

# Constitutional Referendum

## Engagement Summary

Central Coast Council

### Summary

In response to a resolution of Council on 3 February 2021 between 1 March and 15 March 2021 Central Coast Council's Administrator Dick Persson AM sought community feedback on a Constitutional Referendum for the reduction of Councillors (from 15 to 9) in conjunction with the September 2021 Local Government Elections.

The consultation provided an opportunity for the community to submit feedback on the options proposed, which will help Council understand community sentiment on how the numbers may be reduced in order to finalise the proposed referendum questions.

We presented the community with an information package and invited them to participate in an online poll.

### Engagement Results

Participants were asked if they would like Councillors reduced from 15 to 9:

#### Do you want Councillors reduced from 15 to 9?

**78% Yes**

**22% No**

*(status quo to remain)*

*(613 participants total)*

Those that selected yes to a reduction in Councillors were then asked to let us know what their preferences for ward structure was:

#### Reducing Councillors from 15 to 9 requires a change in the Ward Structure. Please let us know which of the following options you prefer:

**55%**

*Abolish the Wards, 9 Councillors represent the whole Central Coast*

**45%**

*5 Wards reduces to 3 Wards*

*(465 participants total)*

### How you connected



1,625 visits to the Your Voice Our Coast website.



7,112 people reached and 1,623 interactions, comments and shares.



11,194 stakeholders were kept up-to-date through e-news.



613 people participated in the online poll

### What's next?

Councils Administrator Dick Persson AM will use the results of the poll to finalise the proposed referendum questions.

The referendum questions will be asked at the next Local Government Election being held on Saturday, 4 September 2021 however the change to the Council structure will not be enacted until the following Council election in 2024.

Find out more and stay up to date at [yourvoiceourcoast.com](http://yourvoiceourcoast.com)

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