lack of marketing, manufacturing or networking opportunities.
From experience, these involve the part-time employment of three staff to telephone approximately 300 local businesses, and the results can be fed to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (who in turn can further crunch the numbers to provide more insights into this region's economy).

Addressing Question 5) Leadership

- The keywords here are: Transparency, Accountability, Consultation, Action, Mentoring - all in a timely manner.
- To measure: Cohesiveness as a team is the best measure of leadership.

Addressing Question 6) Further Comments

- We aim to be more involved in this collective vision with MidCoast Council.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this important process.

Mark Anning
(Treasurer, on behalf of Manning Valley Creative Collective)

Mission Statement

- * Develop our artist's careers by organising the local artists to showcase and market their work.
- * Promote and contribute to the Manning Valley arts and events calendar.
- * To provide a collaborative, cooperative community space, aimed to nurture and develop creativity within the local community.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, 11 February 2018 7:40 PM
To: Community
Subject: My suggestion

Hi Midcoast Council planners

I would really like to see Forster Main Beach more user friendly with nicer change rooms with showers inside and not just outside and kids play area. Also Beachbum cafe renovated and made to look nicer. The beach is beautiful and the bull pen bath is awesome.... just needs upgrade.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 22 February 2018 10:55 AM
To: Community
Subject: Draft Community Strategic Plan: MidCoast 2030 - Shared vision, shared responsibility

Draft Community Strategic Plan (CPS)

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on this important council document.

It is noted that strong emphasis is placed on the shared responsibility inherent in realising the desired outcomes of the plan and many entities are suggested as partners. However, "volunteers" are only mentioned in the context of environmental issues which does not reflect the reality of the current circumstances.

A review of Council services was foreshadowed by former General Manager, Glenn Handford at a community meeting in late 2017. With this in mind, and given the limited funding capacity of many other proposed partners who are identified as having an important role to play in the realisation of the Plan's objectives, it is suggested that "volunteers", that is, Council accredited volunteers, merit inclusion as partners, particularly, but not exclusively, in the areas of cultural and heritage priorities.

Volunteers

The CSP notes that the percentage of the MidCoast Council population working as volunteers exceeds 20%. This would suggest a volunteer pool of several thousand potential participants which would make it the single most important sector of partners available to assist in realising the objectives of the Plan.

The use of volunteers to assist in the achieving of the goals is in no way intended to replace paid staff positions, but only to assist in those areas in which staff are, or in the future are likely to be, stretched beyond capacity in fulfilling community expectations. The volunteer participants should be required to demonstrate the required degree of skill, knowledge and experience to undertake the role assigned, understand their responsibilities, undertake induction training and be bound by a code of conduct. This would ensure that the workload of the existing staff within the organisation would not be adversely impacted and, with appropriate procedures in place, should significantly assist in achieving the desired outcomes of the CSP.

I am a Council volunteer working with a small group of committed community members to raise the profile of heritage within the MidCoast local government area. We are currently undertaking three projects, being:

- (i) The creation of a searchable database compiled from information contained in the Rates Books of Taree Municipal Council, Wingham Municipal Council and Manning Shire Council. This is being transcribed into a spread sheet format for public access.
- (ii) We have obtained confirmation of a \$100,000 grant from the NSW Heritage Office from their "Heritage Near Me" funding stream to undertake a community based heritage initiative working in partnership with MidCoast Council. The funding for this community project was structured and developed by the volunteers with expert guidance and assistance from Council staff.
- (iii) We are working proactively with both the Manning Regional Art Gallery and Manning District Hospital to facilitate an exhibition devoted to the art work of Pixie O'Harris.

These are examples of good community outcomes, with little cost to Council.

I strongly believe the role played by Council volunteers, presently and into the future, requires acknowledgement and formalising in order to facilitate the procurement of grant funding, to support existing levels of service and to facilitate innovative community engagement.

Kind regards,





MIDCOAST
council

MID-COAST COUNCIL
1 MAR 2018
RECORDED



MIDCOAST 2030
Shared vision,
shared responsibility

DRAFT Consultation Paper



Published by:

MidCoast Council

PO Box 450
FORSTER NSW 2428

www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au

December 2017





Introduction

As a community it is important for us to have a document that expresses how we want to develop into the future. This document is called a Community Strategic Plan.

MidCoast Council has developed a draft Community Strategic Plan based on the aspirations of the MidCoast community through a number of community consultations we have conducted since the new Council was formed in May 2016, as well as review of existing plans and strategies that relate to our region.

This consultation paper provides a copy of the draft plan, as well as additional information needed to provide feedback on it.

About our Plan

The Community Strategic Plan (CSP) is our roadmap for the future of MidCoast. It expresses our community's Vision and Values and outlines how we must work together to make it a reality. The Plan is aspirational, yet acknowledges that it needs to be flexible enough to adapt to our changing and growing community.

The MidCoast Vision and Values were developed from the "*What is MidCoast*" identity project in 2016. We asked the community what they loved most about the area and how we could build upon it. The Vision and Values developed set the tone and direction for Council's planning for the future.

The CSP will be developed by the community, for the community; and Council will act as its custodian. While the Plan sets the agenda for Councils' activities, other government departments, businesses and community organisations are also crucial in delivering our community's aspirations.

In the development of this Plan, other key government plans and legislative frameworks have been considered, in particular *NSW State Plan*, the *Hunter Regional Plan*, the *Local Government Act (1993)* and the *Integrated Planning and Reporting Guidelines*, to ensure that there is alignment and we are working towards a shared vision.

