



Central Coast Council

Ordinary Council Meeting

Held in the Council Chamber
2 Hely Street, Wyong

23 September 2025

MINUTES

Present

Mayor Lawrie McKinna
Deputy Mayor Doug Eaton OAM
Councillor Margot Castles
Councillor Helen Crowley
Councillor Kyla Daniels
Councillor Corinne Lamont (remotely)
Councillor Kyle MacGregor
Councillor John McNamara
Councillor Trent McWaide
Councillor John Mouland
Councillor Belinda Neal
Councillor Jane Smith
Councillor Sharon Walsh
Councillor Jared Wright

Absent

Councillor Rachel Stanton (Leave of Absence)

In Attendance

Marissa Racomelara	Acting Chief Executive Officer
Boris Bolgoff	Director Infrastructure Services
Luke Nicholls	Director Environment and Planning
Jamie Loader	Director Water and Sewer
Edward Hock	Acting Director Corporate Services
Melanie Smith	Director Community and Recreation Services

Notes

The Mayor, Lawrie McKinna, declared the meeting open at 6:32pm and advised in accordance with the Code of Meeting Practice that the meeting was being recorded.

The Mayor gave an Acknowledgment of Country.

A PROCEDURAL MOTION was *MOVED* by Mayor McKinna and *SECONDED* by Deputy Mayor Eaton OAM:

That Councillor Stanton be granted leave of absence from 23 September 2025 to 24 September 2025.

CARRIED

FOR: UNANIMOUS

A PROCEDURAL MOTION was *MOVED* by Mayor McKinna:

That Council approves the request by Councillor Lamont to attend the Council Meeting on 23 September 2025 at 6:30pm by audio-visual link as she is unable to attend in person due to personal reasons.

The Motion was put to the vote and declared **CARRIED**

FOR: CRS MCKINNA, MOULAND, DANIELS, MACGREGOR, CASTLES, CROWLEY, WALSH, NEAL, SMITH, LAMONT, EATON OAM, WRIGHT AND MCNAMARA

AGAINST: CR MCWAIDE

PROCEDURAL ITEMS

1.1 Disclosure of Interest

6.35pm

Cr Castles disclosed a non-pecuniary, non-significant interest in Item 5.2 – Community and Culture Committee Recommendations – CCC25/25 – Memorandum of Understanding – Ongoing contribution to Football Facilities Upgrades – For Chief Executive Officer signature, as she has close family members who play for Football Clubs on the Central Coast and she will remain in Chambers for discussion and voting on the item.

Cr Castles disclosed a non-pecuniary, non-significant interest in - Item 6.12 – Community Sports Grant Program as a member of the Ourimbah Region Residents Association Incorporated – a successful recipient, is known to her through another community organisation which they are both involved in and she will remain in Chambers for discussion and voting on the item.

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council (cont'd)

Cr Lamont noted for transparency that with regard to Item 8.1- Recission Motion - Coastal Erosion Motion - that she is a member of the SOS Facebook community group and declared that under Clause 5.3 of the Code of Conduct, this does not constitute a conflict of interest. She also declared she has no private interest in the matter or close personal relationship with anyone who has a private interest in the matter. She will remain in the meeting and participate in discussion and voting on this item.

Cr Neal disclosed a non-pecuniary, significant conflict of interest in Item 6.10 - Proposed Amendments to 2025-26 Fees and Charges - Parking Stations - For Public Exhibition as her husband is on the Newcastle University Council that is negotiating with Council to rent spaces and will leave chambers during discussion and not participate in voting on the item.

Cr Daniels disclosed a non-pecuniary, non-significant interest to Item 5.2 - Community and Culture Committee - Minutes and Recommendations - September 2025 – CCC25/25, as she is an acquaintance of the CEO of CCF Alex Burgin having been a team member of Team Central Coast. She will remain in the meeting and participate in discussion and voting on the item.

1.2 Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting

6.39pm

A MOTION was *MOVED* by Councillor WRIGHT and *SECONDED* by Councillor NEAL:

770/25

That Council confirms the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 23 August 2025 as read and a true record of the Meeting.

The Motion was put to the vote and declared **CARRIED**

FOR: CRS MCKINNA, MOULAND, DANIELS, MACGREGOR, CASTLES, CROWLEY, WALSH, NEAL, LAMONT, EATON OAM, MCWAIDE, WRIGHT AND MCNAMARA

AGAINST: CR SMITH

1.3 Items Resolved by Exception

6:43pm

A MOTION was *MOVED* by Councillor MCNAMARA and *SECONDED* by Councillor WRIGHT:

771/25

That Council determines that the report recommendation for the following items on Council's Agenda be adopted without debate:

- a) Item 1.4 - Notice of Intention to Deal with Matters in a Confidential Session***
- b) Item 3.1 – Water and Sewer Security of Critical Infrastructure – Annual Report 2025***
- c) Item 6.4 – Final Report on Performance Improvement Order (PIO) – Submission to OLG for Information***
- d) Item 6.8 – Council Services during Union Picnic Day 2025 and the Christmas 2025 – New Year Period 2026 – For Information***
- e) Item 6.12 – Community Support Grant Program – July 2025***

CARRIED

FOR: UNANIMOUS

A PROCEDURAL MOTION *was MOVED by Mayor MCKINNA AND SECONDED by Councillor Moulard:*

That Council suspend standing orders and consider the following items first, and then the remaining items in agenda sequence:

- a) Item 7.3 Notice of Motion – Reconstruction of Umina Beach Public Toilet***
- b) Item 8.1 Recission Motion – Coastal Erosion Motion***

CARRIED

FOR: UNANIMOUS

1.4 Notice of Intention to Deal with Matters in a Confidential Session

RESOLVED by EXCEPTION on the MOTION of Councillor McNamara and SECONDED by Councillor Wright:

- 1 That Council resolves that the following matter be dealt with in closed session, pursuant to s. 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993 for the following reasons:***

Item 10.1 – Confidential Mayoral Minute – Chief Executive Performance Review

Reason for considering in closed session: The report is confidential in accordance with section 10A(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 1993 as the report is in regard to personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than Councillors).

- 2 That the Council request the Acting Chief Executive Officer to report on this matter in open session of Council so that any resolutions of Council may be made publicly available.***

MAYORAL MINUTES

2.1 Local Surfer is a World Champion

6:48pm

A MAYORAL MINUTE *was MOVED by Mayor MCKINNA:*

That this Mayoral Minute be received and noted.

