



KEMPSEY SUMMARY

6th MAY 2021

Location:	Slim Dusty Centre, Kempsey
Number of Attendees:	26
What We Heard:	Indigenous representation at leadership levels; Inclusivity; Green spaces in developments; IT and renewable energy industry development; Council to assist with streamlining processes and payments and provide more support to residents.
Feedback of the Workshop:	Inclusive opportunity to meet and discuss the future of the community with Councillors and Community Members through an open forum.

Objectives

The purpose of the engagement was to provide feedback on progress with Council's services/works, in the context of November 2020 community survey results, and provide feedback on the current community vision and future community priorities to inform the development of the new Macleay Valley Community Strategic Plan.

Catch-up Engagement Methods

The Macleay Valley 2036 Community Strategic Plan, June 2017 (CSP) is being reviewed by Kempsey Shire Council as required under the NSW Local Government legislation. It is important that the community is engaged in a variety of different ways and to provide input into this process.

To this end, the community catch-up was designed to provide context to the review, namely community survey and feedback information. It was also designed with three sessions to provide community feedback on: our current community's vision; key themes of importance for the future Kempsey Shire Council area in 2050; and under various community strategic plan themes.



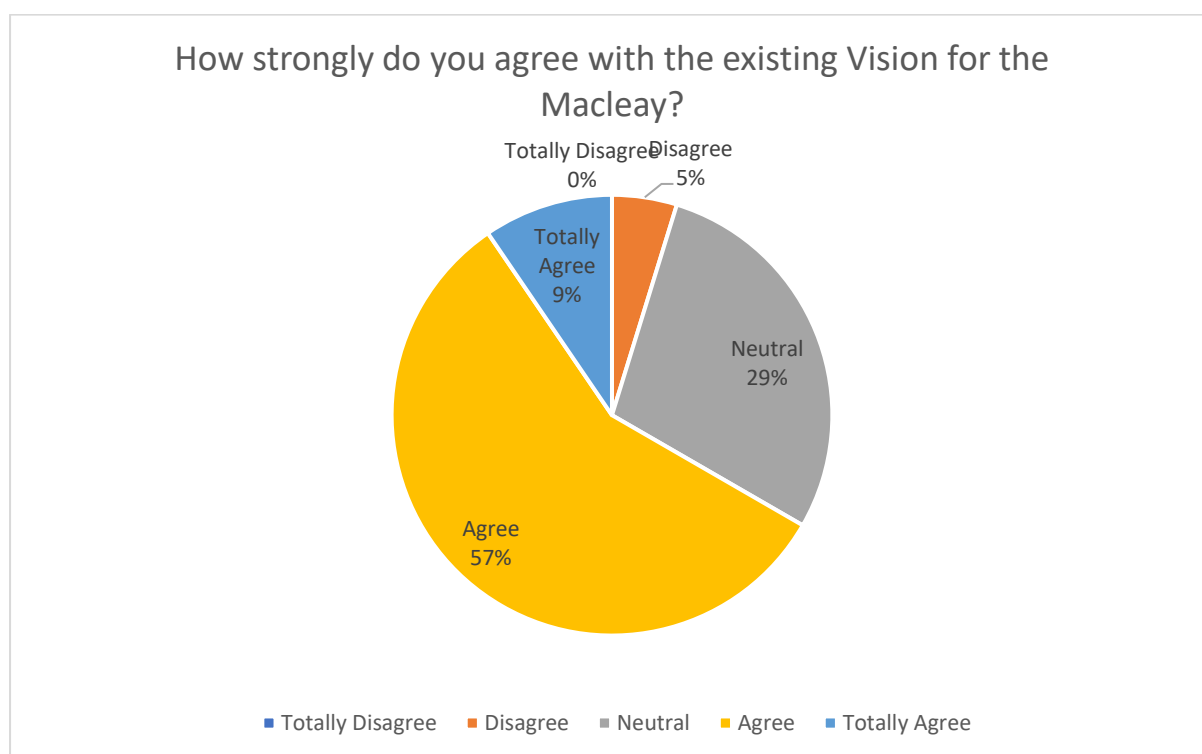
Results

1. Participants were asked about their level of support for the current vision in the Macleay Valley 2036 Community Strategic Plan. The results of discussion and engagement on this question are shown in the table and graph below.

Current Vision

"We live in a community that provides opportunity to all to prosper in an environment that supports well-being, connectedness and access to resources the community wants and needs".

