

20 NOTICE OF MOTION**20.1 Notice of motion: Councillor Brown - Kiama Police Residence - assistance required**

Councillor Matt Brown has submitted the following Notice of Motion for consideration:

MOTION

That Council write to our new local member, Katelin McInerney MP, requesting support to work with State Government and the Illawarra Local Aboriginal Lands Council on funding to repair the dilapidated police residences on Terralong Street and its consequent use.

Signed Councillor Matt Brown

Councillor information provided**What is the purpose of the motion?**

To seek assistance from the NSW Government to fix the neglected police residence.

Background to the motion

The Kiama Police Residence has been neglected for more than 14 years and it is now becoming unsafe and the “ugly duckling” to our main street. It is a very important heritage building and needs urgent work and then a purpose, eg a restaurant.



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Source of funding

The motion does not involve expenditure of funds not included in the budget.

Chief Executive Officer response

Ownership of this parcel has recently transferred, via an Aboriginal Lands Claim, to the Illawarra Local Aboriginal Lands Council (ILALC). The ILALC are now responsible for maintenance, etc of this asset rather than the NSW Government.

It is understood that the ILALC are exploring various options to obtain the necessary funding to undertake this maintenance works.

Under the provisions of the *Kiama Local Environmental Plan (LEP) 2011* the site is zoned SP2 Infrastructure. This zoning limits the uses permitted on the site to roads and public administration buildings.

The ILALC could also be encouraged to make a submission to the upcoming re-exhibition of the draft Employment Zone Strategy regarding any intentions or future uses of the site.

The condition of the asset is poor and it is in a prominent high value location in the town centre frame.

20.2 Notice of motion: Councillor Larkins - Public WiFi and CCTV infrastructure

Councillor Stuart Larkins has submitted the following Notice of Motion for consideration:

MOTION

That council:

1. Considers as part of the draft 2026-27 Operational Plan and budget, the allocation of funding for establishing a “Kiama Council public WiFi plan” and an updated “Council Operated Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) policy”.
2. As part of any progressing a new plan and policy, considers working and partnering with, the National Broadband Network (NBN) and relevant telecommunication service providers for exploring cost-effective options for providing and extending Public WiFi services across Kiama LGA public spaces and facilities.
3. Also explores cost-effective initiatives and shared services with neighbouring councils via the Illawarra-Shoalhaven Joint Organisation.
4. Notes that in the Kiama Council advocacy document, there is an advocacy initiative for contemporary CCTV infrastructure and as such, requires council to undertake the necessary work and planning so it can successfully advocate for funding from Federal and State Governments.

Signed Councillor Stuart Larkins

Councillor information providedWhat is the purpose of the motion?

This motion is designed to enhance an existing advocacy initiative as part of Council’s advocacy plan, as well as supporting an existing two services that are already provided by Kiama Council.

Background to the motion

This motion has two primary goals, to formally establish the provision of public WiFi services in the Kiama LGA and for ensuring that council does the necessary groundwork for one of its advocacy initiatives: “Contemporary CCTV infrastructure”.

While I have separated each one below, they are inherently linked together as they both relate to shared information technology, connectivity and services and relates to its use by the community.

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20.2 Notice of motion: Councillor Larkins - Public WiFi and CCTV infrastructure (cont)

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Background on Public WiFi

Kiama's existing public WiFi owes its existence to the initial rollout of the NBN in Kiama in 2011. This is due to the installation of Fibre to the Premise (FTTP) infrastructure that exists in the Kiama township

Public WiFi by council was commissioned in 2014 and has had some rollout/coverage on Terralong and Manning Streets, Kiama. The Public WiFi Service also exists at Kiama and Gerringong Library.

There has not been a standalone plan developed for increasing the Public WiFi service in Kiama, including rolling it out to other council facilities as well as in township areas such as Gerringong and Jamberoo

I understand that council considered many years ago, options for extension but due to financial costs it was determined not to proceed. Since that time NBN and telecommunication service providers such as Telstra have begun processes and plans for Public WiFi rollouts. Such examples include Telstra using its old Telstra telephone booths as public WiFi hotspots, as well as the NBN Smart Places program.

Council's Public WiFi page can be found here: <https://kiama.com.au/listings/services/free-wi-fi-services>

Background on CCTV

I'm not as aware of the historical nature of the CCTV rollout in Kiama or when that occurred. I am aware that there is some CCTV infrastructure in the Terralong Street vicinity.

Council had historically a committee which monitored CCTV. Local Governments in NSW, in fact interstate, have established relevant public facing policies and strategies in place for CCTV.

Kiama Council's recent advocacy document, adopted in 2025, has a listed initiative for improving CCTV coverage and infrastructure.

It is specifically detailed in that document that a number of CCTV infrastructure has been rendered inoperative due to thunderstorm and adverse weather events.

There are a number of Australian and NSW Government Grant programs that can assist with CCTV infrastructure, but they require the important ground work by council and established plans to ensure that they are correctly located, easily accessible by the relevant authorities as well as diligently managed and maintained.

Source of funding

2026-27 Operational Plan or if necessary 2027-28 Operational Plan

Chief Executive Officer response

A brief review of historical records confirms that CCTV and Public Wi-Fi occurred around 10 years ago with the assistance of funding and the NBN rollout.

CCTV can provide community surveillance and recording. CCTV can have a positive impact on perceptions of public safety, even though its primary purpose is recording

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data which can then be used as evidence. Often CCTV footage is utilised in insurance claims. CCTV has long been used in communities all around Australia as one method of deterring anti-social behaviour and incidents of crime. It is important to recognise that CCTV does not prevent the occurrence of crime or anti-social behaviour.

As previously advised in business papers, Council and the community were informed some time ago that the CCTV network was damaged in a lightning storm in late 2023. Cameras in Gerringong remain operable currently.