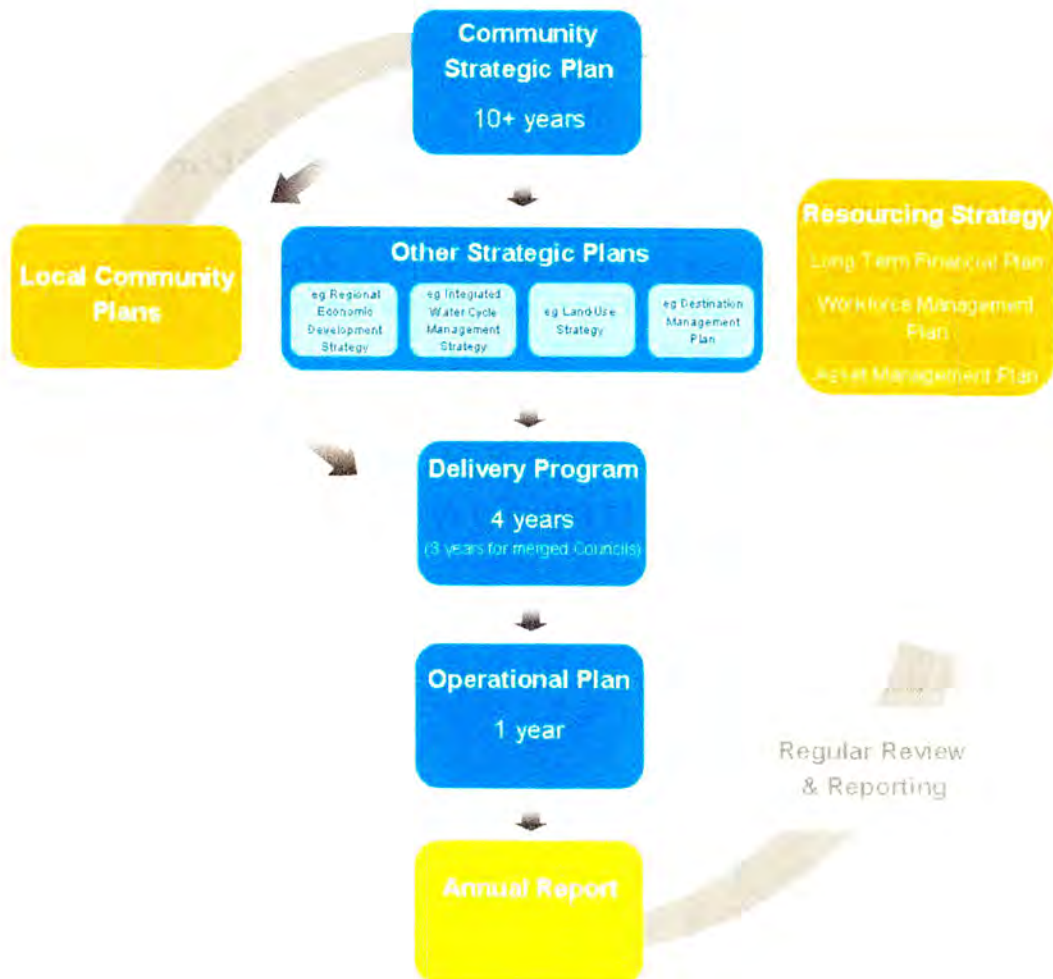


Why this Plan is important

Under legislation, NSW Councils are required to develop a Community Strategic Plan to create a whole of community vision so that council and the community are all working in the same direction. The Plan also provides a way for Council to be accountable to the community and the NSW Government. – SEE NOTE 9

From the Community Strategic Plan, council develops a four year Delivery Plan that sets out the key strategies that council will use to deliver the Community Strategic Plan over the following years.

An annual Operational Plan also gives a much more detailed view of how the Community Strategic Plan will be delivered during that period. The relation of the Community Strategic Plan to other key Council documents is demonstrated below.





How to have your say

MidCoast Council is seeking your feedback and comments on the draft Community Strategic Plan *MidCoast 2030 Shared vision, shared responsibility*.

You may wish to comment only on areas in which you have a particular interest, or on all of the issues covered by the draft plan. While submissions may be lodged by post, we would prefer to receive submissions by email.

To assist you in making a submission, a feedback form is provided at the back of the paper. However, the form is not compulsory and submissions can be written in any format.

CLOSING DATE FOR SUBMISSIONS: 23 February 2018

Email: community@midcoast.nsw.gov.au

Mail: Community Strategic Plan Consultation
MidCoast Council Engagement Team
PO Box 450
FORSTER NSW 2428

MIDCOAST 2030

Shared vision, shared responsibility

DRAFT COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

Contents

Introduction	1
About our Plan.....	2
Why this Plan is important.....	3
How to have your say.....	4
Draft MidCoast Community Strategic Plan	5
Acknowledgement.....	7
Our Vision.....	7
Our Values.....	7
A snapshot of us.....	8
How to read this plan.....	10
Our values	11
Our unique, diverse & culturally rich communities.....	11
A connected community.....	12
Our environment.....	13
Our thriving and growing economy.....	14
Strong leadership and shared vision.....	15
Where to from here	16
Measuring Council's performance.....	16
Reporting.....	17
What is next?.....	17
Your feedback.....	17
Feedback form	18

Acknowledgement of Country

MidCoast Council acknowledges the Gathang speaking Nations, the custodians of the land to which this Plan applies. We pay our respect to all Aboriginal People of the land and to Elders past, present and future.

Feedback on this Acknowledgement of Country will be sought from the Gathang Nations, TRIBES throughout the consultation of this draft plan.

Our Vision

We aspire to be a place of unique environmental significance where our quality of life and sense of community is balanced by sustainable and sensitive development, which fosters economic growth

CONTRADICTORY TERMS

Our Values

✓ We value ... our unique, diverse and culturally rich communities

Our diverse communities offer active and social opportunities, are safe and are places where we work together with a creative focus acknowledging our rich history and culture.

✓ We value ... a connected community

Our roads, footpaths and technology are upgraded and well maintained so we can easily and safely connect with each other.

We value ... our environment

Our natural environment is protected and enhanced, while we maintain a delicate balance with our growing urban centres and managing our resources wisely.

~~growing~~ A WORRY.

STABLE

X We value ... our thriving and growing economy

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

✓ We value ... leadership and shared vision

We work in partnerships towards a shared vision, that provides value for money and is customer focused.

- NB Salary of General Manager ???

A snapshot of us

Our MidCoast population of more than 90,000 is a diverse community with an exciting future.

The people who live within the 196 localities have an enviable lifestyle, with pristine beaches on the coast, snow-capped mountains in the hinterland and numerous national parks and green spaces in between.

The geographical region of 10,053 square kilometres extends from the coastline, west to the escarpment of the Great Dividing Range. It includes the Manning River Valley in the north, the Wallis, Smith's and Myall Lakes systems, the northern foreshore of Port Stephens, the agricultural hinterland and the rugged, forested ranges of the Barrington Tops, Woko and Tapin Tops National Parks.

With 6.9% of our community identifying as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander; we are a region rich in culture and we embrace the spirit of reconciliation.

Being well known for our natural beauty, our region encompasses 58 National Parks and reserves, five coastal lagoons, one marine park, an internationally recognised wetland in the Myall Lakes and one World Heritage listed area of Barrington Tops. Protecting and celebrating these features is a key focus and contributes to our lifestyle and wellbeing.

We have a strong sense of community. We want our towns and villages to reflect the vibrancy and individuality of the people within them and provide opportunities for us to connect and socialise.

Our community has defined the essence of the MidCoast region by our connection to nature and our connection to each other.

From the strength of our people, our enviable lifestyle and our shared vision, we have it all. It is from this, we can only get better.



Our population

- 90,000 people (average 1,000 per locality)
- 100% of population live in 196 localities
- 40% of the population live in regional (11,000 sq km)
- 6.9% of our population identifies as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander (25,000 people)
- 25% of the population are aged 65 years and over (22,500 people)
- 25% of the population are aged 0-14 (22,500 people)

Top three industries

- Health, education and social services
- Retail trade
- Construction, education and trade services

EDUCATION

- 40% of the population are tertiary educated
- 75% of the population aged 15 years and over are tertiary educated
- 60% of the population aged 15 years and over are tertiary educated

We are a community:

Manning hospital ??? Funds needed

- Conscious of our environmental footprint, we want manage the resources we have available to us wisely.
- That is caring with healthcare and social assistance being the largest employment industry.
- Transitioning from an economy based on traditional agriculture and industrial practices to one which is more diversified, creating opportunities for infrastructure and investment
- With a higher proportion of people living with a disability, with 8.2% of our population, reporting that they need assistance with their day-to-day lives. The implementation of the National Disability Insurance Scheme has created potential opportunities for innovation in the disability care sector.



