



STUARTS POINT SUMMARY

13th MAY 2021

Location	Stuarts Point Community Hall
Number of attendees	57
What we heard	Management and future of sewage treatment plant. Road Safety Plan including a heavy vehicle detour route and road upgrades. Concerns regarding quality of water in town and river.
Feedback from the Workshop	Identified a need for clear communication in the event of another emergency between community members, Kempsey Shire Council, and the lead agency/agencies; Upgrading and maintaining roads; Clear and transparent information regarding the proposed sewer treatment plant.
Staff In Attendance	
Robert Fish	Director Operations & Planning
Stephen Mitchell	Director Corporate & Commercial
Lyndal Harper	Manager Community Partnerships
Wes Trotter	Manager Water & Sewer
Gayleen Burley	Manager Commercial Business
Wayne Douglass	Manager Corporate Performance
Erin Fuller	Manager Strategic & Asset Planning
Giles Hardie	Coordinator Communications
Kathryn Parker	Coordinator Corporate Performance
Monika Kompara	Coordinator Commercial Assets
Bill Dubelaar	Contract Project Engineer
Steve Pellen	Acting Coordinator Parks Projects (Temporary)
Maria Doherty	Commercial Business Strategic Officer
Sharni Cooper	Community Projects Officer
Lauren McBriarty	Community Engagement Officer
Councillors in Attendance	
Liz Campbell	Mayor
Sue McGinn	Councillor
Bruce Morris	Councillor
Leo Hauville	Councillor
Dean Saul	Councillor
Mark Baxter	Councillor



Objectives

The purpose of the engagement was to provide an opportunity for a respectful and effective discussion addressing both the experiences of the March 2021 flood event, broad community concerns and priorities for the future. Residents provided Council with their questions, concerns and expectations about the localised issues and how this could impact the Community Strategic Plan and emergency management in the future.

Catch-up Engagement Methods

This workshop was designed around five themed topics for community to provide feedback on. Correspondence from community groups and flood recovery outreach meetings helped inform the design and engagement methods for the session.

The themes discussed were:

- Communicating During an Emergency
- Impacts of Natural Disasters and Future Planning
- Roads and Drainage
- Sewerage systems and septic overflow
- Waste Management during an emergency

To enable everyone to have a say and for Council to try and capture the discussion each theme looked at three key concepts aiming to understand the community concerns, questions and expectations of Council.

**Note that many participants had one-on-one conversations with specialist staff. These weren't documented but provided an opportunity to express personal areas of impact and have questions answered.*



Results: WHAT YOU TOLD US!

***Note: The responses found in the Concerns, Questions and Community Expectations are a summarised version of the notes made on the butchers paper and activity paper.*

1. COMMUNICATING DURING AN EMERGENCY

CONCERNS	Community had to do own communicating.
	The EOC didn't have updated information to communicate to residents.
	There were multiple sources of information, and the messaging was not clear or concise.
	There was a two-hour phone wait to talk to the SES.
QUESTIONS	Is there a plan for communication (managed by Council) that is available to everyone? How can we empower locals and use local activation to share communications across the town?
	How to create a digital noticeboard (even if temporary) given there were power outages/failures?
	How to communicate with those that cannot hear or read?
	Can we form our own SES (or similar) and synchronise with KSC's Water Team for information and communications about rising water table levels?
COMMUNITY EXPECTATIONS	Direct communication from the officer in charge (within the office) with local businesses and schools.
	Informed authoritative figures such as Traffic Controllers.
	Develop a clear Community Emergency Plan and disseminate updates for the community. Find a way to include those who rely less on computers and digital media.
	Develop a Disaster Hub/ Evacuation Centre within Stuarts Point
COUNCIL RESPONSE TO EXPECTATIONS:	• Council will report this feedback to the Local Emergency Operations Controller (LEOCON) as part of the formal debrief on the flooding event. • Feedback to Emergency Operations will highlight inconsistencies with communication, access and staffing on the ground during flood and evacuation. • Over the next 18 months Council is working with communities across the Kempsey Shire to support development of disaster preparedness plans and actions. Further investigation into appropriate methods of communication will be carried out as part of this project. • SES are conducting a Flood Forum at Stuarts Point on June 30, where community are invited to give direct feedback about the emergency operation.