CARRIED

FOR: UNANIMOUS

2.2 Strategic Partnership: Central Coast and Lake Macquarie City Councils

6:50pm

A MAYORAL MINUTE was *MOVED* by Mayor MCKINNA:

772/25

That Council:

- 1 *Endorses the Partnership Agreement between Central Coast Council and Lake Macquarie City Council (Attachment 1).***
- 2 *Nominates the Central Coast Council Mayor and Deputy Mayor to join the Partnership Committee. Councillor MacGregor and Councillor Crowley will act as alternate members.***
- 3 *Authorises the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer to execute the Partnership Agreement on behalf of Central Coast Council.***
- 4 *Commits to active participation in the Partnership Committee, Steering and Working Groups established under the agreement.***
- 5 *Requests regular updates to Council on progress and outcomes arising from the partnership.***
- 6 *Includes updates on the Partnership Committee as a standing item on Economic Development Committee, with agendas and minutes be available to all Councillors.***

CARRIED

FOR: UNANIMOUS

DEFERRED ITEMS

**3.1 Water and Sewer Security of Critical Infrastructure - Annual Report 2025
Deferred from 26 August 2025 Ordinary Council Meeting**

RESOLVED by EXCEPTION on the MOTION of Councillor McNamara and SECONDED by Councillor Wright:

773/25

That Council endorses the content contained within this report and the confidential attachments, to form the basis of the Security of Critical Infrastructure Annual Report to be submitted to the Department of Home Affairs through their on-line platform.

FINANCIAL ITEMS

4.1 Monthly Investment Report August 2025

7:25pm

A MOTION was *MOVED* by Councillor WRIGHT and *SECONDED* by Councillor MCNAMARA:

774/25

That Council:

- 1 Notes the Investment Report for August 2025.**
- 2 Notes that the August 2025 unrestricted funds deficit in the Drainage Fund is offset by the unrestricted funds available in the General Fund.**

CARRIED

FOR: UNANIMOUS

4.2 Monthly Finance Report August 2025 and FY2024-25 Results

7:26pm

A MOTION was *MOVED* by Councillor WRIGHT and *SECONDED* by Councillor MCNAMARA:

775/25

That Council receives the Monthly Financial Report – August 2025

CARRIED

FOR: UNANIMOUS

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

5.1 Environment and Planning Committee - Minutes and Recommendations - September 2025

7:27pm

A MOTION was *MOVED* by Deputy Mayor EATON OAM and *SECONDED* by Councillor MCNAMARA:

776/25

That Council:

- 1 Receives and notes the minutes of the Environment and Planning Committee meeting held 2 September 2025.**
- 2 Adopts the recommendations of the Environment and Planning Committee (excluding EPC63/25) in the below resolutions.**

EPC64/25 - Somersby and Kariong Catchments Overland Flood Study - For Public Exhibition

That Council endorses the draft Somersby and Kariong Catchments Overland Flood

Study being placed on public exhibition for a period of four (4) weeks.

EPC66/25 - Review of Water and Sewer Recycled Water Quality Policy

That Council endorses the draft Recycled Water Policy 2025 for public exhibition and consider a further report on the outcome of the exhibition and adoption of the Recycled Water Policy.

EPC70/25 - Fire Safety Report - 56-58 Ocean Parade, The Entrance
That Council:

- I. Notes the Fire Safety Inspection Report received from Fire & Rescue NSW, (enclosed as Attachment 1), in accordance with Section 17(2)(a) of Part 8 of Schedule 5 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.***
- II. Resolves to receive a further report on the matter in accordance with Section 17(2)(b) of Part 8 of Schedule 5 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, following Council Officers review of the Fire Safety Inspection Report.***

EPC71/25 Fire Safety Report - 2 Alexandra Street Budgewoi
That Council:

- I. Notes the result of the site inspection at 2 Alexandra Street, Budgewoi conducted by Council Officers on 10 July 2025 in respect of fire safety matters following the earlier receipt of a Fire Safety Inspection Report from Fire & Rescue NSW.***
- II. Resolves to not issue an Order (Order 1 under Part 2 of Schedule 5 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979) with respect to the matters as raised within the Fire Safety Inspection Report received from Fire & Rescue NSW.***
- III. Advises the Commissioner of Fire and Rescue NSW of its decision.***

EPC72/25 - Community Participation Plan – For Adoption – Deferred from Ordinary Council Meeting 26 August 2025

That Council adopts the Community Participation Plan 2025-29.

CARRIED
FOR: UNANIMOUS

EPC63/25 - Mountain Road Precinct

A MOTION was MOVED by Deputy Mayor EATON OAM and SECONDED by Councillor WALSH:

777/25

1 That Council:

- I. Investigates the following in the 2025-26 Financial Year:***

- a) *Preparation of an Infrastructure Implementation Plan for the Mountain Road Precinct.*
 - b) *Local Infrastructure Contribution requirements for the Mountain Road Precinct, including review of road designs for Mountain Road.*
 - c) *Funding options with Transport for NSW and landowners/developers for upgrades to the intersections at Mountain Road/Sparks Road and Albert Warner Drive/Sparks Road.*
 - d) *Review planning controls and investigate preparation of a Mountain Road Development Control Plan Chapter.*
 - e) *Review of the draft Central Coast Strategic Conservation Plan being prepared by the Department of Planning Housing and Infrastructure (once available) to determine the impact it will have on proposed development within the precinct.*
 - f) *Completion of a road safety audit for Mountain Road.*
- II. *Facilitates a workshop between Transport for NSW, Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure, Council and landowners/developers for agreement for funding of upgrades to intersections at Mountain Road/Sparks Road and Albert Warner Drive/Sparks Road and a timeline for their delivery.*
- III. *Facilitates a workshop between Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, Department of Planning Housing and Infrastructure, Council and Landowner/Developers to determine a path for biodiversity certification for the site, should the Central Coast Strategic Conservation Plan not provide a suitable outcome for the precinct.*
- IV. *Prepares and exhibits a Section 7.11 Local Infrastructure Contribution Plan for the Mountain Road Precinct.*
- V. *Prepares and exhibits a Development Control Plan Chapter for the Mountain Road Precinct.*
- VI. *Provides a report on the outcomes of the consultation process for the Mountain Road Precinct draft Section 7.11 local Infrastructure Contribution Plan and draft Mountain Road Precinct draft Development Control Chapter be reported to the Environment and Planning Committee.*
- VII. *Endorses the Environment and Planning Committee to seek a briefing from the Department of Planning Housing and Infrastructure on the draft Central Coast Strategic Conservation Plan.*
- VIII. *Requests the Chief Executive Officer to write to Transport for NSW and Department of Planning Housing and Infrastructure requesting urgent funding and acceleration of a solution to the State infrastructure issues in the Mountain Road Precinct and a briefing to this committee and the Infrastructure and Assets committee combined*

2 That all Councillors participate in a workshop on this project as soon as

practicable.

