

By email Friday, 15 May 2026

CEO Shoalhaven City Council: [council@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au)

Shoalhaven City Council: [CISP@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au](mailto:CISP@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au)

Cr Lou Casmiri: [Luciano.casmiri@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Luciano.casmiri@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au)

Cr Jemma Tribe: [jemma.tribe@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au](mailto:jemma.tribe@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au)

Cr Ben Krikstolaitis: [ben.krikstolaitis@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au](mailto:ben.krikstolaitis@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au)

Cr Bob Proudfoot: [bob.proudfoot@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au](mailto:bob.proudfoot@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au)

## **Re: Request an Urgent Pause to the CISP Survey**

Dear Andrew,

Thank you for your quick response to our earlier request for an extension of time for the survey and for providing the additional site information we requested. We now wish to submit survey concerns identified by members of the Vincentia community.

We are writing to request a pause to the CISP survey due to anomalies identified. Our intention is to improve the value of the input from the community. This is a significant strategic plan and deserves comments from the community that will be useful for Council; to qualify future decisions with integrity that will benefit our ratepayers and residents.

We raise these specific Vincentia examples to demonstrate lack of clarity which risks the credibility of the survey and can deter respondents affecting the value of the results – hence future actions by Council will inevitably attract criticism.

### **1. Vincentia Public Hall—two different decisions in one question**

**Recommendation: ‘Deliver upgrades to Vincentia Public Hall in line with Master Plan, or deliver community meeting space at an alternative, suitable location in Vincentia.’**

This reads like two separate decisions squeezed into one line. Upgrading the existing hall and delivering a new meeting space somewhere else are completely different ideas, yet the survey provides only one ‘agree/disagree’ scale to respond to both at once.

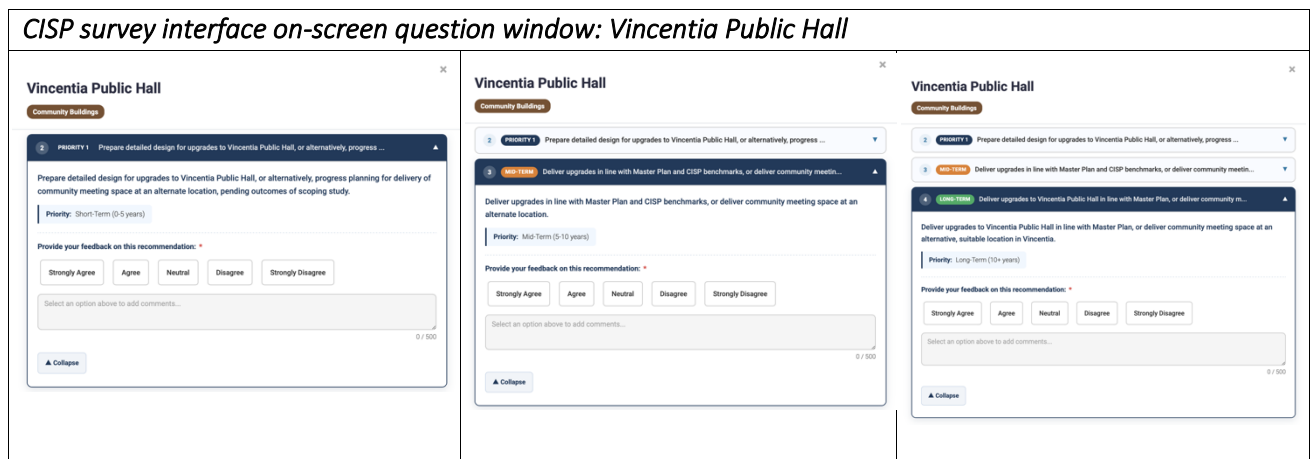
What this means:

- Respondents cannot support one option and not the other—the survey forces a single answer.
- A ‘strongly agree’ response cannot show which option is being supported.
- A ‘disagree’ response cannot show whether the respondent opposes upgrading the hall, building a new space, or both.
- It is unclear how Council could interpret the results in a way that reflects what people actually think.

### **Concerns**

From our perspective, this question cannot be answered. It does not allow respondents to express a straightforward view on either option, and it leaves too much room for responses to be interpreted in ways the respondent did not intend.

The survey is clearly set up to collect numerical responses, and this question does not allow those numbers to reflect what people actually mean. There is a 500-character comment box, however if a respondent makes the effort to write their opinion, can they be confident it will be reflected in the actual results? We do not believe the data from this question will accurately reflect community needs or opinions.



## 2. Nelsons Beach Foreshore—recommendations that don't match the site

Recommendations listed in the survey:

Deliver drain for shower outside amenities block.

Deliver additional seating and shaded picnic facilities.

Deliver upgrades to power supply to support events.

Undertake feasibility studies to deliver new pump track at Plantation Point.

Facilitate delivery of additional storage and change rooms at Vincentia Sailing Club.