Installation, planning and design of a new network / system for Kiama is not budgeted for this financial year. Ongoing maintenance is also a cost that requires annual budgeting. The replacement cost along with upkeep costs was considered as part of annual budget processes but was outside Council's current financial capacity. Funding, both capital and operating is required.

In a coastal location CCTV networks are exposed to weather, salt, winds and other climatic factors. This can mean they are more susceptible to damage and storm events impacts. Regular maintenance of the network is essential and periodic updates of equipment / technology is also important. CCTV networks should not be a set and forget business activity and require good policy, strategy, regular maintenance and management.

The work that is required to replace the CCTV system in Kiama includes the following:

- A full redesign and installation of new equipment in the town centre frame
- A review of best locations for installation completed in partnership with NSW Police
- Appropriate cloud based system for storage of footage
- Clear procedures and policies for collection, storage and accessing recorded information
- An overall strategy about CCTV network and any expansion plans for other town centres such as Kiama Downs, Jamberoo, further expansion in Gerringong etc
- Detailed costing for the above.

In respect to the public WiFi network this is a more complex and substantial body of work and staff would need greater time than the response to the Notice of Motion permits to consider the current system, future options, locations for expansion and appropriate network planning, design and costings.

Council works closely with neighbouring councils through the Illawarra Shoalhaven Joint Organisation (ISJO) on a wide range of matters. ISJO considers shared services wherever appropriate and there is potential for this to be one such item. This matter could be referred for inclusion and discussion at an upcoming ISJO meeting.

Likewise, Council's CEO and executive meet with Telstra key staff approximately every 6 months to discuss opportunities where business needs and technology can intersect. Telstra has expressed a willingness to partner with councils on a range of services and technological improvements.

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20.2 Notice of motion: Councillor Larkins - Public WiFi and CCTV infrastructure (cont)

The need for CCTV was acknowledged publicly again in the recently completed (August) advocacy document which was designed for the recent bi-election and was heavily promoted. Council continues to advocate and explore funding opportunities as they arise. It is anticipated that with a State election fast approaching this matter will be important to highlight again.

An extract from the Advocacy document is shown below:

Advocacy initiative: Contemporary CCTV infrastructure

Commentary	Some of the existing public CCTV infrastructure within the public lands of the LGA were recently rendered inoperative due to thunderstorm events. This CCTV infrastructure requires digitising, modernising and replacing. CCTV serves as a crime deterrent and is effective in assisting insurance claims and police enquiries and can add to the safety and amenity of public spaces. The NSW Police agree that contemporary CCTV infrastructure will assist in acting as a deterrent and can help augment their services, given the limited Police presence within the LGA. Council is appealing to the NSW Government for the critical funds to install contemporary CCTV infrastructure for the ongoing safety of our community and visitors.
CSP focus area/goal	<i>Resourceful:</i> Our infrastructure is well planned, well managed, safe and inclusive.
NSW Government Alignment	Safer Cities Program – Transport for NSW

Staff can include this item for consideration in the 2026-27 budget preparations. Like all initiatives especially in the current environment of scarce resource availability, decisions regarding budget inclusions will need to be addressed based on importance and cost, risk management, core services and overall benefit for the community and Council.

20.3 Notice of motion: Councillor Warren - Kiama Show Society signage

Councillor Erica Warren has submitted the following Notice of Motion for consideration:

MOTION

That Council:

1. Grants authority to the Kiama Show Society to install a sign at the entrance of the Kiama Showground, on Bong Bong Street, that notifies of the upcoming dates for the Kiama Show.
2. Approves Option 2 for signage location as shown in the report.

Signed Councillor Erica Warren

Councillor information providedWhat is the purpose of the motion?

To grant authority to allow the Kiama Show Society to purchase and install a sign that will sit at the Bong Bong Street entrance to Kiama Showground notifying of the upcoming Kiama Show dates.

Background to the motion

The Kiama Show Society is one of the oldest agricultural societies still in existence in Australia and one of the only Showgrounds in Australia without any Show Society signage.

Formed on 24 November 1848, the society held their first meeting at the Fitzroy Inn, where Michael Hindmarsh was made the Chairman of the Society. At this time, Kiama township consisted of 18 permanent houses, two stores, two inns, one church and a jetty in the harbour. The Agricultural Show was a means for the early farmers to encourage other new farmers to experiment with agriculture and find what would best suit the newly settled area.

The Kiama Show Society has a long and rich history of community involvement.

The Kiama Show is the Society's largest event each year, but they also put on other events and participate in other community events. This includes the Show Ball and Trivia Night and the Society participates in other community events as well.

The Kiama Showground is located right beside Kiama's Surf Beach and is one of the most picturesque showgrounds in Australia with breathtaking views to the Blowhole in the north and surrounded by the Pacific Ocean on three sides.

The Kiama Show is a place where families can simultaneously enjoy the seaside atmosphere, stunning views and Kiama rural life.

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20.3 Notice of motion: Councillor Warren - Kiama Show Society signage (cont)

In its 178th year, the longest running community event in our Municipality the Kiama Show Society is simply asking for approval to install a sign.

There are 2 options proposed for the signage:



Option 1



Option 2

Source of funding

This motion does not involve expenditure of funds not included in the budget.

Chief Executive Officer response

Council acknowledges that the Kiama Show Society is one of the oldest agricultural societies still in existence in Australia and one of the only Showgrounds in Australia without any Show Society signage.

Council advises that owners' consent will be required for the installation of the signage. Executive of the Show Society can contact Council's Property Team for the required forms to gain owner's consent.

Also, Council's planning staff can provide advice to the Executive on heritage, size, compliance and other matters related to the signage.

Option 2 is the preferred option for the location of the signage.