The Motion was put to the vote and declared **CARRIED**

FOR: CRS MCKINNA, MOULAND, DANIELS, MACGREGOR, CASTLES, CROWLEY, WALSH, NEAL,
LAMONT, EATON OAM, MCWAIDE, WRIGHT AND MCNAMARA

AGAINST: CR SMITH

5.2 Community and Culture Committee - Minutes and Recommendations - September 2025

7:40pm

A MOTION was *MOVED* by Councillor CASTLES and *SECONDED* by Councillor EATON OAM:

778/25

That Council:

1 Receives and notes the minutes of the Community and Culture Committee meeting held on 9 September 2025.

2 Adopts the recommendations of the Community and Culture Committee (excluding CCC23/25 and CCC25/25) in the below resolutions:

***CCC18/25 - Draft Grants and Sponsorship Policies - For Public Exhibition – Deferred
That Council:***

- I. Endorses the draft Community Grants Policy and associated Guidelines, as set out in Attachments 1, 3, 4, 5 to this report, be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.***
- II. Supports and adopts the re-establishment of a Sponsorship Program commencing in 2026-27 financial year.***
- III. Supports and adopts the reduction of the Community Grants program budget by 15% and reallocate this money to the Sponsorship Program from the 2026-27 financial year.***
- IV. Supports the draft Sponsorship Program Policy as set out in Attachment 2 to this report and endorses that it be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days***

***CCC22/25 - Memorials in Public Places Policy - For Public Exhibition
That Council:***

- I. Endorses the draft Memorials in Public Places Policy, as outlined in Attachment 1 to this report, to be placed on public exhibition for a period of 42 days.***
- II. Notes that a further report will be provided to the Community and Culture Committee on the outcomes of the community consultation following the period***

of public exhibition.

CCC24/25 - Rugby League World Cup 2026 - Request for Proposal Training Venue That Council:

- I. Endorses the submission of a formal proposal to host a Base Training Camp, at the Central Coast Regional Sporting and Recreation Complex in Tuggerah, for international teams participating in the Rugby League World Cup 2026.***
- II. Considers the options for financial contribution and supports the recommendation of a \$31,246.05 (50%) fee reduction as outlined in Option B of the 'Rugby League World Cup 2026 - Request for Proposal Training Venue' report.***

CARRIED

FOR: UNANIMOUS

CCC23/25 - Community Engagement Report - Outcomes of the Connecting with Community Groups and Organisations Expressions of Interest (EOI)

A MOTION was MOVED by Councillor LAMONT and SECONDED by Councillor SMITH:

That Council:

- I. Notes the outcomes, insights and analysis of the Connecting with Community Groups and Organisations Expressions of Interest (EOI).*
- II. Endorses the nine (9) 'actions' as outlined within this report, subject to the following amendments:*
 - a) Council sets measurable targets to address under-representation from specific wards and groups, with annual reporting on progress.*
 - b) Council commits to ensuring that input from community groups is explicitly referenced in Council reports and linked to decision-making, budgeting, and planning outcomes.*
 - c) Council consults the community in unrepresented wards on interest in establishing a precinct-based community group, and if there is interest, Council develops and trials at least one precinct model within the next 12 months.*
 - d) Council provides a clear framework for Councillor accountability in engaging with community groups and precinct groups in their wards.*
 - e) Requests the Chief Executive Officer to provide a report to the next Community and Culture Committee on what active support, if any, Council officers provide to community groups in terms of capacity building, community sustainability and or emergency preparedness.*

AN AMENDMENT was MOVED by Deputy Mayor EATON OAM and SECONDED by Councillor MCNAMARA:

That Council:

- I. Notes the outcomes, insights and analysis of the Connecting with Community Groups*

and Organisations Expressions of Interest (EOI).

- II. *Endorses the nine (9) 'actions' as outlined within the Community Engagement Report - Outcomes of the Connecting with Community Groups and Organisations Expressions of Interest (EOI) report.*

The Amendment was put to the vote, declared **CARRIED** on the casting vote of the Mayor

FOR: CRS MCKINNA, MOULAND, DANIELS, EATON OAM, MCWAIDE, WRIGHT AND MCNAMARA

AGAINST: CRS MACGREGOR, CASTLES, CROWLEY, WALSH, NEAL, SMITH AND LAMONT

A FURTHER AMENDMENT was *MOVED* by Councillor MCNAMARA and *SECONDED* by Deputy Mayor EATON OAM:

779/25

That Council:

- I. Notes the outcomes, insights and analysis of the Connecting with Community Groups and Organisations Expressions of Interest (EOI).***
- II. Endorses the nine (9) 'actions' as outlined within the Community Engagement Report - Outcomes of the Connecting with Community Groups and Organisations Expressions of Interest (EOI) report.***
- III. Requests the Chief Executive Officer to provide a report to the next Community and Culture Committee on what active support, if any, Council officers provide to community groups in terms of capacity building, community sustainability and/or emergency preparedness.***

The Amendment was put to the vote, declared **CARRIED**, and became the Motion

FOR: CRS MCKINNA, MOULAND, DANIELS, NEAL, SMITH, EATON OAM, MCWAIDE, WRIGHT AND MCNAMARA

AGAINST: CRS MACGREGOR, CASTLES, CROWLEY, WALSH AND LAMONT

CCC25/25 - Memorandum of Understanding - Ongoing Contribution to Football Facilities Upgrades - for CEO Signature

A MOTION was *MOVED* by Councillor CASTLES and *SECONDED* by Councillor MCNAMARA:

780/25

That Council requests the Chief Executive Officer executes the Memorandum of Understanding between Central Coast Council and Central Coast Football.

