

2026-27 Operational Plan

Natural disaster recovery

\$4.27M capital investment in natural disaster recovery

This fact sheet has been prepared to help the community understand what Council plans to deliver across key areas in the 2026–27 Operational Plan.

Kempsey Shire is highly vulnerable to natural disasters due to its geography, climate and extensive road and drainage networks, with flooding, severe storms, bushfires and erosion occurring regularly across the region. These events place sustained pressure on Council assets and service delivery and often require rapid response to protect public safety and maintain access. Repeated and compounding disaster events mean Council is required to maintain an ongoing and active program of recovery and reconstruction works.

Below are the key natural disaster recovery capital projects for 2026-27:

Natural disaster recovery

- EC.OP29: Extensive restoration program to repair and rebuild disaster-affected roads and bridges including work on:
 - Toose Road slip
 - Pee Dee slip
 - Armidale Road, Midnight Creek
 - Armidale Road, Comara/East of Comara
 - Armidale Road, Bellbrook
 - Croads Esplanade slip repair, Smithtown
- EN.OP62: Undertake rehabilitation and renewal program for flood mitigation infrastructure including Gladstone drain outlet floodgate replacement and concrete repairs and design and planning of Belmore River flood relief gates
- EN.OP64: Installation of flood mitigation monitoring cameras at Temagog and Toorooka bridges



Photo: Belmore River, March 2021 Flood Event

Annual Programs and Operational Projects

While key capital projects are outlined above, Council also delivers a range of ongoing programs and projects funded through the operating budget to support natural disaster recovery including working with NSW Government agencies to provide resources and infrastructure to respond to emergencies such as floods and fires, delivering the flood mitigation infrastructure maintenance and drain clearing program, and preparing a Climate Change Adaptation Strategy and Plan.

Note: Financial investment in accordance with Appendix 2 of the 2026-27 draft Operational Plan: Capital Works Projects >\$50,000. references next to projects i.e EC.OP29 are the Operational Plan action number for 2026-27. Refer to Page 16 of Council's 2025-29 Delivery Program for a more detailed outline of our regions' natural disaster profile.

For more information please visit Council's website

Integrated Planning and Reporting - Kempsey Shire Council working with the Macleay Valley community