

Appendix H – BVSC Stakeholder Engagement Strategy – Coastal Management Program



Community and Stakeholder Engagement Strategy

Coastal Management Program



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Introduction

Project Context

Council is currently preparing a Scoping Study for the Bega Valley coastline from Wallaga Lake in the north to the Victorian Border in the south. This scoping study will identify key threats and areas to guide how Council will proceed with their Coastal Management Program(s).

The community and stakeholder engagement strategy (this document) sets out the framework for which community engagement and consultation will be carried out for the duration of the CMP process through Stages 1 to 5. This strategy will be revised as required to provide support for ongoing engagement through the implementation phase of the CMP.

The *Coastal Management Act 2016* (CM Act) requires councils to consult with the community and stakeholders before adopting a coastal management program (CMP).

The Stakeholder Engagement Strategy has been prepared in line with the Guidelines for Community and Stakeholder Engagement in Coastal Management (OEH 2018), Bega Valley Shire Community Engagement Strategy (2019) and BVSC Community Engagement Toolkit (2020).

The objectives of the Community and Stakeholder Engagement Strategy are:

- Identification of stakeholders and organisations to be involved in various stages of the CMP process
- Establish how engagement will be undertaken and in what stages will those opportunities occur
- Identify how input will be incorporated into the CMP process

Requirements

The Coastal Management Act 2016 (CM Act) requires councils to consult with the community and stakeholders before adopting a coastal management program (CMP). The coastal management manual (the manual) is a resource which provides guidelines for Councils on preparing coastal management programs. It imposes mandatory requirements and provides guidance pursuant to the *Coastal Management Act (2016)* for a coastal management program. Part A of the manual states the following mandatory requirements:

A draft CMP must be exhibited for public inspection at the main offices of the councils of all local government areas within the area to which the CMP applies, during the ordinary hours of

those offices for a period of no less than 28 calendar days before it is adopted. This mandatory requirement does not prevent community consultation, or other consultation, in other ways.

The Coastal Management Act, Section 16 states that:

- (1) *Before adopting a coastal management program, a local council must consult on the draft program with—*
 - (a) *the community, and*
 - (b) *if the local council's local government area contains—*
 - (i) *land within the coastal vulnerability area, any local council whose local government area contains land within the same coastal sediment compartment (as specified in Schedule 1), and*
 - (ii) *an estuary that is within 2 or more local government areas (as specified in Schedule 1), the other local councils, and*
 - (c) *other public authorities if the coastal management program—*
 - (i) *proposes actions or activities to be carried out by that public authority, or*
 - (ii) *proposes specific emergency actions or activities to be carried out by a public authority under the coastal zone emergency action subplan, or*
 - (iii) *relates to, affects or impacts on any land or assets owned or managed by that public authority.*
 - (2) *Consultation under this section is to be undertaken in accordance with the relevant provisions of the coastal management manual.*
 - (3) *A failure to comply with this section does not invalidate a coastal management program.*
 - (4) *The regulations may amend Schedule 1.*

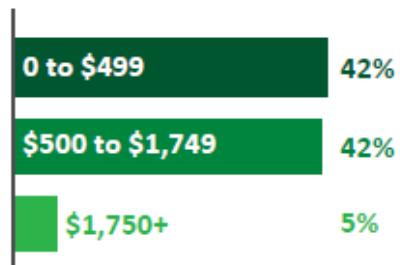
Community profile

The estimated resident population of the Bega Valley for 2020 is 34,727 people. By 2036 it is estimated that an additional 3000 people will be living in the Bega Valley which is an average annual growth rate of around 0.6%.

A profile summary for the Bega Valley Council based on 2016 Census data was developed for the Bega Valley Shire Local Strategic Planning Statement and is shown below.

Our Community

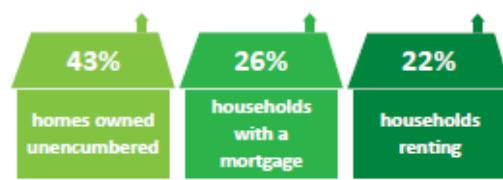
INDIVIDUAL WEEKLY INCOME



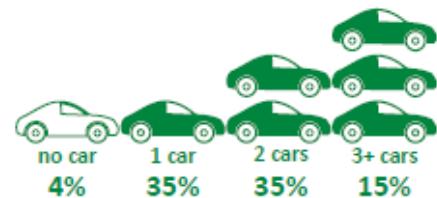
HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION



HOUSING TENURE



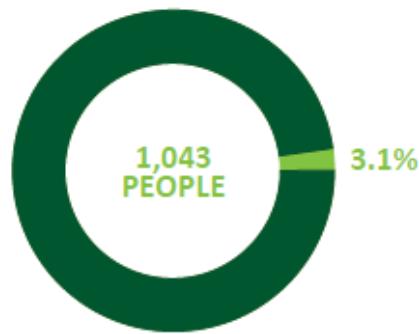
HOUSEHOLD CAR OWNERSHIP



DWELLINGS PROFILE AND OCCUPANCY



ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLES



METHODS OF TRAVEL TO WORK

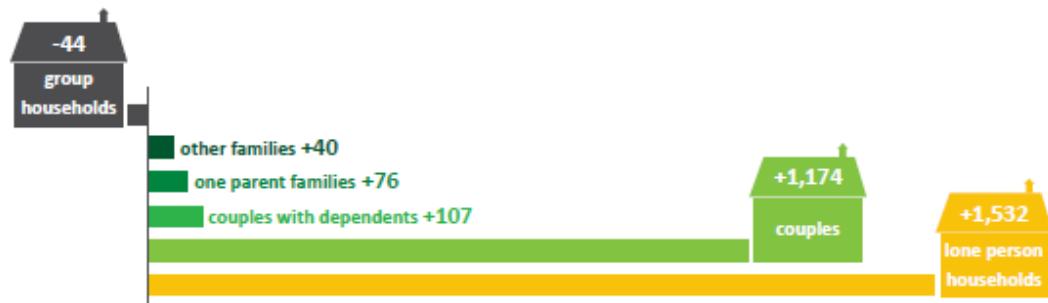


POPULATION

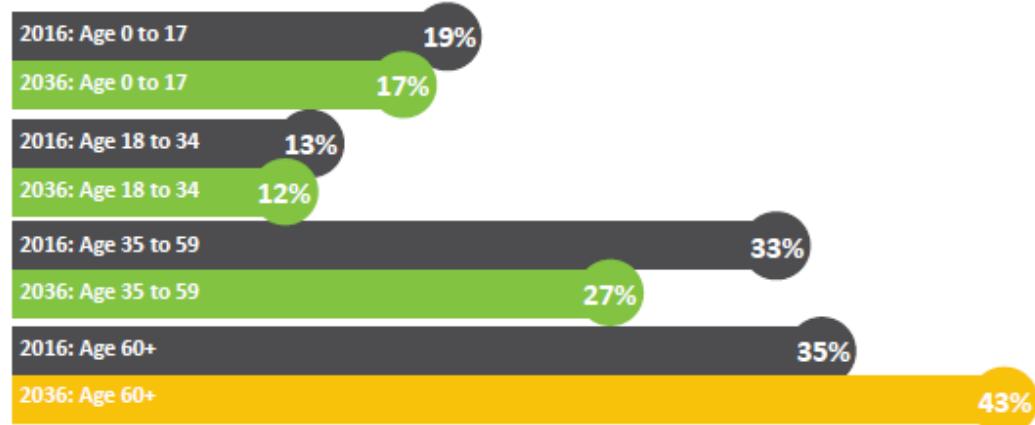
FORECAST ANNUAL GROWTH RATE: 0.6%



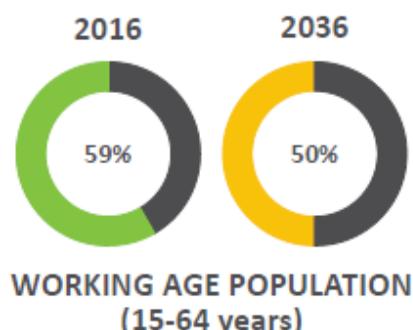
FORECAST CHANGE IN HOUSEHOLD TYPE 2016-2036



FORECAST POPULATION CHANGE



Source: [id the population experts](#)



Stakeholder Identification

Governance Structure

Council will be the lead agency for the development of the CMP and will consult with other land managers (incl. Crown Lands, NPWS, Forestry, Eurobodalla Shire Council & Local Aboriginal Land Councils), relevant agencies and stakeholders throughout the process.

Council has an existing Coast and Flood and Management Committee (CFMC) which includes representatives from Council, state government agencies, community members and Councillors. This is a formal committee established under section 255 of the *Local Government Act 1993* with meetings held three times per year. Council will utilise CPMC meetings to provide broad input and feedback on the development and progress of the CMP and into the implementation phase.

