

CENTRAL COAST GREEN VOICE

THE
GREENS

FOR A GREENER CENTRAL COAST

Can the Central Coast Council work?

The Central Coast Council Election will be held on 9 September after the coerced merger by the State Liberal Government. Despite being one of the largest councils by voter enrolment (over 300,000) in NSW, the number of Councillors has been cut from 20 to 15.

These Councillors will be expected to represent the interests and needs of a diverse collection of communities stretching from Mooney Mooney and Spencer on the Hawkesbury, to the farming communities around Mangrove Mountain and Kulnura, and to Mannering Park and Gwandalan on the shores of Lake Macquarie.

The Greens opposed the merger and we continue to voice our opposition to the undemocratic way in which this mega Council has been imposed.

The State Liberal Government has divided the Central Coast into five

wards with three Councillors in each ward. You can only vote for those people standing in your ward. This system advantages the large parties at the expense of the Greens and independents.

We are already seeing signs that the mega Council is failing to respond to real local community concerns. Unwarranted secrecy on development proposals, bureaucrats living at five star resorts while seeking to reduce the pay rates for workers, refusals to supply financial information, 'white elephant' projects off track and wasting millions.

From pot holes and waste collection to development proposals and infrastructure, the Greens will be your strong voice to get the Council working hard for you.

Your vote is crucial

The Greens have a comprehensive set of positive policies that will ensure the Central Coast Council works to the highest standards of financial management, governance and transparency.

We will work to provide local and well paid jobs. We want a caring community that looks after those who are in danger or vulnerable. We will protect our environment, build amazing playgrounds and sporting fields, support community events, create safe, secure and fully connected shared pathways and cycle ways, plan for climate change, deliver community energy options and advocate for improved public transport to make the Central Coast a better and healthier place to live.

We stand with the people of the Coast to develop as they want – not as dictated to by a Sydney-focused State Government. ▲





CREATING A HEALTHY, SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY

A healthy community has welcoming and accessible places to play, affordable housing and is focused on the needs of people.

The Central Coast has some of the best coastal and bush spaces in Australia. This is under threat from development and we need Councillors who will protect the precious remaining areas. From the smallest play area to the large bushlands and coastal reserves we will defend our environment – particularly our green spaces and tree cover.

We have seen how great playgrounds at Umina and The Entrance create social hubs for families. We will work to create amazing playgrounds in all major localities.

Greens Councillors will ensure that Council becomes an active deliverer of affordable housing. We support sustainable development with best practice design to ensure low emissions, low running costs and using eco-friendly materials.

Your Greens Councillors will work to:

- **Improve access** to all public areas and facilities so that everyone can enjoy our great environment by

better signage for bushwalkers, more free wifi in public places, disability access, upgraded sporting facilities and protection of our libraries.

- **Put Community Halls back in community hands.** Community facilities are not ‘profit centres’. We will freeze all charges now and review whether charges are locking people out of community facilities.
- **Support and expand community festivals, events and venues.**

Electing Greens Councillors means putting people before profits. ▲

Taking action on climate change

We are seeing the impact of climate change across the Central Coast.

We are facing more severe storms as temperature records are repeatedly broken. Labor and Liberal policies are inadequate and will not meet the challenges ahead. We need tough action now. The Greens have comprehensive policies to tackle



the issues, reduce the impacts and help communities when extreme weather events occur.

Your Greens Councillors will:

- Plan for extreme weather events and work to ensure that the Council is prepared as heat waves, floods and storms increase.
- Work towards zero waste to landfill with a well-managed waste and recycling service. We will support communities with more education on how to reduce waste. Greens on Council will back local plastic bag and water bottles replacement initiatives such as the Bouddi Peninsula campaign.
- Get out of Fossil Fuel industries. We will review the investment holdings of the Council to stop

any investment in polluting fossil fuel industries. Unlike the Liberal and Labor parties, the Greens will not support new coal mines or fracking.

- Give Power back to the Community. Incoherent Federal energy policies have seen job uncertainty in the growth industry of renewables, and electricity prices sky rocket. Our focus is to speed up the transition to renewables and support community energy initiatives that can reduce power bills for you and the Council.

Electing Greens Councillors means more protection from climate change, with a cleaner and greener Central Coast. ▲

More jobs in a green economy

We believe that with the right policies, the Central Coast can be an innovation and job powerhouse.

This starts with a strong education system supporting local enterprises where all residents have access to quality learning and training.

Your Greens Councillors will work towards:

- **Reinstating Council owned child care.** The Greens believe that affordable child care is a core function of Council.
- **Expanding the education precinct in Gosford.** We are

big enough to support another campus. A university in the Gosford CBD will be a driver for sustainable development.