2. IMPACTS OF NATURAL DISASTERS AND FUTURE PLANNING

CONCERNS	Will it happen again - what is in the planning to minimise the risks?
	The stress on the residents – not enough answers; lack of emotional support.
	No ambulance access; health professionals could not get into town during the emergency.
	Post event health problems are the main concern – Infections, Medications, Hepatitis A Shots
	High water table level pre-floods, how does this impact future building and planning
QUESTIONS	What are the future plans to protect homes?
	Who can/will fix the houses damaged by the floods – is there a list of contractors available?
COMMUNITY EXPECTATIONS	Stormwater infrastructure that is adequate for the whole town
	Incorporate climate change into future planning.
	Disaster Planning specific to each town.
	Better infrastructure including kerbs, guttering, sewer, and stormwater.
COUNCIL RESPONSE TO EXPECTATIONS	- Feedback on the impact of the disaster itself will be taken to SES, Emergency Management and Resilience NSW as part of Council's debrief and ongoing interactions. - Residents with specific enquiries about flood relief, support to repair property and financial aid are encouraged to register with Service NSW for flood relief. - Council will share updates on the implementation of the Sewerage Scheme project as available. - Community are encouraged to check Council's website and sign up for newsletters and to be members of Your Say Macleay to keep up to date with planned infrastructure updates. - Further engagement and development of disaster preparedness plans is scheduled.

3. ROADS AND DRAINAGE

CONCERNS	Potholes, sinkholes, worn pathways.
	Drainage and kerbing issues across the town
	Heavy goods and logging trucks are wearing away the roads – need a detour route.
QUESTIONS	Is there a stormwater plan? If not, can we rectify that?
	Has the water quality been tested and monitored and what is the result?
	Farmers are needing to pump water away to stop damage to the avocado trees – what is the advice?
COMMUNITY EXPECTATIONS	Well-maintained road infrastructure
	Drainage to be improved, especially in older parts of the towns.
	Detour route so heavy vehicle goods do not go through town anymore.
COUNCIL RESPONSE TO EXPECTATIONS	Issues and unmet expectations in regard to potholes roads and drainage were the single biggest topic discussed at the Catch-up.



	Council has immediately ensured that safe access to Fisherman's Reach Road has been restored and further detailed repair plans will be investigated.
	See responses to questions 7, 16, 21 and 22 below.

4. Onsite Sewage Management System operation and Sewerage Scheme Project

CONCERNS	Health issues within the community residents -e.g. infections- what is the ongoing health advice?
	Concerns about the cost of the system/s and how it will impact the ratepayers? Will there be a refund?
QUESTIONS	Where is the sewerage system going?
	When will it be installed?
	Is the design suitable for our area?
	What is the system's life expectancy and capacity?
	Is the sewer fully funded? What is the true cost and funding status?
COMMUNITY EXPECTATIONS	We have the opportunity to make Stuarts Point Sewerage System the best and most environmentally efficient system in Australia. Make the community proud and recognise the capacity of the Council staff.
	Manage expectations and understanding by communicating with others who have experience with the proposed system (personally and professionally).
COUNCIL RESPONSE TO EXPECTATIONS	Council has committed to keeping the community better informed regarding the Stuarts Point Sewerage Scheme project. A dedicated project page is available on Council's website here .
	An agreement between Kempsey Shire Council and the Kempsey Local Aboriginal Land Council was signed on 21 May, formally withdrawing the Land Council's undetermined land claim and allowing for Council to finalise the land acquisition for the sewage treatment plant and further progress the project development and design phase.

