

OUR Story A snapshot of Eurobodalla in 2021



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OUR STORY 2021

Our Story 2021 is a snapshot of Eurobodalla at a point in time; reflecting our social, environmental, economic and governance positions.

It provides a summary for the community to consider in the review of Eurobodalla's Community Strategic Plan, which is undertaken every four years.

Developed with community input, the Community Strategic Plan describes where we want to be in 20 years' time. It is designed to encourage commitment to our future and a sense of common purpose and responsibility. It also assists the new Council to understand the community aspirations.

Our Story is the first phase of the Community Strategic Plan review – information sharing.

Our Story 2021 is arranged according to the vision statements outlined in the Eurobodalla Community Strategic Plan 2017; Friendly, Responsible, Thriving and Proud. Under each category you will find information about what the shire offers and how we feel about life here. All three levels of government work together to provide services and facilities for the community. We offer these facts and figures to help guide your feedback.

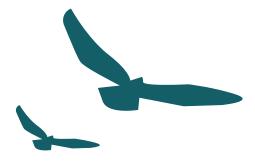
Our Story 2021 was informed by the most recent data available at the time of publication from the following sources:

- Australian Bureau of Statistics, including
 comparative data for regional NSW and NSW
- Profile id Eurobodalla community profile and forecast tool
- 2021 Community Satisfaction and Wellbeing research
- Australian Government National Recovery and Resilience Agency Local Area profiles
- SpendMapp
- HealthStatsNSW
- Australia Early Development Census
- Eurobodalla Shire Council reports and publications



OUR EUROBODALLA

" Eurobodalla is a vibrant community with strong rural and coastal heritage and Indigenous culture "



Eurobodalla is a vibrant community with strong rural and coastal heritage and Indigenous culture. Our local economy is diverse; built around construction, tourism, retail and health industries. Located close to Canberra and Sydney, Eurobodalla offers an alternative to city living.

The Walbanga people of the Yuin Nation are recognised as the first people of our region. The Dhurga speaking Walbanga people have lived in this area for thousands of years and have an enduring custodianship and connection over the land and waterways of Eurobodalla.

Moruya Shire was formed in 1906 after the first elections on 8 December 1906, with E M Mort elected as the first Shire President. In 1954, Eurobodalla Shire was formed and in 2008, Eurobodalla chose its first popularlyelected Mayor, Fergus Thomson OAM. With 143km of coastline, 83 beaches and four major river systems, Eurobodalla is known as the land of many waters. Over three-quarters of our land area is open space, consisting of 10 national parks and 15 state forests.

In 2020, Eurobodalla's estimated resident population was 38,952. Based on current projections, it is expected to reach more than 45,000 by 2036. Our population is spread along the coastline, in the regional centre of Batemans Bay, the main towns of Moruya and Narooma and smaller villages and rural areas.

Eurobodalla is in the NSW state electorate of Bega. It straddles Australian Government electorate boundaries; Gilmore to the north and Eden-Monaro to the south. Eurobodalla also sits in the Southern NSW Local Heath District.

CHALLENGING TIMES

We are a resilient community

Fires, floods and a pandemic have formed part of Our Story in recent years. Some indicators throughout Our Story may reflect these extraordinary times, which have impacted all residents in Eurobodalla to varying degrees.

BLACK SUMMER BUSHFIRES

The 2019-20 Black Summer Bushfires devastated Eurobodalla. More than 271,000 of our 343,000 hectares, or 81% of our shire, was directly fireimpacted.As a community we experienced:

- the tragic loss of three lives
- large loss of native animals and farm stock
- more than 90% of our state forests and national parks burnt
- 501 homes destroyed
- 80 facilities destroyed
- 859 outbuildings destroyed
- 274 houses damaged
- 297 outbuildings damaged and 49 facilities damaged
- substantial damage to public infrastructure, including roads, bridges, water, sewer and telecommunications
- an estimated \$150.3 million in damage to the local economy or 12.8% of the total economy.