Our region

MidCoast is a popular location for retirement, with the region having a large, and growing aged care sector. Our ageing community brings wisdom and knowledge, as well as contributes significantly to our strong volunteer sector.

Much of the rural area is used for timber production and livestock farming, primarily dairy and beef cattle with a growing poultry industry. Oyster farming and fishing are also important industries that occur on the coastal locations.

The region is also a key holiday destination. During the summer months the population swells with tourists from Sydney, Newcastle and other destinations coming to enjoy the region's pristine coastline and beaches, coastal lakes, lagoons and other environmental attractions.

With the Pacific Highway, a national route, running straight through the region, we are an important connection point for travellers, as well as access to the Port of Newcastle, Newcastle Airport and to the Sydney and Brisbane markets. The North Coast Rail line provides passenger and rail freight services to Sydney. **Rex** Airlines operates services from Taree Regional Airport to Sydney and Grafton.

Not any more!

How to read this plan

The following information helps to explain the headings used in this document.

Value area

The Value areas are used to structure the Community Strategic Plan. The Value areas were identified following community consultation in the *What is MidCoast* project.

We value ... Our unique, diverse & culturally rich communities

Objective: where do we want to be?
These are the community's long-term priorities and aspirations. They contribute to achieving our vision. Council has a custodial role in working towards realising these outcomes; however it is not wholly responsible for achieving them. Other partners such as state agencies and community groups also have an important role to play.

Where do we want to be?	How will we get there?	Who can help?
We are a community that cares for its members irrespective of age, culture or ability	Provide equitable access to services, programs, spaces and facilities to support and encourage improved health, safety and wellbeing	NSW Government
	Acknowledge, celebrate and empower our local Aboriginal communities	Community groups
	Strengthen the capacity of our young people to participate and thrive in community life	Community service Organisations
	Support a diverse housing mix that provides choice and meets the needs of all community members	Family Support Services
We will embrace the uniqueness and creativity of our communities	Support the strengthening of social connectedness through programs and partnerships	NSW Fire and Rescue
	Support communities to identify priorities for ensuring they are sustainable into the future	State Emergency Services
	Support the preservation and protection of our unique heritage and the individual qualities of towns, villages and special places	Social housing services
	Support and encourage our vibrant and creative arts sector	Child and youth services
		Arts Mid North Coast

Partners Who can help?
These are the local and state government agencies, other organisations and community groups that have an important role in delivering the long-term objectives. It will be important for strong partnerships to exist between these groups, if we are to achieve the objectives.

Strategies: how will we get there?
These are the activities and plans that will contribute to achieving the long-term objectives, and ultimately, the MidCoast vision.

Our values



We value ... Our unique, diverse & culturally rich communities

Where do we want to be?	How will we get there?	Who can help?
<p>✓ 1</p> <p>We are a community that cares for all our members</p>	<p>Provide equitable access to services, programs, spaces and facilities to support and encourage improved health, safety and wellbeing.</p> <p>Acknowledge, celebrate and empower our local Aboriginal communities.</p> <p>Strengthen the capacity of our young people to participate and thrive in community life.</p> <p>Support a diverse housing mix that provides choice and meets the needs of all community members.</p> <p>Support the strengthening of social connectedness through programs and partnerships.</p>	<p>NSW Government</p> <p>Community groups</p> <p>Community service Organisations</p> <p>Family Support Services</p> <p>NSW Fire and Rescue <i>RFS</i></p> <p>State Emergency Services</p> <p>Social housing services</p>
<p>2</p> <p>We will embrace the uniqueness and creativity of our communities</p>	<p>Support communities to identify priorities for ensuring they are sustainable into the future.</p> <p>Support the preservation and protection of our unique heritage, and the individual qualities of towns, villages and special places.</p> <p>Support and encourage our vibrant and creative arts sector.</p>	<p>Child and youth services</p> <p>Arts Mid North Coast</p>

We value ... a connected community



Where do we want to be?	How will we get there?	Who can help?
<p>✓ 3</p> <p>We feel connected to each other</p>	<p>Encourage and expand volunteering opportunities.</p> <p>Encourage programs and activities that strengthen social connections.</p> <p>Welcome people of all abilities and backgrounds.</p> <p>Implement designs to support accessibility by all community members.</p>	<p>NSW Government</p> <p>Federal Government</p> <p>Community groups</p> <p>Disability support services</p> <p>Philanthropic organisations</p>
<p>✓ 4</p> <p>It is safe and easy to get around our region</p>	<p>Plan for, provide and maintain a road network that meets current and future needs and allows safe travel.</p> <p>Provide a safe, accessible and connected network of walking and cycling options.</p> <p>Increase the provision of community and public transport to meet the needs of our growing and ageing communities.</p>	<p>NGO's</p>
<p>✓ 5</p> <p>We utilise technologies to connect us locally and beyond</p>	<p>Use technology and innovation to improve the way we live, work, learn and connect.</p> <p>Advocate for improved telecommunications and utilities to provide consistency across the region.</p>	
<p>✓ 6</p> <p>We protect the health and safety of our communities</p>	<p>Work together to promote and enhance community safety.</p> <p>Continue to develop a sustainable network of water, sewer and storm water systems to meet community need and health and safety standards.</p> <p>Increase the capacity of community, businesses and organisations to understand and meet public health standards.</p>	

We value ... our environment

Where do we want to be?	How will we get there?	Who can help?
✓ 7 We protect maintain and restore our natural environment	Value, protect, monitor, and manage the health and diversity of our natural assets and ecosystems. Ensure climate change risks and impacts are understood and managed. Protect, maintain and restore water quality within our estuaries, wetlands and waterways. Improve the capacity of industry and the community to achieve the best possible outcomes for the natural environment.	NSW Government Federal Government Community groups Philanthropic organisations Volunteers Aboriginal Lands Councils
✓ 8 We manage our resources wisely	Sustainably manage our waste through reduction, reuse, recycling and repurposing. Proactively manage our energy consumption.	Educational institutions
9 We balance the needs of our natural and built environments	Ensure <u>growth</u> and new development complements our existing <u>natural</u> assets and heritage sites. Optimise land use to meet our environmental, social and development needs.	X ✓



Public education campaign on rubbish,
 especially in schools
 Also weed removal - fireweed

