



JUNE 2026

Cronulla Update

Mark Speakman MP for Cronulla



Welcome to this update on local issues and projects as well as the great things being done by people in our community.

In this issue:

Infrastructure
'have your say'

Handy cost
of living links

Brighton and
nearby bottlenecks

E-bikes

GyMEA Bay Road
carpark

Local sport grants

Kurnell visitor
centre coming
soon

Cronulla Woman
of the Year

Cronulla Senior
of the Year

Community
recognition

Out and about



Impression of the new development proposed for the Kurnell Peninsula

New homes need new infrastructure

NSW housing unaffordability is at record levels. Sydney homes are out of reach for most ordinary buyers and often even renters.

The price of anything is the result of demand and supply – we need to ease immigration to ease demand and to ramp up supply of new homes – especially for young homebuyers and downsizers.

So while, in principle, boosting construction is welcome and necessary, it must be matched by new infrastructure to support the many thousands of extra people who will move into the Shire.

A huge new residential development (4,300 homes) on the Kurnell Peninsula is set to be approved by the Minns Labor Government. For starters, I've called on Premier Chris Minns to make sure Captain Cook Drive is widened before any new projects start on the Kurnell Peninsula and more broadly to state what the Government's plans are for infrastructure in our area.

There's been no significant infrastructure announcement in the Cronulla electorate in the three years of the Minns Labor Government, including schools, hospitals, public transport or roads.



What new or improved infrastructure do we need?

