

Central Coast Council

Public Toilet Policy

December 2021

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POLICY

The Public Toilet Policy is to support the Council's vision and strategic objectives of appropriately managing assets and to provide the community with guidelines for the provision and management of public toilets within the Central Coast municipal area.

PURPOSE OF POLICY

This document is the Council's Policy in relation to provision of public toilet facilities within the Central Coast. The purpose is to state the Council's aims and methodology to the community and to provide an administrative framework for Council officers to implement.

SCOPE

This Policy applies to all public toilets within the Central Coast municipal area managed by the Council. It excludes toilets that are within non-Council controlled buildings or areas where there is public access to toilet facilities.

COMMUNITY NEED

- 1 Public toilets are provided to support business, health, recreation and leisure activities at nominated areas throughout the Central Coast.
- 2 The need for public toilets is determined by using principles, roles and standards outlined in the Central Coast Public Toilet Plan 2013–2023.
- 3 The Council will notify or consult with the community about the removal of public toilets.

COUNCIL POLICY

This Policy will:

- . Provide quality, accessible and appropriately located public toilet facilities to meet community needs.
- . Provide a framework to manage public toilet assets throughout the Central Coast.
- . Provide a framework to assess the need for new toilets, whether they be renewed or refurbished or be removed and not replaced.
- . Promote the siting and design of public toilets in accordance with Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles.

DEFINITIONS

Public toilet – means a toilet, change room, restroom, or family room provided for use by members of the general public.

Destination playgrounds – means playgrounds associated with regional and district open spaces, e.g. Anzac Park, Robins Roost and Hiscutt Park.

MANAGEMENT

Public toilets are classified and managed as follows:

EXTENDED USE

This applies to those toilets that are open 24 hours per day. These toilets will be provided with adequate internal and external lighting to provide a safe environment. Surveillance equipment may be installed at these toilets in accordance with the Central Coast Council Surveillance Policy 2021.

DAY ACCESS ONLY

This applies to those toilets that are located to cater for general community day use. These open in the morning and are closed at dusk.

CLUB MANAGED

This applies to public toilets that are located on reserves primarily used for sporting events at specific times and are only opened for use at those times.

GENERAL

Public toilets located on reserves such as the Ulverstone Showground and recreation grounds and used for seasonal events will be locked. They will be opened on weekends at specific times required for events or via request through the Council.

Provision of a new public toilet will be limited to any public open space classified as Regional, District or Specific Purpose in accordance with the asset provision standards of the Central Coast Open Space and Recreation Plan 2012–2022.

Provision of other new public toilets will be in accordance with the requirements of the Central Coast Public Toilet Plan 2013–2023.

LOCATIONS

The Council will aim to provide public toilets at the following locations:

- . all Regional recreation grounds;
- . at ‘destination playgrounds’;
- . close to other public amenities, e.g. beach, shopping areas, CBD;
- . where defined in asset management plans;
- . where defined in Master Plans;
- . in areas consistent with the Central Coast Open Space and Recreation Plan 2012–2022.

Notwithstanding the above list, the Council may also approve public toilets at any other location based on the following criteria.

CRITERIA FOR TOILET DEVELOPMENT

All toilet development (new or upgrade) will generally be assessed against the following criteria:

- . Distance between existing public toilets.
- . Likely extent of use – the Council will provide public toilet facilities in areas of high use rather than assuming they are required in all public areas.
- . Site suitability – toilet should be sited in prominent, visible locations to reduce the potential crime risks which meet the CPTED principles.

A more detailed assessment is set out in the Central Coast Public Toilet Plan 2013–2023.

DESIGN AND TECHNICAL CRITERIA

Designs should be site specific; there is not a one size fits all approach.

Some facilities may include toilets, change rooms, inside or outside showers and higher specification to suit the location, whereas a small two-bay facility may be sufficient in another location.

The following standard design criteria will be considered when designing new or upgrading old facilities.

- . Ongoing operational cost should be minimised, where possible, by incorporating cost saving techniques or other sustainable design features, e.g. water saving devices or using natural light.
- . Work to the principles of CPTED.
- . Compliance with the Building Code of Australia and any other relevant legislation.
- . Sited close to existing services where possible to reduce costs.
- . Lifecycle costs should be considered.
- . Consideration be given to distinctive design options.
- . Appropriate directional signage shall be included for new sites.
- . Regard to the principles of the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992*.

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

The Council's Public Toilet Policy complements and builds upon the Council's Strategic Plan 2014–2024 as follows:

Strategic Direction 1.1

- Improve the value and use of open space.

Strategic Direction 4.3

- Develop and manage sustainable built infrastructure.

As well as:

- meeting community needs and expectations;
- management of the Council's risk;
- achievement of better resource efficiency using integrated systems; and
- compliance with State and Federal legislation.

STANDARD (INCLUDING RELEVANT LEGISLATION)

This Public Toilet Policy has been developed in accordance with the:

- *Disability Discrimination Act 1992*
- *Local Government Act 1993*

REVIEW

This Policy will be reviewed every three years, unless organisational and legislative changes require more frequent modification.

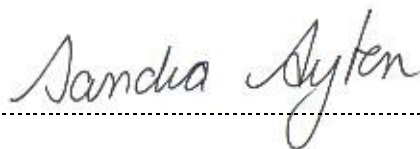
RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Central Coast Council Strategic Plan 2014–2024
- Corporate Folder
- Risk Management Policy
- Central Coast Public Toilet Plan 2013–2023
- Central Coast Open Space and Recreation Plan 2012–2022
- Central Coast Council Long-Term Financial Plan
- Central Coast Council Surveillance Policy 2021

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Approved by:



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GENERAL MANAGER