We value ... our thriving and growing economy



Where do we want to be?	How will we get there?	Who can help?
<p>✓ 10</p> <p>A region is a popular place to visit, live, work and invest</p>	<p>Develop and promote our region as an attractive visitor destination offering a broad range of experiences for visitors and residents.</p> <p>Provide an environment to attract, grow and strengthen local businesses.</p> <p>Increase opportunities for quality education and training.</p>	<p>NSW Government</p> <p>Federal Government</p> <p>Destination NSW</p> <p>Regional Development Australia</p>
<p>? 11</p> <p>Our villages and business precincts are vibrant commercial, cultural and social hubs</p>	<p>Implement innovative programs and projects to support business precincts in creating and maintaining vibrant spaces.</p> <p>Support and encourage the development and attraction of strategic events.</p> <p>Ensure strategies and processes recognise, maintain and support <u>sustainable economic growth</u>.</p> <p>Use existing knowledge, expertise and technology to develop businesses based on new ways of thinking.</p>	<p>Business groups</p> <p>Industry groups</p> <p>Education providers</p> <p>Training providers</p> <p>Non-government agencies and groups</p>
<p>✓</p> <p>We encourage greater rural and agricultural economic diversity</p>	<p>Encourage niche commercial, tourist and recreation activities that complement and promote a stronger rural sector, and build the sector's capacity to adapt to changing circumstances.</p> <p>Encourage agribusiness to leverage proximity from highways, airports and metropolitan markets.</p>	

We value ... strong leadership and shared vision

Where do we want to be?	How will we get there?	Who can help?
<p>13 ✓ We work with the community and government to ensure the long term sustainability of our Council</p>	<p>Develop and maintain a sustainable council through a strong corporate governance framework, effective leadership, skilled staff and a customer focused culture.</p> <p>Provide strong corporate and financial management that is ethical, fair, transparent and accountable.</p> <p>Develop and deliver services and programs that provide value for money.</p> <p>Implement customer focused systems to support simple and convenient ways to access and do business with our Council.</p>	<p>NSW Government</p> <p>Federal Government</p> <p>Community groups</p> <p>Service organisations</p> <p>Business</p> <p>Business groups</p> <p>Non-government agencies</p>
<p>14 ✓ We ensure there are opportunities for community to be part of decisions that shape our future</p>	<p>Provide clear, accessible, timely and relevant information to meet community needs and support active participation in community life.</p> <p>Improve community understanding of how decisions are made for the local area.</p> <p>Enable community members to participate in decision-making by providing a broad range of engagement opportunities.</p>	<p>Other councils</p> <p>Education providers</p> <p>Training providers</p>
<p>15 ✓ We develop and encourage community and civic leadership</p>	<p>Inform, educate and empower council, business and community leaders to respond and adapt to challenges and change.</p> <p>Identify and participate in initiatives for regional cooperation and collaboration.</p> <p>Provide opportunities for the development of local leaders.</p>	

Where to from here

Measuring Council's performance

The final Community Strategic Plan must identify assessment methods for determining whether our objectives ("*Where do we want to be?*") are being achieved. These assessment and will be the main way in which Council measures its performance in realising the community's vision and values.

It is important to note however, that while Council is an influencer in all areas identified in the Community Strategic Plan; we also rely on other government departments, businesses and community groups to deliver the community's Vision and Values. It is a shared responsibility.

In providing feedback on this document, please think of potential ways Council can measure its performance. Some suggested methods include:

- ✓ • Community satisfaction ratings
 - Community perceptions
 - Housing affordability ratings
- ✓ • Local employment trends
- ✓ • Public health indicators
- ✓ • Public transport usage and commuting distances
- ✓ • Usage figures of public facilities
- ✓ • Participation in cultural activities
 - Progress towards waste reduction targets
- ✓ • Progress towards water quality targets
- ✓ • Water and energy consumption figures
 - Economic indicators such as commercial rental rates, gross regional product, tourism spend, labour market trends, development figures, property market details, retail spending
- ✓ • Educational enrolments
 - Access to childcare
- ✓ • Infrastructure condition assessments and improvement targets
- ✓ • Sustainability indicators

We also welcome other potential measures that may not be listed above.

Reporting

At the end of each Council term a report on the council's achievements in delivering the objectives in the Community Strategic Plan will be included in the End of Term Report. When reporting, we will include an explanation on why we're on target or why we're not on target.

What is next?

Following feedback on the draft Community Strategic Plan, Council will be provided with a finalised Community Strategic Plan, planned for adoption in March 2018.

The adopted Community Strategic Plan will form the basis of the development of our Delivery Program and Operational Plan which will be placed on public exhibition during April and May 2018, before adoption by Council in June 2018.

Your feedback

MidCoast Council welcomes your feedback on the draft Community Strategic Plan.

If you wish to provide your feedback online please head to our website

www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/csp

Otherwise, we have enclosed an easy-to-use feedback form below. You do not need to answer every question and you are welcome to fill out only the areas which interest you the most. Please complete and return your submission form, or any other type of written submission, by the closing date, by one of the following methods:

Email: community@midcoast.nsw.gov.au

Mail: Community Strategic Plan Consultation
MidCoast Council Engagement Team
PO Box 450
FORSTER NSW 2428

The deadline for submission is 23 February 2018

Feedback form

To complete this form online, please go to www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/csp

Background Information

You do not need to provide this information, however knowing some basic information about respondents will help us gain a better understanding of feedback to the draft Community Strategic Plan.

1. Are you? Male Female Other

2. How old are you?

- 17 or under 18 to 24 25 to 34 35 to 44
 45 to 54 55 to 64 65 to 74 75 or over

3. What town/village do you reside?

RAINBOW FLAT

4. Are you involved in any of the following?

- Not for profit organisation *ROTARY*
 Government department - State or Federal
 Community groups *ROTARY - RFS - THMC*
 Sporting clubs
 Chamber of Commerce, or similar
 Special interest groups *TARCE HISTORIC VEHICLE CLUB*
 Disability/social/health sector
 Other (please specify)

RFS

5. If you are submitting this feedback on behalf of the organisation/group/department, please specify the name of the organisation.

—

Feedback

1. Our Vision - Using the scale below, please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with the Vision?

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please provide any comments or ideas for how the Vision could be improved.

MANY ASPECTS OF THE VISION ARE ON THE MONEY.
 BUT THE SUPPORT OF GROWTH IS NOT SUSTAINABLE
 MORE PEOPLE = MORE PROBLEMS
 WE SHOULD BE AIMING TO HAVE A POPULATION OF 50,000 BY
 2036 ! AT 113,000 THE ATTRACTIVE ENVIRONMENT CAN ONLY BE
 DEGRADED

2. Our Values - Using the scale below, please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with the Values?

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please provide any comments or ideas for how the Values could be improved.

THE CHALLENGE FOR OUR COUNTRY IS TO DEVELOP AN
 ECONOMY THAT DOES NOT GROW IN SUSTAINABLE! OUTLAW GREED



3. A snapshot of us - Using the scale below, please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with the Snapshot of Us, as a representation of our MidCoast identity and key aspects of our community.

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please provide any comments or ideas for how the Snapshot of Us could be improved.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

4. We value our Unique, Diverse and Culturally Rich Communities - Please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with where we want to be and our strategy to get there, as outlined in the key focus area - We value our Unique, Diverse and Culturally Rich Communities.