The Motion was put to the vote and declared **CARRIED** on the casting vote of the Mayor

FOR: CRS MCKINNA, MOULAND, DANIELS, EATON OAM, MCWAIDE, WRIGHT AND MCNAMARA

AGAINST: CRS MACGREGOR, CASTLES, CROWLEY, WALSH, NEAL, SMITH AND LAMONT

REPORTS

6.1 Water and Sewer IPART Pricing Submission 2026-2031 and Attestation - For Endorsement

8:02pm

A MOTION was *MOVED* by Deputy Mayor EATON OAM and *SECONDED* by Councillor

MOULAND:

781/25

That Council:

- 1 Receives and notes the Water and Sewer IPART Pricing Submission prepared in accordance with the IPART 3Cs framework.***
- 2 Acknowledges that the submission has been prepared with consideration of customer outcomes, cost efficiency, and credibility.***
- 3 Delegates authority to the Mayor to complete and sign the attestation required under Appendix F of the IPART Water Regulation Handbook (July 2023), confirming that:***
 - a) The submission is endorsed by Council as promoting the long-term interests of customers.***
 - b) The submission is prepared with the best available information of the business's financial and operational affairs.***
 - c) The submission has undergone appropriate quality assurance and reflects the best available information.***
- 4 Notes that the submission will be lodged with IPART by 30 September 2025 in accordance with the regulatory timeline.***

The Motion was put to the vote and declared **CARRIED**

FOR: CRS MCKINNA, MOULAND, DANIELS, NEAL, SMITH, EATON OAM, MCWAIDE, WRIGHT AND MCNAMARA

AGAINST: CRS MACGREGOR, CASTLES, CROWLEY, WALSH AND LAMONT

6.2 Unaudited Central Coast Council Financial Statements 2024-25 - For referral to Audit

8:22pm

A MOTION was *MOVED* by Councillor MOULAND and *SECONDED* by Councillor MCWAIDE:

That Council:

- 1 Notes that the unaudited Central Coast Council Financial Statements for the period from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 are presented to Council, comprising General Purpose Financial Statements, Special Purpose Financial Statements and Special Schedules.***
- 2 Signs the "Statement by Councillors and Management" for the Central Coast***

Council Financial Statements for the period from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025. The Statements are to be signed by the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Chief Executive Officer, and the Responsible Accounting Officer.

- 3 Resolves, for the purposes of s. 413(1) of the LG Act, to refer the Central Coast Council Financial Statements for the period from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025, to the Audit Office of New South Wales, for external audit.***
- 4 Notes that the Central Coast Council Financial Statements for the period from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 were considered by the Audit, Risk, and Improvement Committee at their meeting on 16 September 2025.***

AN AMENDMENT was MOVED by Councillor MACGREGOR and SECONDED by Councillor CASTLES:

That Council:

- 1 Notes that the unaudited Central Coast Council Financial Statements for the period from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 are presented to Council, comprising General Purpose Financial Statements, Special Purpose Financial Statements and Special Schedules.*
- 2 Signs the "Statement by Councillors and Management" for the Central Coast Council Financial Statements for the period from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025. The Statements are to be signed by the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Chief Executive Officer, and the Responsible Accounting Officer.*
- 3 Resolves, for the purposes of s. 413(1) of the LG Act, to refer the Central Coast Council Financial Statements for the period from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025, to the Audit Office of New South Wales, for external audit.*
- 4 Notes that the Central Coast Council Financial Statements for the period from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 were considered by the Audit, Risk, and Improvement Committee at their meeting on 16 September 2025.*
- 5 Seeks an audit by an independent party.*

The Motion was put to the vote and declared **LOST** on the casting vote of the Mayor

FOR: CRS MACGREGOR, CASTLES, CROWLEY, WALSH, NEAL, SMITH AND LAMONT

AGAINST: CRS MCKINNA, MOULAND, DANIELS, EATON OAM, MCWAIDE, WRIGHT AND MCNAMARA

A MOTION was MOVED by Councillor MOULAND and SECONDED by Councillor MCWAIDE:
782/25

That Council:

- 1 Notes that the unaudited Central Coast Council Financial Statements for the period from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 are presented to Council, comprising General Purpose Financial Statements, Special Purpose Financial Statements and Special Schedules.***
- 2 Signs the "Statement by Councillors and Management" for the Central Coast***

Council Financial Statements for the period from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025. The Statements are to be signed by the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Chief Executive Officer, and the Responsible Accounting Officer.

- 3 Resolves, for the purposes of s. 413(1) of the LG Act, to refer the Central Coast Council Financial Statements for the period from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025, to the Audit Office of New South Wales, for external audit.***
- 4 Notes that the Central Coast Council Financial Statements for the period from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 were considered by the Audit, Risk, and Improvement Committee at their meeting on 16 September 2025.***
- 5 Extends an invitation to the Chair of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee to deliver an in-person presentation on current initiatives and provide commentary on financial matters.***
- 6 Includes the Office of Local Government benchmarks in the Annual Report or covering report of financials.***

CARRIED

FOR: UNANIMOUS

6.3 Election of Deputy Mayor

A PROCEDURAL MOTION was *MOVED* by Deputy Mayor EATON OAM that the election of the Deputy Mayor be deferred for consideration at the 28 October 2025 Ordinary Council meeting as the current Deputy Mayor has not yet completed their full one-year term.

The Motion was put to the vote and declared **CARRIED** on the casting vote of the Mayor

FOR: CRS MCKINNA, MOULAND, DANIELS, EATON OAM, MCWAIDE, WRIGHT AND MCNAMARA

AGAINST: CRS MACGREGOR, CASTLES, CROWLEY, WALSH, NEAL, SMITH AND LAMONT

6.4 Final Report on the Performance Improvement Order (PIO) - Submission to OLG for Information

RESOLVED by EXCEPTION on the MOTION of Councillor McNamara and SECONDED by Councillor Wright:

783/25

That Council notes the conclusion of the Performance Improvement Order.