In early 2020, our community entered the recovery phase:

- established Bushfire Recovery Centres in Batemans Bay and Narooma, registering 6,000 households and running 14 community meetings, with 500+ attendees
- established the Eurobodalla Bushfire Recovery Support Service providing case managers for over 650 impacted residents
- 67,090 tonnes of bushfire waste to Council landfills
- weed control program well underway
- water and sewer infrastructure repaired
- 309 Development Applications for bushfire rebuilds received within 18 months and 258 apporved with an average turnaround time of 36.52 days
- of the 18 damaged or destroyed bridges throughout the shire 15 were rebuilt or repaired within 18 months.
- advocacy to improve resilience of highways, telecommunications, power supply, water supply, evacuation centres, aged care facilities, fuel supply, food supply, plus a purpose built emergency operations precinct.





MORE NATURAL DISASTERS

Following the fires, Eurobodalla experienced seven more declared natural disasters, with floods in February, July, August, October and December 2020, and March and May 2021.

These events caused extensive and problematic damage to our environment and local road infrastructure. The combined impacts of fire damage and seven floods was particularly significant to the unsealed road network and rural bridges. Some of these roads traverse difficult terrain and unavoidable delays to repairs significantly affected some remote communities and landowners in rural areas.

COVID-19 PANDEMIC

From March 2020 Eurobodalla, along with the rest of Australia, entered periods of COVID restrictions.

Many impacts were experienced across Eurobodalla including:

- international and interstate travel restrictions
- employment impacts, including job losses, reduction in hours or working from home
- home schooling of students
- cancellation of numerous community events and sporting competitions, creating a loss of community connectedness

The economic impacts for our shire were estimated to reduce our gross regional product by 7.2%, impacting our accommodation and food services and manufacturing sectors the hardest.

83% residents reported they were affected by the 2019-20 Black Summer Bushfires

35% residents reported they were affected by COVID-19

33% residents reported they were affected by storms and flooding events over the past 18 months

Support for local emergency services remained high, with ratings for these services at:

95% Importance **86%** Satisfaction

FRIENDLY

We are happy, supportive and welcoming

A liveable community has pride of place, ease of access, community harmony, and a mobile and healthy population that is encouraged and motivated to participate in community life. There is a feeling of safety and security, a strong and vibrant cultural base and places to relax, study and play which means people are happy with their work life balance.

Vision Statement, Community Strategic Plan 2017



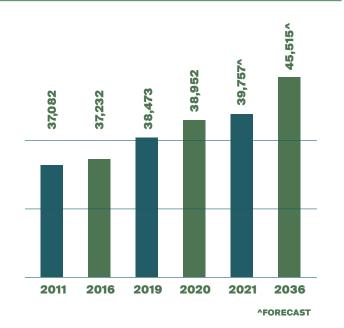
Friendly

OUR PEOPLE



6.8% POPULATION GROWTH FROM 2016 TO 2021

BETWEEN NOW AND 2036 OUR POPULATION IS EXPECTED TO GROW 14.5%



MEDIAN AGE



30.4% AGED 65+ THIS IS EXPECTED TO GROW TO 34.1% BY 2036

55.1% WORKING POPULATION (15 - 64), THIS IS EXPECTED TO DECREASE TO 50.5% BY 2036

77.6% BORN IN AUSTRALIA (REGIONAL 80.9%, NSW 65.5%)



83

NSW

AUSTRALIA

5.6% ABORIGINAL OR TORRES

ABORIGINAL OR TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER (REGIONAL 5.5%, NSW 2.9%)

