

Byron Shire Local Infrastructure Contributions Plan Early Engagement



Kevin Craft

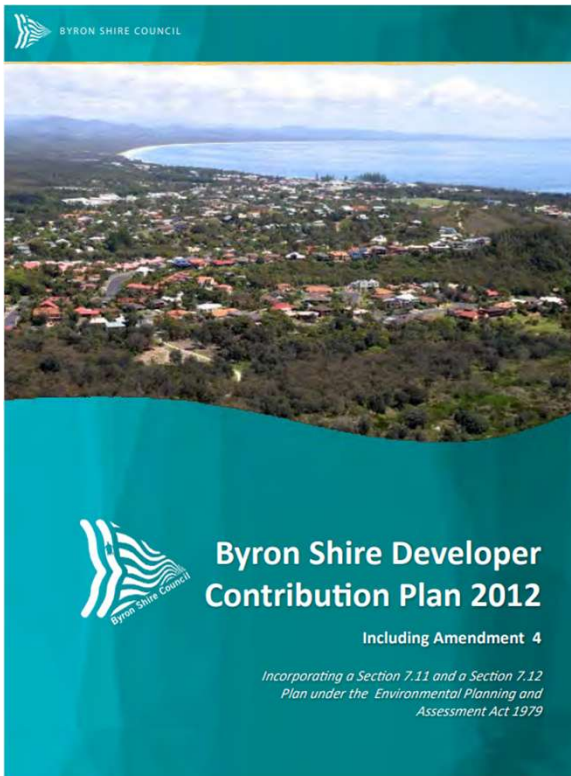
**Acting Coordinator Strategic Engineering
Byron Shire Council**

Over 25 years in finance roles in private and public roles

The past three years in Local Government



Current Contributions Plan



Current plan created in 2012 (Amended in 2019)

Population assumptions outdated

Works schedules revision

Optimise CP revenue and administration model



Community Consultation in Byron Shire

Engagement in Byron Shire

Engaged, passionate and informed community

Strong culture of participation

Local representation

Meaningful engagement



What made approach different?

Typical approach

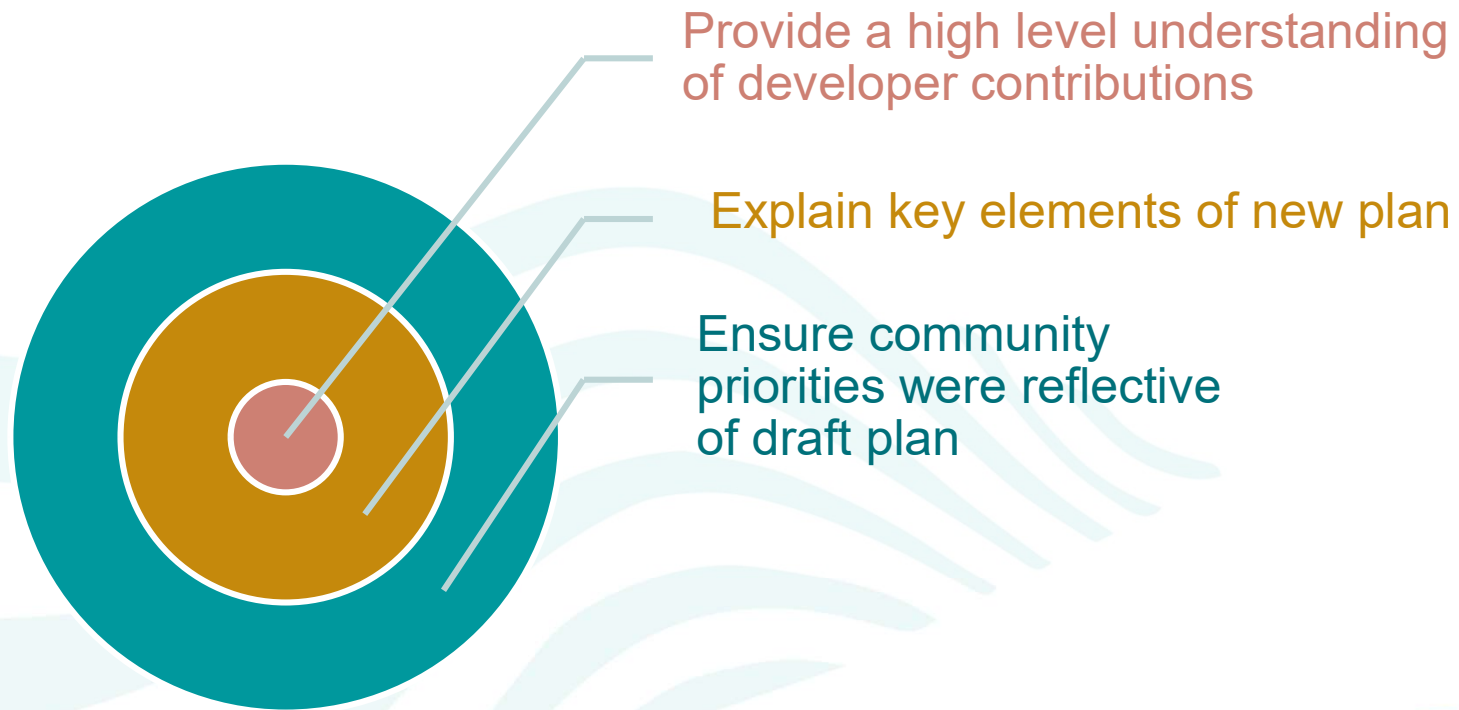
Draft plan prepared
then placed on public
exhibition



