

20 NOTICE OF MOTION**20.1 Notice of motion: Councillor Warren - flood mitigation Jamberoo - Owen Street and stormwater drain behind 55 Allowrie Street**

Clr Erica Warren has submitted the following Notice of Motion for Council's consideration:

This item was DEFERRED from the 18 November 2025 Ordinary meeting.

MOTION

That Council:

1. Confirm the current condition of the stormwater drain located at the rear of 55 Allowrie Street, Jamberoo, including whether it is clear of debris and functioning at peak capacity.
2. Advise whether contact has been made with the landowner on the Northern side of 55 Allowrie Street to request access for inspection and ongoing maintenance of the drain.
3. Provide a copy of the stormwater drainage network plan that includes Wyalla Road, Macquarie Street, Beattie Street, Young Street, Owen Street and Allowrie Street.
4. Clarify whether an easement is required at 55 Allowrie Street to allow Council access for inspection and maintenance of the open channel leading to Jamberoo Creek.
5. Investigate options for improving stormwater flow through the open channel downstream of the outlet, including potential collaboration with the landowner or other authorities.
6. Further investigate flooding mitigation on Owen Street Jamberoo and provide solutions in the short and long term and a timeline of implementation of solutions.

Signed Councillor Erica Warren

Enclosures

- 1 Plan - Jamberoo pipe network [⇒](#)

Councillor information providedWhat is the purpose of the motion?

Jamberoo has experienced significant flooding challenges, particularly during major storm events in recent years. Unfortunately, Owen Street has not been included in the Flood Study report and residents have raised concerns that the stormwater drain at the rear of 55 Allowrie St could be posing some significant threats, along with possible dog ear drainage in Council's current system.

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The Gerringong-Jamberoo Flood Study, commissioned by Kiama Council, identified key flood-prone areas and assessed the capacity of existing stormwater infrastructure. The study highlighted that runoff from multiple streets—including Macquarie, Owen, and Allowrie Streets. This runoff converges at the rear of 55 Allowrie Street, where an open channel leads to Jamberoo Creek 1 and what appears to be stormwater drains that are at capacity with debris.

Concerns have been raised by residents about the potential obstruction of this open channel, which may contribute to overflow and localised flooding during intense rain events. The channel is located on private land and currently lacks an easement, limiting Council's ability to inspect or maintain it under the Local Government Act 1.

The flooding investigation also recommended improvements to stormwater flow and infrastructure planning, particularly in areas where drainage systems intersect with private property. Council has acknowledged the need for collaboration with landowners and other authorities to ensure effective flood mitigation and public safety.

Background to the motion

Jamberoo residents have raised concerns regarding the outlet of the stormwater system at the rear of 55 Allowrie Street, which channels runoff from multiple streets including Macquarie, Owen, and Allowrie Streets. The resident has suggested that the open channel may be obstructed, potentially contributing to overflow during intense rain events.

Council's Acting Manager of Engineering and Technical Services has advised that the open channel is located on private land without an easement, and therefore Council currently has no authority to undertake works on the channel under the Local Government Act.

Given the potential impact on stormwater management and public infrastructure, it is important that Council explore all avenues to ensure the system is functioning effectively and that appropriate access arrangements are in place.

Supporting Information:

Kiama Council's Development Code includes specifications for stormwater and drainage infrastructure, including open drains and subsurface drainage 1.

A drainage easement may be required to legally permit Council access for inspection and maintenance 2.

Source of funding

Stated no expenditure of funds involved.

Chief Executive Officer response

The above matter is addressed in the confidential report titled Drainage Matter – Jamberoo. Please refer to this report for the response.