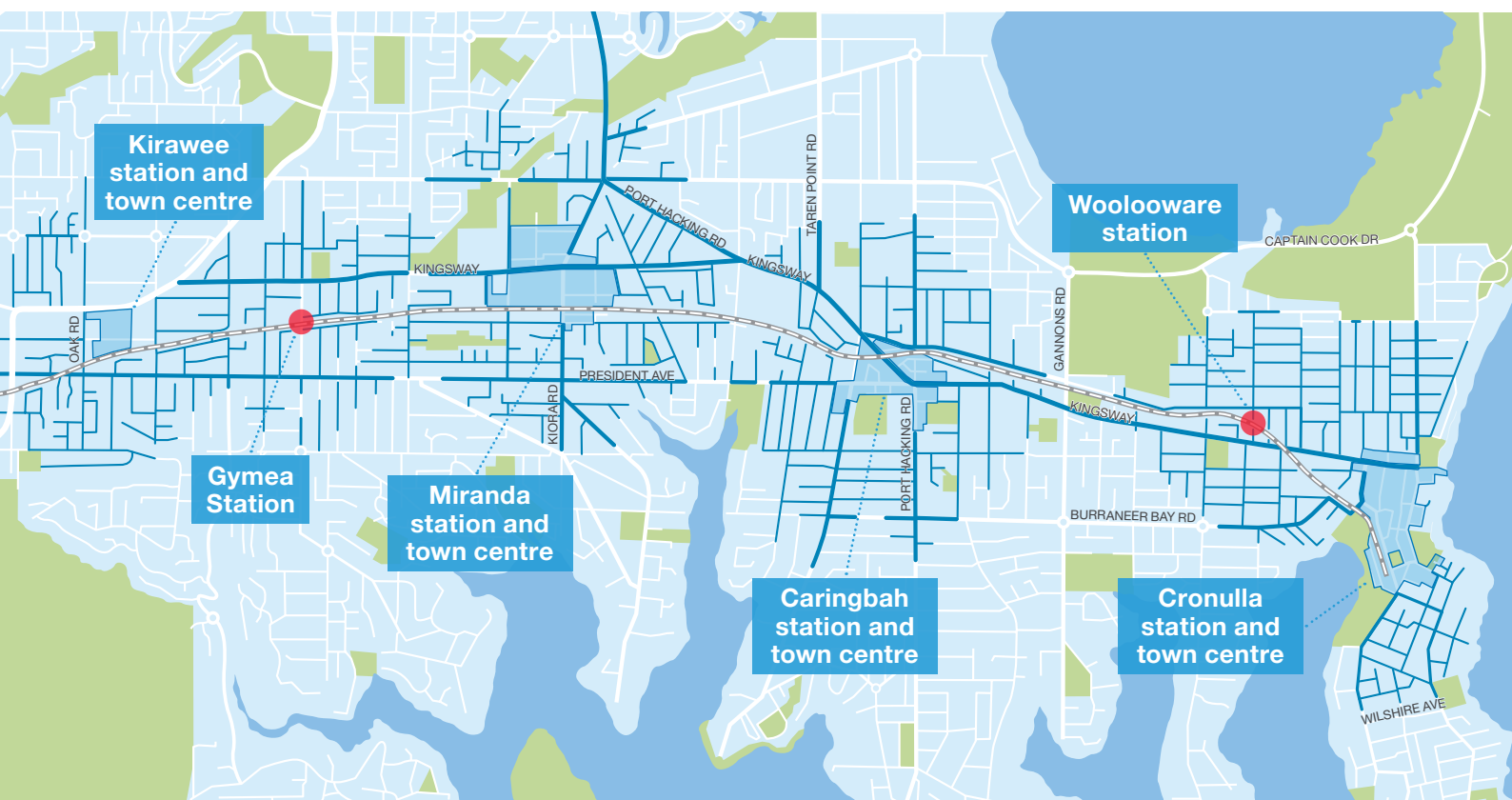
See page 2 →

Where's the new infrastructure?

In addition to the Kurnell Peninsula planning proposal mentioned on page one, the Minns Government's "low and mid-rise housing policy" now allows greater density than previously within 800 metres of Cronulla, Caringbah and Kirrawee "town centres" and Woollooware and Gymea stations – see the streets marked blue on the indicative map below. This includes four to eight storey buildings (depending on distance and any affordable housing uplift) in R3 and R4 zones.

You can find out more online at the NSW Planning Portal www.planning.nsw.gov.au

Any rapid increase in population must be matched by infrastructure, but so far the Minns Government has announced nothing significant locally.



Have your say on the local infrastructure backlog

I'm conducting my own "stocktake" of outstanding infrastructure needs (big or small, basic or more advanced, new or maintenance) in the Cronulla electorate.

I'd welcome your feedback through a short survey to help me better understand what to advocate for with government. What's missing or needs fixing, for example, at your local school, on your local roads, in your local parks and sports fields, or in other community facilities?

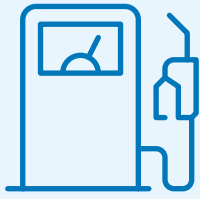


Complete the survey

bit.ly/infsurvey2026
or scan QR code



Handy cost of living links



NSW Fuel Check

bit.ly/fuelcheck
or scan QR code



NSW Government Cost of Living Hub

bit.ly/COLHub
or scan QR code



NSW Low Income Household Rebate

bit.ly/LIHRebate
or scan QR code



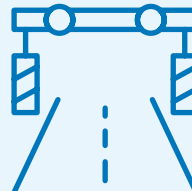
Energy and utilities rebates and help

bit.ly/EURebates
or scan QR code



Home buyer grants and assistance

bit.ly/HBAssist
or scan QR code



Toll relief

bit.ly/toll-relief
or scan QR code



Fix the Brighton and nearby bottlenecks

Like me, I know many of you are frustrated by the delays caused by parked cars when driving along General Holmes Drive, the Grand Parade and Sandringham Street between Kyeemagh and Sans Souci.

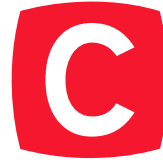
The previous NSW Liberal Government undertook detailed planning (including for offset parking) and community consultation in 2022 and then decided to introduce extended weekday and new weekend clearways along these roads. The Minns Labor Government scrapped the plans, without proposing an alternative for the 70,000 motorists who use these major roads each day.

I've started a petition calling on the Government to extend the clearways times.



Sign the petition:

bit.ly/brighton-clearways or scan QR code



Current clearways

6^{AM} - 10^{AM}
NORTHBOUND

3^{PM} - 7^{PM}
SOUTHBOUND
MON - FRI



Clearways proposed in 2022 (both directions)

6^{AM} - 7^{PM}
MON - FRI

9^{AM} - 6^{PM}
SAT - SUN
& PUBLIC HOLS

E-bikes

There has been a frustrating lack of enforcement of existing laws, including riding of so-called e-bikes that are so powerful that they're actually illegal unregistered motor bikes.