The Committee contains representatives from the following groups or agencies:

- DPE National Parks and Wildlife Service
- DPI - Fisheries
- DPE - Biodiversity and Conservation Division
- Bournda Environmental Education Centre
- Community Representatives
- Bega Valley Shire Aquaculture Industry
- DPE Crown Lands
- South East Local Land Services
- Transport for NSW - Maritime
- NSW Forestry Corporation
- BVSC - Councillors
- BVSC – Staff

Additional agencies may attend as required including:

- DPIE- Planning and Assessment
- A nominee from the SES
- A nominee from Eurobodalla Shire Council
- A representative from Local Aboriginal Land Councils (Merrimans, Bega and Eden LALC's)

Given the extensive area of the Bega Valley Shire with very area focused communities and issues, Council proposes to also establish focus groups for each CMP which contain representatives relevant to the local area. This method has been utilised in preparation of our

draft CMP's and has proved successful. These focus groups contain relevant agencies, Councillors and community representatives.

Stakeholder Identification

A list of stakeholders with relevance to the coastal zone have been identified for involvement in the development of the Scoping Study and future CMP's. These stakeholders are listed below.

Key Internal

- BVSC - Environment & Sustainability
- BVSC – Recreation & Leisure
- BVSC – Assets
- BVSC – Strategic Planning
- BVSC – Water & Sewer
- BVSC – Community Development
- BVSC – Environmental Health & Building Services
- BVSC – Planning Services
- Councillors
- Coastal Planning and Management Committee

Key External

Government Agencies – Federal and State

- National Parks & Wildlife Service
- DPI- Fisheries
- DPIE - Biodiversity and Conservation Division
- South East Local Land Services
- DPI - Batemans Marine Park
- DPIE Crown Lands
- Transport for NSW (Roads & Maritime)
- Transport for NSW - Centre for Maritime Safety
- NSW Forestry Corporation
- NSW Environmental Protection Authority (EPA)
- Bournda Environmental Education Centre (NSW Department of Education)
- Water NSW
- Port Authority (Port of Eden)
- Heritage NSW
- DPIE - Planning

- SES

Local Government

- Eurobodalla Shire Council

Local Aboriginal Land Councils (LALC's)

- Merrimans LALC
- Bega LALC
- Eden LALC

Advisory Bodies

- NSW Oyster Farmers Committee
- Coastal Planning and Management Committee

Individuals

- Residents
- Ratepayers
- Landowners
- Visitors & tourists

Community organisations & volunteer groups

- Far South Coast Landcare Association
- RFS
- Resident & Advocacy Groups
- Environment & Conservation Groups (Panboola)
- Community & Recreational Groups (Merimbula Big Game and Lakes Angling Club)
- Surf Life Saving Clubs (Bermagui, Pambula & Tathra SLSC & FSC Branch)
- Marine Rescue (Eden, Bermagui, Merimbula)

Business & Industry

- Chamber of Commerce (Merimbula, Eden, Bermagui, Tathra)
- Visitor information Centres
- Sapphire Coast Tourism
- Bermagui Fishermans Wharf and Co-op
- Port of Eden
- Bermagui Harbour Marina Agriculture and Aquaculture Industry
- Sapphire Coast Wilderness Oysters
- Essential Energy
- Media

Council has a database of contacts for community consultation and specific groups or individuals to notify would be refined later in the CMP process to suit each individual CMP.

Engagement Approach

Principles of engagement

Community engagement is about involving the community in decision-making and allows Council to gather information which enhances decision making and service delivery. A key role for councils is to work with the community and stakeholders to identify major issues and potential impacts and to understand the implications of management actions. This demands a mix of approaches to listen and learn from the community, to inform and to involve them in decision making. This Strategy references a continuum of community engagement based on the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) spectrum.

The IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation framework (Figure 1) is a methodology for determining the scope of engagement and level of influence the community has in decision making.

Increasing Level of Public Impact				
Public Participation goal	Promise to the public	Example techniques	Inform	Consult
Example techniques			Involve	Collaborate
To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.	We will keep you informed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Media releases Council News Council agendas and minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have Your Say Focus groups Surveys Public Meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workshops Focus groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workshops Focus groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Citizen advisory committees Mediation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grants Project proposals Place making activities
To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions.	We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.			
To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.	We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.			
To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.	We will look to you for advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decision to the maximum extent possible			
To place final decision making in the hands of the public.	To place final decision-making in the hands of the public.			

Figure 1: IAP2 public participation spectrum (BVSC Community Engagement Strategy 2019).

Level of Consultation

Council has adopted the IAP2 Public Participation framework as a methodology for determining the scope of engagement and how decisions are made. This guides us to engage depending on the scope or impact of the project to either inform, consult, involve, collaborate or empower the community in decision making.