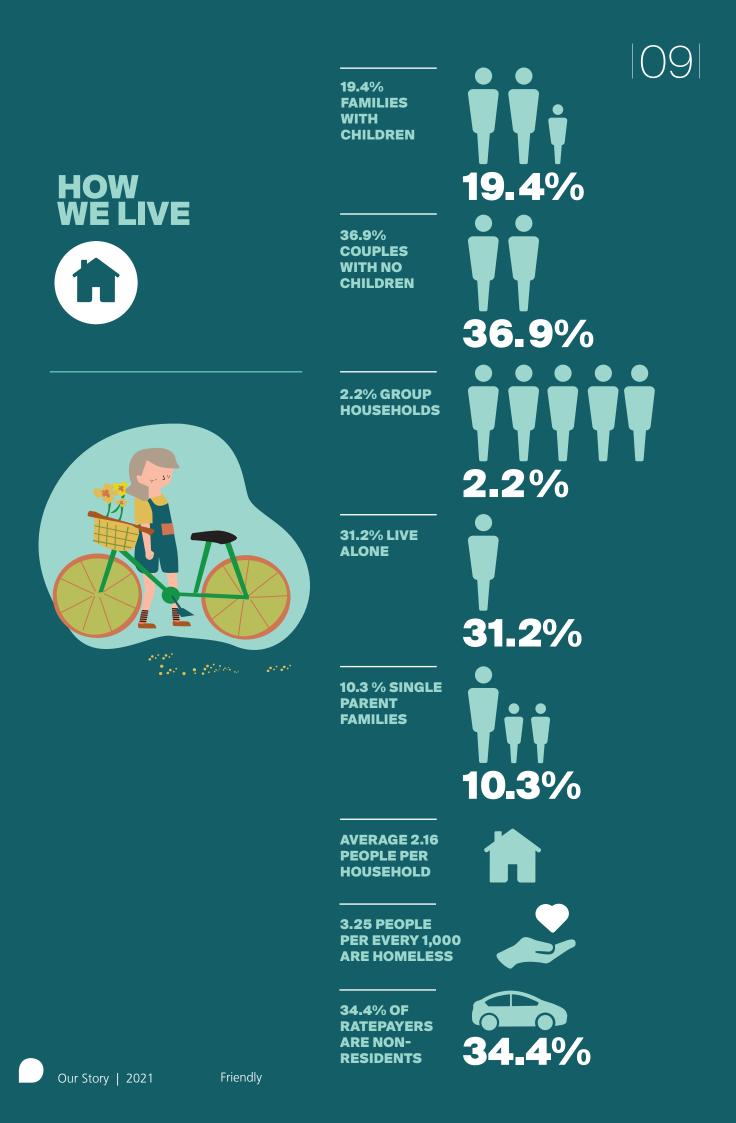
28.8% PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY

14.8% PEOPLE ARE CARERS **2,276** RECEIVE A DISABILITY SUPPORT PENSION

714 RECEIVE A CARER'S PAYMENT

8,056 RECEIVE AN AGE PENSION

338 RECEIVE A SERVICE PENSION





OUR SAFETY



OUR ROAD SAFETY



92% FEEL SAFE AT HOME AT NIGHT

93% FEEL SAFE IN THEIR NEIGHBOURHOOD DURING THE DAY

69% FEEL SAFE AND PREPARED FOR AN EMERGENCY

60% FEEL THAT MOST PEOPLE CAN BE TRUSTED

1,530 INCIDENTS OF CRIME BASED ON 17 MAJOR OFFENCES

41.5% INCREASE IN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RELATED ASSAULT IN THE PAST 24 MONTHS

CRIME STATISTICS ARE STABLE AND DECREASED OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF ASSAULT - DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RELATED ANNUAL AVERAGE FROM 2016-2020:

38 FATAL CRASHES



244 CRASHES RESULTING IN SERIOUS INJURY

41.8 CRASHES RESULTING IN MODERATE INJURY



11.2 CRASHES RESULTING IN MINOR INJURY





OUR LIFESTYLE



COUNCIL CURRENTLY HAS THE FOLLOWING MAJOR PROJECTS IN PROGRESS:

BAY PAVILIONS - A NEW AQUATICE, ARTS AND LEISURE CENTRE

MOGO ADVENTURE TRAIL HUB

BATEMANS BAY COASTAL HEADLAND WALK

COUNCIL MANAGES THE FOLLOWING COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE TO SUPPORT OUR FRIENDLY LIFESTYLE:

75%

EXERCISE FOR AT LEAST 30 MINUTES. THREE TIMES A WEEK



ARE REGISTERED IN A SPORTING CLUB



VISITED PARKS, **PLAYGROUNDS OR SKATE PARKS**



USED SHARED PATHWAYS





VISITED THE BEACH

82%

OF RESIDENTS PARTICIPATED IN SOME TYPE OF ARTS OR CULTURAL ACTIVITY IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS

TOP 3 ACTIVITIES:

1. MOVIES (50%) 2. LIBRARIES (43%) **3. MUSEUMS/ART GALLERIES**/ **EXHIBITIONS (34%)**

84.5KM FOOTPATHS	34 PLAYGROUNDS
49.6KM	31 TENNIS COURTS
SHARED PATHWAYS	24 SPORTING FIELDS
478 BENCH SEATS	22 BOAT RAMPS
103 PARKS	11 CEMETERIES
47 STAND-ALONE PUBLIC TOILETS	11 NETBALL COURTS

- 9 **PUBLIC HALLS**
 - VIEWING 6 **PLATFORMS**
 - 5 **SKATE PARKS**

 - **LIBRARIES** 2

3

SWIMMING **CENTRES**

BASIL SELLERS EXHIBITION CENTRE

1

EUROBODALLA 1 REGIONAL **BOTANIC** GARDEN



FEEL THAT SOMEONE WILL BE THERE IF HELP IS NEEDED

73%

AGREE THEIR COMMUNITY FEELS LIKE HOME

38%

OF RESIDENTS VOLUNTEER

94%

OF RESIDENTS INDICATED THEY HAD A GOOD TO EXCELLENT LIFE IN EUROBODALLA



PROVIDE UNPAID ASSISTANCE FOR A PERSON WITH A DISABILITY

13.3%

BORN OVERSEAS (REGIONAL 11.2%, NSW 27.6%)

55%

FEEL THAT PEOPLE WOULD COME TOGETHER TO SOLVE A PROBLEM IN OUR COMMUNITY

68%

AGREE MY LOCAL COMMUNITY IS FRIENDLY TO NEWCOMERS

70%

FEEL THAT PEOPLE COMING TO LIVE HERE FROM OTHER COUNTRIES ENRICH OUR COMMUNITY'S CULTURAL LIFE

33%

SAID THEY HAD SEEN OR EXPERIENCED DISCRIMINATORY ATTITUDES IN THE LAST YEAR



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Friendly

RESPONSIBLE

7.5

Responsible

We make balanced decisions that benefit current and future generations A sustainable community is characterised by appreciation of natural surrounds that support our economy and lifestyle. It has responsible planning and management practices to maintain our biodiversity and unique character, and is supported by the actions we agree to, to minimise our impact and make best use of valuable resources.

Vision Statement, Community Strategic Plan 2017

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OUR NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

OUR LAND



3,422KM2

143KM

72% NATIONAL PARK AND STATE FOREST

366 HERITAGE-LISTED PLACES AND BUILDINGS





42% CONSERVATION

31% TIMBER PRODUCTION

20% AGRICULTURE

4% URBAN



71% CONCERNED ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS, WITH CLIMATE CHANGE, POLLUTION AND THE IMPACTS OF OVERDEVELOPMENT KEY AREAS OF CONCERN

54% CONSIDER THE ENVIRONMENT AND BEACHES TO BE THE MOST VALUABLE ASPECT OF EUROBODALLA

23 LANDCARE GROUPS

1,000+ VOLUNTEER HOURS CONTRIBUTED TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS EACH YEAR

500+ NEST BOXES INSTALLED FOR WILDLIFE HABITAT

300+ CATS WEARING BIBS TO MINIMISE WILDLIFE PREDATION

91% of beach water quality graded good to very good overall at 11 popular beaches

OUR WATER



IN 2020-21

84% OF EUROBODALLA RESIDENTS ARE PROVIDED WITH WATER FROM COUNCIL WATER SYSTEMS

21,825 WATER CONNECTIONS

4.9 BILLION LITRES OF WATER CAPACITY AT DEEP CREEK DAM

3.6 BILLION LITRES OF WATER USED EACH YEAR

9.7 MILLION LITRES USED EACH DAY, UP TO 24 MILLION LITRES IN PEAK HOLIDAY SEASON

431 WATER REBATES ISSUED

74% MAKE AN EFFORT TO REDUCE WATER CONSUMPTION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL REASONS

WHO USES OUR WATER?

