

**DAVID HARRIS MP
LABOR SHADOW MINISTER FOR THE CENTRAL COAST**

TIME FOR BEREJKLIAN TO ACT

Shadow Minister for Central Coast David Harris MP today called on NSW Premier Gladys Berejiklian to appoint a Minister to take control of the coastal erosion disaster on the Central Coast.

The NSW Government must step in to assist Central Coast Council to address serious erosion issues threatening people's homes at Wamberal and North Entrance.

The Central Coast has had the quadruple whammy in 2020 with bushfires, floods, COVID-19 and now coastal erosion and residents need tangible assistance from the NSW Government.

The NSW Liberal Government forced Wyong and Gosford Councils to merge without dealing with any of the legacy issues that would confront the new Central Coast Council.

The full cost of amalgamation is being carried by rate payers and the Berejiklian Government needs to do more to address legacy issues such as coastal erosion which has been around for 40 years.

Shadow for the Central Coast David Harris said "The Premier should declare the situation and the emergency and appoint a Senior Minister who can directly communicate with Cabinet the necessity to fund works to address the coastal erosion issue."

"It's not good enough for the State Government to continue to cost shift responsibility onto rate payers and then point the finger at Central Coast Council who they created and under-resourced". Mr Harris said.

"This issue needs a concrete solution that finally addresses the long run issue of Coastal erosion, coastal erosion is too big of an issue for Councils to deal alone." Mr Harris said.

"It's outrageous that neither the Premier or a single Minister has visited the site to see the damage first hand and we are calling on them to visit the coast as quickly as possible". Mr Harris said.

ENDS

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