In the Nelsons Beach Foreshore site, the recommendations *appear to have been copied from the Plantation Point site. They refer to facilities and upgrades that do not exist at Nelsons Beach.*

What this means:

Respondents are being asked to give feedback on things that are not actually at Nelsons Beach.

It is unclear whether respondents are meant to comment on Nelsons Beach, Plantation Point, or both.

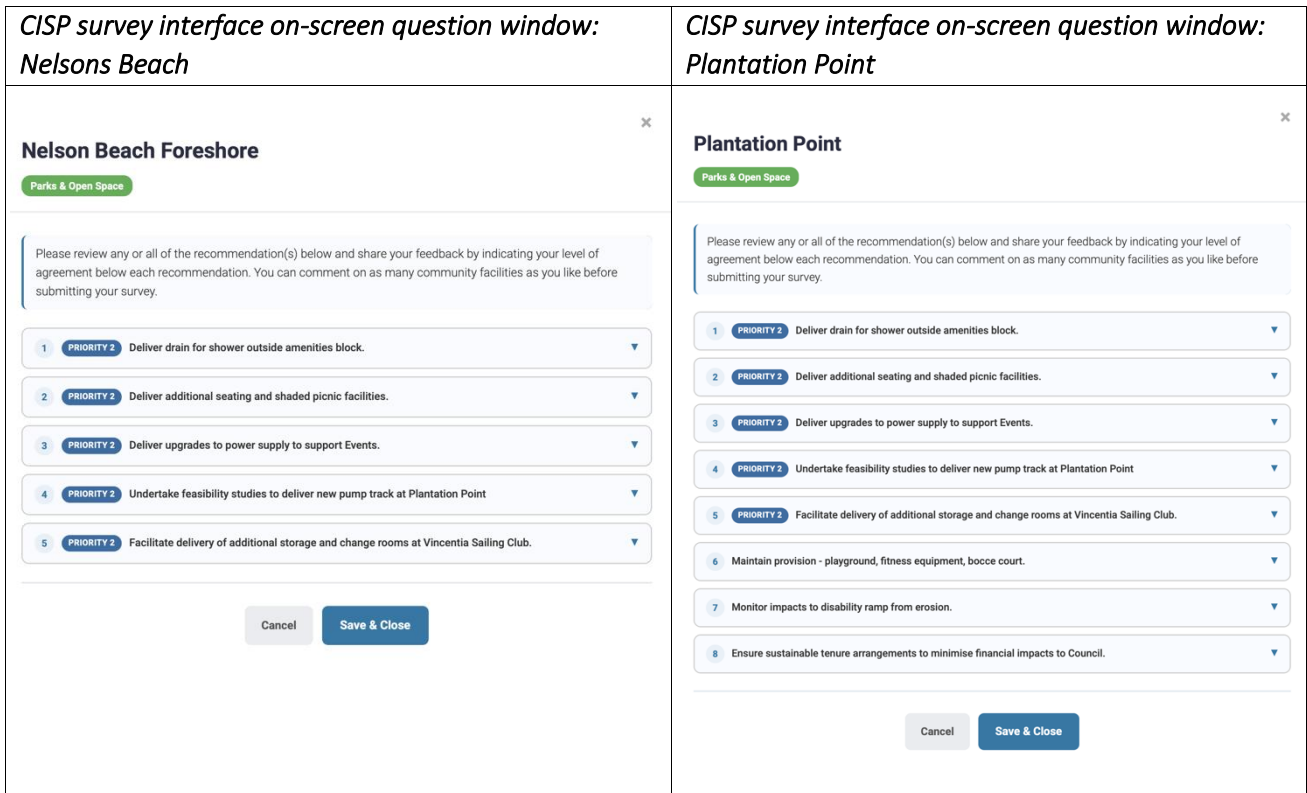
It appears that the actual Nelsons Beach recommendations may be missing.

We question whether the correct information has been attached to the correct location.

### Concerns

Our community wishes to provide relevant, site-specific feedback, but that has been made impossible in this instance. If the recommendations do not match the location, then the answers will not match the location either.

It is surprising this was not picked up by the CISP team before publication. Why should the community respond to something that is clearly an error?



In conclusion, it is unreasonable to expect the community to respond to a survey that, in its current form, does not support accurate or reliable feedback.

Given these concerns, we request that Council:

1. Pause the current survey;
2. Correct the identified errors and conduct a full accuracy review; and
3. Re-issue the survey only once it meets basic standards of clarity, accuracy, and relevance.

The community deserves consultation material that is complete, correct, and respectful of the time people take to participate. Continuing with a flawed survey compromises the integrity of the consultation and the value of any conclusions drawn from it. We do not believe the data from the survey in its current format will accurately reflect community needs or opinions.

We ask that Council pause the survey so these errors can be corrected. Why bother having a survey if it is too confusing to garner considered responses?

We look forward to Council’s response and to a revised survey that supports genuine, informed community engagement.

Yours sincerely,

David Pursley  
President

VRRRA Reply by email to [secretary@vrra.org.au](mailto:secretary@vrra.org.au)