6.5 Draft Code of Meeting Practice - For Public Exhibition

8.49pm

A MOTION was *MOVED* by Councillor SMITH and *SECONDED* by Councillor NEAL:

That Council:

- 1 *Endorses the draft Code of Meeting Practice for public exhibition for 28 days and to allow submissions up to 42 days from the date of exhibition.*
- 2 *Notes that a further report will be presented to Council to consider submissions received during exhibition and adopt the Code of Meeting Practice at a future Ordinary Council Meeting.*
- 3 *Amends the Draft Code of Meeting Practice as below:*
 - a) *Section 3.13 - A Councillor is limited to submitting one question with Notice per ordinary meeting under this clause. Removing the last line that a Question with Notice must not comprise of a question with multiple parts to it.*
 - b) *That the last sentence of 3.11 be removed.*

AN AMENDMENT was *MOVED* by Deputy Mayor EATON OAM and *SECONDED* by Councillor MCWAIDE:

784/25

That Council:

- 1 *Endorses the draft Code of Meeting Practice for public exhibition for 28 days and to allow submissions up to 42 days from the date of exhibition.***
- 2 *Notes that a further report will be presented to Council to consider submissions received during exhibition and adopt the Code of Meeting Practice at a future Ordinary Council Meeting.***

The amendment was put to the vote, declared **CARRIED** on the casting vote of the Mayor, and became the Motion

FOR: CRS MCKINNA, MOULAND, DANIELS, EATON OAM, MCWAIDE, WRIGHT AND MCNAMARA

AGAINST: CRS MACGREGOR, CASTLES, CROWLEY, WALSH, NEAL, SMITH AND LAMONT

The Motion was put to the vote and declared **CARRIED**

FOR: CRS MCKINNA, MOULAND, DANIELS, SMITH, EATON OAM, MCWAIDE, WRIGHT AND MCNAMARA

AGAINST: CRS MACGREGOR, CASTLES, CROWLEY, WALSH, NEAL AND LAMONT

6.6 Central Coast Regional Sporting and Recreation Complex Stage 2

9:09pm

A MOTION was *MOVED* by Councillor EATON OAM and *SECONDED* by Councillor MCNAMARA:

785/25

That Council:

- 1 *Continues to utilise the current tender-ready Central Coast Regional Sporting***

and Recreation Complex (CCRSRC) Stage 2 Indoor Facility detailed designs package, based on 2018 stakeholder engagement, to apply for Federal and State grants until revised documents become available.

- 2 Continues promoting the Central Coast Regional Sporting and Recreation Complex Stage 2 Indoor Facility as a Key Enabling Project to the State and Federal Governments.***
- 3 Officers develop staging options to enable funding in smaller tranches should funding of the whole facility be difficult to achieve.***
- 4 Holds a workshop for Councillors on the Central Coast Regional Sporting and Recreation Complex Stage 2 as soon as practicable.***

The Motion was put to the vote and declared **CARRIED** on the casting vote of the Mayor

FOR: CRS MCKINNA, MOULAND, DANIELS, EATON OAM, MCWAIDE, WRIGHT AND MCNAMARA

AGAINST: CRS MACGREGOR, CASTLES, CROWLEY, WALSH, NEAL, SMITH AND LAMONT

6.7 Gosford Regional Library Project Status Update

9:27pm

A MOTION was *MOVED* by Councillor SMITH and *SECONDED* by Councillor WRIGHT:

786/25

That Council:

- 1 Notes the progress on the Gosford Regional Library outlined in this report.***
- 2 Acknowledges and thanks officers, past Councillors, contractors, stakeholders and government funding for their work in delivering the Gosford Regional Library Project to completion.***
- 3 Includes the Mayor's speech from the Official Opening of the Gosford Regional Library in the minutes of this meeting (see addendum).***

CARRIED

FOR: UNANIMOUS

6.8 Council Services during Union Picnic Day 2025 and the Christmas 2025 - New Year Period 2026 - For Information

RESOLVED by *EXCEPTION* on the *MOTION* of Councillor McNamara and *SECONDED* by Councillor Wright:

787/25

That Council:

- 1 Notes the report on essential services in operation on the Union Picnic Day 5 December 2025, Christmas 2025 – New Year 2026 closure period from 24 December 2025 to 2 January 2026 inclusive.***

2 Notes the Customer Service development and training date - Friday 9 January 2026 with customer service being closed.

6.9 Probity Statement - Committees - For Adoption

9.29pm

A MOTION was *MOVED* by Councillor SMITH and *SECONDED* by Councillor LAMONT:

788/25

That the Probity Statement – Committees – For Adoption report be referred to the Governance and Finance committee for further consideration

COUNCILLOR MCWAIDE LEFT THE MEETING AT 9.30PM AND DID NOT TAKE PART IN DISCUSSION OR VOTING

CARRIED

FOR: CRS MCKINNA, MOULAND, DANIELS, MACGREGOR, CASTLES, CROWLEY, WALSH, NEAL, SMITH, LAMONT, EATON OAM, WRIGHT AND MCNAMARA

AGAINST: NIL

COUNCILLOR NEAL LEFT THE MEETING AT 9:31PM DUE TO HER DECLARED INTEREST IN ITEM 6.10 AND DID NOT TAKE PART IN VOTING.

6.10 Proposed Amendments to 2025-26 Fees and Charges – Parking Stations - For Public Exhibition

9.31pm

A MOTION was *MOVED* by Councillor WRIGHT and *SECONDED* by Councillor MOULAND:

789/25

That Council:

- 1. Endorses the public exhibition of the proposed amendments to the 2025-26 Fees and Charges for Parking Stations, as detailed in Attachment 1, for a period of 28 days in accordance with Sections 610F and 705 of the Local Government Act 1993. If no public submissions are received, adopt the fees, and update the Fees and Charges 2025-26 document accordingly.***
- 2. Requests the Chief Executive Officer to provide a draft policy on any advertising on primary Council buildings.***

COUNCILLOR MCWAIDE RETURNED TO THE MEETING AT 9:33PM DURING CONSIDERATION OF THIS ITEM.