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please provide any comments, ideas or groups that may be missing, that could help us achieve these objectives. What is the best way to measure performance in this area?

.....

PERHAPS MORE INFO ON VOLUNTEER GROUPS - SURF CLUBS - RFS -

ROTAARY - LIONS - QUOTA - SES - MARINE RESCUE - VRA - ETC.

.....

.....

.....

5. We value a connected community - Please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with where we want to be and our strategy to get there, as outlined in the key focus area - We value a connected community.

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please provide any comments, ideas or groups that may be missing, that could help us achieve these objectives. What is the best way to measure performance in this area?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

6. We value our environment - Please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with where we want to be and our strategy to get there, as outlined in the key focus area - We value our environment.

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Please provide any comments, ideas or groups that may be missing, that could help us achieve these objectives. What is the best way to measure performance in this area?

THE BEST WAY TO PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT ---



.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

7. We value our thriving and growing economy - Please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with where we want to be and our strategy to get there, as outlined in the key focus area - We value our thriving and growing economy.

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please provide any comments, ideas or groups that may be missing, that could help us achieve these objectives. What is the best way to measure performance in this area?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

8. We value our leadership and shared vision - Please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with where we want to be and our strategy to get there, as outlined in the key focus area - We value our leadership and shared vision.

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please provide any comments, ideas or groups that may be missing, that could help us achieve these objectives. What is the best way to measure performance in this area?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

9. If you have any further feedback on the content of this plan
(MidCoast 2030 Shared vision, shared responsibility), please detail it here.

THE MOST IMPORTANT CHALLENGE FOR THE
COUNTRY - IN DEED THE WORLD!
CHINA'S ONE CHILD POLICY WAS
A BOLD BUT FLAWED ATTEMPT
TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM.
CAN WE DEVELOP A
SUCCESSFUL PROGRAM
TO SELL TO THE WORLD!



NOTE: - THE NSW LAND ENVIRONMENT COURT HAVE A LOT TO ANSWER FOR AND SHOULD BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR POOR DECISIONS AS THE DEVELOPMENTS AT OLD BAR SLIDE INTO THE SEA IT SHOULD BEAT THEIR COST NOT THE COUNCIL THAT OPPOSED THE DEVELOPMENT.

(signed by [redacted])
17.1.1.2018
(date)

Print Name:.....

Address:.....

Email:.....

Privacy Statement

The information provided in this form may constitute personal information as defined in the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998. Council is collecting this information so that it can consider matters and take relevant actions required under related Council legislation, regulations, standards, codes, policies etc. in relation to dealing with your submission.

The information may be made available to other parties where such access is in accordance with relevant legislation, regulation or policy. The submission of personal information may be required by law and if not provided (wholly or in part) may affect or prevent consideration of the matter by Council.

Council is to be regarded as the agency that holds the information, which will ultimately be stored in Council's records system. You may make application for access or amendment to information held by Council and you may also request that Council suppress your personal information from a public register.

Taree Development Study Summary

This summary statement is being circulated to give you information about Council's recently completed Taree Development Study and accompanying draft Strategy. If you wish to read the full Study and draft Strategy or make a submission to Council please find details of the exhibition at the end of this pamphlet.

Greg Trevaskis
GENERAL MANAGER

Council's *Vision Statement* and *Management Plan* seeks to expand the role of Taree in providing regional facilities and services, so that the community will continue to enjoy economic growth, convenient access to private and public facilities and services, and long-term employment for its residents.

The community looks to Council to encourage and plan for development so that residents will have access to a sustainable, affordable and high quality lifestyle. To meet the community's expectations, Council has prepared the *Taree Development Study* and draft *Development Strategy*. It identifies the location of and principles for Taree's future urban development for the next few decades.

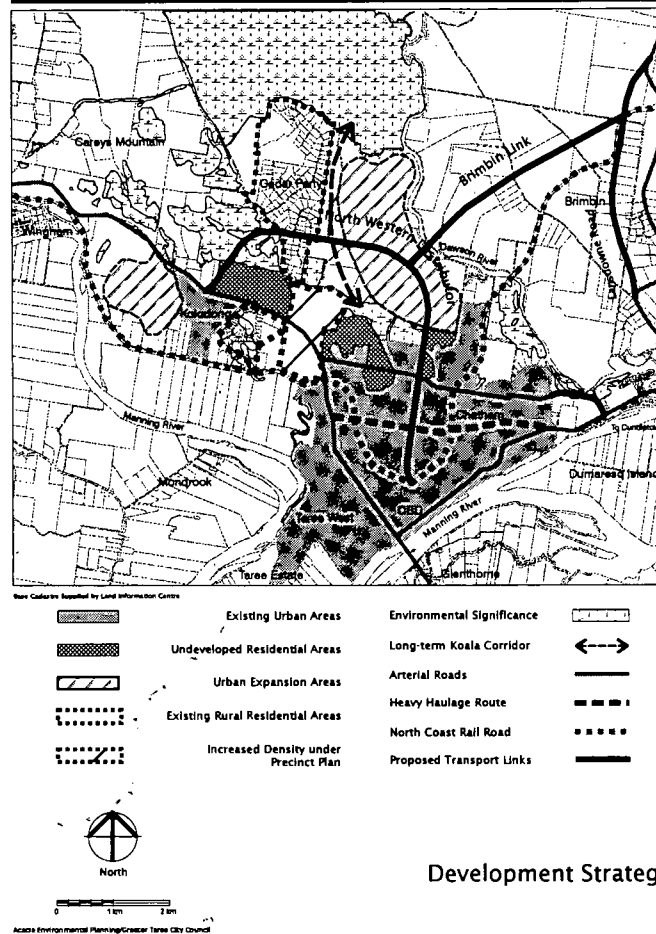
Summary of Recommendations

The plan outlining the draft *Development Strategy* is shown on this page and is based on the *Study's* recommendations.

Urban Expansion Areas

- Identification of urban expansion areas, as shown in the following figure, including the preparation of Development Control Plans for these areas; and
- Restriction of development on land that is affected by constraints such as flooding, steep slopes, electricity easements, prime agricultural land, important habitat, special facilities, public land, noise sensitive areas and geological resources.

Taree Development Study



Development Strategy

Environmental Values

- Ensure that development of areas within or near Koala habitat does not contribute to the loss or damage of habitat by the use of prohibitions on development or reduction in residential densities, specific landscaping requirements and use of devices to slow traffic speeds; and
- Promotion of the long term restoration of Koala habitat links.

Settlement Principles

- Promotion of Ecologically Sustainable Development Principles which decrease runoff in urban areas, reduce usage of motor vehicles, increase usage of public transport, encourage recycling and plan subdivisions that benefit from good solar access and are energy efficient;
- Provision of mixed use developments that combine business uses and community services and facilities with residential uses; and
- Provision of accessible open space for a variety of activities.