I understand that the police already have seizure powers, but these seem to be largely unused. The Government has foreshadowed some progress with its recent announcements like banning children under 12 from using e-bikes and enhancing police seizure and destruction powers regarding "illegal e-bikes". However they are lacking in detail (eg how will detection work when the Government says it will have only three mobile testing devices by August) and they don't go far enough.

I support compulsory education and number plates for detection and deterrence especially for young riders, even for those using legal e-bikes. Even legal e-bikes are capable of speeds of 25km/h, they can be ridden on footpaths by under 16-year-olds and accidents involving even legal e-bikes can involve serious injury.

It's NSW Liberals policy to introduce an e-bike licence plate scheme for riders under 18, delivery drivers and shared-service schemes.



Sign the petition:

bit.ly/ebikepetition or scan QR code



In the absence of government measures, some local schools require students riding e-bikes to school to complete an education program that includes road rules.

This program was designed by a local Shire organisation, E-Bike Safety Australia, and it's now being implemented in around 10 schools in NSW and Queensland.

Thank you to the thousands of people who have signed my e-bike petition.

Prefer to receive Cronulla Update newsletter via email?

Scan the QR code on the right if you'd like to receive future editions of this newsletter via email instead of in the post.



Gymea Bay Road carpark

Thank you to everyone who has signed my petition calling on the Minns Government to reopen the former unofficial commuter and shopper carpark on Gymea Bay Road Gymea.

When asbestos was found on the site in 2019, the site was closed for remediation. As that's now been completed, I can't understand why



Sign the petition:
bit.ly/gymeaparking
or scan QR code



the Government can't reopen this large site close to the station and Gymea shopping centre for much needed parking.

I intend to keep raising this issue with the Government. Please sign the petition to show your support for the reopening of the site for parking.

Local sport grants

Six clubs in the Cronulla electorate shared in nearly \$50,000 through the NSW Local Sport Grant Program.

These competitive grants are always popular and I congratulate volunteers from the successful clubs on the hard work they put into their applications.

Grants of between \$2,000 and \$20,000 per project were available, with up to \$50,000 available in each NSW electorate.



Kurnell visitor centre coming soon

I had a sneak preview of the new Kurnell visitor centre at Kamay Botany Bay National Park recently.

The finishing touches are being completed and the National Parks and Wildlife Service expects the new centre will open later this year.

The centre will have a café and provide a great new exhibition space to tell the story of this significant place in our history.

One highlight of the exhibition will be the four Gweagal spears taken from the site in 1770 and that will be returned to Kurnell more than 250 years later.



Visitors to Kamay are already enjoying a range of new amenities including new toilet facilities, barbeques, picnic shelters and improved parking. The new visitor centre will complete the upgrades planned and funded under the previous State and Federal Governments.

Cronulla Woman of the Year

Caringbah's Kathryn Wakelin, who's brought hope to families out of her own personal heartbreak, has been named the 2026 Cronulla Woman of the Year.

Kathryn co-founded Levi's Project with her husband Ben after the loss of their son Levi from an aggressive and incurable form of childhood brain cancer.

Levi was diagnosed with DIPG (diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma) aged seven in 2017 and passed away just over a year later.

Kathryn's story is one of turning adversity into good for the benefit of others.

After setting up Levi's Project with husband Ben, Kathryn has been the driving force behind an inspirational fundraising effort to help find effective treatment for the disease that took the life of her son Levi.

In just six years Levi's Project has raised an extraordinary \$6 million for world-leading research and clinical trials at the Children's Cancer Institute for Children with DIPG, providing vital funds for work zeroing in on a breakthrough treatment.



With husband Ben, Kathryn's determination to help find a cure for the disease will potentially make a huge difference for children fighting this disease.

I congratulate Kathryn on her vision, courage, passion and tireless work rallying support, so that other families might one day have an answer to one of the deadliest childhood cancers.

More information about Levi's Project is available at www.levisproject.org

Cronulla Senior of the Year

Long time driving force of cancer fundraiser Sutherland Shire Relay For Life, Rod Coy OAM, is the 2026 Cronulla Senior of the Year.