20.2 Notice of motion: Councillor Lawton - Council managed Crown Land Plan of Management 2022 - Seven Mile Beach, Bombo Beach and Werri Beach

Clr Melinda Lawton has submitted the following Notice of Motion for consideration:

MOTION

That Council write to the Senior Policy and Project Officer at Crown Lands and Public Spaces, Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (Crown Lands), and request:

1. Confirmation that the 'Park' category that was applied to the rear of the beach at Seven Mile Beach (R83972):
 - (a) Is not necessary for the purpose of Council issuing licences for the existing commercial uses of Beach Haul Fishing and Surf Schools shown in the PoM.
 - (b) That if a re-categorisation from 'Park' to 'Natural Area – foreshore' was to occur, Council would be able to continue issuing licences for the existing commercial uses of Beach Haul Fishing and Surf Schools.
 - (c) That in an area of "high conservation value" (description about "Gerroa" in Illawarra Shoalhaven Regional Plan 2041), and in an area of the beach which is the seasonal nesting grounds of the Endangered Pied Oystercatcher - the core objectives of 'Natural Area' and sub-category 'foreshore' make 'Natural Area – foreshore' a more suitable category to be applied to the rear of the beach than the core objectives of 'Park':

If minimising and mitigating disturbance by human intrusion, whether it be by commercial or public use, is a key consideration by Council in its management of the Crown land at the beach at Seven Mile Beach.

2. Confirmation that the 'Park' category that has been applied to the rear of the beach at Bombo Beach (R87397 – Blowhole Point Reserve) is a less suitable category than 'Natural Area – foreshore' to be applied to the rear of the beach adjacent to established endemic dune vegetation if minimising and mitigating disturbance by human intrusion is a key consideration by Council in its management of the Crown land at the beach – with there being no commercial uses taking place on the beach either when the Draft PoM was prepared or currently.
3. Confirmation that the 'Park' category that has been applied to the rear of the beach at Werri Beach (R80816 – Ourie Park Reserve) is a less suitable category than 'Natural Area – foreshore' to be applied to the rear of the beach adjacent to established endemic dune vegetation, if minimising and mitigation disturbance by human intrusion is a key consideration by Council in its management of the Crown land at the beach – with there being no commercial uses taking place on the beach either when the Draft PoM was prepared or currently.
4. Consideration of the other information provided in the 'Background' to this Notice of Motion.

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5. Confirmation of the procedure Council would be required to take if a proposal to recategorise the 'Park' category to 'Natural Area – foreshore' was undertaken.

Signed Councillor Melinda Lawton

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Enclosures

- 1 Response from Crown Lands in relation to questions from community member⇒
- 2 Werri Beach image⇒
- 3 Table 3.2 High to extreme coastal erosion 2020-2120⇒
- 4 Terrestrial Biodiversity Map - Seven Mile Beach⇒
- 5 Terrestrial Biodiversity Map - Werri Beach⇒
- 6 Terrestrial Biodiversity Map - Bombo Beach⇒

Councillor information provided

What is the purpose of the motion?

To request concurrence from Crown Lands to a potential re-categorisation of the 'Park' category shown mapped at the rear of Seven Mile Beach (R83972), Bombo Beach (R87397), and Werri Beach (R80816) in the PoM, to 'Natural Area – foreshore' for the purpose of ensuring that the most suitable category is applied to the rear of the three beaches so that public enjoyment of the beaches (and existing commercial uses at Seven Mile Beach), is co-existent with long-term conservation of the beaches and adjacent endemic dune vegetation which are habitat to Endangered species (Seven Mile Beach) and nonendangered species (Bombo Beach and Werri Beach). All three beaches are identified in Council's Coastal Management Program as being at a "High" risk of Coastal erosion by 2040.

Background to the motion

1. Having lodged a Notice of Motion for the 16 September 2025 Ordinary Meeting ([refer report](#)) which related only to Seven Mile Beach (20.2 Crown Lands Plan of Management – Seven Mile Beach), I deferred the Notice of Motion after being approached by a number of community members who provided additional information that I had not had time to consider. After considering the information provided since the deferral of my previous Notice of Motion, I have included Bombo Beach and Werri Beach in addition to Seven Mile Beach in the Notice of Motion for the 15 December 2025 Ordinary Meeting.
2. Council endorsed the Draft PoM on 21 May 2024 ([refer report](#))
3. The Council Agenda of 13 August 2024 ([refer report](#)) contained a response to a question with notice that Cr Rice had asked in June. The response provided letters Council had received from Crown Lands in 2020 and 2021 regarding

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categorisations of beaches which contained conflicting directions from Crown Lands regarding the categorisations at some of the beaches, one example being:

- A direction by Crown Lands on 11 September 2020 that dune vegetation and the beach at Werri Beach be categorised as 'Natural Area'.
- On 3 December 2020, the direction of 11 September 2020 was confirmed by Crown Lands but in the same letter there was a direction to introduce 'Park' at Werri Beach with no map or information to identify the location of the 'Park' category.
- On 26 April 2021, Crown Lands directed that the 'Park' category be applied to Werri Beach and provided a map showing that the 'Park' category was to be applied to the endemic dune vegetation, as well as to the grassed reserve (Stan Miller Reserve) on the western side of the dune vegetation adjacent to Pacific Avenue (Stan Miller Reserve is the only location suited to the 'Park' category at Werri Beach).

The response to Cr Rice's question with notice stated:

"Council staff were advised and directed by Crown Lands to categorise a small strip of beach as "park" to facilitate the continued operation of commercial uses."

There are no commercial uses taking place at Bombo Beach or Werri Beach, and there were no commercial uses taking place during the time Council prepared the Draft PoM.

This indicates an inappropriate category of 'Park' being placed at the rear of Bombo Beach and Werri Beach.

4. 'Natural Area – foreshore' would be acceptable as aligning with the Reserve "Purpose" of "Public Recreation":
 - Reserve Purpose of Seven Mile Beach (R83972) - "Public Recreation".
 - Reserve Purpose of Bombo Beach (R87397 – Blowhole Point Reserve) – "Public Recreation" and Additional Purposes - "Tourist Facilities And Services, Port Facilities And Services, Community Facilities".
 - Reserve Purpose of Werri Beach (R80816 – Ourie Park) - "Public Recreation".
 - 'Natural Area – foreshore' would not materially harm the beaches.
5. In relation to Seven Mile Beach (R83972):
 - (a) 'Natural Area – foreshore' would continue to allow Council to issue licences for existing commercial operations listed in the PoM of beach haul fishing and three surf schools (page 106 of PoM);
 - (b) The existing commercial use by three "surf schools" is that they operate in a manner that aligns with the core objectives for 'Natural Area' of the Local Government Act 1993 No 30 (LG Act), particularly:

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“(d) to provide for community use of and access to the land in such a manner as will minimise and mitigate any disturbance caused by human intrusion, and”.

This core objective is achieved by the surf schools not storing any equipment at the beach, not having any structures, and using the same designated sand tracks to access the beach the general public use to minimise damage to endemic dune vegetation.

- (c) Certain areas at the rear of the beach at Seven Mile Beach are nesting grounds for the Endangered Pied Oystercatcher during breeding season and are roped-off to deter the public entering the nesting areas as a conservation measure. The areas of use by the Endangered Pied Oystercatcher change from season to season. Information regarding the Endangered Pied Oystercatcher is on the Council website at: <https://www.kiama.nsw.gov.au/Council/News/Shorebirds-in-Spring>.
 - (d) The environmental attributes of Seven Mile Beach are undisputed and well documented, a summary of some of these attributes was contained in the ‘Background’ information to my previous deferred Notice of Motion in September as well as in Attachment 1 to that Notice of Motion - ‘Nomination: The habitat at Seven Mile Beach between Gerroa and Shoalhaven Heads in the Kiama and Shoalhaven Council Areas’ as an ‘Area of Outstanding Biodiversity Value’.
6. In relation to Bombo Beach (R87397 – Blowhole Point Reserve) and Werri Beach (R80816 – Ourie Park):
- (a) ‘Natural Area – foreshore’ categorisation at the rear of Bombo Beach and Werri Beach would be more suitable than the current ‘Park’ categorisation because the ‘Park’ category has been placed adjacent to established endemic dune vegetation which was planted with support from State Government grant funding.
 - (b) The dune vegetation at Bombo Beach and Werri Beach is mapped as Terrestrial Biodiversity Land in the Kiama Local Environmental Plan 2011 (LEP) and should be zoned C2 Environmental Conservation rather than RE1 Public Recreation as pointed out by the previous Director of Environmental Services at Council.