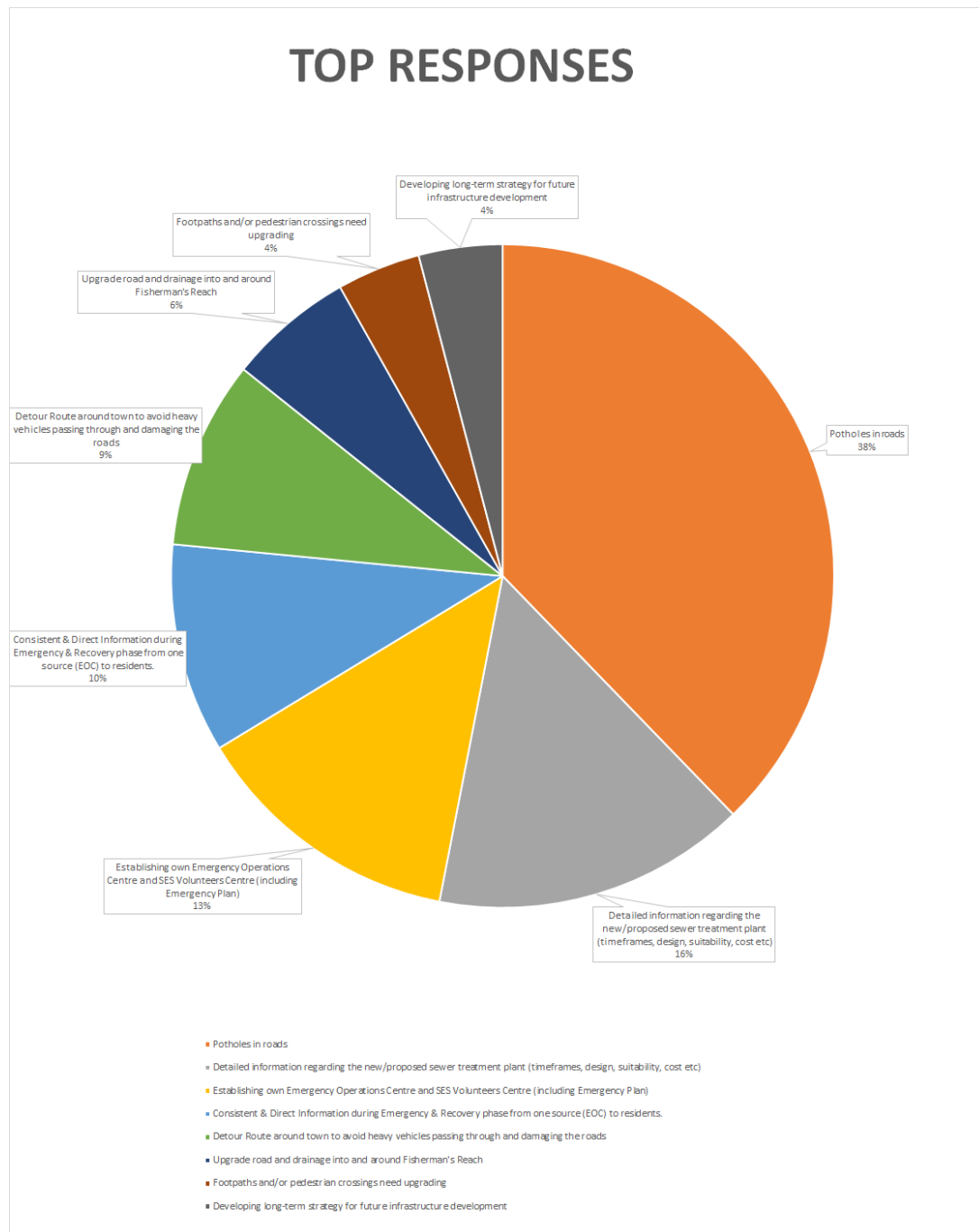
5. Waste Management during an emergency

CONCERNS	Illegal dumping of waste and illegal pumping of sewerage happening across town.
	The three-bin collection did not happen.
QUESTIONS	Can we have a recycling container at SP e.g., Return and Earn
COMMUNITY EXPECTATIONS	Coordination and assistance of beach clean-up.
	Two kerbside pickups per year for bulky goods
	Waste Transfer Station open more days and longer opening hours.
COUNCIL RESPONSE TO EXPECTATIONS	Catch-up bin collection services were carried out along with depositing dedicated skip bins and flood waste recovery programs.
	Other issues will be dealt with on an as needs basis, when reported to Council.



ISSUES ANALYSIS:

Top Responses across all categories of the Community Engagement Workshop



SUBMITTED QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES

	ROADS	
1	Additional road verge and vegetation maintenance work around town.	Council has a program of works for maintaining road verges, parks and gardens around Stuarts Point. If there are concerns raised, with regards to a road verge in a particular location, please reach out to Council for a specific response on 02 6566 3200 or ksc@kempsey.nsw.gov.au.
2	There has been a lot of wallaby kills on our road lately. We need Wildlife Road Signs for Stuarts Point Rd before the corner of the old Thurgood Lane and after the bend.	Native animal signage will be considered at the suggested location. Please complete a Report Form or use the Snap, Send, Solve App to discuss signage at future locations.
3	Restrict speed limit on main streets.	Current 50kmh speed zones are considered appropriate for Stuarts Point main streets. Current traffic and pedestrian movements do not warrant lower speed zones which require the approval of Transport for NSW who are the determining authority for all speed zones within NSW.
4	"No through road" sign at the entrance to Fisherman's Reach.	It is not appropriate to have this sign at the entrance to the village as this may deter traffic from entering the village properly and create unsafe vehicle turn arounds. Council will investigate need for a sign at the end of the seal where there is space for a safe vehicle turn around.
5	Community safety – speed bumps Fisherman's Reach. If council supplies speed humps for Fisherman's Reach Rd residents will install them.	Installation of speed humps require careful consideration and are normally installed only where there is evidence of a high percentage of traffic exceeding sign posted speed limits in high volume pedestrian areas. Council will investigate further by the undertaking of traffic counts to determine traffic volumes and speeds.
6	Repainting of the 50kph speed limit on road surface.	Will be attended to when line marking crew next within the Stuarts Point area.
7	How long until the roads get repaired? How long will the pipes be on the ground closing certain roads?	Eligible roads will be repaired under natural disaster provisions, once conditions permit and where applicable necessary funding approval is in place. The pumps and pipes will be removed when the groundwater has returned to an appropriate level, allowing residents to remain in their homes without ongoing pumping needs. Council is currently in the process of demobilising this equipment.
8	Serrata Lane to be tarred to limit damage to cars; Lighting of Serrata Lane.	Serrata Lane has not been prioritised by Council for sealing. At the May 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting, the following (the below only shows a portion of the resolution) was resolved following consideration of a report on the strategy for upgrading high traffic volume unsealed roads to bitumen standard:



		That Council, endorse the following priority list for the bitumen sealing of gravel roads (in order of priority): a. Piper Creek Road (End of seal to Wirrang Drive) b. Spooners Avenue (Chain O Ponds Road to Collombatti Road) c. Pipers Creek Road (Wirrang Drive to Ballengara Road) d. Collombatti Road (Swan Lane to Hughes Access) e. Smiths Creek Road (Crowther Drive to Crowther Drive) f. First Lane (Gladstone Street to Smith Street) Link to the council meeting minutes can be found here. In light of the answer above, currently Serrata Lane would not be considered for sealing at this stage. Additionally, Serrata Lane is not currently being considered for street lighting.
9	[PIN DROP] Driveway of 441 Grassy Heads Rd, Grassy Heads	Council installed [during 2020] concealed driveway signs in recognition of the limited available sight distances between through traffic and vehicles exiting 441 Grassy Heads Rd. These conditions are not unusual within our rural roads where there is property access within windy sections of roads. Realignment of the subject road to improve sight distances would cost in the vicinity of \$100,000 and is unlikely to be funded by Council in the short term.
10	Planning for a detour route to limit the number of semis and heavy vehicles travelling through town.	Based on traffic volumes there are no current plans for a heavy vehicle detour of Stuarts Point. Improvements to the condition of Marine Parade have also recently been made.
11	Sinkholes are developing around town due to drainage issues – see Kirkwood Place and Bohemia Crescent.	Sinkholes are being repaired as they are identified and when resources are available. Further investigations are required to determine the cause of these sinkholes on a case-by-case basis.
12	Second and Third Avenues are still both closed with pipes – how long will these pipes remain here? Will Council insurance cover car damaged by these pipes?	Groundwater pumping operations have remained in place to ensure further inundation of properties is not occurring and to ensure onsite sewage management systems operate effectively. The activity has recently ceased, and hoses will soon be removed provided no further rain occurs impacting on water table levels. A claim may be made for vehicular damage, which would be assessed by Council's insurer. For further guidance contact Council on 6566 3200. Council will be making a claim under natural disaster provisions for the repair of impacted roads in the Shire, including selected urban streets in Stuarts Point. Once approved rectification works may be undertaken.
13	Road maintenance on Grassy Head Rd (ie pot holes)	Council undertook pothole patching on Grassy Head Rd in late May. Grassy Head Rd between the Seventh Day Adventist Centre and Reserve Road has been badly damaged by the standing water and will require a more