How strongly do you agree with the existing Vision for the Macleay?	Total Responses	% Responses
Totally Disagree	0	0
Disagree	1	5%
Neutral	6	29%
Agree	12	57%
Totally Agree	2	9%
Total	21	100%

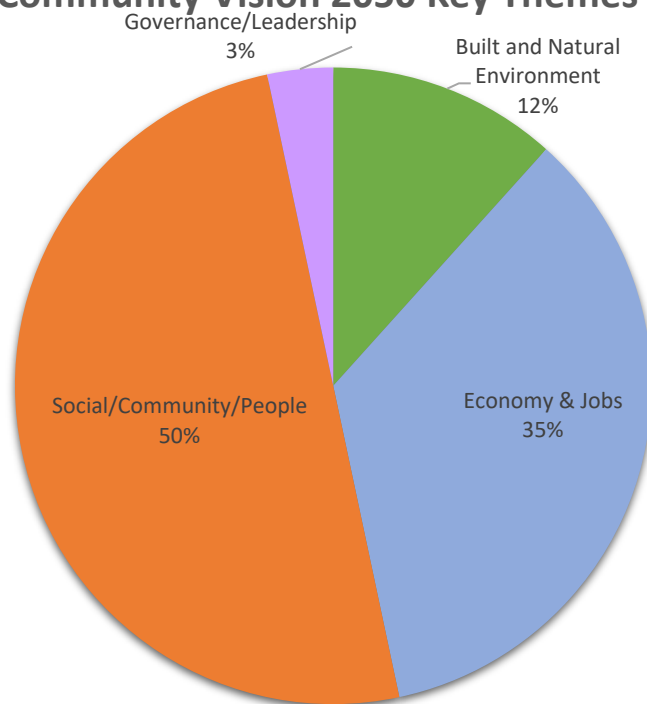


2. Participants at each table selected the top ten (10) words that described what they believed the community vision in 2050 should also consider. The responses for Kempsey and the Macleay Valley are shown in the table and graphs by Community Strategic Plan theme below.

Table 2. Dream Big - Community Vision 2050 - What does your community look like?	
Kempsey	Macleay
Family friendly	Vision for employment, Education & Training
Renewable Energy Policies	Climate Change Ready
Aboriginal business	Long Term Planning
Drugs and Alcohol Rehab services	Community Events
Second Bridge	Reconciliation
Strong sense of place	Exciting place to live.
Active aging	Services for all
Well-being	Tourism and culture
Education and training	A place for all
Community events/ tourism events	Natural environment
Health care	Good infrastructure
Strong Aboriginal culture	Health Care
Long term planning	Active aging
recycle	Great place to live, work and play
Changing climate - biodiversity - sustainable development	Opportunities for young people
Good infrastructure	Arts and Aboriginal culture
Employment and jobs	NBN connectivity
Opportunities for young people	A place for all (ages)
Public Transport	Community participation - volunteering
Positive reputation	Farming and agricultural industries
Strong Aboriginal culture	
Renewable Energy	
Positive reputation	
Industry development	
Business growth - easy activation	
Grow local talent - business, sport, leisure, arts and culture	
Good infrastructure - connectivity; bridge south/west - bike paths	
Tourism and support	
Reputation and positiveness	
Thrive and prosper	
Attract new businesses	
Grow and keep local talent - Universities	
Energy Policy - renewables	



Dreaming Big: Community Vision 2050 Key Themes



■ Built and Natural Environment ■ Economy & Jobs ■ Social/Community/People ■ Governance/Leadership



3. Participants were asked about what major issues were important for them under the four key themes of: Our Leadership; Our People; Our Built & Natural Environment and Our Economy & Industry. The responses are shown in the tables below for both Kempsey and the Macleay Valley.