However, the mapping is incomplete and needs to be updated as well as the LEP. Council acknowledged this to a community member in May 2021 by stating:

“As part of adopting the Kiama Local Strategic Planning Statement, Council has committed to undertaking a comprehensive and contemporary vegetation study for the Municipality by the end of the 2021/22 financial year. Following the completion of this study the Terrestrial Biodiversity and Environmental Zonings of the Kiama LEP 2011 will be updated. As part of these projects, numerous Council reports will be prepared and the community will be engaged with.”

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The Terrestrial Biodiversity and Environmental Zonings of the LEP have not yet been updated.

- (c) The endemic dune vegetation is fenced-off at Werri Beach with designated tracks to the beach to prevent human intrusion into the dune vegetation.
- (d) In the long-term the core objectives of 'Park' do not align with the protection of beaches being dynamic ecosystems or endemic dune vegetation as opposed to the core objectives of 'Natural Area – foreshore' which afford long-term protection:

“36N Core objectives for management of community land categorised as foreshore

The core objectives for management of community land categorised as foreshore are –

- (a) *to maintain the foreshore as a transition area between the aquatic and the terrestrial environment, and to protect and enhance all functions associated with the foreshore's role as a transition area, and*
- (b) *to facilitate the ecologically sustainable use of the foreshore, and to mitigate impact on the foreshore by community use.”*

“36G Core objectives for management of community land categorized as a park

The core objectives for management of community land categorised as a park are –

- (a) *to encourage, promote and facilitate recreational, cultural, social and education pastimes and activities, and*
- (b) *to provide for passive recreational activities or pastimes and for the casual playing of games, and*
- (c) *to improve the land in such a way as to promote and facilitate its use to achieve the other core objectives for its management”*
- (e) There were no existing commercial uses and are no existing commercial uses taking place at Bombo Beach or Werri Beach and none are listed in the PoM.

7. On 21 November 2023 Council endorsed the Draft PoM for submission to the Minister, with the Council report stating ([refer report](#)):

“The main issue raised was the park categorisation applied to part of the dune vegetation at Seven Mile, Werri and Bombo beaches respectively. These matters have been taken into consideration and as such changes have been made to the location of the categorisation to remove park from any dune vegetation and the application of a natural area categorisation has been made in its place.”

The Council report showed that in response to community submissions the 'Park' category had been removed from the dune vegetation at Seven Mile Beach,

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Bombo Beach, and Werri Beach. However, the 'Park' category was then placed at the rear of the beach on all three beaches. Why this was done was not mentioned or explained in the Council report?

8. There is no information in the LG Act under the core objectives for land categorized as 'Natural Area' or under the sections relating to leases, licences and other estates which precludes existing commercial activities including surf schools from operating out of land categorised as 'Natural Area'. The core objectives of 'Park' are not aligned with the protection of beaches.
9. The core objectives for 'Natural Area – foreshore' are more aligned with mitigating impact to the foreshore by community use. There seems little point in promoting recreational use which could ultimately include structures under the 'Park' category in a zone of the beaches that is predicted in Council's Coastal Management Program as being at "High" risk of Coastal erosion by 2040 (see excerpt below), and is subject to tidal inundation (see photo below):

Refer enclosure: Table 3.2 High to Extreme Coastal Erosion Risks 2020 - 2120. Photo Image Werri Beach 05 August 2025 enclosed.

10. The core objectives of 'Park' in encouraging, promoting and facilitating recreational, cultural, social and educational pastimes do not align with protecting beach processes and dune vegetation. A re-categorisation from 'Park' to 'Natural Area – foreshore' would not limit community use at any of the beaches but would avoid inappropriate community use.
11. As a result of my previous deferred Notice of Motion, a community member emailed Crown Lands with two questions which are shown below together with the response from Crown Lands:
 - “1. Are there any reasons that the 'park' category instead of 'natural area' would need to be applied to dune vegetation and/or at the rear of beaches, regardless of whether there are commercial uses occurring or not?
 2. As a re-categorisation of dune vegetation and/or rear of beaches from 'park' to 'natural area' would not materially harm the beaches, if a council was of a mind to amend an adopted PoM to re-categorise dune vegetation and/or the rear of beaches from 'park' to 'natural area': What would be the procedure for such an amendment, i.e., would it be necessary for the council to give public notice and publicly exhibit the amendment or entire PoM; hold a public hearing; or could the council resolve to make the amendment and thereafter submit the amended PoM to Crown Lands for the minister's approval?”