		permanent fix. Claim shall be made for such repairs under natural disaster provisions.
14	Large pot hole at Church corner Ocean Avenue – road has become too dangerous. Also large pot holes at Community centre, Grassy Head Rd, Fisherman’s Reach and on pedestrian crossing.	A heavy patch will be undertaken on Stuarts Point Rd near the Church in the near future. Pot hole patching has been undertaken along Grassy Head Rd and will likely require this as an ongoing activity until more significant rehabilitation work can be undertaken along the road. Fishermans Reach Rd immediately north of Fishermans Reach has had a temporary pavement installed to assist with access where water has been crossing the road. An asphalt heavy patch is required at the pedestrian crossing on Ocean Ave in Stuarts Point.
	DRAINAGE	
15	Stormwater management.	Council has no funding currently identified in forward programs for provision of new drainage assets within the Stuarts Point area. Considerable investment would be required, and Council would therefore suggest this is a longer-term goal at this point. Stuarts Point and surrounds are highly reliant on infiltration for the purposes of managing stormwater. Until recent events resulted in a significant lifting in water table levels, drainage has not been a key issue of the community of Stuarts Point with enquiry and work orders in relation to drainage issues in comparison to other locations within the Shire considerably less. Council must balance relative priorities of the Shire in relation to stormwater needs. Investigations or a drainage strategy would be recommended as an initial priority to better understand any stormwater upgrade needs as well as a better informed maintenance plan of key drains around the location. This would need to take into account both impacts from flash flooding rain events and also rising water table events.
16	The existing drain beside Grassy Head Rd and how it could be extended so that the water it carries can drain somewhere. This drain was dug in the 90's, so possibly it has become blocked or diverted over time. It could so easily be deepened and extended to the river down both the north and the south sides of the town. The north-western corner of the village zone, at my address, 72 Grassy Head Rd is a good place to survey this.	Thank you for the information. Unfortunately, due to the amount of water that remains, a survey and detailed inspection can’t be conducted at this stage. Council has flown drones over the impacted area, in an attempt to find an appropriate outlet, however this had not enabled sufficient information to undertake a survey. Further investigations will certainly follow when conditions permit.



17	Kerb and Guttering and Sewerage across all of Stuarts Point	Council has no funding currently identified in forward programs for provision of new drainage assets within Stuarts Point. Considerable investment would be required, and Council would therefore suggest this is a longer-term goal at this point. Investment in infrastructure in Stuarts Point has and will continue to be considerable, far in excess to that in any other community within the Shire, particularly with consideration of a per capita basis. It is noted that where new kerb and gutter is placed part of the cost is borne by the benefitting property in accordance with the Local Government Act. Whilst kerb and gutter is an option that may be considered within a drainage strategy, for many properties around Stuarts Point the level of the land is lower than the road reserve. Kerb and gutter may exacerbate property drainage concerns in some locations without considerable work with property owners. Via a strategy Council and the community will better understand what can be achieved, and whether there are other means to minimising flash flooding impacts which require lesser investment. Maintenance needs shall also be a shorter-term consideration.
18	What will happen to low pressure systems if we have a rain event like this one? [Some houses without power due to safety concerns]	As the sewerage scheme is proposed to be a pressure sewer scheme, high water table levels will not impact the scheme, or can be appropriately managed.
19	Review sewer treatment location, process and outlet. Please make available environmental impact studies for water quality and function in times of high-water tables.	The Sewage Treatment Plant location was informed by a multi-criteria assessment. This included but was not limited to buffer zones, flood studies and land availability. The scheme has moved into the Concept Design phase of the project where the Review of Environmental Factors study will be completed. During the Concept and Detailed Design phase the system will be designed to function in times of high-water tables.
20	Clean drains in and around the village of Stuarts Point and Grassy Head	Council is not aware of previous history of drainage debris problems in the villages and will investigate this concern. Much of this drainage is located within private property, of which Council has no control over nor ability to undertake works within.
FISHERMAN'S REACH		
21	Fisherman's Reach: Road Repairs; Sinkholes; Boat Ramp Upgrades.	Council has completed temporary repairs on Fisherman's Reach Road, allowing one lane access under traffic signage. This will improve public safety and the condition of the road. A permanent solution to repair Fisherman's Reach Road will be planned following survey and design works. There is no current funding available to upgrade the boat ramp. Opportunities exist on occasion for Council to pursue grant funding to improve or upgrade boating