Rod has been recognised for his dedicated and enthusiastic volunteer service after starting as a helper with the Cancer Council following successful cancer treatment.

Rod's passion in the world is the Sutherland Shire Relay For Life and thanks to Rod's leadership, vision and hard work, our local Relay event has become one of the largest and most successful in Australia.

Year after year Rod has led the way as chair or co-chair of the organising committee, helping unite volunteers, committee members, Cancer Council staff and the community to raise almost \$8 million for Cancer Council NSW and to honour people affected by cancer.



Rod's experience as a cancer survivor ignited a volunteer career with Relay For Life that's made a big difference and I congratulate him on this well-deserved award.

In 2013 Rod was recognised for his service to charitable organisations when he was awarded the Order of Australia Medal in the Queen's Birthday honours.

Community recognition

One of the best parts of my job as your local MP is recognising locals in Parliament for their achievements, good work or dedicated service through short 'Community Recognition Statements'.

These statements go into Hansard, which is the written record of all proceedings and debates.

I'd love to receive recommendations for people who could be recognised in this way. If there's a person or organisation from the Cronulla electorate that you think should be recognised, please contact my office.

These are the community recognition statements I've made so far this year (to May):

Shanon Bates (Sutherland Shire Citizen of the Year)



With Shanon Bates

Shire Woodworking Club
(charitable contributions)

Michael Kelly OAM
(Australia Day honour)

Colin Storey (Sutherland Shire Environmental Citizen of the Year)

Zoe Newman (Sutherland Shire Sports Citizen of the Year)

Sutherland Shire Relay for Life (Sutherland Shire Community Group of the Year)

Cathy Mason OAM
(Australia Day honour)

Tom Wyse (Children's Cancer Institute Family Ambassador)

Angus Cunningham (published memoir 'Twice Before Twelve' as cancer survivor)

Narelle Nash (award winner at Smart Fone Flick Fest)

Cronulla Triathlon Club
(successful hosting of Richie Walker Aquathon)

Jordan Prince (Surf Life Saving Sydney Male Junior Lifesaver of the Year)

Wanda Surf Life Saving Club
(State Age Champions)

Kathryn Wakelin (2026 Cronulla Woman of the Year)

Cronulla U9 OzTag team
(State Cup winners)

Rod Coy OAM (2026 Cronulla Senior of the Year)

Emma Gidney and Nick Thornton (fundraising for Lifeline Australia and Headspace)

Cronulla Surf Life Saving Club (Shark Island Swim)

Dementia Australia (Cronulla Memory Walk and Jog)

OneMeal Sutherland Shire
(expanded weekly free community meals)

Jeanne Zweck (service to Sutherland Shire Business Chamber as President)

Cronulla Sharks women's water polo team (NSW Super League Champions, Australian Water Polo League champions)

Cronulla Sharks men's water polo team (Australian Water Polo League runners up)

Woolooware High School
(student-led waste initiative)

Wanda Surf Life Saving Club
(second overall at Australian Surf Life Saving Championships)

Shire Military History Club
(RAAF Dakota crash memorial)

Late Ken Warburton
(advocate and fundraiser for people with a disability)

Tony Ibrahim (20 years as Cronulla High School Principal)



Late Sandra Hudson
(community volunteer and Sutherland Hospital advocate)

Sisters of Mercy Parramatta
(100 years in Cronulla)

Frank Bova (60 years with Lilli Pilli Football Club)

Cronulla RSL sub branch (100th ANZAC Day service in Cronulla)

Late Brian Wilkinson
(Olympic swimmer and coach)

Janet Malin (50 years' service as a Justice of the Peace)



Read statements

bit.ly/speakman-hansard or scan QR code



Out and about



New police cadets



Sutherland Shire Relay for Life



Local student leaders



Cronulla Sharks game



Cronulla South Public School Walk Safely to School Day



North Cronulla listening post



Meeting of Two Cultures Kurnell



RAAF Dakota crash memorial Cronulla



Cronulla Memory Walk & Jog



Stella Maris Cronulla



Coptic Church Kirrawee



The Family Co

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