Refer Image - Response from Crown Lands enclosed.

Source of funding

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

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Chief Executive Officer response

This matter has been the subject of many years of reports across different terms of Council and staff have replied to this NoM or a variation of it, on numerous occasions.

On 26 April 2021 the (then) Department of Planning, Industry & Environment – Crown Lands directed Council, under section 3.23(5) of the *Crown Lands Management Act 2016 (the Act)*, to categorise Seven Mile Beach reserve as General Community Use, Park, Natural Area (bushland) and Natural Area (foreshore). The following image is taken from the April 2021 correspondence (Enclosure 1)

Extract of Map B R83972 (Seven Mile Beach)



At the same time Council was directed to categorise Bombo Beach Reserve and Werri Beach Reserve as Park – see below.

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Extract of Map B – R87387 – Blowhole Point Reserve (Overview)**Extract of Map B – R76339 – Werri Beach (South)**

As outlined above, at the ordinary May 2024 meeting Council adopted the *Council Managed Crown Land Plan of Management 2024* (PoM) following its endorsement by the Minister for Lands and Property's delegate on 4 April 2024. The categorisation of

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the various reserves, including Seven Mile, Bombo Beach and Werri Beach, in the final Plan were consistent with the direction provided under section 3.23(5) of the Act.

As part of the ordinary meeting in May 2024, Council also resolved to:

3. *Delegate to the CEO to prepare correspondence to the Minister for Lands and Property seeking clarity on the application of the designation of the category of Park specifically for the reserves at Seven Mile Beach, Werri Beach, Easts Beach and Bombo, as well as noting one potential anomaly relating to Reserve Purpose at Minnamurra Headland so that Council can understand the process for any future amendment.*

Accordingly, on 29 July 2024, the CEO wrote to the Minister seeking the above clarification.

On 2 September 2024, Council received confirmation from the Department of Planning, Housing & Infrastructure – Crown Lands that in order to re-categorise land the adopted PoM would need to be amended in the areas of Bombo Beach, Werri Beach Seven Mile Beach as outlined above. This letter was tabled with Council.

In relation to the proposed resolutions of this NoM the following advice is given on each numerical recommendation:

- 1(a) All land must be categorised under the PoM.
- 1.(b) Agreed.
- 1(c) Council has resolved its position on this matter and staff have implemented accordingly.
2. The phrase “rear of the beach” is repeated twice one ought to be deleted. Council has resolved its position on this matter and staff have implemented accordingly.
3. Council has resolved its position on this matter and staff have implemented accordingly.
4. Suggest rewording to state “Note the information provided in the background to the this Notice of Motion.
5. The process to undertake work in respect to proposed resolution five (5) is as follows:
 - (a) Dedicate staff, resources and priority to amending the PoM in the 2026-27 Delivery Plan and Operational Plan.
 - (b) Subject to the DPOP being adopted, undertake the work and proceed with any consultation required for affected lessees / user groups / broader community etc to make amendments and prepare reports for endorsement for Council.
 - (c) Subject to Council’s consideration / resolution, submit the amendments to Crown Lands for approval.

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- (d) Publicly re-exhibit the PoM for comment, and prepare a subsequent report to Council on submissions and provide the revised PoM for adoption to Council by way of report.
- (e) Following Council's resolution on the matter of the PoM submit the document back to Crown Lands for final endorsement.
- (f) Following Ministerial approval upload the final document to the website and implement any required changes to leases or user groups agreements.

As this work is not listed in the 2025-26 Operational Plan and is not budgeted there are no resources to undertake this work. It is therefore appropriate to place this project on the forward budget estimates register for consideration in future budgets.