		facilities. When such an opportunity next arises this boat ramp shall be considered for application.
22	Wider road between Stuarts Point and Fisherman's Reach - Will Fisherman's Reach Road be resealed and re widened before the sewerage works begins construction.	Currently, there are no plans to widen Fisherman's Reach Road. This may be considered during future rehabilitation / reconstruction projects when funds are available.
23	Bike track down Fisherman's Reach Rd.	This project is listed in Council's adopted Bike Plan as a very low priority and therefore unlikely to be funded within the term of Councils current ten-year transport infrastructure works program.
24	Drainage & Sewer along Fisherman's Reach Rd	Staff have completed temporary repairs in the middle of May on Fishermans Reach Rd to the short length (approx. 100m) immediately north of Fishermans Reach that has had water over the road or partially over since March due to the high-water table. There is now a temporary one lane access with signage in place to control traffic. A permanent solution to repair Fishermans Reach Rd will be planned following survey and investigative works, and the water table dropping sufficiently. More information can be found here .
DEVELOPMENT		
25	- Access signs to beach - Promote the beaches with signs - - "Tidy Town" signage - Visitor signage/parking for public amenities	Council is developing destination signage for coastal destinations as well as the upriver communities of Willawarrin and Bellbrook. Gateway signage will be installed with locality name, story to the name, with an Indigenous influence. Tourism signage guide with a suite of signs is being developed. An audit of signage on Council owned and managed land is currently underway, data will be analysed with the intention of developing a style guide for all Council related signage.
26	Reserve and SP Holiday Park Upgrades – an overview.	Two new amenity blocks have been installed in the public reserve and caravan park as well as new footpaths. The paths link the reserve to the shops and Marine Parade, increasing accessibility and safety for residents. An upgrade of a section of Marine Parade has been completed and has included new kerb and guttering, an upgraded road surface and the construction of a retaining wall to support the road and footpath. The construction of a disability access ramp from Marine Parade to the public reserve, safety fencing along the retaining wall, and a new office and residence for the holiday park. In addition to the above, a new playground jetty, viewing platform, boat ramp and associated infrastructure were



		installed. The \$3.4 million project was jointly funded by Kempsey Shire Council and the NSW Government under its Restart NSW Regional Growth - Environment and Tourism Fund and Boating Now Program.
27	Action to reduce night glare for residents and fauna affected by high intensity lighting installed at Stuart's Point foreshore	Following feedback from residents, Council have completed a thorough investigation into the available options to maintain the desired behaviour and design of the upgrade to the area, whilst also looking to find a solution to the concerns around the brightness. After discussions with electricians, it was determined the best option was to install a switch which allows five of the lights to be turned off. These would be turned on when events occur at the foreshore.
28	Additional lighting/security for sports complex (for example: Donovan Oval).	Assessment of additional lighting and security across the Shire sports fields was conducted to develop the Macleay Valley Sports Strategy (2017), which can be found here . The Joe Donovan Oval was not considered a priority at this stage.
29	Bridge to South West Rocks.	A bridge between Stuarts Point and South West Rocks is currently not under consideration. Issues with financial viability, as well as heritage and environmental constraints, will likely preclude this project from ever proceeding.
30	Walking/Cycling Track from the Tavern in Stuarts Point to Reserve Road Grassy Head	Councils adopted Bike Plan has identified this off-road shared cycleway as a low priority work and is therefore unlikely to be funded by Council within the term of its current ten (10) year transport infrastructure rolling works program.
31	Improved car parking	Improved car parking has been provided as part of recent foreshore upgrades at Stuarts Point. Council has no plans for provision of parking upgrades at Stuarts Point in the short term. Existing on street parking arrangements are regularly monitored and appropriate controls implemented on a site-by-site basis.
32	Dog bags and "Pick up after your dog" signs.	Council is undertaking a review of 'Dogs off Leash Areas' including associated signage and infrastructure. Feedback closed on 26 March and a report is expected at the June or July Council meeting.
33	Is there an update regarding the new sewerage treatment plant – timelines; who will design, build and maintain etc. How will the high-water table level impact this?	Please see the Stuarts Point Sewerage Scheme projects page on Council's website here. As the scheme is proposed to be a pressure sewer scheme high water table levels will not impact the scheme or can be appropriately managed. In the FAQ's available on the site it is advised that over coming months Council will be working closely with Consultants and NSW Department of Planning Industry