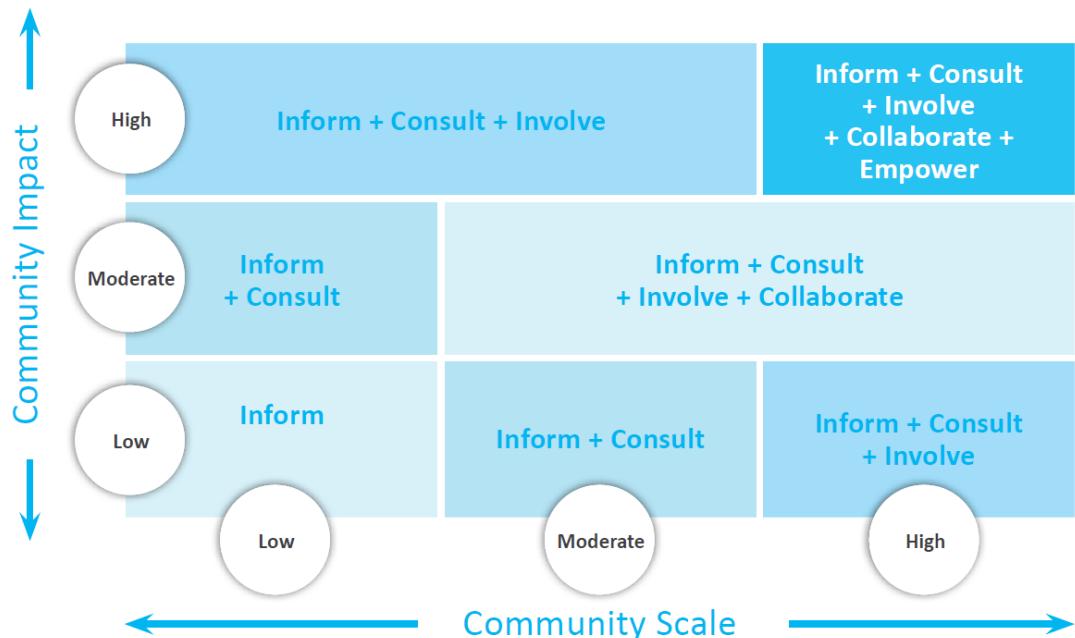


Figure 2: Application of IAP2 spectrum relative to scale and impact of activity.

Methods of Engagement

Councils Community Engagement Toolkit provides guidance on methods and techniques that may be used for varying levels of engagement. These opportunities are detailed below in Table 1.

Table 1: Engagement methods for each level of engagement.

Public Participation Spectrum					
IAP2 levels of engagement	Inform	Consult	Involve	Collaborate	Empower
Purpose	To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.	To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions.	To work directly with the public throughout the process and ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.	To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and identification of the preferred solution.	To place the final decision making in the hands of the public.

BVSC Consultation activities & mediums	Council News Social Media Community noticeboards Community open days Community champions Council email subscriptions Physical media incl. mailbox leaflets, letters, site signage Rates notices Public exhibitions Promotional publications Media releases Local newspapers/publications	One-on-one conversations Surveys (online & hard copy) Have your say (website) Community conversations Councillors in the community Council listening posts	Focus groups Community Workshops Project reference group	Committees of Council Community Project Proposal Advisory Groups	Community led projects Community grants Local government elections Deliberate democracy
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Engagement with the Local Aboriginal Community

Bega Eden Merrimans (BEM) Liaison Committee is a Section 355 committee under the Local Government Act. The committee works at a strategic level in partnership with Council to advance the cultural, social and economic interest of local aboriginal people. The committee is a formal advisory body of Council for the purposes of considering, discussing and advising on the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding between Council and Local Aboriginal Lands Councils.

The committee is comprised of nine members consisting of two representatives from each Local Aboriginal Lands Council, the mayor and two members of Council staff. At each meeting three youth representatives, one from each LALC Boards may attend as observers. Meetings are held no less than two times per year.

Limitations & opportunities

Through previous engagement it has been identified that LALC's lack sufficient resources to be able to review reports, attend meetings and provide feedback. The Scoping Study and preparation of Coastal Management Programs was on the agenda on the BEM Meeting held on 3rd May 2021. The project was discussed with the Committee and issues of ongoing consultation highlighted.

The following items were raised for consideration in future engagement through the stages of the CMP:

- Contact to be initiated through both email and phone calls to LALC CEO's
- Aboriginal engagement to be undertaken in person onsite at LALC Offices

- Sharing of large reports and documents for review is ineffective – preference for in person consultation/presentation
- Provide funding for appropriate LALC members and/or knowledge holders to attend meetings/consultation

Based on this advice, Council proposes to utilise existing BEM Committee Meetings to provide overall updates on the Coastal Management Program and facilitate individual sessions with LALC's for more in detail discussions regarding individual actions.