CARRIED

FOR: CRS MCKINNA, MOULAND, DANIELS, CASTLES, CROWLEY, WALSH, SMITH, EATON OAM, MCWAIDE, WRIGHT AND MCNAMARA, LAMONT

AGAINST: CRS MACGREGOR

COUNCILLOR NEAL RETURNED TO THE MEETING AT 9:42PM

6.11 Proposed Ordinary Council and Standing Committee Meeting Dates and Locations

9:42pm

A MOTION was *MOVED* by Councillor NEAL and *SECONDED* by Councillor MCNAMARA:

790/25

That Council determines:

- 1 *To hold the November Ordinary Council Meeting on Tuesday 18 November 2025 at 6:30pm (and Public Forum if applicable).***
- 2 *To hold the 4 November 2025 Economic Development Committee, and Environment and Planning Committee meetings at the Gosford Regional Library.***
- 3 *To hold the 11 November 2025 Community and Culture Committee, and Governance and Finance Committee meetings at the Gosford Regional Library.***
- 4 *The Ordinary Council Meeting dates in 2026 as follows:***
 - a) 24 February 2026,***
 - b) 24 March 2026, at Gosford Regional Library***
 - c) 28 April 2026,***
 - d) 26 May 2026, at Gosford Regional Library***
 - e) 29 June 2026,***
 - f) 28 July 2026, at Gosford Regional Library***
 - g) 25 August 2026,***
 - h) 22 September 2026, at Gosford Regional Library***
 - i) 27 October 2026,***
 - j) 24 November 2026, at Gosford Regional Library***
 - k) 8 December 2026.***

CARRIED

FOR: UNANIMOUS

9:58pm

An extension of time for 30 minutes was *MOVED* by Councillor WRIGHT:

FOR: CRS MCKINNA, MOULAND, DANIELS, CASTLES, CROWLEY, WALSH, SMITH, EATON OAM,
 MCWAIDE, WRIGHT AND MCNAMARA, LAMONT

AGAINST: CRS MACGREGOR

6.12 Community Support Grant Program - July 2025

RESOLVED by EXCEPTION on the MOTION of Councillor McNamara and SECONDED by Councillor Wright:

791/25

That Council:

- 1 Allocates \$14,409.42 (inclusive of GST where applicable) from the 2025-26 grants budget to the Community Support Grant program for the month of July as outlined below and in Attachment 1.**
 - a) Mangrove Mountain District Country Fair - Mangrove Mountain & Districts Country Fair Saturday 18 October 2025 - \$2,680.00.**
 - b) Central Coast Hockey Incorporated - Central Coast Indoor Hockey Competition-Venue Hire - \$5,000.00.**
 - c) Shelly Beach Surf Life Saving Club Incorporated – External Community Notice - board - \$783.42.**
 - d) Toukley Neighbourhood Centre Incorporated - Yarn Up & Reclaim-A Mental Health Week Program - \$5,000.00.**
 - e) Central Coast Fly Rodders Incorporated – Meeting rooms rent support - \$616.00.**
 - f) Ourimbah Region Residents Association Incorporated - Public Liability and Hall Hire Subsidy - \$330.00.**
- 2 Declines the following applications, for the reasons indicated in Attachment 1:**
 - a) Electrify Bouddi Incorporated - Electrify Bouddi Membership Management System – limited broader community benefit.**
 - b) Sunnyfield - Cooking Up Life Skills - project is ineligible.**
 - c) Central Coast Hockey Incorporated - Installation of amenities - project is ineligible.**
- 3 Advises the unsuccessful applicants in point 2 (above) and direct them to alternate funding sources if relevant.**

NOTICES OF MOTION

7.1 Notice of Motion - FOGO - Waste Levy Rebate Motion for Local Government NSW Conference

9:59pm

A MOTION was MOVED by Councillor MCNAMARA and SECONDED by Council MOULAND:

792/25

That Council endorses the following motion for consideration at the NSW Local Government Conference being held in Penrith from 23 to 25 November 2025:

“That Local Government NSW calls on the State Government to rebate 50% of the waste levy back to councils for 3 years from 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2029 contingent upon such rebated funds being used for costs relating to the compulsory introduction of FOGO by 30 June 2030.”

CARRIED

FOR: UNANIMOUS

7.2 Notice of Motion - Improving Ettalong Foreshore Amenity

10:05pm

A MOTION was *MOVED* by Councillor MCWAIDE and *SECONDED* by Councillor NEAL:

793/25

That Council:

- 1 Acknowledges the community concern about the current condition of the Ettalong Foreshore including litter, debris, overgrown vegetation, damaged infrastructure and reduced public amenity.***
- 2 Acknowledges the recent grant funding for the 'renourishment and repair' from the Federal Government of \$1.8M through Infrastructure Australia and subject to Councils application through the funding portal.***
- 3 Recognises the importance of Ettalong Foreshore as a valued community visitor destination, particularly in the lead up to the summer season.***
- 4 Directs the Chief Executive Officer to:***
 - a) As soon as reasonably practical, ensure an application is submitted to receive the funding for through Infrastructure Australia.***
 - b) Prepare the necessary plans and reports for the work to commence as soon as possible without delay.***
 - c) Acknowledge the significant work undertaken to bring the Foreshore up to a presentable standard, and request that it be maintained on an ongoing basis to ensure it remains at consistent and respectable level.***
 - d) Ensure priority is given to high-usage community areas within the Foreshore precinct so that they are consistently maintained to a standard that reflects their importance to residents and visitors.***
- 5. Requests the Chief Executive Officer, as part of the 2026-27 budget process, present options for establishing an Emergency Maintenance Fund dedicated to addressing urgent maintenance issues raised by Councillors and residents outside the normal maintenance schedule, with transparent quarterly reporting on the use of these funds.***

CARRIED

FOR: UNANIMOUS

7.3 Notice of Motion - Reconstruction of Umina Beach Public Toilet

7:01pm

A MOTION was *MOVED* by Councillor NEAL and *SECONDED* by Councillor SMITH:

794/25

That Council:

- 1 *Notes that the toilets adjacent to the Umina Beach Surf Club are:***
 - a) Of a poor standard that is inadequate to the present needs of the community; in particular, that the present block does not provide suitable change rooms for the disabled Surfer Group that regularly uses the facilities.***
 - b) Extensively used by residents and tourists accessing the adjacent recreation area and by the popular Twist Festival.***
 - c) 52 years old and are recommended for demolition at the end of life as set out in the Toilet Strategy adopted this year.***
- 2 *Resolves that a design and financial plan for the construction of replacement toilets adjacent to the Umina Beach Surf Club in the 2025-26 year be prepared and that a report be brought to Council which sets out these matters before the end of this year.***

CARRIED

FOR: UNANIMOUS

RESCISSION MOTION

8.1 Recission Motion - Coastal Erosion Motion

7:07pm

A MOTION was *MOVED* by Deputy Mayor EATON OAM AND *SECONDED* BY COUNCILLOR MOULAND:

795/25

That the following motion negatived at the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 26 August 2025 be reconsidered:

That Council:

- 1 *Notes that Council is able to request a Ministerial Authorisation, pursuant to Section 68, NSW Reconstruction Authority Act 2022, for development works via the Reconstruction Authority, in the circumstance where a Reconstruction Area has been declared.***
 - a. Reaffirms its position that while this is the relevant process, Council does not see further temporary works as being appropriate for Wamberal Beach and is instead focusing its efforts on medium-long term solutions.***
- 2 *Notes that a Ministerial Authorisation was granted for temporary emergency coastal protection works at The Entrance North, following an application from Council to the NSW Reconstruction Authority on the expectation that Council***

- would complete its Coastal Management Programs expeditiously.*
- 3 Notes, in regard to coastal protection works at Wamberal, Council's consultant engineers have advised Council, only a terminal protective structure correctly designed in accordance with Council's Engineering Design Requirements can provide an acceptable level of further risk reduction to dwellings while improving and sustaining public beach amenity and public safety.*
 - 4 Notes, a Development Application for a seawall solution at Wamberal is currently under consideration by the Regional Planning Panel and is yet to be determined.*
 - 5 Notes, that Council's draft Open Coast Coastal Management Program was placed on exhibition on 14 July until 25 August 2025 and is the appropriate framework through which permanent protection works should be considered.*
 - 6 Directs the Chief Executive Officer to engage appropriately qualified consultants to develop, in consultation with private landowners, an alternative design for a medium/long term remediation works including sand nourishment underpinned with a rock revetment at Wamberal. This design should be in accordance with Council's Engineering Design Requirement and should offer protection from moderate-severe storm events. Work is to be funded from available funds in the Strategic Priorities Restrictions.*
 - a. Consult with the community by way of a statistically valid survey to gauge community views on a sand covered revetment along Wamberal Beach to protect it against coastal erosion. The survey to be undertaken during the design phase.*
 - b. Results of the survey be considered in the development of the design and that the survey results be reported back to Council.*
 - 7 Upon completion of the design (to be jointly approved by impacted landowners), directs the Chief Executive Officer to lodge a request for a Ministerial Authorisation for such works via a request to the Reconstruction Authority. Implementation of any approved works is to be undertaken at the expense of impacted landowners and in accordance with any conditions of consent.*
 - 8 Notes this design should be in accordance with Council's Engineering Design Requirement, the Coastal Management Framework and should offer protection from moderate-severe storm events. Work is to be funded from available funds in the Strategic Priorities Restrictions.*
 - 9 Directs the Chief Executive Officer as a priority to identify and include a long-term solution for Wamberal as part of the draft Coastal Management Program. Any identified solution should go through an appropriate period of public consultation before being submitted to the Minister for the Environment for certification.*

The Motion was put to the vote and declared **CARRIED** on the casting vote of the Mayor

FOR: CRS MCKINNA, MOULAND, DANIELS, EATON OAM, MCWAIDE, WRIGHT AND MCNAMARA
AGAINST: CRS CASTLES, CROWLEY, WALSH, NEAL, SMITH, LAMONT AND MACGREGOR

A MOTION was *MOVED* by Deputy Mayor EATON OAM AND *SECONDED* BY COUNCILLORS MOULAND:

796/25

That Council:

- 1. Notes that Council is able to request a Ministerial Authorisation, pursuant to Section 68, NSW Reconstruction Authority Act 2022, for development works via the Reconstruction Authority, in the circumstance where a Reconstruction Area has been declared.***
- 2. Reaffirms its position that while this is the relevant process, Council does not see further temporary works as being appropriate for Wamberal Beach and is instead focusing its efforts on medium-long term solutions.***
- 3. Notes that a Ministerial Authorisation was granted for temporary emergency coastal protection works at The Entrance North, following an application from Council to the Reconstruction Authority.***
- 4. Notes, in regard to coastal protection works at Wamberal, Council's consultant engineers have advised Council, only a terminal protective structure correctly designed in accordance with Council's Engineering Design Requirements can provide an acceptable level of further risk reduction to dwellings while improving and sustaining public beach amenity and public safety.***
- 5. Notes, a Development Application for a Seawall solution at Wamberal is currently under consideration by the Regional Planning Panel and is yet to be determined.***
- 6. Directs the Chief Executive Officer to engage appropriately qualified consultants to develop, in consultation with private landowners, an alternative design for a medium/long term remediation works at Wamberal. This design should be in accordance with Council's Engineering Design Requirement and should offer protection from moderate-severe storm events. Alternative design work is to be funded from available funds in the Special Project Reserve. The design should be developed in accordance with the following design principles in order of priority, and should only pursue lower priority design principles where site constraints at certain locations prevent the Engineering Design Requirements from being sufficiently met:***
 - a) Sand nourishment underpinned by a buried flexible terminal rock revetment***
 - b) Sand nourishment underpinned by a tiered rigid terminal protection structure***
 - c) Sand nourishment underpinned by a vertical rigid terminal protection structure***

- 7. Notes that in accordance with this design approach, there may be different design solutions for different parts of the beach, and that each option is intended to be a predominantly buried option most of the time but will also become exposed during significant erosion events.**
- 8. Directs the Chief Executive Officer, upon completion of the design, to lodge a request for a Ministerial Authorisation for such works via a request to the Reconstruction Authority. Implementation of any approved works is to be undertaken at the expense of impacted landowners and in accordance with any conditions of consent.**
- 9. That Council continue to lobby both the NSW Government and Federal Government for offshore sand nourishment. Directs the Chief Executive Officer to again write to relevant Ministers within both Governments, including the NSW Minister for Environment.**

The Motion was put to the vote and declared **CARRIED** on the casting vote of the Mayor

FOR: CRS MCKINNA, MOULAND, DANIELS, EATON OAM, MCWAIDE, WRIGHT AND MCNAMARA
AGAINST: CRS MACGREGOR, CASTLES, CROWLEY, WALSH, NEAL, SMITH AND LAMONT

THAT THE MEETING MOVE INTO CONFIDENTIAL SESSION AT 10.10pm was *MOVED* by Mayor McKinna and *SECONDED* by Deputy Mayor EATON OAM:

CARRIED

FOR: UNANIMOUS

At this stage of the meeting being 10:10pm the meeting moved into Confidential Session with staff, the members of the press and public excluded from the closed session and access to the correspondence and reports relating to the items considered during the course of the closed session being withheld. This action is taken in accordance with Section 10A of the *Local Government Act 1993* as the items listed come within the following provisions:-

10.1 Confidential Mayoral Minute - CEO Performance Review

The reason for dealing with the report confidentially is that it contains personnel matters concerning particular individuals (not including Councillors).