Byron approach

Early engagement
before public exhibition

Engagement Objectives





Method

Two channels, same activities

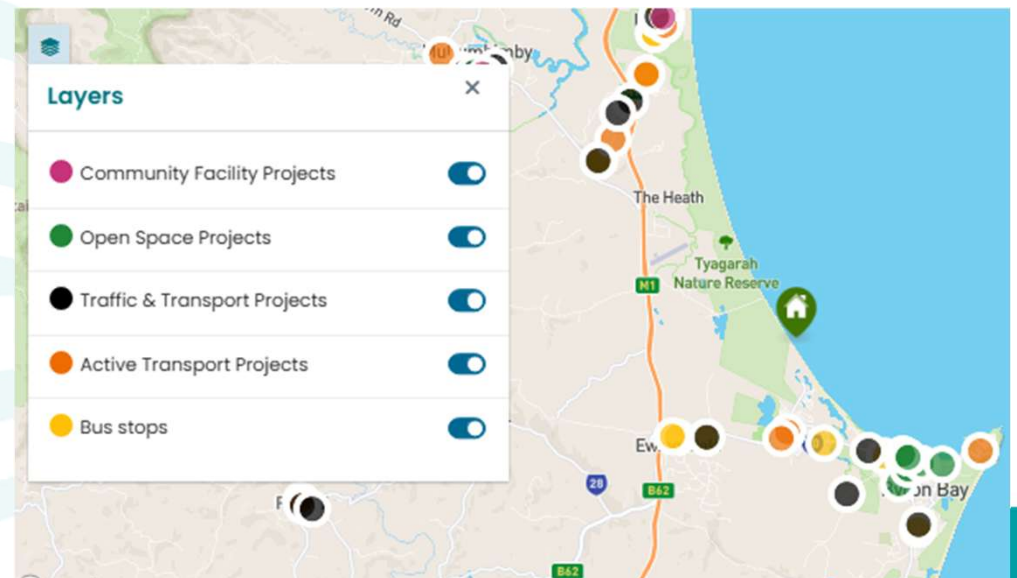
In person workshops

Five locations across Byron Shire
Contributions 101 followed by
hands on exercises



Online Your Say

Replicated workshop tasks with an
interactive map, survey and open
comments



Workshop Agenda

Part 1: Contributions 101

150 minutes

What are developer contributions?