Review of Previous Community Engagement

Council had commenced a Coastal Hazard CMP and multiple estuary CMP's prior to the new coastal management framework was finalised. The estuary CMP's are currently in draft form and will be finalised following completion of the scoping study. The Coastal Hazards CMP has been closed off as it no longer meets the requirements of the manual with information and work done as part of this to be utilised in future CMPs as applicable. Through the preparation of the Draft Coastal Hazards CMP and BVSC community survey a significant volume of work was done to identify issues and community values within the coastal zone. This information will help be utilised in both the scoping study and future CMP development.

Council has recently undertaken shire wide consultation for the Community Strategic Plan (2016) and in the initial stages of the Coastal Management Program which Council already had underway prior to preparing a scoping study. This work provided a great deal of information regarding the values and issues within the coastal zone and is considered sufficient for the preparation of the Scoping Study. Previous consultation has been reviewed and summarised below.

Community Strategic Plan 2040

As part of the development of the Community Strategic Plan 2040 (BVSC, 2016) a shire wide Understanding Our Place survey was undertaken resulting in feedback from 2,000 community members and 25,000 comments. This survey provided feedback on what the community loves about the Bega Valley, challenges, ambitions and the direction they would like the shire to head. Two key values identified as high value to the Bega Valley Shire residents were the natural environment and the local communities.

Key results from the *Understanding our Place* survey related to management of our coastline include:

- 40% of respondents indicated that it's the natural environment that sets the place we live apart from others
- When asked what they love most about the place we live, almost 9% of respondents said it was the coast, beach and sea while 9% said it was trees, forests, wildlife, waterways and mountains.
- 17% of respondents indicated that the most important thing in their life currently was the relaxed coastal country lifestyle.

The information was collected through a mix of broad scale and targeted methods including:

- Main survey undertaken either online or on paper
- Listening posts in the CBD's of 4 major town centres and 9 markets throughout the Bega Valley Shire
- 11 town hall drop in sessions in villages throughout the Bega Valley Shire
- Shorter version of the survey was completed by 62 targeted individuals or groups who completed the survey together
- Youth survey designed and sessions run at high schools – 252 people aged under 18 participated
- Age specific engagement with preschool children – 37 groups of primary school children who completed a mind map exercise

The survey was promoted through the following channels:

- Attending community group meetings, events and community services
- Email contact lists of Bega Valley Shire Library, local community and sporting organisations, local businesses, local TAFE and University of Wollongong Campuses
- Advertising on radio, local newspapers, Council's website, Facebook page and Village newsletter, displays in all local libraries, flyers and posted in shops and town noticeboards

Coastal Management Program – Coastal Hazards

During the development of the Councils Coastal Hazards CMP a 'Uses and Values of Your Coast' survey was developed to gain an understanding of the communities uses of our coastal areas; expectations for management of the coastal zone and management of coastal hazards. This engagement was undertaken in 2017 with the survey having 80 respondents well distributed across the shire.

The survey was developed to gain an in-depth understanding of how the community uses specific coastal sites within the Bega Valley region, including which beaches were most commonly frequented and what sort of activities people undertook at each location. More generally, the questionnaire also provided information on what the community and stakeholders valued for the BVSC beaches and estuary foreshores, and the public's view on a number of coastal management actions. Detail on findings from this survey can be found in the Coastal Management Program- Coastal Hazards: Coastal Zone Uses and Values Report (Appendix A).

The questionnaire was available in both hard copy and electronic format and was distributed via:

- Public information sessions
- Project website

- Direct email to various databases (e.g. people registered with CMP database, place based officer contact lists)
- Targeted locations (e.g. Council libraries and centres)
- Media
- Councils social media including Facebook and council newsletters

Engagement Activities

- Formal stakeholder presentations/workshops
- Targeted Stakeholder Meetings
- Community and Stakeholder updates (social media, newsletter, project webpage)
- Media Releases
- Public information sessions
- Community Questionnaire – ‘Uses and Values of Your Coast’ available in both hard and electronic format.
- Project website to both distribute information and provide opportunity for community to have their say,
- Social media
- Briefing sessions for focus group and CMPC
- Interaction with Councils Place Based Officers
- Register for interested people for direct communication via email.

Feedback

A Coastal Hazards: Community and Stakeholder Engagement Report (UNSW WRL 2017a) was developed and provides an overview of the feedback received in the survey. Key feedback is summarised below.

Uses and Activities

The beaches of the shire are used by our communities for a variety of purposes. Key messages collected during community consultation and the survey included:

- most regularly used beaches are located near the population centres.
- while there are well frequented, easy to access beaches in the area, the community chooses to continue also using harder to access sites. This indicates that our local people value the diverse range of experiences that the different beaches have to offer, and both the busy and accessible beaches of the Shire as well as the remote less frequented areas are both valued by the community but for different reasons.