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20.3 Notice of motion: Councillor Tatrai - Improving resident parking in Kiama Local Government Area

Clr Yasmin Tatrai has submitted the following Notice of Motion for consideration:

MOTION

That Council delegates authority to the CEO to investigate the implementation of a resident parking permit system in the Kiama Local Government Area and that the investigation includes:

1. Resident parking permits – options for issuing two parking permits per household, where the first permit is provided at no cost and the second permit is available for a nominal fee via an application form and proof of residence. This approach aims to accommodate both homeowners and renters while ensuring that locals have access to parking in town and along the beaches.
2. Beach parking regulations – potential exemptions for extended parking allowances for residents in areas currently subject to two-hour parking limits, which will enhance parking convenience during peak beach usage times.
3. On street parking – implementation of permits that allow residents to park without time restrictions or extended times in designated (1- and 2-Hour parking) areas, improving accessibility for local residents.
4. Local business parking options - include the parking system for local businesses. ie where they receive a number of permits (to be determined by Council staff) and can purchase up a certain number of permits at a reduced cost and structured times depending on the nature of the business.

Signed Councillor Yasmin Tatrai

Enclosures

- 1 Resident Parking Permits - Ordinary Council - 26 April 2016 [⇒](#)
- 2 Question for future meeting: Parking stickers - Ordinary Council - 22 January 2019 [⇒](#)
- 3 Question for future meeting: Blowhole Point - paid parking - Ordinary Council - 18 May 2021 [⇒](#)
- 4 Question for future meeting: Resident only parking system trial - Stafford Street, Gerroa - Ordinary Council - 16 November 2021 [⇒](#)
- 5 Notice of motion: Investigation into paid parking options for Kiama Local Government Area - Ordinary Council - 28 June 2022 [⇒](#)

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20.3 Notice of motion: Councillor Tatrai - Improving resident parking in Kiama Local Government Area (cont)

Councillor information providedWhat is the purpose of the motion?

To prioritise the parking needs of our community and enhance accessibility for residents.

Background to the motion

As Kiama grows, parking challenges are continuing to increase. Investigating the resident parking permit system will help ensure that our community members have priority access to parking in their local area.

Source of funding

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

Chief Executive Officer response

The Council has been previously advised of various iterations of resident parking permits / stickers, paid parking or resident only parking exemptions in reports tabled at the April 2016, January 2019, May 2021, November 2021 and June 2022 Council meetings. A copy of these reports are attached.

In general the implementation of a resident-only parking permit scheme must meet the Transport for NSW '*Permit Parking Guidelines*' eligibility criteria. It was previously determined that a proposal for Kiama would not meet a number of these criteria and that the implementation of such a scheme would also create a significant administrative burden on Council to implement, manage and monitor. If the costs of such a scheme were to be recouped through residents or the general community, it is envisaged the permit costs would be substantial for a small population.

It was also found that as on-street parking in the Kiama CBD area is in high demand during peak periods, time-limited parking ensures turnover in this area for business purposes. Granting exemptions to residents to park for extended periods is not likely to be supported by local businesses who rely on trade from the turnover of these parking spaces.

To undertake a detailed investigation of all the options raised in this motion including a review of what other councils in NSW have implemented in terms of parking permit systems, will be an extensive standalone project. This requires human and financial resources.

There is currently no resourcing or staffing allocated in the existing 2025-26 budget to undertake this work. If an investigation of options is to proceed it would need to be included on the forward budget estimate for consideration in a future budget cycle.

20.4 Notice of motion: Councillor Larkins - NSWPLA Switch 2025 Conference and advocacy for Public Libraries

Clr Stuart Larkins has submitted the following Notice of Motion for Council's consideration:

MOTION

That Council:

1. Notes the report from Councillor Larkins from the 2025 Switch Conference held by NSW Public Libraries Association (NSWPLA).
2. Notes the NSWPLA's Strategic Plan 2025-2029.
3. Supports the advocacy initiatives outlined in the NSWPLA's Strategic Plan 2025-2029, including an update to Kiama Council's Advocacy Plan to include support for improved NSW Government funding for Public Libraries.

Signed Councillor Stuart Larkins

Councillor information providedWhat is the purpose of the motion?

This motion is firstly, part of the requirements for councillors attending conferences to provide a report back to the full council meeting, and secondly supporting funding and resourcing for public libraries.

Background to the motion

It was a pleasure to attend the NSW Public Libraries Association (NSWPLA) Switch 2025 Conference held in Penrith from 11 to 14 November 2025, along with the team from Kiama Library.