What they can and cannot fund

Byron Shire context and options analysis

Proposed new plan

**Education
First**

Workshop Agenda

Part 2: Practical Exercises

Hands On Input

Prioritise draft work schedule projects

Use maps, stickers and post it notes

Discuss local and shire wide projects

Identify what may be missing

Clear choices

Workshop Agenda

Part 2: Practical Exercises

Facilitator Lead

One map per work schedule

- Location specific
- Shirewide

Project reference table

- Category, description, cost, staging
- Printed and online
- Reference to working document available

As a group

- Projects in each map explained
- Exercise requirements

Exercise 1: Prioritise Work Schedules

Place stickers on highest priority
Two stickers each person

Exercise 2: What's Missing

Post it notes for comments
Unlimited

Workshop Response Assessment



Exercise 1: Priority by project

Red sticker – highest priority (2 points)
Yellow sticker – next highest priority (1 point)

Exercise 2: What's Missing

Sticky notes – Open ended comments
Codified and considered
Provided to relevant team



Outcomes

Who took part?

5

General community
workshops

3

Special interest group
workshops

2

High Schools

**Engagement reached residents, interest groups and young people
before the formal exhibition period.**

Participation

220

Participated across all
platforms

150

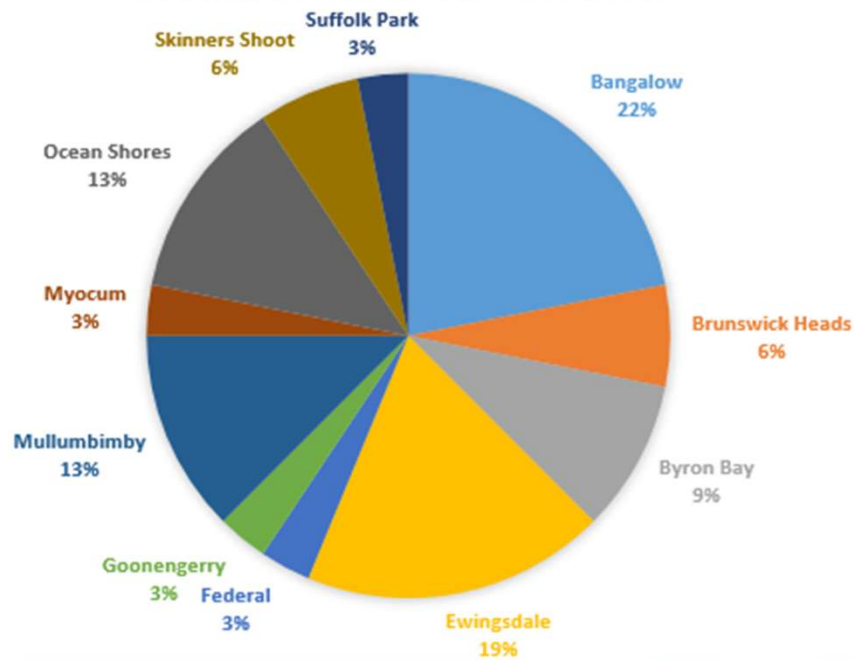
Priority votes across
all platforms

1,521

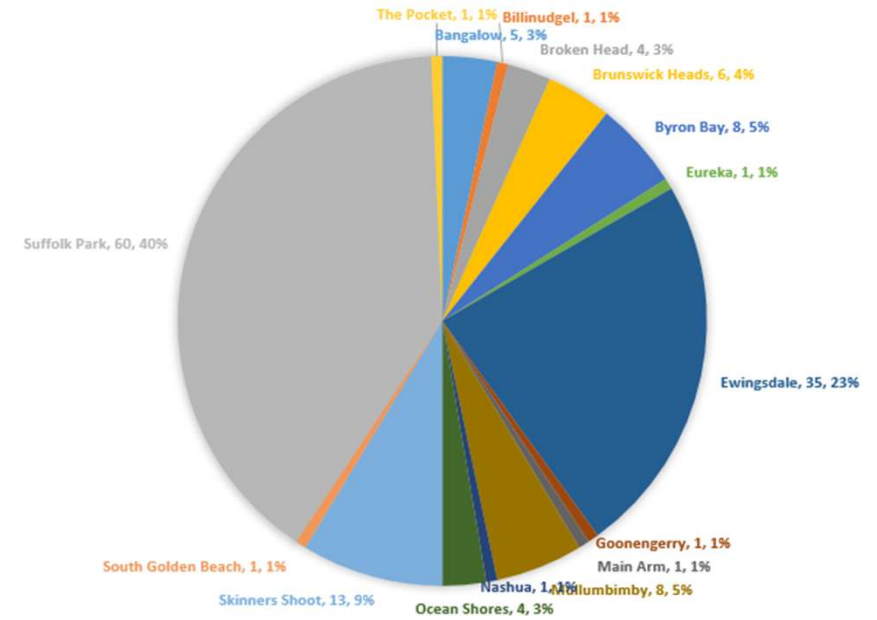
Your Say views

Suburb of responses

SUBURB OF RESPONSES - IN PERSON



SUBURB OF RESPONSES - ONLINE



Community Priorities

Quantified priorities by engagement channel:

Top Three Community Priorities Community Facilities									
Rank	Code	In person Project	Points	Code	Online Project	Points	Code	Total Project	Points
1	CF3	New Shire-wide library	12	CF3	New Shire-wide library	20	CF3	New Shire-wide library	32
2	CF2	Mullumbimby - new amenities block	7	CF2	Mullumbimby - new amenities block	12	CF2	Mullumbimby - new amenities block	19
3	CF1	Brunswick Heads Memorial Hall - Additional carpark, building upgrade and accessibility improvements	2	CF1	Brunswick Heads Memorial Hall - Additional carpark, building upgrade and accessibility improvements	11	CF1	Brunswick Heads Memorial Hall - Additional carpark, building upgrade and accessibility improvements	13