78% RESIDENTIAL 16% COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL 4% INSTITUTIONAL 2% RURAL

OUR WASTE



IN 2020-21

48,269 TONNES OF WASTE TO LANDFILL

19,985 TONNES OF RECYCLED MATERIAL

83.1 TONNES OF HAZARDOUS WASTE

47,408 BINS SERVICED WEEKLY

79% DECIDED TO REUSE SOMETHING RATHER THAN THROWING IT AWAY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL REASONS

60% composted at home







57% TAKE ACTIVE STEPS TO REDUCE FUEL CONSUMPTION AND VEHICLE POLLUTIONS

91% HAVE ENERGY-SAVING LIGHT BULBS INSTALLED

70% HAVE WATER SAVING FIXTURES INSTALLED



COUNCIL MANAGES THE FOLLOWING FACILITIES TO SUPPORT OUR RESPONSIBLE AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY:

920KM WATER MAINS

15 WATER PUMP STATIONS

2

WATER TREATMENT PLANTS

19,605 WATER SERVICE CONNECTIONS

584 KM SEWER MAINS

137

SEWERAGE PUMPING STATIONS



19,571 CUSTOMERS ON RETICULATED SEWER

6 SEWER TREATMENT PLANTS

2 WASTE LANDFILL SITES

1

WASTE TRANSFER STATION

1

WATER STORAGE DAM PLUS ONE IN PROGRESS

THRIVING

We are successful and sustainable in growth and development

A productive community works together to enable positive investment and employment opportunities. An innovative, diverse and resilient economy ensures that funding, planning and support for infrastructure and economic development exists to grow and enhance business confidence, market strength and industry diversity.

Vision Statement, Community Strategic Plan 2017

OUR ECONOMY



OUR LOCAL ECONOMY IS WORTH **\$1.68 BILLION** ANNUALLY

\$922.4 MILLION SPENT IN LOCAL AREA OVER THE LAST 12 MONTHS

RESIDENTS SPENT **\$260.8 MILLION** ONLINE OVER THE PAST 12 MONTHS

2,963 BUSINESSES PROVIDING **14559**

JOBS

\$37,455 MEDIAN INCOME

29% OF BUSINESSES EMPLOY 1 TO 4 PEOPLE

2.4% OF BUSINESSES EMPLOY MORE THAN 20 PEOPLE

57.7% OF BUSINESSES HAVE LESS THAN \$200,000 TURNOVER

OUR TOP 3 PROFESSIONS



16.7% PROFESSIONAL

14.3% TECHNICIANS AND TRADE WORKERS

13.7% COMMUNITY AND PERSONAL SERVICE WORKERS

OUR TOP 3 EMPLOYING INDUSTRIES

HEALTH CARE AND SOCIAL ASSISTANCE

local employment **14.9%**

INDUSTRY VALUE \$157.7M

RETAIL

LOCAL EMPLOYMENT **14.5%**

INDUSTRY VALUE \$114.3M

ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD SERVICES

local employment **11_4**% INDUSTRY VALUE \$79.4M

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OUR VISITOR ECONOMY



OUR TOURISM INDUSTRY IS VALUED AT OVER \$154.8 MILLION PER ANNUM

OVER 1.2 MILLION VISITORS EACH YEAR

48% DOMESTIC DAY VISITORS

50% of visitor nights domestic

2% OF VISITOR NIGHTS INTERNATIONAL OUR EDUCATION



67% FEEL THEY HAVE ACCESS TO GOOD EDUCATION

46.2%

HOLD HIGHER EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS (REGIONAL 46.3%, NSW 50.4%)

40.1% HAVE NO QUALIFICATION

(REGIONAL 41.7%, NSW 39.1%)