The conference brought together councillors, library managers and librarians across NSW and entailed such informative discussions, exhibitions and knowledge sharing about libraries and the importance that they play in our communities.

There were important conversations about early learning and literacy for young people as well as improving adult literacy and access to digital literacy and learning.

The President of NSWPLA, Deputy Mayor Councillor Romola Hollywood of Blue Mountains, along with Vice Presidents Councillor Madeleine Bishop of Lake Macquarie and Mayor Councillor Dallas Tout helped facilitate the conference along with the executive staff and team at NSWPLA.

One of the important points that came out during the conference was the launch of the NSWPLA Strategic Plan 2025-2029, and in particular identifies a number of initiatives and advocacy around improved public library funding as well as addressing safety of

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20.4 Notice of motion: Councillor Larkins - NSWPLA Switch 2025 Conference and advocacy for Public Libraries (cont)

librarians, the rise of controversial “book challenges” and the changing dynamics of Library Services, such as digital and artificial intelligence (AI) skills.

Currently, the NSW Government provides funding to NSW Public Libraries that are provided by local governments, which is equivalent to 6% of funding for library operations across the state. The formula used to determine funding allocations to public libraries is based on the population of the LGA. As such, this formula can skew the amount of funding to benefit city based councils with high populations. LGA, including Kiama, with a smaller population base receives a smaller amount.

The NSWPLA is seeking advocacy to change the model used for public library funding in NSW, and in particular wants funding based on CPI rather than population based funding.

As such, in conjunction with providing a councillor information report, I wish to utilise my attendance at the Switch Conference to enact meaningful change, advocacy and support for public libraries including in Kiama.

A copy of the NSWPLA Strategic Plan can be found here: <https://nswpla.org.au/>

Photos from the event from the Switch 2025 Conference are attached. First one is Councillor Larkins, Carla and Michelle from Kiama Library with Romi the robot, designed to assist Librarians. The second photo is Councillor Stuart Larkins (Kiama), Councillor Amelia Parkins (Wagga Wagga) and Councillor Romola Hollywood (Blue Mountains).

Source of funding

The State Library of NSW administers annual funding to NSW public libraries on behalf of the State Government.

NSW councils that have adopted the Library Act and provide services in accordance with the Act are eligible for this funding.

Funding comprises of a subsidy of \$2.85 per capita and in addition to this a Subsidy Adjustment that ensures that councils with small populations receive a meaningful payment.

30% of the Subsidy Adjustment funding must be spent on State Library NSW approved projects which directly benefit the public.

Chief Executive Officer response

The background information to this Notice of Motion serves as the report to Council on the NSW Public Libraries Association (NSWPLA) Switch 2025 Conference held in Penrith from 11 to 14 November 2025.

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- 20.4 Notice of motion: Councillor Larkins - NSWPLA Switch 2025 Conference and advocacy for Public Libraries (cont)



Item 20.4

20.5 Notice of motion: Councillor Draisma - Kiama Depot Co-design

Clr Imogen Draisma has submitted the following Notice of Motion for consideration:

MOTION

That Council:

1. Note the community feedback on the efficacy of the communication on the vision for the future of the Shoalhaven Street Precinct (Kiama Depot) and the state-led rezoning proposal, particularly from the residents of the properties adjacent to the site.
2. Receive a report on the options for engaging the community in a co-design for a future Development Application and/or Development Control Plan on the site pending the 'finalisation' of the state-led rezoning process.
3. Refer the costs associated with a co-design process for consideration in the 2026/27 Delivery Program and Operational Plan.

Signed Councillor Imogen Draisma

Councillor information providedWhat is the purpose of the motion?

To ensure that any future development at the Shoalhaven Street Precinct (Kiama Depot) is a reflection of the communities vision.

Background to the motion

Through the state-led rezoning process of the Kiama Depot (also known as the Shoalhaven Street Precinct), the community have raised genuine concerns about the future use of the site under the potential R3 – Medium Density Residential zoning. While some do not support the rezoning to R3, many attribute their concerns to matters that would need to be considered in any future development application.