Work schedule updates

Changes made to draft work schedules prior to public exhibition:

Item number	Category	Description	Map name	Staging	
				Short (years 1-5)	Medium (6-10) Long (11-15)
OS12	Open Space	Apex Park Byron Bay carpark relocation	Shire Wide	Medium	EXCLUDE
	Open Space	Bayside Park Amenities Upgrade, Torakina Road	Ocean Shores / Brunswick Heads	Short	INCLUDE
	Open Space	Waterlily Park embellishments and facility upgrade	Ocean Shores / Brunswick Heads	Medium	INCLUDE
	Open Space	Ewingsdale Park embellishments	Byron Bay	Medium	INCLUDE
	Open Space	Shade Trees Shirewide	Shire Wide	Medium	INCLUDE
	Traffic and Transport	Market St, Bangalow upgrade	Bangalow	Short	INCLUDE
	Active Transport	Shared Path: Approx. 1,230m on McGettigans Lane from Ewingsdale Road plus 455m on Balraith Lane, BB031 PAMP	Byron Bay	Medium	INCLUDE

Public exhibition updates

No changes to work schedules have been recommended after public exhibition:

117

Individual submissions
responded to

0

Work schedule additions or
removals recommended



Learnings

Work schedule learnings



- Community input confirmed many proposed projects were on the right track
- Local knowledge identified infrastructure gaps and practical issues
- The sessions helped explain why a new revenue and catchment model was needed
- Feedback could be considered before the public exhibition draft was finalised

Community feedback on engagement



- Participants better understood infrastructure planning, funding and delivery
- The process helped explain that contributions are not an endless pool of money
- The shire wide catchment model was easier to discuss once the rules were explained
- Early consultation was valued because feedback could shape the draft

Elements that supported success

- Contributions 101 set the scene
- Priorities chosen from draft work schedules
- Hands on exercises
- External host familiar with community and contributions
- Preparation and research tailored to localities
- Online mapping captured feedback from people who could not attend