SCHOOLS	PUBLIC	PRIVATE
PRIMARY	8	3
HIGH SCHOOL	3	2

11.7% of children considered developmentally vulnerable (NSW 8.5%)

87.5% OF CHILDREN ATTENDED A PRESCHOOL PROGRAM (NSW 83.4%)

36.3%

OF PEOPLE AGED OVER 15 YEARS HAD COMPLETED SCHOOLING TO YEAR 12 (NSW 52.1%) **24.5%** HOLD A VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATION (NSW 18.1%)

13.4% HOLD A BACHELOR OR HIGHER DEGREE (NSW 23.4%)

OUR EMPLOYMENT



8% OF HOUSEHOLDS EARN OVER \$2,500

PER WEEK (REGIONAL 14.6%, NSW 23.1%)

26.2% OF HOUSEHOLDS EARN LESS THAN

PER WEEK (REGIONAL 22.0%, NSW 17.8%)

86.3%

OF OUR WORKING RESIDENTS ARE EMPLOYED LOCALLY

45% ARE SATISFIED WITH THEIR WORK/ LIFE BALANCE

77% UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (REGIONAL 5.9%, NSW 6.2%)

10.2% OF RESIDENTS CLAIMED JOBSEEKER OR YOUTH ALLOWANCE PAYMENTS IN JUNE 2021 (REGIONAL 8.1%, NSW 6.1%)

OUR PROPERTY



25,847 RATEABLE PROPERTIES

\$494,905

MEDIAN HOUSE PRICE (33.2% LOWER THAN NSW, 0.7% HIGHER THAN REGIONAL)

\$324,072

MEDIAN UNIT PRICE (52.1% LOWER THAN NSW, 17.6% LOWER THAN REGIONAL)

\$600pw

MEDIAN RENT HOUSE (REGIONAL \$390, NSW \$465)

\$330pw

MEDIAN RENT UNIT (REGIONAL \$330, NSW \$490)



HOW WE LIVE

IN A RECENT SURVEY, RESIDENTS WERE MOST CONCERNED ABOUT THE GROWTH OF THE AREA IN 10 YEARS' TIME, PARTICULARLY THE AVAILABILITY OF HOUSING AND EMPLOYMENT TO KEEP PEOPLE IN THE AREA AND SERVICES/ FACILITIES TO MATCH GROWTH. 22

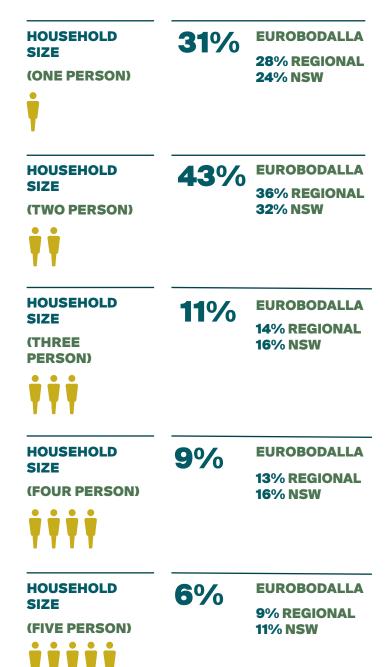
80.3% SEPARATE HOUSE (REGIONAL 80.2%, NSW 64.9%)

15.7% MEDIUM DENSITY (REGIONAL 14.3%, NSW 17.9%)

0.6% HIGH DENSITY (REGIONAL 2.5%, NSW 5.3%)

3% CARAVANS, CABINS AND OTHER (REGIONAL 3%, NSW 1.9%)







OUR INFRASTRUCTURE



72.1%

USE A PRIVATE VEHICLE TO TRAVEL TO WORK (REGIONAL 73.4%, NSW 62.1%)

0.7%

USE PUBLIC TRANSPORT TO TRAVEL TO WORK (REGIONAL 1.8%, NSW 13.7%)

77%

OF HOUSEHOLDS HAD AT LEAST ONE PERSON ACCESS THE INTERNET FROM THE HOME



COUNCIL MANAGES THE FOLLOWING TRANSPORT ASSETS TO SUPPORT OUR PRODUCTIVE COMMUNITY:

614 KM SEALED ROADS

404KM UNSEALED ROADS

110 BRIDGES

149 CAR PARKS

67 BUS SHELTERS

1 AIRPORT

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PROUD

We build community spirit and our Eurobodalla leads the way

A collaborative community is engaged, informed, proactive and involved. It has responsible decision making and a sound financial position supported by capable leaders, functional assets and efficient operations to meet the changing needs of the community.