10.1 Confidential Mayoral Minute - CEO Performance Review

10:15pm

A MAYORAL MINUTE was *MOVED* by Mayor MCKINNA

797/25

That Council:

- 1 Adopts the report from the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Performance Review**

Panel on the outcome of the performance review of the CEO for the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 (Attachment 1).

- 2 Adopts the draft Performance Agreement for the next Performance Agreement period from 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 for the CEO (Attachment 2).***
- 3 That the Total Remuneration Package (TRP) of the CEO be increased by 3.5% from the first full pay period after the September Council meeting, due to better than satisfactory performance as set out in clause 8.3 of the Office of Local Government Standard Contract of Employment for General Managers.***
- 4 Resolves, pursuant to section 11(3) of the Local Government Act 1993, that (Attachment 1) and (Attachment 2) to this report remain confidential in accordance with section 10A(2)(a) of the Local Government Act as it contains information regarding personnel matters concerning a particular individual. It is also noted that this is in accordance with the OLG Guidelines for the Appointment and Oversight of General Managers (August 2022).***

COUNCILLOR SMITH LEFT THE MEETING AT 10.57PM AND DID NOT TAKE PART IN VOTING.

The Motion was put to the vote and declared **CARRIED**

FOR: CRS MCKINNA, MOULAND, DANIELS, EATON OAM, MCWAIDE, WRIGHT AND MCNAMARA NEAL

AGAINST: CRS MACGREGOR, CASTLES, CROWLEY, WALSH, AND LAMONT

798/25

That Council:

- 1 Requests that the Chief Executive Officer Review Panel develop Terms of Reference for the Review Panel process and this be brought back to the November 2025 Ordinary Council Meeting.***
- 2 Requests that the Review Panel works with interested Councillors to consider additional ways to improve the process and ensure good governance.***

COUNCILLOR SMITH RETURNED TO THE MEETING AT 10.58PM DURING CONSIDERATION OF THIS ITEM AND TOOK PART IN VOTING

CARRIED

FOR: UNANIMOUS

THAT THE MEETING MOVE INTO OPEN SESSION AT 10:31pm was *MOVED* by Mayor McKinna:

The meeting resumed in open session at 10.31pm

An extension of time for 30 minutes was *MOVED* by Councillor WRIGHT:

CARRIED

FOR: UNANIMOUS

THAT THE MEETING MOVE INTO CONFIDENTIAL SESSION AT 10:32pm was *MOVED* by Mayor McKinna:

CARRIED

FOR: UNANIMOUS

At this stage of the meeting being 10:32pm the meeting moved into Confidential Session with the members of the press and public excluded from the closed session and access to the correspondence and reports relating to the items considered during the course of the closed session being withheld. This action is taken in accordance with section 10A of *the Local Government Act 1993* as the items listed come within the following provisions:-

10.1 Confidential Mayoral Minute - CEO Performance Review

The reason for dealing with the report confidentially is that it contains personnel matters concerning particular individuals (not including Councillors).

THAT THE MEETING MOVE OUT OF CONFIDENTIAL SESSION AT 10:58pm was *MOVED* by Mayor McKinna:

Open Session

The meeting resumed in open session at 10.58pm and the Acting Chief Executive Officer reported on proceedings of the confidential session of the Ordinary Council Meeting.

The Meeting closed at 11.01 pm.

Addendum – Mayor Speech – Gosford Regional Library – Official Opening Event

Event Details	
Title	Gosford Regional Library: Official Opening Event
Date and Time	Friday 5 September 2025 11:30am – 1.30pm
Venue	Gosford Regional Library 123a Donnison Street, Gosford
Mayor Speech details	
Length of speech	5 minutes
Speech notes	

What a proud day this is for the Central Coast.

This \$32.7 million project represents a major achievement for our region.

It was jointly funded through a \$7 million contribution from the Australian Government's Community Development Grants program, alongside Council's developer contributions, special levies collected by the former Gosford City Council, proceeds from asset sales, and funds specifically allocated to this project.

The new Gosford Regional Library is the first of its kind for our region. It stands as an iconic and inspiring building in the heart of the Gosford CBD—a place where our community can connect, create, and collaborate.

Spread across four spacious levels, this modern facility offers far more than books and literacy. It is a vibrant hub for learning, innovation, and community life.

With dedicated spaces for children, quiet study areas, meeting rooms, function spaces, creative zones, and more—it truly reflects the evolving role of libraries in our society.

Some of you may remember the excitement when the idea of a regional library was first proposed back in the mid-1990s.

A special rate was introduced in 1994 to help fund this vision.

The search for the perfect location began in 2018, and by October 2019, this site was selected.

Design concepts followed in 2020, and on 16 October 2022, the Development Application was approved by the Department of Planning and Environment.

Construction officially began in June 2023, and by December, we celebrated the Topping Out Ceremony on the top floor, overlooking Gosford City.

Now, just two years later, we stand here together, witnessing the dream become reality.

This library will serve generations to come. It is a sanctuary for learning, a space for entertainment and quiet reflection, and a place our community can truly call its own.

On behalf of Council and my fellow Councillors, I'd like to extend a big thank you to Lahznimmo Architects, all the construction teams, and our dedicated Council staff who helped bring this incredible project to life.

A special shout-out to Mark Butterfield, Project Manager at Central Coast Council, for his outstanding work throughout this project.

And to the team at North Construction—Matthew Cook (Executive Chairman), John Melvin (CEO), and Joel Price (Project Manager)—thank you for your leadership, dedication, and commitment in helping bring this incredible library to life.

Your vision, dedication, and commitment have been extraordinary.

To the Australian Government—represented today by Dr Gordon Reid MP—thank you for your generous support and the \$7 million contribution that helped make this community asset possible.

Tomorrow, the doors of our new library will officially open to the public.

We'll celebrate with a grand announcement from our Town Crier, guided tours, engaging activities, a ribbon-cutting ceremony, and more.

But most importantly, we'll welcome the community into a space designed for everyone.

From children's areas to function rooms, a sound recording studio, and a Maker Space in partnership with the University of Newcastle—this library embraces the future and invites creativity and connection.

In closing, this remarkable new library is a testament to what we can achieve when we work together for the benefit of our community.

It is a cornerstone of our future—and the future is looking bright.

Thank you for joining us today. Enjoy your tour of the library—and please, come back tomorrow!