



## MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Now that we've entered the second half of 2025 and a new financial year, it's a great time to reflect on what we've achieved and what's planned for the months ahead.

The city's second Community Recycling Centre (CRC) is now open in Belmont North. You can drop off problematic household waste items that don't belong in the garbage bin at either of our CRCs located at Belmont North or Awaba. These centres provide convenient places for you to discard items like paint, gas bottles, oils and batteries in a responsible way.

It's exciting to see projects from our Operational Plan 2025–2026 underway. This plan is our roadmap for the city's key projects over the next 12 months, including \$35 million on road works and \$7.5 million on community and sporting facilities.

Recently I had the honour of turning the sod at Macquarie Field in Speers Point. The facility will receive a \$2 million facelift that will include new seating for 200 people, two sports changerooms, a canteen, accessible parking spaces and connecting pathway. This project is

set for completion later this year and will provide a significant boost to our sporting community and families.

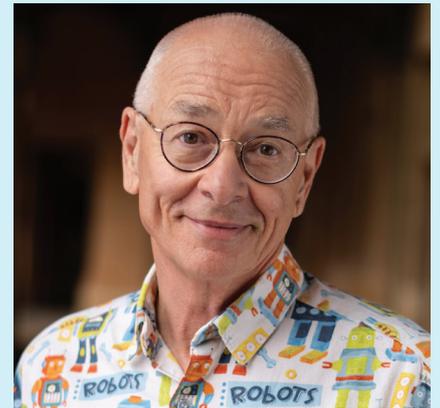
I'm also looking forward to the completion of restoration works at Awaba House in Booragul and construction starting on stage one of an active transport link from Charlestown to the Fernleigh Track.

I'd like to acknowledge the resilience of our neighbours on the mid-north coast following the extreme weather event in May. Locally, Council responded to a surge in requests for tree removals, drainage works and pothole patching. Council staff worked tirelessly alongside SES volunteers. A sincere thank you to all those who helped during that time of crisis and in the clean-up that followed.

This time of year is busy for families and Council alike – not just with major projects, but we also have a calendar full of exciting events. I hope to see you out and about in the coming months at the Living Smart Festival, Let's Fish Lake Mac and Lake Mac Action Fest.

**Lake Macquarie Mayor  
Cr Adam Shultz**

## DR KARL HEADLINES LIVING SMART FESTIVAL



**20 September 2025  
9am to 3pm | Speers Point Park**

He has spent more than 45 years making sense of science for everyday Aussies and now Dr Karl Kruszelnicki is set to share his wisdom with Lake Macquarie.

The author, communicator and winner of the UNESCO Kalinga Prize for the Popularisation of Science will headline this year's Living Smart Festival in September.

Dr Karl will join a host of other presenters and experts covering a range of sustainability themes.

The 20 September event will mark Living Smart's 14th instalment, featuring talks, presentations, workshops, demonstrations, live entertainment and market stalls.

For more information visit  
[livingsmartfestival.com](https://www.livingsmartfestival.com)



## CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRE TEMPORARY RELOCATION

Council's Customer Service Centre is temporarily located at Speers Point Library, Main Road, Speers Point.

**The Customer Service Centre is open from 9am–4:30pm.**

You can continue to call us on **02 4921 0333**, email us at [council@lakemac.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@lakemac.nsw.gov.au) or start a conversation with us over web chat.

## PLAY NICE IN OUR DOG FRIENDLY SPACES



To read more about this and learn about Council's 32 off-leash areas, head to [lakemac.com.au/dogs](https://lakemac.com.au/dogs)

With more than 100,000 dogs in Lake Mac, we're encouraging positive behaviour from dog owners.

Here are some reminders to help everyone enjoy our beautiful shared spaces:

- **Bag it, bin it.** Let's keep our city clean by picking up after your dog and disposing of waste properly.
- **Keep dogs on a lead in on-leash areas.** Help everyone feel safe and protect our wildlife.
- **Practice good dog etiquette.** Make sure your dog is under effective control and respectful of others.

## STORMWATER MANAGEMENT LEVY INTRODUCED

To enhance our city's stormwater network services, an annual Stormwater Management Services Charge is being introduced for Lake Macquarie residential and business properties.

This will support construction of new stormwater quality improvement devices, restoration and rehabilitation of creek beds, drainage infrastructure and maintenance of swales and drainage channels.

### The charges will be:

- Residential properties: \$25 per eligible urban property; \$12.50 for strata units.
- Business properties: \$25 per 350m<sup>2</sup> of site area, up to \$5,000.

The stormwater management charge is being levied from 1 July 2025, alongside existing rates and charges.

Urban properties within the Lake Macquarie local government area with residential or business zoning will have the charge applied.

For more information visit [lakemac.com.au/stormwater](https://lakemac.com.au/stormwater)



## NEW COMMUNITY RECYCLING CENTRE OPENS AT BELMONT NORTH

The Lake Macquarie community can drop-off common problem waste free of charge at the new Belmont North Community Recycling Centre (CRC) at 56-60 Floraville Road, Belmont North.

Accepted items include: paint, gas bottles, motor oils, other oils, household batteries, smoke detectors, fluoro globes and tubes, car batteries and fire extinguishers.

Belmont North CRC is open from 8am to 4pm on weekdays and 9am to 2pm on weekends. The CRC will be closed on public holidays.

For more information [lakemac.com.au/BNCR](https://lakemac.com.au/BNCR)



## RUN YOUR OWN FAMILY DAY CARE WITH CONFIDENCE

Love working with children? Become a Lake Mac Family Day Care Educator! Run your own home-based business.

Start your journey today [lakemac.com.au/educator](https://lakemac.com.au/educator)

