

## COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

We are heading back around the region for Community Conversations at the end of this month and into November.



We had a great response to our visits earlier in the year and gathered lots of information from those who attended on what's important to our communities.

When we return this time we'll be providing updates on what we have done and have planned in the areas prioritised by the community. There will be opportunities to ask questions of us and find out what's planned for your area of the MidCoast.

Keep an eye on our website [midcoast.nsw.gov.au/conversations](http://midcoast.nsw.gov.au/conversations) for the schedule of where we will be and when.

### HAVE YOUR SAY

We strive to develop opportunities for involvement in decision-making and policy development wherever we can. To check out what projects we're currently seeking feedback from the community on, to ask questions or leave comments head to [midcoast.nsw.gov.au/hys](http://midcoast.nsw.gov.au/hys)



### Pound register

**Pets are an important member of the family, which is why we're committed to helping reunite lost pets with their owners.**

If you lose your pet, check [midcoast.nsw.gov.au/lostpet](http://midcoast.nsw.gov.au/lostpet) then contact us and quote the pet's 'pound number'. **Listings are online for 14 days only.**

If space permits, the pet may remain in our pound while we continue to search for the owner. They may also be offered to a partner animal shelter for care and rehoming. You can subscribe to receive email updates from the pound register.

### Keep updated on our move to Biripi Way

We are progressing on our office relocation project. For more information go to [midcoast.nsw.gov.au/headoffice](http://midcoast.nsw.gov.au/headoffice)



### Support for university project

We are looking forward to providing support and assistance to shape the future of higher education in our region, by being part of a new steering committee, formed to support the development of a larger university presence in the MidCoast region.

Federal Member for Lyne Dr David Gillespie MP announced he will be working with key stakeholders to secure funding for greater educational opportunities in the MidCoast.

We strongly support the push to provide greater opportunities for both high school leavers and mature age students and this is also an opportunity to use our Pulteney Street office, once administration functions centralise to Biripi Way, Taree.

Council will be represented on the Taree Universities Campus steering committee, established by Dr Gillespie to progress the initiative, along with representatives from the University of Newcastle and University of New England, among others.

### Water restrictions

With continued drought conditions affecting NSW, water restrictions are in force across the MidCoast region heading into summer.

While saving water is always a good move for the environment and your pocket, we urge everyone to comply with current water restrictions. For updates and water restriction information see [midcoast.nsw.gov.au/waterrestrictions](http://midcoast.nsw.gov.au/waterrestrictions) or visit your local Council office.





# CROSSING OFF OUR TIMBER BRIDGES

542 bridges across our region help connect our communities.

The system of waterways we enjoy as part of our natural environment means that bridges are an important feature in our transport network. Replacing our timber bridges with newer concrete structures not only delivers on our value-for-money approach by minimising ongoing maintenance costs, it improves the safety and accessibility of our roads. In many cases, the design involves widening the bridge to two-lanes, in some it provides an opportunity to address flood immunity, and in others it means load restrictions can be removed.



The recently reconstructed Milbai Creek Bridge, Tinonee is a two lane concrete bridge designed to modern loadings. It provides a wider, safer and more seamless thoroughfare for local traffic.

There are currently three bridge replacement projects in progress: Cedar Creek Bridge (Willina Rd, Bunyah); Callaghans Creek Bridge (Cundle Flat); and Little Cedar Party Creek Bridge (Comboyne Rd, Cedar Party). Other projects are due to commence at Bulahdelah, Burrell Creek, Possum Brush, Bucca Wauka, Wingham, Wards River, Weismantels and on Nowendoc Road.

Our timber bridge replacement program is funded by Council and the NSW Government as part of the \$100M Road Upgrade Package, and its importance acknowledged by additional funding provided through the Australian Government's Bridges Renewal Program. Visit [midcoast.nsw.gov.au/roads](http://midcoast.nsw.gov.au/roads) to find out more or to search for bridge replacements and roadworks near you.



## Playground shade

MidCoast's younger residents are benefitting with work underway to provide shade over playgrounds.

Forster's Palmgrove Park and Tuncurry's Lone Pine Park, two of the MidCoast's most popular playgrounds, have had shade installed ahead of the summer season. Installation of playground shade at Allan Park Stroud has also been completed recently.

Our shade program will roll out later this year to playgrounds at Central Park, Wingham and Coolongolook Oval, and is funded through a NSW Government's Stronger Country Communities grant.

As a separate project, the region's first inclusive play space 'Livvi's Place' at Fotheringham Park in Taree will include shade over the new play space due to open in time for summer.

## The best sort in your street

Kerbside recycling bins are now part of our everyday... but about 10% of the items placed in yellow bins across the MidCoast aren't recyclable and have to be removed during a manual sorting process.

Do you know "what goes in the yellow bin"?

### The usual suspects:

- Cardboard, newspapers, junk mail, glass bottles and jars, rigid plastic containers, and aluminium cans

### Not as well-known:

- Aerosol cans (empty)
- Yogurt containers
- Juice, milk and long life cartons
- Shampoo / conditioner bottles
- Pizza boxes (empty)

### Definitely do not!

These go in your general waste, red bin:

- Disposable nappies
- Soft plastics (eg. bread bags, cling wrap)
- Rope
- Shopping docketts
- Polystyrene (eg. meat trays)

Recycling not only reduces the amount of waste ending up in our landfills, it's important for our environment. For a full list of what you can (and can't) put in your yellow bin visit [midcoast.nsw.gov.au/waste](http://midcoast.nsw.gov.au/waste)

## Part of your everyday

Your rates allow us to provide a broad range of services right across the MidCoast, helping to make our region a vibrant and enjoyable place to live, work and play. Along with maintaining local roads and collecting kerbside bins, there are hundreds of different services you use every day... some you probably rarely think about, but you'd miss them if they weren't there. Keep up to date on what's happening around our region by registering for our weekly news wrap-up. Visit [midcoast.nsw.gov.au/everyday](http://midcoast.nsw.gov.au/everyday)

### Contact us

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Email [council@midcoast.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@midcoast.nsw.gov.au)

or message us on Facebook [f MidCoastCouncil](https://www.facebook.com/MidCoastCouncil)

To report an issue or request a service complete the form at [midcoast.nsw.gov.au/report](http://midcoast.nsw.gov.au/report)

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