Transport Links

- Adoption of a road network that will access new urban areas and provide for a heavy haulage route; and
- Provision of a pedestrian and cyclist network that improves accessibility.

Business and Community Development

- Reinforcement of a retailing structure where major retailing occurs in the CBD with neighbourhood centres provided at accessible locations and general stores located throughout new urban areas;
- Pursuit of options for promoting Taree as a regional centre and tourist destination including upgrading of Taree Airport and construction of a bus interchange;
- Continuation of development and management of the CBD in accordance with the *City Centre Plan*;
- Implementation of the recommendations for the redevelopment of Victoria Street and River frontage;
- Support of self-help business groups that promote business activity and growth; and
- Pursuit of opportunities to attract government organisations to the CBD.

Important Findings

Economically and socially, Taree supports not only the people in its suburbs but the wider communities that makes up Greater Taree with a total population of about 43,000. It is the centre for economic and community activities.

Taree is a gateway to the Mid North and North Coasts of NSW, both physically and conceptually, for road, rail and air transport, as well as tourism and industry.

Taree has a variety of threatened animal species, including the quoll, glossy black cockatoo, yellow bellied glider, squirrel glider, powerful owl, sooty owl, masked owl, phascogale and rufous bettong. **The most common and well known native animal in Taree is the Koala.** Sightings of the Koala are quite common within Taree's urban areas.

WHAT NOW WALABYS SNAKES ETC
Taree's population is tending to older age groups, as young adult populations, 19-30 year olds, migrate to other centres in search of employment. There is a relatively high figure for those over 75 (5.4%) which reflects the attraction of Taree to older age groups.

Council is exploring a new industrial area at Brimbin. It would attract large scale manufacturing or processing industries that require substantial land area.

Land now zoned for residential use, but not yet subdivided, would yield about 800 lots. Urban expansion areas would supply an additional 4,200 residential lots. This supply of land should cater for an increase in population of approximately 13,000 people.

The Study examined a variety of development patterns for the design of new urban subdivisions. It chose a development pattern that would provide long term community benefits because they would use less land, reduce energy and resources needed to transport people, **and create more compact urban forms that are less costly to service.**

Exhibition

The draft Strategy and the Taree Development Study, which is included in the report with the draft Strategy, can be read at Council's Administration Building in Taree and the Taree Library.

You can buy copies of the Study for \$10.00 or get a summary for free at the Planning and Building Counter at Council's Administration Building.

The exhibition period will run for two months ending on 21 November 1997.

Submissions

Council welcomes your written comments on the draft Strategy.

Send them to:

**The General Manager
Greater Taree City Council
PO Box 482
Taree NSW 2430**

or fax them to:

02 - 6551 6473

or email them to:

Margm@gtcc.nsw.gov.au

You can also hand your written submissions to staff at the Planning and Building Counter at Council's Administrative Building between 8.30am and 4.30pm, Monday to Friday.

Next Steps

Council will consider all submissions before it finalises the Strategy.

TAREE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY



Greater Taree City Council



August 1997

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 26 February 2018 7:38 AM
To: Sarah Wilkinson
Cc: MidCoast Council
Subject: late submission to midcoast 2030
Attachments: What we want from MCC 220218.docx; [REDACTED] 21FEB2018for MCC.pdf; Letter from council re DA for quarry at Harold Lane.JPG; Quarry pic 1.jpg; Quarry pic 2.jpg; quarry pic 3.jpg; Quarry pic 4.jpg; Quarry pic 5.jpg; Quarry pic 6.jpg

Importance: High

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Sarah

I hope you can still incorporate some of these ideas. very sorry for being late and disorganised

Best regards

[REDACTED]

Response to the **Midcoast Strategic Plan 2030** : a late submission by a group of **Residents for a Greener Midcoast**

What we suggest for MCC – please contact us (see below) if you need to discuss our ideas further

We have attempted to use some of the headings in Midcoast 2030 but we hope you will be able to slot these ideas in where they belong – and if they are ‘outside the envelope’ create a new Vision!

My personal apologies for not being able to get this by the deadline and for not setting out our ideas in the preferred format – partly because we strongly believe that most of the topics raised in Midcoast 2030 are in one way or another overlapping – environment, economy, social cohesion etc all impact on each other.

There are many more issues we would have liked to raise or flesh out further and would be glad to take part in any further consultation.

Measuring Council’s performance - Natural environment

Economic indicators should include deleterious effects of development, land clearing, pollution etc on our main asset – the natural environment

Environmental health (as in the health of the natural environment) is not included in your suggested performance measure but it should be

Boost the number of staff and other resources to monitor and protect the environment

Developers who don’t follow even the existing rules should be penalised prosecuted and rules to limit expansion must be enforced.

Council should recognise and incorporate into this plan the fact that in many ways the state and federal governments are NOT supportive of Council efforts to control inappropriate development and use of land and are not sympathetic to preservation of environmental assets such as native vegetation.

This causes habitat and species loss and therefore reduces the desirability of the region for eco and other tourism. This may sound crass but as [REDACTED] has expressed so well see **attachment A** – economics cannot exist apart from the natural environment. Other Australian thinkers such as Elizabeth Farrelly have pointed this out.

EXAMPLE: The process of assessing environmental impact (EIS) such as that done for the illegally operating quarry near Taree at 55 Harold Lane. We are including some of the documents relating to this issue as part of the text rather than as an annexe although further information is available at **Attachment B** because we believe it is typical of the lack of transparency in many Council dealings.

Dear Madam and Others

Development Application No. 82/2018/DA

Property Address - 55 Harold Lane Koorainghat NSW 2430 Lot 143 DP 753149

Proposed Development - 4 Lot subdivision, quarry

Thank you for your follow up submission on this development application.

We value your contribution and your comments will be considered during assessment of the application.

In most cases, applications are determined by our team. However, in some cases applications are reported to a Council meeting for determination. Should this application be one of those, we will advise you of the meeting date and your submission will be included as an attachment to the report. The report, including all submissions, will be made available on our website prior to the meeting.

In all cases, we will inform you of the outcome when a decision is made.

Yours sincerely

Petula Bowden [from MCC]

Was this quarry ever legal? Was it approved by previous Council? If so, when?

Midcoast region is hotting up!

Whether you believe in climate change or not – the fact is that the increasing area of hard surfaces such as roads in suburban and other developments, parking lots and the shiny tiled or metal/colorbond roofs on so many new and existing buildings is adding to the heat experienced by all of us.

The removal of many trees and other green growth from all of these (and other) developments has exacerbated the rise in temperatures. We may not be able to change the overall increase in global temperatures but in Midcoast Council we could make a huge difference by initiatives such as:

1. Requiring all developments to have a certain amount of shade trees and other vegetation.
2. Planting street trees in Forster keys and elsewhere if there are none.
3. Educating the public about the capacity of green growth to reduce heat and increase air quality

Encourage and support renewable electricity – any Council buildings especially the Masters building MUST have solar panels and storage batteries.