- estuaries and their foreshores are typically used in more diverse ways in comparison with open coast beaches – with uses including boating, fishing, kayaking, swimming and walking among others;
- due to the diverse nature of the beaches in the Bega Valley Shire region, the uses of the beaches are closely tied to the site specific natural and built resources available, which are unique characteristics of individual locations and important considerations when planning coastal management responses for specific locations.
- walking was identified as the major use of the coastal and estuarine foreshore and beach areas at most coastal locations; however, this is expected to vary with season;
- swimming is generally most popular at protected beaches, ocean pools and patrolled beaches.

Values

Our residents and community members in the coastal areas of the shire have expressed that the beaches and estuaries of the region are an extremely important factor that influences their enjoyment and value of their local area. With regards to community values of coastal areas, key feedback from the survey process indicated:

- the natural and pristine conditions, water quality and scenery are typically valued more highly than other aspects of our coastal areas;
- while people appreciate and use public infrastructure (e.g. recreational amenities and club houses), there appears to be little desire to expand the facilities to a greater number of areas. While the community recognise the importance of well-maintained facilities at urban coastal areas, they also indicate that it is important to maintain some locations which have no or few public facilities beyond the natural amenity;
- while the numbers of people visiting our remote coastal locations may be fewer than our urban beaches, the availability of locations that are uncrowded and undeveloped is viewed by our community as a characteristic that is relatively unique to the Bega Valley Shire area of NSW, and seen as an essential characteristic to preserve;

The shire is home to some of the least developed coastline in NSW, and the community would like to see it remain that way. The reasons behind this are varied – some community members believe it is why the south coast is a tourist destination; others want to see the preservation of environmental and cultural heritage for future generations, while others simply enjoy the wilderness, wildlife and relative isolation they gain from living in the region. For the most part, our community does not desire big changes to the coastline, but rather would like to see the pristine conditions of the coast be maintained and recognised in Council policy and actions in CMPs.

Threats to community values

The local community has a unique view into threats to the coastal zone within the shire. Many people expressed a view that climate change, including sea level rise, is one of the biggest threats to the coastal zone. The impact of storms, including both erosion and inundation, is generally well recognised as an issue with potentially hazardous consequences along the coast. This shows a significant understanding of coastal processes from the public in the region and is indicative of their openness to dealing with the impacts of climate change effectively.

The local community perceives a number of threats to the coastal region, which they would like to see be addressed in CMPs. Threats that were typically highlighted by community members in survey responses include:

- climate change, including sea level rise;
- storm erosion and inundation;
- over development or poorly managed development;
- rubbish, litter and pollution; and
- sedimentation of the lake entrances.

Coastal Management from a Community Perspective

Understanding how and why the community values the beaches in the shire is integral to understanding how they would like to see the coastline managed into the future. From the results of the community questionnaire, the following three coastal management approaches were identified as most important to the community:

- maintaining the natural and pristine conditions of the beaches;
- strengthening natural storm buffers (e.g. dunes and dune vegetation); and
- managing new developments in potentially hazardous locations.

In particular, the community has expressed a desire to approach coastal management in an environmentally sustainable way. Respondents demonstrated an understanding of the dangers of the ever-changing coastal environment and are in favour of preventing construction in active areas of the coastal zone. The protection of public property (roads, community buildings, etc.) is seen as somewhat important to most people; however, is secondary to the maintenance of the natural beach conditions. Protecting private property was typically identified as the least important management issue by the wider public.

Engagement Methodology

The tables below provides a guideline for activities to be undertaken at each stage of the CMP process. For the CMP's that are underway some of this work has been undertaken as indicated in the 'status' column.

Stage 1 – Identify the scope of a CMP

Level of Engagement – Inform, consult, involve

Outcomes:

- Stakeholders and community understand how they can be involved in preparation of a CMP
- Establish working relationships built on mutual respect
- Understand community goals, aspirations, values and priorities
- Understand community motivations to participate in planning and implementation
- Help community understand dynamic nature of coastal processes and the need to set long term objectives
- Increase community understanding of the new legislative and planning framework (CM Act, CM SEPP and manual)
- Public authorities understand their roles and responsibilities in relation to the CMP
- Determine the engagement activities that are required during the preparation of subsequent stages of the CMP

Stage 1 Engagement Activities		
Activity	Description	Status
Review of previous community and stakeholder engagement	Council has recently undertaken significant shire wide community and stakeholder engagement which has been reviewed and utilised in developing the scoping study. A 'Uses and Values of Your Coast' survey was undertaken in the initial stages of CMP preparation in 2016. A summary of outcomes is provided in the Scoping Study.	Complete
Risk assessment workshop with Coastal Planning and Management Committee	BMT facilitated a risk assessment workshop at the CPMC Meeting held on the 25th March. Initial findings of the first pass risk assessment were presented to the committee and feedback on risk ratings, priorities and hot spots were collected.	Complete