Council and the ratepayers should be engage in a collaborative process to ensure the best possible outcome on the site for housing delivery, whilst considering the challenges of the site and minimisation of the impact that the future development may have on the properties in the immediate area of the Shoalhaven Street Precinct.

The implementation of a co-design process for the duration of the project would respond effectively to the concerns raised and reflect the expectations of the community.

Source of funding

Nil.

Notice of Motion

20.5 Notice of motion: Councillor Draisma - Kiama Depot Co-design (cont)

Chief Executive Officer response

This notice of motion (NoM) was received at 11:54am on 8th December 2025 and such the CEO did not have sufficient opportunity to provide advice or comment.

As part of revising and now implementing the Housing Strategy, Council has been working with the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure and other Government agencies on a range of matters, including the current State Significate Rezoning proposal of the Shoalhaven Street Precinct (Kiama Depot).

It is acknowledged that materials shared by the Department as part of the various community pop-ups caused concerns and confusion within the community. Images shown on the DPHI materials are indicative only and should not be viewed as final designs for the site.

The rezoning proposal is specifically, a proposal to rezone the site from E4 General Industrial to residential. The proposal suggests rezoning the site to R3 Medium Density Residential. This is consistent with Council's Local Housing Strategy which seeks to provide more housing and greater housing types within the existing centres of Gerringong and Kiama.

While staff agree that the proposed development standards (i.e. eight storeys) are not currently found elsewhere in the Local Government Area, they are generally consistent with what is now permissible under the NSW Government's Low- & Mid-Rise Reforms.

As outlined in a separate report in this Agenda, these reforms apply to residential areas within 800m of the Kiama Town Centre and Train Station and make six-storey developments permissible on any R3 Medium Density zoned land within 400m of the Town Centre or Train Station and four-storey developments permissible on any zoned land within 800m.

Much of the existing R3 zoned land within Kiama (i.e. Barney, Brown, Bourrool, Farmer, Manning, Mears, Thomson, Terralong, and, Shoalhaven Streets) are located within 800m of the Town Centre or Train Station. These reforms now establish the new density controls for Kiama. Acknowledging this, Council's Local Housing Strategy contains an action to review R3 zoned areas within Kiama and Gerringong to consider further appropriate application of these reforms.

The NSW Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, the Hon. Paul Scully, is the decision maker for this State Significate Rezoning proposal. A separate report with a submission to the Minister on behalf of Council is included in this Agenda for Councillor's consideration and debate.

If the site is rezoned to residential purposes, a site-specific Development Control Plan can and should be prepared. As outlined in the Background to the Motion, many of the concerns (i.e. overshadowing, building design, setbacks, open space etc.) will be addressed by site-specific DCP controls. In the development of other recent DCP chapters (i.e. Kiama Town Centre, Heritage and Jamberoo Village) staff will implement a co-design process, consistent with the adopted Community Participation Plan (CPP) 2019. No specific resolution is required to do this as this the community participation plan is already adopted.

Notice of Motion

20.5 Notice of motion: Councillor Draisma - Kiama Depot Co-design (cont)

Staff are currently preparing 2026/27 work programs for consideration of Councillors as part of the budget process. This work will be included for consideration by Councillors should the Minister determine to rezone the site.

Councillors, following the receipt of advice from the recently formed Finance and Major Projects Advisory Committee, will need to determine how it wishes to proceed with any redevelopment of the site.

It is too pre-emptive to seek to resolve a development application co-design process, as the first step is to develop a DCP. Also progress onwards to any development application process will be subject to future business case reports for the site. Lastly, development application processes require strict probity measures and this would need to be worked through prior to any resolution of Council seeking to embed this action, as staff may not be able to implement the resolution.

Staff share the concerns of the council (including the NoM Councillor) and the community that a DCP process which gives local community a voice in the process would be advantageous. It is however already a resolution of council and part of the community engagement process which staff would implement. To that end, the professional advice of staff is that this NoM whilst commendable and understandable in intent, is not required and that recommendation two (2) **must be** reworded and amended to state the following:

“Subsequent to Ministerial decision making on the re-zoning process, a future report be provided to Council that outlines how staff will implement a co-design process for a Development Control Plan (DCP) on the Shoalhaven Street site consistent with the adopted Community Participation Plan 2019”.