1. SOLAR PANELS ON all new buildings required and subsidised – lobby state and federals
2. Wind farms on Council owned property

Actively encourage renewable energy initiatives and businesses - creating jobs and energy security

Wave and tidal technology – a device which can be put off shore and captures the force of the swell and/or a device capturing the rise and fall of tides. Viz wave swell energy viz Protean energy

A NEW idea!?? use a pressure type device like Piezo electric to capture the force of the water flowing through the Tuncurry channel. More details available on request. The Piezo is a 'simple' type of electronic device such as you see on greetings cards which play tunes. In reverse, this will actually generate electricity! Buildings can be fitted at the construction stage

Windfarms – there are many sites including some of the land owned by Council where a community energy farm (solar and wind power) could be located.

Could Council channel the strong current through Tuncurry breakwall to create energy??

Strong leadership and a shared vision

“To be a good boss you don't have to be present – get the right person and leave them to it “

Recognise that everything and everyone is interconnected and remove barriers such as lack of transport, not listening

Transparency and community engagement could be enhanced by reconstituting consultative committees or similar for matters such as **Environmental protection, Energy self-sufficiency, Development application monitoring.**

Acknowledge the huge distances in this new council and facilitate access to services including council services

Connected communities means having these services where people actually live and they MUST get accessible mobiles, internet etc. Under the nbn even the old landlines won't work so when power goes of – there's NOTHING! Smoke signals? Carrier pigeons?

Much more public transport and co-ordination of alternatives. For example:

Council could buy or subsidise used small electric vans/cars/minibuses which are imported from Japan from about \$15,000 – and only 5 years old. This would enable Council to provide better services for the many elderly, disabled or otherwise without access to transport to get to appointments and activities such as shopping or socialising (U3A, art).

Council staff TO BE ABLE TO WORK NEAR WHERE THEY LIVE – limit the distances staff have to travel unless it's their choice

Acknowledge that our community is more diverse than only whites and Aborigines

Help Tobwobba art facilities to reopen and encourage active participation especially by young people

Permaculture, organic food supply, bushtucker

Midcoast could become a hub for 'clean food and clean living' and this would increase tourism because many visitors from Australia and overseas are interested in this way of life viz parts of Tasmania.

Actively encourage private parties to run organic and permaculture gardens and farms both as a way of producing food and protecting the environment from pesticides, weeds etc

Promote and subsidise community owned and operated organic farming, gardens and bush tucker provision using Aboriginal lore and practice.

Encourage burning off using Aboriginal methods and via RFS, TAFE, schools and land Council

Does the local library store and encourage access to Aboriginal language and art – performance SPACE AND ART GALLERY IF YOU GO AHEAD WITH Forster Centre on Lake st and combine with culture centre to create and also sell products. A culture centre for all types of arts and craft (see Tobwobba above for Aboriginal culture)

Council nursery for plants – create one using facilities that Council owns in Forster or south. Enhance support for the community garden at Tuncurry Tip.

Schedule more furniture and other pickups of throwaway and reuseable items. At present people without the means to transport these items can't either dispose of them or acquire them without paying out more than they can afford. This would encourage reuse and reduce waste thus enhancing the good work of Community Resources.

Economic – all these activities would have a spin off in social cohesion, tourism, job creation, and valuing Aboriginal and other cultures.

Help people who can't find anywhere stable and secure to live by encouraging more affordable rental properties.

Listen to the more disadvantage community – or at least listen to those who advocate for them.

Prince Charles project - ??

Make the community garden a focus of the actual community especially those that need social interaction and so that food can be grown and distributed

If CWA agreed the existing old building next to the community garden could be made into a drop in centre and social teahouse – for high teas country style perhaps.

Build or acquire as a matter of urgency a **larger refuge for women and children** and give greater impetus and provision of women and children's services. Including a **Women's shed where women can use tools and occupy permanently – as the men do in their sheds**. How can there be at least 3 men's sheds in this Council area and none for women?? We commend the idea of men being able to socialise and create or fix furniture etc but women would also like to do these things and don't have the facilities to do them.

Youth shed: – music and computers plus used to have a group in the 80s who met to jam on a Sunday once a month – has it come back?

Traditional dancing and opening it to everyone

Community choir – need inclusive ones for every age and gender.

More outreach for people living alone including mothers with young kids who have not been vaccinated because of religious or other beliefs. These families are treated like lepers.

Minister for Loneliness – apparently there is such a position in the UK. Council could perhaps consider creating a similar function to reduce mental health and isolation problems.

Employment of young and disadvantaged people in meaningful work such as community gardens.

Thriving and growing economy must include jobs for these people and longterm unemployed. Business must be encouraged to do much more to help by employing them.

Food bank – Salvos do a Friday lunch in their old building in Tunccurry open to all. It's time for Council to start – or restart the same kind of thing as the neighbourhood centre used to do.

Can Council do more to use existing resources – spaces, talent? We believe Council could create a Resource Bank where skills, spaces and all the rest could be made available for the public to tap into.

Anti-suicide camp anti-depression

Woman at Buladelah having a garden where she wants to have women come and heal

Pollution – BAN PLASTIC BAGS and urgently find a way to recycle coffee cups and encourage people to BYO cups.

WASTE management

More education urgently needed both inside and from Council on which plastic is least harmful, what can be recycled and what can be substituted for plastic. The difference between 'compostable' and 'home compostable' is important.

As a start, Council could provide dog poo bags made of corn waste which are available from suppliers in Newcastle and are made in Australia.

TRANSPORT

Website for car sharing – could use facebook - for taking people shopping and medical appointments.. how good is community transport? \$200 to get back from TaREE HOSPITAL BY TAXI ...we should have a variation on Uber/Goget. See also electric car idea above.

Council must try to reverse the non-caring of other levels of government to show compassion, promote understanding and empathy and welcome all into our community – even if they're already part of it!

Solutions 33 type fixing up electronic waste

Council nursery for plants OK to do weed control via current backyard blitz but perhaps 50% of time and resources could be spent on giving out native plants and endemic species and teaching people how to care for them.

Re invasive species – there are in some cases better ways of managing these, also how are farmers being encouraged to remove bad stuff and plant good stuff?

Water – wherever possible stop using Roundup. Don't spray roadsides – if it's necessary to reduce growth PLEASE slash or mow and please do it at the right season – not when plants have already seeded.

Lots more!! But no time – really sorry!

Thanks for allowing us to comment and for all your efforts in consultation on this paper.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

26S February 2018

6 February 2018

Application No: 82/2018/DA
Enquiries: Petula Bowden

We've received an application for development on land located near your property. As part of our assessment process, we are seeking your views on the proposal.

Details of the development are:

Development Proposal	4 Lot subdivision, quarry (Integrated Development that requires the approval of the NSW RFS)
Address	55 Harold Lane Koorainghat NSW 2430 Lot 143 DP 753149
Applicant	Tattersall Lander Pty Ltd

If you'd like to know more, copies of the application documents and plans are available on our website – search for Application Tracking and enter the application number listed above.