Aboriginal Engagement	The Scoping Study and preparation of Coastal Management Programs was on the agenda on the BEM Meeting held on 3rd May 2021. The project was discussed with the Committee and issues of ongoing consultation highlighted.	Complete
CPMC review of risk assessment findings and forward plan	The CPMC meeting on the 8th July will be utilized to review the risk assessment and provide comment on the proposed forward plan for the CMP.s	Complete
Draft SS to DPIE-EES	DPIE provided initial review on draft and content and	Complete
Final SS to key agencies	Provide final scoping study to key agencies including DPIE	Jan 2022
Presentation of Scoping Study to Council	Presentation of Scoping Study at Council briefing	TBC
Submission of Scoping Study to DPIE -EES	Submission of Scoping Study to DPIE-EES	TBC

Stage 2- Determine risks, vulnerabilities & opportunities

Level of Engagement - Inform, consult, involve

Outcomes:

- A shared understanding of risks and opportunities over different timeframes and the range of actions to address these
- A shared understanding of the varied perspectives about coastal management within the community
- Council understands community's attitude to risk
- Community and stakeholders understand vulnerabilities, risk and opportunity studies including technical aspects such as scenarios for sea level rise, hazards and impacts
- Increased community trust of technical information based on their involvement and understanding of assumptions and limitations

Stage 2 Engagement Activities		
Activity	Description	Status
Establishment of dedicated webpage	When Council commenced development of CMP's in 2015/2016 a dedicated website was set and managed by a consultant detailing all of Council's CMP's which were under development. Going forward this	Link to dedicated website is provided on Council's website. Information to be transferred directly onto a Council webpage to be facilitated by Council moving forward.

	page will be based on Councils website and will detail project progress and updates.	
Development of mailing list for interested parties	Via the webpage Council has set up a register for interested parties to be on a mailing list for project updates. Council will build upon this list throughout the preparation and implementation of CMPs and provide updates on progress, implementation and community engagement activities & events.	Ongoing
Online and in person survey	Surveys will be undertaken to allow community input regarding their values and uses of the coastal zone and issues or concerns they may have. The information captured through these surveys will be used to inform stage 2 and 3 of CMP development.	Targeted surveys have been developed and completed for Bermagui River CMP, Wallaga Lake CMP, Merimbula & Back Lake CMP and Lake Curalo CMP. A shire wide survey was also undertaken for the Coastal Hazards CMP.
Drop in sessions	Given the large area of the Bega Valley, drop-in sessions will be conducted across the shire to provide information to the community, allow for discussion and input. Location of meetings will be dependent on areas covered in the CMP.	Drop in sessions were held at Bermagui, Tathra, Merimbula & Eden during 2017 in preparation of the Coastal Hazards CMP.
Promotion & media release	Surveys and information regarding CMP development to be promoted via all mediums including social media, newsletters, mailing lists, media outlets, letters to landholders and website. Notifications will be provided to key stakeholders dependent on the area/threat of each CMP.	Complete for Bermagui River CMP, Wallaga Lake CMP, Merimbula & Back Lake CMP and Lake Curalo CMP and what was formally a Coastal Hazards CMP.
Establishment of Focus Group and delivery of workshops	For each CMP a focus group will be established to work with Council throughout the development of the CMP. The focus groups will provide a streamlined but representative mechanism for a broad range of stakeholder groups. The number of members has been considered to be manageable to be inclusive but also enable efficient progress through project stages. Representatives from agencies will be directly invited and a broader expression of interest undertaken to fill community representative spots.	Council currently have 5 separate focus groups engaged in CMPs for Bermagui, Wallaga, Lake Curalo, Merimbula/Back and what was formally a Coastal Hazards CMP. The Coastal Hazards CMP focus group will be notified and disbanded following closure of CMP.
Direct consultation with relevant agencies	All key agencies and land managers should be on the focus group however some additional consultation may be required depending on issues/actions raised. Also follow up with any key stakeholders who may have missed meetings.	Will be undertaken once existing CMP's are revised.
Meetings with LALC's	Meetings will be conducted with the appropriate LALCs for each CMP to ensure	LALC representatives participated in focus group meetings for Bermagui,

	aboriginal values, issues and opportunities are factored into the CMP.	Wallaga, Lake Curalo, Merimbula/Back estuary CMP's.
Briefing session for CPMC	Updates on the progress of CMP development will continue to be provided to CPMC at meetings.	ongoing