- **Developing an employment policy that gives young people jobs.** Council needs to play its part with apprentices and traineeship programs. We want to make the Central Coast Council a best practice employer with a diverse workforce.
- **Lobbying for better NBN and mobile phone coverage.** Poor NBN speeds and reliability, phone black spots and poor access to technology is hurting business,



services and home users. When the Federal Liberal's botched NBN fails, Greens Councillors will speak up.

Electing Greens councillors will mean support for innovation, and create well paid local jobs in a sustainable economy.

FASTER JOURNEYS

Whatever the purpose of your journey we will work to make it quicker and better.

Our transport infrastructure is rapidly degrading with ever more car journeys. Whatever the time of day and even at weekends our roads are always crowded. Train journeys are slower now than they were in the 1930s. Outside the main CBD areas buses are infrequent and often running empty.

There are no quick fixes and the continual failure of Liberal and Labor at State and Federal level to invest in good quality sustainable public transport is leaving the Central Coast with many challenges.

We will always support road improvements for safety reasons but building bigger and more roads will not deliver better outcomes. Bigger roads mean more and more cars.

Your Greens Councillors will:

- **Lobby** for more investment in sustainable public transport. We see a community where walking, cycling and public transport are viable options for the majority of our trips.



- **Create** connected and dedicated cycle ways – well-lit and separated. Whether you are a family on a pleasure cycle, getting to a station for work or a visitor, the cycle ways will quickly repay on their investment.
- **Review** car-parking options at our stations. Car parks are often full by 7.00am or before. Council has opportunities to create more spaces.
- **Support** an increase in the number of electric recharge stations for electric cars/bikes.
- **Create** more pedestrian friendly shopping strips – too many of our local shopping strips are dominated by cars.
- **Place** public transport, cycling and pedestrians at the forefront of planning decisions. Major developments should be required to have end of ride facilities for secure storage and showers.
- **Lobby** for better ways to manage bus routes covering our large dispersed population.

Electing Greens councillors will bring a greater range of better and more sustainable transport options to our communities. ▲

Meet your Green candidates

Our Central Coast Council team offers a great range of experience and capability. Working in their communities, they know the local issues. They will work hard to make sure your views are represented.

We will also set up community consultation forums to prevent local voices being lost in the mega council's big end of town focus. Here are our leading candidates in each ward.



KATE DA COSTA – GOSFORD WEST



Kate has lived on the Central Coast for over 20 years. She understands the pressures felt by families who need to commute from the Coast to work. Kate is an active campaigner on community issues from the Gas Field Free Mountain Districts campaign to the Gosford Waterfront.

Kate is committed to creating job opportunities for young people and the long term unemployed by actively encouraging the relocation or creation of sustainable, green industries and enterprises on the Coast.

SUE WYNN – BUDGEWOI



Sue became the first Greens Councillor ever elected to Wyong Shire Council in 2008, and was unanimously elected Deputy Mayor in 2011. Sue is passionate about social justice in a healthy democracy and is committed to the protection

of our precious environment.

STANDING UP FOR WHAT MATTERS

Support our campaign

The Greens will always speak for the community and not developers.

We do not take developer or corporate donations and rely on the support of locals like you. Individual donations to the local campaign can be made at nsw.greens.org.au/donate

The Greens rely on local volunteers – email or call if you would like to help.

Visit our website or follow us on Facebook to hear about the campaign and upcoming events.

CATH CONNOR – THE ENTRANCE



Cath has been a member of her local bushcare group for 15 years. She has also been involved in community campaigns on the Coast including Save Wyong Trees, opposing the Wallarah 2 mine proposal and the privatisation of Wyong Hospital where she worked in the Family Care Cottage for six years. Homelessness, affordable housing and better public transport are important issues for her.

STEPHEN PEARSON – GOSFORD EAST



A small business owner and Chartered Accountant Stephen is an active member of his local community on the Bouddi Peninsula. He will work to create jobs in a sustainable local economy. He will bring his expertise and experience to ensure Council works to the highest standards of transparency, consultation and governance.

COME AND JOIN US

Get in touch

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f [CentralCoastGreens](https://www.facebook.com/CentralCoastGreens)

Find out more about our positive policies for a vibrant, healthy and sustainable Central Coast.



Authorised by
S. Pearson,
41 Hardys Bay Parade,
Killcare, NSW 2257.

Printed on recycled paper
by Lakes Printers
28 Ace Crescent, Tuggerah 2259.

Design: Anthouse Communications

Published August 2017