Lessons Learnt

Start with education

People need to understand limits before giving useful feedback

Project schedules to choose from

Specific choices work better than open ended lists

Interactive

Maps, stickers and small groups create better conversations

Replicate online

Replicate the same tasks digitally

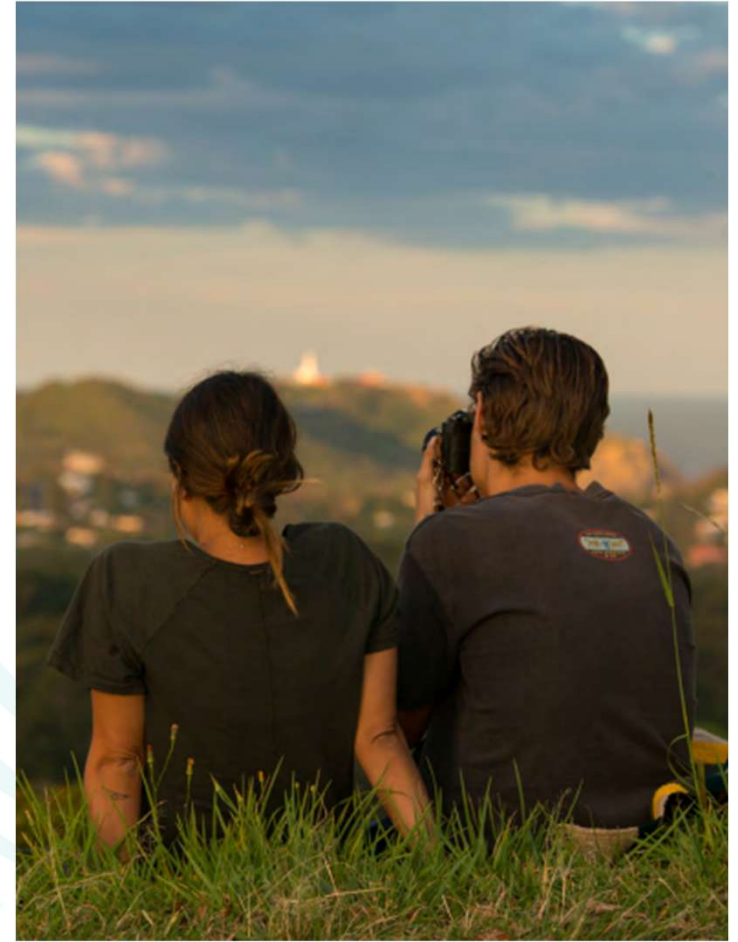
Why engage early

Build community trust

Early validation of work schedules

Create a shared understanding of contributions

Improves quality of submissions during public exhibition





Questions



THANK YOU

Appendices



Community Workshops

Workshop	Date and <u>Time</u>	Venue	Duration
Byron Bay	2.30pm Wed, 18 Feb 2026 PM	Cavanbah Centre	2.5 hours
Mullumbimby	10.00am Thu, 19 Feb 2026 AM	Mullumbimby Civic Memorial Hall	2.5 hours
Ocean Shores	2.30pm Thu, 19 Feb 2026 PM	South Golden Beach Hall	2.5 hours
Bangalow	10.00am Fri, 20 Feb 2026 AM	Bangalow A&I Hall	2.5 hours
Rural	2.30pm Fri, 20 Feb 2026 PM	Federal Community Hall	2.5 hours

