

# LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS

SATURDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 2024

The NSW Electoral Commission will conduct the upcoming election in our local government area for the election of MidCoast Council's next councillors. As a property-owner in our local government area, there are some important things you should know.

- Voting is compulsory at all NSW local government elections
- Voting locations in our region will be available on our website in the lead-up to the election
- Information on how to enrol to vote, where to get assistance, and how to submit an expression of interest to work at the election is available on the NSW Electoral Commission website, or by calling 1300 135 736.

<https://elections.nsw.gov.au/elections/local-government-elections/2024-nsw-local-government-elections>

You are eligible to vote as a non-resident in the MidCoast council area if you are:

- an owner of rateable land in the MidCoast council area and you reside in another Local Government area
- an occupier or rate-paying lessee of rateable land in the MidCoast council area and you reside in another Local Government area

Applications to enrol to vote, including for the non-residential roll, close 6pm on 5 August 2024.



Photo supplied by New South Wales Electoral Commission

# Find out from us

We know the work we do to deliver services across the region can be disruptive.

With communities in almost 200 towns and villages, keeping you updated on what's happening - and when - can be challenging.

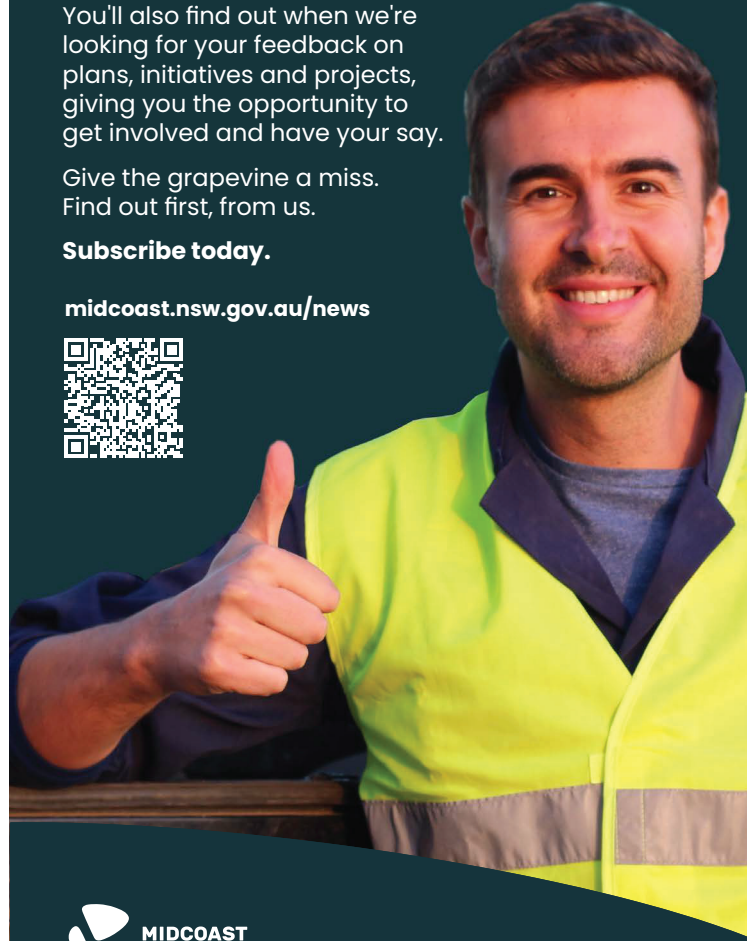
Get the right information at the right time, by registering for our weekly email newsletter.

You'll also find out when we're looking for your feedback on plans, initiatives and projects, giving you the opportunity to get involved and have your say.

Give the grapevine a miss. Find out first, from us.

**Subscribe today.**

[midcoast.nsw.gov.au/news](https://midcoast.nsw.gov.au/news)



## BULKY WASTE JUST GOT BETTER

See inside for how to book a collection when you need one.



Your work, in progress

July 2024



## NEW BOOKABLE BULKY WASTE

If you've always loved our annual Bulky Waste kerbside collection, you'll love the new bookable service even more – it gives you the flexibility to dispose of your bulky household and scrap metal items when it's most convenient for you.

Whether you're spring cleaning, getting ready to move house, or clearing a room to redecorate, we've got you covered.

- One free collection per household per year (July - June)\*
- Additional collections available (charges apply)
- It's quick and easy to book online (phone bookings also accepted)

Make sure your waste is collected, not rejected, by following the same guidelines that have always been applied at Bulky Waste time, including:

- No problem waste items like paint, chemicals, batteries, or gas bottles – these can be dropped for free at your nearest Waste Management Centre
- Items should be sorted into two separate piles, one for metal and whitegoods (doors removed); another for general and electronic waste
- Your total load should fit into a standard 7' x 4' box trailer, and individual items cannot weigh more than 30kg.



Head online for full guidelines, to find out more, and to book your free Bulky Waste collection before 30 June 2025.

\* This service is for residents who receive a domestic collection service.



[midcoast.nsw.gov.au/BulkyWaste](https://midcoast.nsw.gov.au/BulkyWaste)

## HARMONISATION OF RATES COMPLETE

2024-25 sees the end of the gradual rates harmonisation process that has been occurring since 2021-22. This was a merger transition project that was required to be undertaken by the Local Government Act.

Completing the transition has resulted in the streamlining of our rating categories, and some properties no longer being identified with a sub-category. If this applies to your property, a separate Categorisation Notice is included with your Rate Notice, including information about what you can do if you don't agree with this change.

In keeping with Council's resolution on the gradual harmonisation introduction, the individual impact on any property in any single year is less than 25%, excluding the rate peg.

Contact our Rates team if you have questions.

## YOUR RATES AT WORK

Every year we prepare a detailed budget that outlines how our funds will be allocated to deliver against the projects and activities outlined in our Operational Plan.

You can view the full 2024-25 budget on our website, but if you're short on time you may be interested to learn:

- Only 53% of incoming funds is from property rates, with the remaining amount coming from sources that include grants, user fees and charges, and interest on investments
- Expenditure on core services such as our transport network, water and sewer services and waste management exceeds the amount collected from property rates



Scan the QR code to learn more about what we have planned for 2024-25 and how we've allocated our budget to achieve it all.

[midcoast.nsw.gov.au/budget](https://midcoast.nsw.gov.au/budget)

## GOT A PROBLEM? TELL US ABOUT IT

Our region covers over 10,000km<sup>2</sup> (about the same size as Jamaica) which can make delivering everyday services challenging – services like waste collection, water services and road maintenance. So when you come across an issue, let us know.

Our streamlined "report and request" process automatically directs your enquiry to the right part of Council for action, meaning you'll have a resolution sooner.

- Report your issue or request a service quickly and easily online (phone is also an option)
- You'll be prompted for all the information we need to assess and action your request
- You can choose to receive automatic updates as your enquiry is processed
- And best of all, you can see where things are up to at any time using the tracking number provided at the time of your request

The work we do for our community, and improving the way we go about it, relies on your input.

So if you've got a problem, make sure to let us know.



Try the new Report and Request system on any device, any time of the day, by scanning the QR code, or ask our friendly customer service team to show you how.



[midcoast.nsw.gov.au/report](https://midcoast.nsw.gov.au/report)