

A Better Eurobodalla

For open, accountable and responsive government in the Eurobodalla

January 2021 Newsletter

In Eurobodalla we're calling for:

- Open, accountable and responsive local, state and federal government.
- A council with a sustainable, practical vision that can cost-effectively meet the needs of residents and ratepayers.
- Local government that actively and accurately represents Eurobodalla residents' interests to state and federal government.
- Candidates for the 2021 local government election who genuinely listen; who tackle key issues of concern and urgency and who safeguard the interests of all of us.



What's new...

Come & Say Hello

ABE is running a campaign through summer and beyond to let non-resident ratepayers know about their right to vote in this year's local government election. Each property of a non-resident ratepayer is entitled to one vote. To exercise that right you need to register with Eurobodalla Shire Council.

Our Council makes vital decisions that impact on our community, our businesses and our environment. Come September 2021 we want a Council that listens to its community, takes expert advice and has transparent decision-making.

So come say hello if you see us at local markets or around town. Meanwhile [take a look at our website](#) for information on registering to vote and other important local issues.

Council's Bushfire Response Priorities

ABE recently wrote to Council seeking information regarding issues which had emerged as priorities from community feedback across Eurobodalla. Our letters and Council's response can be viewed [here on the ABE website](#).

A key issue was to find what work has been done since last summer's disastrous bushfires to rectify the serious deficiencies in evacuation centres across the shire. During the fires significant public health and safety issues emerged in the 3 official centres at Batemans Bay, Moruya and Narooma, while many smaller towns had no safe evacuation centres, placing many locals and visitors at significant risk.

Council responded that a total of \$200,000 (i.e. \$0.2 million) had been spent on electricity wiring upgrades and enhancements to plumbing facilities at the 3 major centres, with no mention of work done at any smaller centres. In contrast, Council has recently received \$5.25 million dollars from the Bushfire Local Economic Recovery (BLER) Fund without any application documentation being submitted for a "fast tracked" walking track project at headlands south of Batemans Bay. This track has no route details publicly available, and has had

Subscribe	Past Issues	minimal public consultation. In addition, Eurobodalla Council's	Translate ▼	RSS 📡
---------------------------	-----------------------------	---	-----------------------------	-----------------------

submissions to the business inquiries indicated they would be seeking substantial funding (more than \$1 million) for an Emergency Operations Centre for use by Council & Departmental Agency staff, with no mention of any grants for upgrading existing, or construction of new, evacuation centres for use by the community.

Unfortunately these responses show that in this important area Council is not prioritising identified community concerns and needs in decision-making and priority projects.



[visit our website](#)



[view this email in your browser](#)

Copyright © 2021 A Better Eurobodalla (ABE). All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

Was this email forwarded to you? [Sign up to receive this newsletter here](#)