Our leadership	
Kempsey	Macleay
Dunghutti Aboriginal representative on the council	Community leaders forum with business community sporting groups, indigenous groups, health, education & construction
Council communicating with state and federal representatives.	Education & schools - to get support for our children to want to stay at school and in the classroom.
Housing and employment	Partnerships with state and federal
Leadership programs	Connected communities

Our People	
Kempsey	Macleay
Good health	Celebrate our successes.
Age care facilities	Improve inclusion (one mob)
Connectivity (NBN) that everyone can access – cheap and reliable	Positive advocacy for Kempsey
Dementia friendly and great care givers	Encourage good role models
Continue to develop & encourage sports	Promote social engagement
Creative opportunity	Encourage community participation
Music, arts and culture	
Feeling safe	

Our Built and Natural Environment
Green space in housing developments
Green spaces in subdivisions
Don't take advantage of inadequate biodiversity legislation - federal and state
Community renewable energy schemes
25 metre heated indoor pool
Adhere to LEP & Environmental height limits in coastal developments
Building standards towards passive solar buildings & sustainable buildings
underground power lines



Our Economy and Industry	
Kempsey	Macleay
Promote the area for IT and software industry (Silicon Valley)	Food Tourism
Offer rebates on rates; land offers home offers, promote the area	TAFE - promote and require courses
Micro-hubs for solar energy connected by smart grids	Eco-Tourism - walking trails
Law and order education	Regenerate farming
Repurpose plastic for sleepers, roads, etc	Organic farming - facilitating and promoting
Supporting businesses in tourism industry development	Kempsey is dead quiet on Sundays. Community events would assist liven the place; and why are the shops all closed?
Showcase tourism - not having people pick destinations such as Byron Bay. We do have nicer beaches	
Police - more police & more community engagement	
Youth Justice convening	
Free Choice	

General for the Macleay
Council providing greater assistance
Consistent DA processes - improved & better understanding, less confusing
Streamlined contributions processes/ payments
Grace periods for contributions to help businesses get going
Weigh up contributions v. employment to the community
Council being there to support - feel open and friendly for business
Encourage more positive than negative
Make it easy to do business and positive & superb communications
Make processes user friendly
Communications about what's going on in the background e.g representation



Responses to Submitted Questions

ROADS	
Install roundabout at Gladstone / Belgrave / Verge Streets intersections. With the service station, Verge and Gladstone Streets traffic trying to enter Belgrave Street the clogging of the traffic can be terrible, a roundabout would ease the traffic congestion.	This suggestion was investigated as part of the recent Belgrave Street traffic study, which shall be reported to an upcoming Council meeting for information purposes. It is noted the study does not support a roundabout at this stage with existing service levels along Belgrave Street being acceptable based on industry standards.
Slip lane on Gowings Hill Road into Marys Bay Road. There is room only requires line marking. This is a dangerous Intersection.	There may not be sufficient area, nonetheless this will be listed for further investigation to obtain relevant traffic data, accident history etc to determine the need and feasibility of the request.
Building of a second bridge in our future plan from West to South Kempsey.	Council and Transport for NSW are working together to undertake a strategic assessment of the second crossing of the Macleay River project and to prepare a strategic business case. The objective of a strategic business case is to determine the viability of the project, to consider the project's strategic fit and suitability for further development. The Strategic Business Case has now been developed and is currently going through an internal quality assurance process within Transport for NSW.
The up grading of Armidale Road would be an investment in our future.	The upgrade of Armidale Road has been actively pursued by Council, via grant funding opportunities and reclassification of the road. The outcome of the reclassification request is pending with the NSW Government. Over the next 2 years, 3 major projects with a total cost of approximately \$8 million are planned: • Road safety barriers and other safety improvements between Kempsey and Bellbrook (continuation of work undertaken over the past 2 years) • Road reconstruction in the vicinity of Ferrier Drive • Extension of the bitumen seal by 2.8km via construction works to the west of Bellbrook. Further information can be found here.
Install roundabout or traffic lights at the Crescent Head Road turn off, the traffic	Enhancements to the slip lane length when turning from Crescent Head Road into Lachlan Street were made in 2020. No other current