Vision Statement, Community Strategic Plan 2017



OUR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



46% AGREE THEY HAVE OPPORTUNITIES TO HAVE A SAY ON IMPORTANT LOCAL ISSUES

53% ARE CONFIDENT TO SOMEWHAT CONFIDENT THAT THEIR SAY WILL BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION

17% PARTICIPATED IN A COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENT

20% CONTACTED A LOCAL POLITICIAN OR COUNCILLOR

13% LODGED A SUBMISSION TO A LEVEL OF GOVERNMENT 16,067 COUNCIL FACEBOOK FOLLOWERS

2,303 COUNCIL INSTAGRAM FOLLOWERS

89 COUNCIL YOUTUBE SUBSCRIBERS

IN 2020-21: 7 ADVISORY COMMITTEES





78% ARE VERY SATISFIED TO SOMEWHAT SATISFIED WITH COUNCIL'S OVERALL PERFORMANCE

76% ARE VERY SATISFIED TO SOMEWHAT SATISFIED THAT THE SERVICES COUNCIL DELIVERS ARE PROVIDING VALUE FOR MONEY

IN 2020-21: **10,701** ITEMS OF CORRESPONDENCE, 87% RESPONDED TO WITHIN 14 DAYS

12,078 CUSTOMER SERVICE REQUESTS, 90.7% CLOSED WITHIN ALLOCATED TIMEFRAMES

62,151 CALLS MADE TO COUNCIL'S MAIN LINE

OUR LONG TERM VISION



64% AGREE THEY FEEL OPTIMISTIC ABOUT EUROBODALLA'S FUTURE

76% AGREE THEY HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE COMMUNITY THEY LIVE IN



79.4% TURNOUT AT 2016 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS

60%

AGREE THEY HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO VOTE FOR A TRUSTWORTHY CANDIDATE IN LOCAL ELECTIONS

58

SPEAKERS IN PUBLIC FORUM AND PUBLIC ACCESS AT COUNCIL MEETINGS IN 2020-21



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Proud



6%

OF COMMUNITY SURVEY RESPONDENTS ATTENDED A COUNCIL MEETING IN THE PAST YEAR

2,040

VIEWS OF ONLINE COUNCIL MEETINGS DURING 2020-21

3.6%

OF REVENUE COLLECTED FROM THE COMMUNITY BY ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT IS COLLECTED IN THE FORM OF RATES BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCIL DONATIONS TO COMMUNITY GROUPS EACH YEAR

2016-2017 \$205,470 2017-2018 \$147,765 2018-2019 \$296,740 2019-2020 \$159,312*

* SOME EVENTS WERE CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19

COUNCIL'S ONGOING ADVOCACY EFFORTS ACHIEVE STRONG OUTCOMES, RECEIVING THE FOLLOWING GRANT FUNDING FOR OUR COMMUNITY:

²⁰¹⁶⁻¹⁷ **\$26.3M**

²⁰¹⁷⁻¹⁸ \$21.3M

²⁰¹⁸⁻¹⁹ \$33.4M

²⁰¹⁹⁻²⁰ \$26.1M



Proud

Acknowledgement of Country

Eurobodalla Shire Council recognises Aboriginal people as the original inhabitants and custodians of all land and water in the Eurobodalla and respects their enduring cultural and spiritual connection to it.

HOW TO CONTACT US

Customer Service Centre 89 Vulcan Street, Moruya Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 4.30pm

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Councillors See contact details on our website, or call us for a list.

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