		and Environment - Water to prepare the treatment facility Concept Design and a Collection System Masterplan to enable the scheme to be tendered under a Design and Construct tender process.
34	Shower outside Amenities Block at Grassy Head Day Picnic Area.	There are currently no plans for a shower to be placed at the Grassy Head Day Picnic area.
	OTHER	
35	Acknowledgement of First Nations history at Stuarts Point Foreshore alongside acknowledgement of white settlement.	Council is in discussions with SPADCO to explore opportunities in relation to this matter.
36	What are the options to fund the previous planned installation of CCTV cameras as at strategic locations throughout SP which unfortunately was the subject of an unsuccessful grant application by KSC? This proposal was well received within the community as a means of reducing/deterring petty crime and should continue to be a priority for Council.	Another application was made for grant funding last year without success. Future opportunities for community safety grants will be considered as they arise. Kempsey Police are in favour of and support the proposal for additional CCTV cameras throughout the Shire including Stuarts Point.
37	Council Rangers and enforcement of litter and patrolling beaches.	Council Rangers run a proactive illegal dumping campaign and are active in enforcing littering investigations and enforcement. Beach patrolling is scheduled during the peak holiday periods and in the areas of greatest activity along the coastline.
38	Netted swimming area	There are currently no plans for a netted swimming area near Stuarts Point.
39	Who is responsible for citing people driving on the beach without permits and driving/damaging habitat above the high tide mark? The dunes are being destroyed.	Information on beach driving can be found here . If people are driving above the high tide mark, this is the responsibility of National Parks and Wildlife Service who can be contacted on 13000 PARKS (1300 072 757).
40	Walkway to beach needs mowing, grass is very long and a dangerous trip hazard as track is now so narrow due to grass growth. Needs to be regularly mowed.	This area is regularly maintained by Council staff, which includes the control of weeds within the grassed areas. The Weekly Works Schedule can be found here . To lodge a request for vegetation maintenance please use the Snap, Send, Solve app or complete the form .
41	More convenient Tip hours.	Site times for Stuarts Point has been consistent over many years and align the total number of customers to the Stuarts Point Waste Transfer Station to our limited staff resources. We open Saturday morning and all-day Wednesday.



42	Friendlier Staff.	At KSC we pride ourselves on friendly staff. Formal complaints should be made through the Council Website here .
43	Investigate Water quality and sedimentation of Macleay Arm.	Water quality testing has been undertaken within the estuary during the recent event while groundwater pumping operations were in place. These operations had a negligible impact on water quality within the estuary. It is noted that sedimentation is occurring progressively within the Macleay Arm, however no funded program currently exists to undertake a major dredging program, noting this would likely require ongoing maintenance dredging.
44	Use local labour from Newstart and Corrections Centre to maintain foot paths, parks and infrastructure.	Council is exploring options with Memorandums of Understanding and Community Corrections. We do not manage any work for the dole arrangements.
45	How are you consulting the younger population of the area?	All members of the community are encouraged to submit their feedback through the Your Say Macleay webpage and by attending Community Catch-Ups and Engagement Workshops. A review of Council's Engagement Strategy will be conducted in mid to late 2021.
46	Under your duty of care what steps are you taking to,(a) safeguard against future flooding? (B) stop illegal dumping of sewerage?	(a) Council has commenced investigations regarding the dramatic change of groundwater levels, and how a more proactive approach to rising groundwater levels could be controlled in future. This event has been far more severe and long lasting than those experienced in the past, so it will take time to develop an understanding of factors that contributed to the severity of this event and how to better understand and manage them. (b) Council would investigate any reports of illegal dumping of sewage. Specific information would be required to be reported to enable this to be undertaken.
47	1. Explain how the KSC Charter of Citizenry has been upheld in SP during the recent flood event particularly in the first 10 days of the flooding in the area 2. Explain the KSC Emergency plan action in the SP area in the first 10 days of the recent flooding event 3. Explain KSC's KPI monitoring and evaluation processes as they apply to the CSP 2017, specifically to the SP items.	1) Further clarification to be sought from participant to determine context of Charter of Citizenry 2) During an emergency the local Emergency Management Plan and associated sub-plans are activated. The State Emergency Service (SES) are the combat agency for flood, which in the instance of this event given a multi-agency was required, necessitated an Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) to be stood up to support the combat agency. The Local Emergency Operations Controller (LEOCON) coordinates the operation of the EOC, and Council have a support and logistics role, whilst also managing the Council assets, and the associated impacts on them, and flood mitigation infrastructure operations. Council also provided for support for broader communications as required during