Data

220

Participated across all
platforms

150

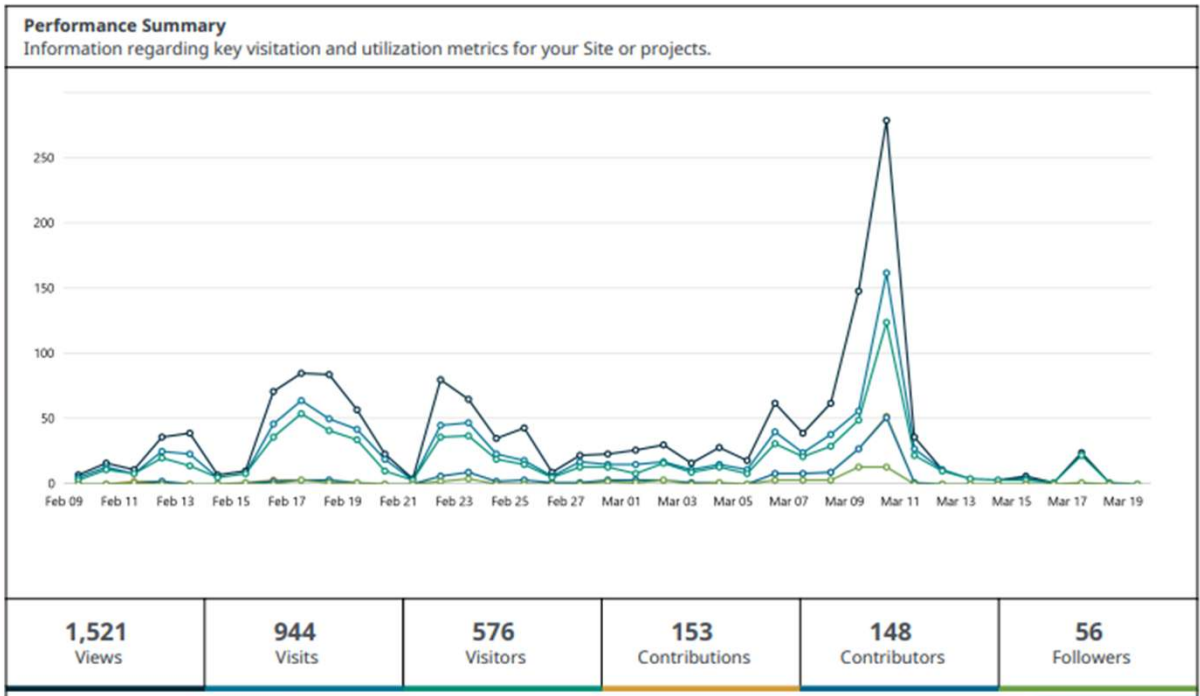
Priority votes across
all platforms

213

Online map comments

Your Say Engagement Report

Your Say Byron Shire
Report Type: Project
Project Name: Have your say on the Developer Contributions Plan
Date Range: 09-02-2026 - 19-03-2026
Exported: 19-03-2026 11:55:53



Example Responses

Source	Comment	Work Schedule	Update Draft Plan	Eligible for developer contributions?	Recommendation
In person	New shower amenities block should be near the neighbourhood centre so post disaster evacuation and current uses are already there.	Community Facilities	No	Eligible	In draft CP
In person	Community Hub at Heritage House - Shared facility for multiple services	Community Facilities	No	Eligible	Not in a current plan. Do not include.
In person	Toilet Upgrade in Federal Village	Community Facilities	No	Eligible	Not in a current plan. Do not include.
In person	All access to A&I Hall side access to showgrounds	Community Facilities	No	Not Eligible	Operational, maintenance
In person	Does Sunrise need some sort of community facility?	Community Facilities	No	Eligible	Not in a current plan. Do not include.
In person	Jubilee Avenue shade trees	Open Space	Yes	Eligible	Allocation for shire wide shade trees included. Open Space to determine locations. Comment passed on to Open Space Team
In person	More attention to species planted from QLD	Open Space	No	Not Eligible	Do not include. Comment passed on to Open Space Team
In person	Shade trees for skate park that don't create too much leaf litter in bowls specifically place for summer	Open Space	Yes	Eligible	Allocation for shire wide shade trees included. Open Space to determine locations. Comment passed on to Open Space Team
In person	Please adhere to Mullum Master Plan, no point in having one otherwise. EG: Station St development does not comply	Open Space	No	Not Eligible	Do not include.
In person	Fletcher Street streetscape	Open Space	No	Not Eligible	Do not include. Comment passed on to Open Space Team
In person	Cavanbah Centre - Outdoor pickle ball courts, covered	Open Space	No	Eligible	Alternate funding sources to be identified. Do not include. Comment passed on to Open Space Team
In person	Park amenities (Federal) once community buy land. Facilities, swing, etc...	Open Space	No	Eligible	Not in a current plan. Do not include.
In person	Path improvements along Lizray Road	Open Space	No	Eligible	Not in a current plan. Do not include.

Community Priorities – Shire Wide

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Community Priorities – Shire Wide

Top Five Community Priorities Shire Wide			
Rank	Code	In person Project	Points
1	OS8	Upgrade of Apex Park Byron Bay	25
2	AT21	Mullum to Bruns cycleway: Route to be determined	22
3	OS13	Byron Pool amenities upgrade - stage 1	15
4	CF3	New Byron Shire Library to replace existing libraries in Mullumbimby and Brunswick	9
5	OS10	Upgrades to Clarkes Beach	9

