

# Central Coast Water Security Plan

## Engagement Summary

Central  
Coast  
Council

To ensure the Central Coast has a resilient and sustainable water supply, now and for future generations we have developed the draft Central Coast Water Security Plan.

The draft plan was placed on public exhibition from 31 August until 12 October 2021.

## Engagement results

In total we received 55 submissions: 45 submissions through our online guided submission form, and an additional 10 formal submissions received via email and post.

The themes that paint a high-level picture of the key findings from the submissions are:

- Positive feedback on the resilience of desalination as a climate independent water supply
- Concerns with the desalination plant including cost, energy consumption, environmental impacts and fears that it will be built and left unused
- Support and concern surrounding carbon offsets for the desalination plant
- Interest in temporary desalination plants
- A perceived commitment to delivering the options (particularly a desalination plant) by a given year rather than in response to the supply/demand balance
- Concerns that climate change will bring more rainfall making desalination unnecessary
- Concerns surrounding the sustainability and environmental impacts of groundwater
- Support for Council to incentivise the installation of rainwater tanks
- Support for education and incentives for water saving, and disincentives for water wastage
- Support for the sustainability and circular economy of purified recycled water
- Concerns with purified recycled water surrounding community acceptance, education and public confidence in the technology

## How you connected



1,313 pageviews of the Your Voice Our Coast project page



45 submissions through our online submission form



10 formal submissions were received via email and post



The plan was downloaded 342 times, and the factsheets were downloaded 335 times



200 views of our educational video on water supply and demand options



8 questions were posted and answered through the online Q&A board



25 meeting slots were available, with 3 meetings booked and held



Over 11,000 stakeholders were kept up-to-date through e-news



More than 16.2k social media users reached generating 107 likes, comments and shares



267 stakeholders were kept up-to-date through project update e-newsletters

Overall, **68%** of respondents from the online guided submission form were supportive of the plan, with **7%** neutral, and **25%** showing opposition to the plan.

The figures below indicate how many respondents from the online guided submission form were either supportive or neutral to the goals from the CCWSP:

- Resilience: **91%**
- Social: **91%**
- Environmental: **94%**
- Financial: **87%**
- Leadership and strategy: **89%**

**96%** of respondents to the online guided submission form were either supportive or neutral of Pillar 1 (water conservation), **89%** were either supportive or neutral for Pillar 2 (making the most of the water assets we currently have), and **73%** were either supportive or neutral for Pillar 3 (investing in future rainfall independent supplies of water).

## What's next?

We are now reviewing the feedback we received on the draft plan before finalising the plan later in the year and submitting the plan to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment for their review and approval.

We will inform the community when the plan has been finalised.

Find out more and stay up to date at [yourvoiceourcoast.com](https://yourvoiceourcoast.com)