If you have any comments about the proposal, to ensure they are considered in the assessment of the application, please make your submission by **14 March 2018**.

Important points to note are:

- We need your full name, email and postal addresses, telephone number and the application number with your submission so we can keep you updated.
- Try to use specific examples to support your comments.
- Your comments and personal information will be publicly available. Under the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009, anyone can apply to view submissions. They may also be included in Council reports, which are made available on our website, or in court proceedings.
- There are some legal requirements to consider when making a submission especially in relation to political donations or gifts.
- Email your submission to us at tareecouncil@midcoast.nsw.gov.au. Email is now our preferred method of communication but post is also accepted.

For more information on making a submission, see our website or contact us on 6592 5399.

Yours sincerely

Planning & Natural Systems





[REDACTED]

From:

[REDACTED]
Wednesday, 21 February 2018 1:41 PM

Sent:

To:

Community; [REDACTED]

Subject:

Community Strategic Plan.

I would like to comment on the design of this Online Survey and how the results may be used.

All of the virtues shown are obviously desirable and the bulk of respondents are likely to “strongly agree”. However we have seen these surveys in the past and have seen many examples of where the sentiments have been ignored by Council. It is plain that the overall desire of Council is to program an increase in the rate base in the forlorn hope that it will be placed on a better financial footing, when we have seen programs like this deliver a backlog of asset depreciation over the last 30 years as service chases growth.

Overall I feel the Survey is baiting a logic based answer.

[REDACTED]

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 16 February 2018 9:35 AM
To: Community
Subject: Comments on the strategic plan regarding Tea Gardens/Hawks Nest
Attachments: KATE WASHINGTON.doc

I have read the plan, and while its sentiments are admirable it is more like a mission statement than a plan. It has no specifics. And since coming to live in Tea Gardens I have found this to be the case. It is extremely difficult to get specific information. The whole community seems to thrive on rumour and gossip with little or no hard fact. For example:

- 1) It was rumoured that a relief road is going to be built around the COLES/PUMA intersection to relieve construction and holiday traffic?????. Nothing more has been heard.
- 2) It was rumoured about a year ago that the Surf Club had received A\$800,000 in funding for development. Nothing is visible to date.
- 3) It is rumoured that the Aboriginal community have sold land near the golf course in Hawks Nest to a developer who will build town houses. In order to do this the club house will have to be demolished and relocated??????????
- 4) It is rumoured that about 1,500 new homes/units will be built in Hawks Nest, and some will exceed the current limit of 4 stories?????

If you sincerely want to involve the community in your future planning then specific plans have to be published openly and in a timely fashion. This will quash rumour and speculation, and the mistrust of the political process.

In any case I attach my specific plan for Tea Gardens/Hawks Nest for your consideration.

Best Regards

[REDACTED]

TEA GARDENS/HAWKS NEST DEVELOPMENT

In line with your confident statements that we should “celebrate our unique heritage” . . . stress the “individual qualities of towns villages and special places”, and . . . create “villages that are vibrant, commercial, cultural and social hubs” I outline my plan below for your consideration.

My primary concern is the intersection at COLES and the PUMA petrol station. It is a serious accident waiting to happen. Even out-of-season it is busy with additional traffic for the medical centre and the home improvement store. At holiday times it is manic – with many of the visitors trailing caravans and large boats that inhibit their vision and maneuverability. And the majority of local drivers are elderly, and not confident in heavy complex traffic. What happens when SHEARGOLD start to develop their 800 new homes at Myall Quays and add construction traffic to the mix?

My second concern is the river frontage in Tea Gardens. It is charming, with its boat landings and retro ferry boats to Nelson Bay – and three excellent restaurants/cafes (TILLERMANS, the BOATSHED, and MUMMS), and of course the OYSTER SHACK at the top end of town. But there are too many empty commercial lots awaiting development – in particular that large prime lot alongside the Tea Gardens Hotel. How long is it going to be before somebody opens a MacDonaldis, Pizza Hut or KFC along the riverfront?

In Spain, where we lived for 23 years, almost every small town has a Casa de Cultura (House of Culture) funded by the Provincial and Federal governments. Depending on the size of the town it has a library, a theatre/cinema/performance space – and rehearsal studios for musicians.

Hawks Nest is the sun, sand and surf family resort centred on the (underdeveloped) Surf Club, and caravan parks. That type of family centric holidays should be encouraged – and not the “schoolies” type of culture seen on The Gold Coast. There are many such well-developed surfing communities along the Northern Beaches and Central Coast that can provide role models.

Without going overboard I believe that Tea Gardens could develop a separate and distinct identity as a quirkier more artistic community that could enhance the cultural life of the

local populace and region – and attract high added value visitors from Newcastle – and possibly Sydney – to fund the development. Good examples are Byron Bay or Noosa in Queensland.

Therefore I suggest that the open lot next to the Hotel be developed with State and Federal funding as a Casa de Cultura, incorporating a library, theatre/cinema/ performance space, and rehearsal studio.

The present library facility could be relocated to the Casa de Cultura to address my third concern, the lack of facilities for young people that is a potential for developing a drug and crime problem. While the Tea Gardens population is heavily skewed towards retirees, there is also a significant number of young people in Tea Gardens /Hawks Nest - with not much to do.

The local PCYC on their own initiative have started a Boxing Club to keep youths off the streets – and teach them discipline and self-respect. It now has about 35 members. And the Lionesses have contributed AUD 2,000 to help this wonderful initiative. But PCYC has no regular venue for their activities or safe storage for their equipment.

I believe that the present site of the open-air pool/library should be developed to include a year round indoor pool and gymnasium, and basketball court/boxing/karate/tae kwon do arena. If you visit any Sydney suburb you will find such sports centres owned by the local council – but operated on contract by commercial sports companies such as the YMCA. Maybe PCYC could operate this facility as they do in Maitland and Broadmeadow?

I know that my plans are ambitious and expensive – and it must be a nightmare trying to allocate scarce funds across all the communities in the area. But increasing road deaths, drugs and crime among the young – and dementia in the elderly, are the Swords of Damocles that hang over our heads and need addressing now. Such a development of Tea Gardens could provide a road map for the future. When we first moved here almost 3 years ago I wrote to the Council in Forster, Kate Washington and David Gillepsie along similar lines, and only Kate Washington bothered to respond.

One last criticism. We have lived in many different countries, and while Australia is laid back and friendly, with good food and wine, it is expensive (we have English friends who have been here once and will never come back) and the level of service is poor compared to Europe, and appalling compared with the USA.

Since living here we have visited Forster, Stroud and Gloucester. Without exception the food has been good – but the cafes/restaurants were shabby/grubby, and the service casual and unprofessional. Tables were left uncleared, and seldom wiped down.

I understand that there is an initiative of either the federal or state government to provide subsidies for the vocational training in the hospitality industry – and café/restaurant owners can receive funds to have their staff trained. This would be a positive initiative for the Mid-Coast in the competitive tourist industry.