Stage 3 - Identify & evaluate options

Level of Engagement - Inform, consult, collaborate

Outcomes:

- Strong working partnerships
- Managers within council aware of coastal hazards, threats, risks and vulnerabilities, opportunities and actions relevant to their responsibilities and potential conflict with other council priorities
- Public authorities contribute to identification and evaluation of management options and aware of responsibilities and accept the adaptive nature of the CMP
- Council understands stakeholder views about cost-benefit distribution, willingness to pay and potential trade off.
- Robust options understood by all stakeholders in terms of risks, cost and benefits

Stage 3 Engagement Activities		
Activity	Description	Status
Focus group meetings	Focus groups will meet at least three times throughout the stages of the CMP. Meetings will be utilised to prioritise issues to guide field work; synthesise issues and discuss potential management actions and; review draft CMP. May include field trips to view sites.	Undertaken for Bermagui River CMP, Wallaga Lake CMP, Merimbula & Back Lake CMP and Lake Curalo CMP. A final focus group meeting will be required for each CMP to review final draft and amendments following completion of CMP.
Consultation with relevant BVSC departments	Internally consultation with BVSC staff to ensure support for actions.	Yet to commence
Meetings with LALC's	Meetings will be conducted with the appropriate LALCs for each CMP to ensure aboriginal values, issues and opportunities are factored into the CMP.	A meeting has been held with Merrimans LALC regarding the Bermagui CMP. Additional meetings need to be held in regards to other CMP's.
Direct consultation with relevant agencies	All key agencies and land managers should be on the focus group however some additional consultation may be required depending on issues/actions raised. Also follow up with any key stakeholders who may have missed meetings.	Yet to commence

Stage 4 - Prepare exhibit, finalise, certify & adopt CMP

Level of Engagement - Inform, consult, involve

Objectives

- Community and stakeholder support for actions and priorities in the CMP
- Increased awareness about funding options and how CMP implementation will be integrated with Councils resourcing strategy and delivery program under IP&R
- Public authorities acknowledge roles and responsibilities in the CMP

Stage 4 Engagement Activities		
Activity	Description	Status
Notification to and sign off from land managers and key stakeholders	Council must receive sign off from all land managers and agencies assigned actions in the CMP.	Not yet commenced
Submit draft CMP to Council for endorsement	This will involve a Councillor Briefing prior to a Council Meeting. Council to endorse CMP to go on exhibition.	Not yet commenced
Public Exhibition of draft CMP and input via 'have your say' page.	Project updates to be provided to all mailing lists and key stakeholders and also promoted via Councils social media, newsletter, website and media releases.	Not yet commenced
Community Information sessions	Information sessions to be undertaken across the shire to help with community understanding of the CMPs, to allow for discussion and questions and facilitate input into the draft CMP.	Not yet commenced
Submission of CMP to DPIE EES and land holders assigned actions	DPIE EES and key agencies with assigned actions to give final sign off on CMP prior to adoption by Council.	Not yet commenced
Presentation to Council and adoption of Final CMP	All responses received during the exhibition phase will be collated into a submission summary to be considered and any amendments made to the CMP.	Not yet commenced
Submission of final CMP to Minister	CMP is submitted to the Minister for certification.	Not yet commenced
Council Gazettes the CMP	Council, after certification by the Minister, must publish it in the Gazette.	Not yet commenced

Stage 5 - Implement, monitor, evaluate & report

Level of Engagement - Inform, consult, collaborate

Outcomes:

- Community understanding of how CMP will be implemented through the IP&R framework and land use planning system; and by other public authorities
- Community informed about progress on actions
- Community is aware of effectiveness of actions in terms of changes to coastal profile, coastal condition and community satisfaction
- Continue partnership with community by creating opportunities for community involvement in implementing monitoring, evaluating and reporting effectiveness of CMP

Stage 5 Engagement Activities		
Activity	Description	Status
Ongoing Promotion (website, media, social media, council news)	Provide updates on projects or works via mailing lists, council news, social media, media and website. Development of a yearly report detailing progress on CMP, any works or studies completed and results.	Not yet commenced
Community participation and education	Encourage ongoing engagement and participation through community activities such as community planting days, clean ups, educational sessions/walks and citizen science projects.	Not yet commenced
Coastal Planning and Management Committee Meetings	Continue to provide project updates and progress reports on implementation of CMPs through CPMC meetings. Utilise these meetings to engage with other land managers assigned actions to gauge progress.	Not yet commenced
Internal BVSC meetings and incorporation into IP&R framework	Proposed six monthly meetings with relevant internal departments to provide update on progress, actions completed and maintain awareness of the CMP.	Not yet commenced