congestion between 8.15am and 9am and 3pm and 3.40pm it is shocking.	works are planned and no funding is allocated to this location. Further review of relevant traffic data, accident history etc will be undertaken in light of this request.
What is the progress of the sealing of Pipers Creek Road?	Pipers Creek Road is Council's highest priority road for bitumen sealing based on consideration of Council in May 2019. A link to the report considered by Council and the minutes can be found here . Grant funding was sought in 2020 under the Safer Roads Program, however this application was unsuccessful. A future application under this same program is planned when applications next open.
RUDDERS LAGOON	
• Culverts • Flood Mitigation and Flood Relief • Bridge & Roadway	At its ordinary meeting in April 2021, the elected Council resolved: "That Council includes the investigation of the options to improve flood immunity in the vicinity of Rudders Lagoon in Councils 2021-22 Operating Plan and subsequently pursues grant funding to upgrade this section of road." The Council Minutes can be found here. <u>Council shall be considering the adoption of the 2021-22 Operational Plan at the June 2021 Council meeting.</u>
DEVELOPMENT	
More river heights digital readings equipment to be installed allowing for high rainfall coming out of creeks to be recorded earlier.	The rectification of flood gauge infrastructure across the Macleay River and its tributaries is a priority for Council. Currently, the reinstatement and repair of the current network is of the highest priority, with selected site to come back on line in the near future, however investigations into the expansion of the network are being considered and funding has been sought for selected locations.
The development of a designated industrial area on southern end of town which may attract business opportunities for the district.	There is industrial zoned land on the eastern side of the highway, adjacent to the highway interchange, at the southern entrance to Kempsey. This area will soon be serviced with sewer.
How is the implementation of KSC's Long-term Renewable Energy and Water Strategy progressing?	Council's Long Term Renewable Energy and Water Strategy was adopted in October 2020. It is an internally focused strategy which focuses on how Council does business. The 2021/22 Operational Plan includes an item to implement Council's Renewable Energy & Water Strategy. This will include: - Implement and manage an energy data



	management system to enable Council's consumption and costs to be accurately captured and tracked over time. - In addition to the adopted long-term goal of net zero emissions by 2050, adopt further targets and objectives for water, renewable energy and emissions reduction to help guide and inform Council's response over time. This includes the KSC Civic Centre PV Solar Installation project due for completion in June 2022. - Investigate the suitability of electric or hybrid vehicles in Council's fleet. Council has also commenced a project to develop a Sustainability & Resilience Strategy which will have a broader focus, including what our residents can do to contribute to building a sustainable and resilient community. A discussion paper is currently being prepared and will soon be released and will inform discussions with our community in shaping the strategy. Community will be invited to provide feedback on the Discussion Paper via Your Say Macleay and through a variety of face to face opportunities. These will be broadly promoted once the engagement period opens. For more information and to register for updates on our engagement opportunities please visit https://yoursay.macleay.nsw.gov.au/
1. Potential for Bus shed for TAFE Students on Sea St + Dangar St 2. Water refill station on Sea St + Dangar St corner and/or other projects (Site Visit Request)	The proposed site was visited on the 6th May 2021 by the Mayor, Councillors and Executive Staff in relation to the build of a Bus Shed at the 346 Bus Stop. There are five new shelters to be installed in the 2021-22 financial year. This is not one of those determined priority locations, but is noted for future rounds of the bus shelter funds if it becomes available. Water refill stations are typically installed in recreational asset areas, not in road reserves. Additional water refill stations will be installed during the 2021-22 financial year at selected locations within the Shire.
Delegated authorities for DA approvals which exceed the LEP and DCP height limitations.	Delegated authority is limited for decision making (approval or refusal) on a local development application. Where a proposal exceeds a 10% variation threshold to standards in the Local Environmental Plan (LEP),



	determination of the DA is via Council. The Council's Duty Planner is available on Wednesday 10am-3pm by phoning 02 6566 3200.
Will Kalateenee Recreational Reserve get a Master Plan to upgrade the playground equipment?	Council is progressively completing Master Plans for the major high use recreational areas to ensure they are planned for appropriately. There are no current plans for an upgrade of the playground equipment in this area or a master plan of the overall site.
Does council have a community grants officer to assist 355 Committees to fill in grant applications?	Please visit: www.yoursay.macleay.nsw.gov.au/communitygrants to register for a session or call Council's Customer Service team on 6566 3200. For specific project assistance please contact Paul Koch (via 6566 3200 or via paul.koch@kempsey.nsw.gov.au). Read the Top Tips on the Macleay Grants Hub here .
How can current vacant areas eg shops in Belgrave St be revitalised into community areas?	The vacant shop issue has in the past been addressed by initiatives from the Economic Department. The Economic Development Team can be contacted on 02 6566 3200 or email business@kempsey.nsw.gov.au .
Trailer & Caravan Parking in Kempsey	There are car and trailer spots available in the car park off Forth Street. Other on street locations exist in close proximity to the Kempsey CBD that are of low usage in terms of parking.
Will KSC continue with paper-based communications?	Council is moving towards electronic documents and communications for environmental reasons, however hard copies will still be available and accessible. Hardcopies of most documents are available from Customer Services by calling 6566 3200. The documents will also be available in hardcopy at the Community Engagement Events, Customer Services and Libraries.

