

## Community workshop on climate change

**A community workshop will be held at Ettalong Beach this Wednesday, February 27, to give residents the chance to have their say on Central Coast Council's Climate Change Policy.**

It is one of a series of workshops to be held in each of the Council wards.

Council endorsed a draft policy in August last year, which provides

a framework to plan for the possible impacts of climate change.

The draft policy aims to align the council's operations and strategic planning with the NSW State Climate Change Policy Framework.

The community workshops will allow residents to build on their understanding of key themes around climate change and provide feedback on how they would like to be involved in future planning

around these themes.

Mayor Cr Jane Smith said it was vitally important that the community have a voice in the development of the policy and related strategies, plans and actions.

"The purpose of these community workshops is to further educate and work directly with the community to develop the first Climate Change Policy for the Central Coast," Cr Smith said.

"It is crucial Council

demonstrates leadership in addressing climate change and its impacts through responsible planning and collaboration in the best interests of our community and we are doing this by involving the community every step of the way in this policy development.

"We need to reduce emissions to start solving the long term challenges of climate change but also adapt to the changes that we know are already happening."

The Peninsula workshop will be held from 6pm to 8:30pm on Wednesday, February 27, at the Ettalong Diggers club.

Workshop registration and information packs are available at the Council on 1300 463 954 or from [www.yourvoiceourcoast.com/climatechange](http://www.yourvoiceourcoast.com/climatechange).

**Source:**  
**Media release, 4 Feb 2019**  
**Jane Smith, Central Coast Council**

## Draft plan may be re-released with maps

**A section of Central Coast Council's draft Development Control Plan is likely to be re-released after the public exhibition period ends on February 28 to include maps in the floodplain management chapter.**

Cr Troy Marquart moved at the February 11 Council meeting for chapter 3.1 on Flood Management to be withdrawn from exhibition until maps could be provided clearly showing proposed new flood hazard areas.

"This chapter introduces a new hazard categorisation to be applied via six separate categories, H1

through to H6," Cr Marquart said.

"These will be applied to every property in the LGA subject to any form of flood affectation.

"The proposed hazard categories will impact many thousands of homes.

"They apply various development constraints depending on flood affectation, culminating in the complete sterilisation of residential properties from all future development in categories H4 and above."

Cr Marquart said that, although the chapter referenced hazard mapping, it contained no actual maps for proposed hazard zones or guidance for residents to

ascertain which hazard category would apply to their properties.

He also urged council to consider the impact of a requirement in the draft chapter that homes experiencing a flood depth of 20cm or more must display a flood danger sign prominently on their property.

Addressing the councillors prior to the meeting in support of the motion, the deputy chair of the local chapter of the Urban Development Institute of Australia, consultant Town Planner Mr Chris Smith, said the absence of mapping was causing "some angst in the community".

"In discussions with staff last

week, I've been informed that floodplain mapping may still be some months off," he said.

"Industry considers it premature to advance chapter 3.1 (of the draft plan) without the accompany mapping."

Cr Marquart's motion was lost, with mayor Cr Jane Smith saying it was difficult to withdraw part of a plan already on exhibition.

However, the council resolved that further public consultation occur once flood plain maps were available.

In the interim, the existing DCP provisions would apply.

It also resolved that a report be prepared on how many properties

currently zoned with development rights (residential or commercial type) would subsequent to the adoption of this policy fall into categories H4 and above and face complete sterilization of development rights.

It also asked for advice about the depth that is considered "safe access" for emergency vehicles, and the impact of a displaying 600 x 600mm flood danger signs on properties.

**SOURCE**  
**Central Coast Council**  
**agenda 6.4, 11 Feb 2019**  
**Media statement, 11 Feb 2019**  
**Troy Marquart, Central Coast Council**  
**Media statement, 11 Feb 2019**  
**Chris Smith, UDIA**