

Draft Central Coast Outdoor Trading Specification

Engagement summary

Central Coast Council

Summary

Between 14 December 2023 and 27 March 2024, Central Coast Council sought community feedback on the Draft Central Coast Outdoor Trading Specification.

We drafted the Specification to achieve consistent and high-quality outcomes for outdoor vending and outdoor dining across the Central Coast. We then asked you as our local community to see how we could best create a vibrant atmosphere, improve street appeal while ensuring safety and equity for a broad range of users.

The Specification set out the requirements for businesses seeking to expand their trade on road reserves or public places adjacent to the fixed premises and for those wishing to install temporary or fixed structures associated within any outdoor trading area.

We invited the community to complete an online survey to provide feedback on the Draft document and to attend one of the 3 information sessions -8 Feb 24 – Wyong, 9 Feb 24 – Terrigal (face-to face) and 12 Feb 24 (Online).

Engagement results

Overall, there were 32 submissions completed. The community were asked to indicate their level of agreement of how the Draft Outdoor Trading Specification achieves its objectives. The results are as follows:

- **Facilitate the creation of a vibrant atmosphere in appropriate areas:** 83% of participants agree or strongly agree that this is achieved
- **Facilitate improvements to street vitality, amenity, and economic viability:** 78% of participants agree or strongly agree that this is achieved
- **Ensure equitable and safe movement for a broad range of users:** 83% of participants agree or strongly agree that this is achieved
- **Set out the requirements for businesses that are seeking approval to their business premises and/or: Expand their trade onto Council's road reserve or in a public place adjacent to the fixed business premises; and/or Install structures within their approved Outdoor Trading Area:** 78% of participants agree or strongly agree that this is achieved

How you connected



1,885 visits to the Your Voice Our Coast website



The strategy/plan/document was downloaded **114 times**



More than **23,420** social media users reached generating **75** likes, comments and shares.



18,678 stakeholders were kept up-to-date through E-news.



16,423 Central Coast Businesses were invited to provide feedback via EDM



8 people participated at **3** community workshops



A total of **32** submissions received

Feedback across the consultation period revealed the following:

- The community offered constructive feedback about outdoor trading possibilities and what they'd like to see changed
- Mixed comments about wanting more or less mobile vendors
- Mixed comments about there being too many restrictions and too much involvement from Council and also wanting no trading on public land
- Comments that this will be beneficial for the Central Coast and will improve the visual element of outdoor trading
- Comments about needing more shelter to help support business during bouts of bad weather
- Comments requesting more restrictions on dogs being permitted in outdoor trading areas
- Comments about outdoor seating and furniture being obstructive and dangerous
- Comments that it does not suit all roads, especially ones with steep gradients

You said:

"Keep businesses on their own premises, NOT on ratepayers' property."

"Government has too much say in the business of others. I believe in the improvements but do not necessarily agree with Council, especially Central Coast Council, should have so much say in how the improvements are enforced."

"...if there is seating and tables under shelter it will provide a very nice and relaxed atmosphere for the community."

"...there should be very stringent controls on the hygiene aspects of handling food for street traders..."

"Create an equitable and safe environment for all patrons requires the banning of dogs from venues. The noise and inconvenience of dogs invading people's personal spaces in outdoor venues prohibits the right to enjoyment by all including non-dog owners."

"I feel that doing this will give the Coast a better look."

"Love markets and happy to have people enjoy outdoor dining however the large amount of cafes and restaurants with obstructive, outdoor seating is becoming dangerous and irritating."

What's next?

Our project team are currently reviewing all community feedback in detail.

Insights from all feedback provided during this consultation will be used to guide the final Specification and we will keep the community updated as the project progresses.

Find out more and stay up to date at yourvoiceourcoast.com/OTS