		the flood event, with regular updates on flooding impacts on roads in particular provided. 3) Council engages with the community to develop a Community Strategic Plan describing the community's vision and aspirations. The CSP is supported by a suite of integrated plans, including a 4-year Delivery Program and annual Operational Plan which include actions to support the strategies within the CSP. Council has implemented a process of reporting quarterly on the Operational Plan. The Annual Report (as well as six-monthly updates to Council) provides the community with an update on the progress of implementing the Delivery Program and progress towards achieving outcomes within the CSP. All of these reports are publicly available on Council's website. Council as part of its integrated planning process will continue to look at meeting the needs of all sections of the community.
48	How will healthcare during emergencies in Stuarts Point change in the future e.g. equal access; prioritising health and hygiene; costs to patients in the long term?	Council provides a range of infrastructure to support communities across the Shire. During emergency events such infrastructure may be compromised in its operations, which can impact on access and community connection. Council endeavours to restore infrastructure as soon as practical and on a priority basis, with access being a key priority. Access to individuals and their subsequent health support services is a significant challenge for the Emergency Operations Centre in any emergency. Residents are encouraged to report their needs and in particular health requirements to the relevant combat agency, such as Rural Fire Service or SES.
49	Upgrade of Reserve and Headland Walk at Grassy Head	The reserve was inspected by Councillors and staff recently. The playground and amenities were noted that refurbishment was needed. The relative priority will be a consideration as part of annual budgeting in future years, with funding not currently identified for this location in the 2021/22 financial year. The headland walk condition requires assessment, but similarly is not identified for funding.
50	Have any sporting facility upgrades been implemented?	Sporting facility upgrade priorities at Stuarts Point include field lighting, field standard/condition and irrigation. These works are not currently funded in the short term, however, are an ongoing consideration in annual



		programming or should suitable grant funding opportunities arise.
51	Playground Update	The Stuarts Point foreshore has recently seen an upgrade, where the carpark, playground and surrounding facilities have benefited from a large investment.
52	Walking Tracks for future attraction for visitors	Council's Pedestrian Access Mobility Plan and Bike Plan identify priority locations for paths. Selected locations are identified within these plans in the Stuarts Point area. There are no current plans for new walking tracks, noting that within the recent Foreshore works a path and walkway were installed, an attraction for visitors.
53	Walkway to beach needs mowing, grass is very long and a dangerous trip hazard as track is now so narrow due to grass growth. Needs to be regularly mowed. Riverside walking track from Stuarts Point to Grassy Head needs regular slashing and maintenance. A very popular walking track when it is accessible. Dangerous as it is a trip and fall hazard at present.	Beach access needs will be considered during maintenance works. A portion of the riverside walking track is mapped coastal wetland and therefore has protections under the Coastal Management State Environmental Planning Policy. This precludes work being undertaken in the relevant areas. It is noted there is also a bridge along the route that has failed.
54	In 2020 Stuarts Point Library underwent a refurbishment with new carpets, painting and layout.	This is correct. Information regarding the Your Future Libraries Plan can be found here .
55	What is Council doing about the ongoing issue of the pits in the caravan park. Does Council have all the funds for the entire sewer project?	Sewage is being managed within the Holiday Park, with pump outs occurring during high visitation periods. No planning has been undertaken in recent times with regard to the effluent treatment and disposal area remediation. Funding is in place for the sewerage scheme project.
56	Did the recent rain event impact our town the way it did because of big levies and trenches around the avocado farm?	Ongoing investigations are underway in relation to the factors that contributed to this event being more severe than those seen in prior events, noting that during this event a substantial amount of rain fell in coastal areas of the Mid North Coast over a period of five days. Council is currently not aware of any factors relating to the Avocado farms contributing to this events severity, with activities undertaken on these farms being in keeping with the associated land uses.
57	Bicycle and Walk Track from Grassy Head to Stuarts Point Caravan Parks	Council must balance relative priorities of the Shire for infrastructure such as footpaths and bike paths. The Bike Plan and Pedestrian Access Mobility Plan (PAMP) are endorsed by Council following consultation and public exhibition. These guide Council's priorities for bike and pedestrian infrastructure provision across the Shire and identify high, medium and low priority footpaths and pedestrian access works for the entire Council area. The



		PAMP can be found here . This location is identified to be of low priority within these documents, with no current plans for works to be undertaken within forward works programs.
58	Investigate the water condition in the waterway at Williams Bridge, Grassy Head.	Council staff will look into the matter of water conditions at Williams Bridge and consider whether any testing is necessary.
59	Council transparency and communication during the flood recovery phase.	Council provided for support of communications as required during the flood event, with regular updates on flooding impacts on roads in particular provided. This was a substantial exercise to provide for coverage across the Shire.
60	When will landscape maintenance and weed abatement take place on the newly landscaped/planted community waterfront park?	Landscaping maintenance shall occur in the near future.

