How to lodge a submission online with Central Coast Council

This document attempts to lead you through a process for lodging a submission against (or for) a Development Application (DA) on the Central Coast Council eplanning portal.

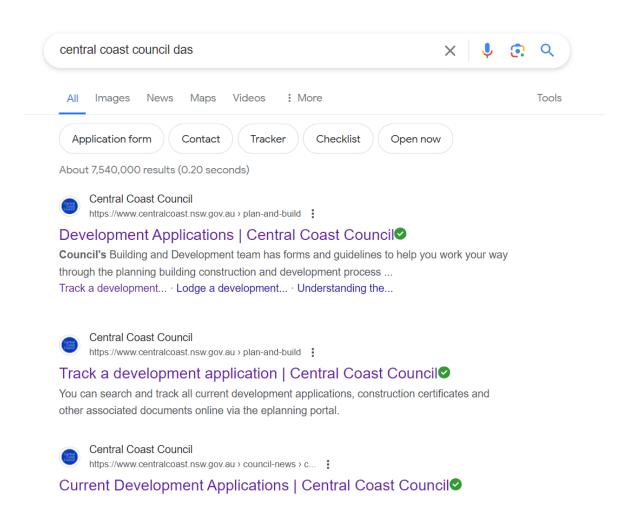
It is also possible to lodge submissions via email to ask@centralcoast.nsw.gov.au, and some people prefer to do this.

However, lodging via the eplanning portal does have the advantage that it asks for and checks all required identification details before accepting and acknowledging your submission.

Personally I feel that it's a more direct and secure way of lodging submissions – even if you do have to jump through a few hoops!

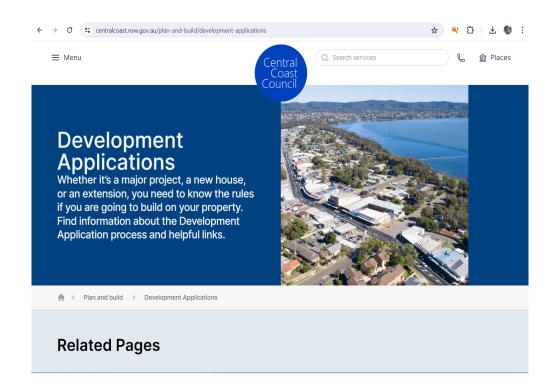
Step 1

You can go directly to the eplanning portal via the link - https://eservices.centralcoast.nsw.gov.au/ePathway/Production/Web/GeneralEnquiry/
EnquiryLists.aspx but if you can't remember or find the link simply type Central Coast Council Das into google and you'll see the listings below.

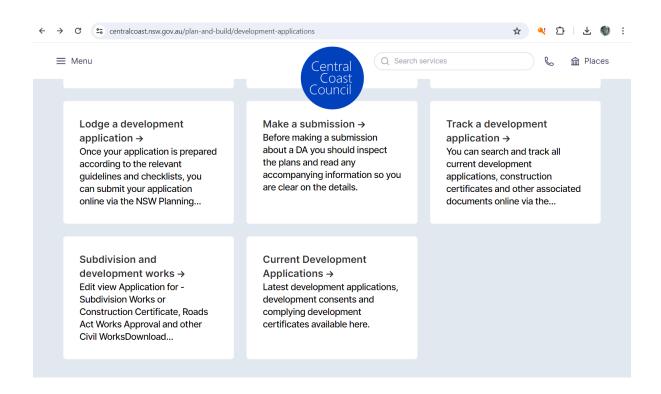


Now simply click on the top one ...

You'll then see this page.

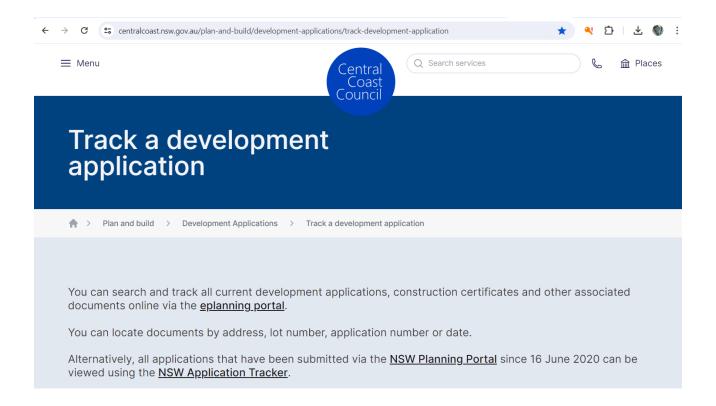


Simply scroll down and you'll see this -

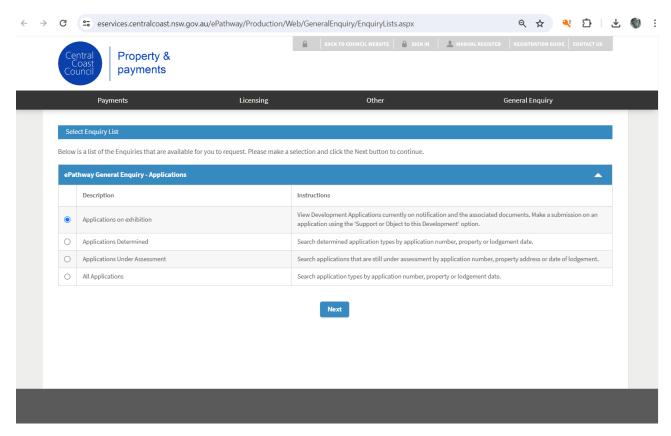


Click on "Track a development application" -

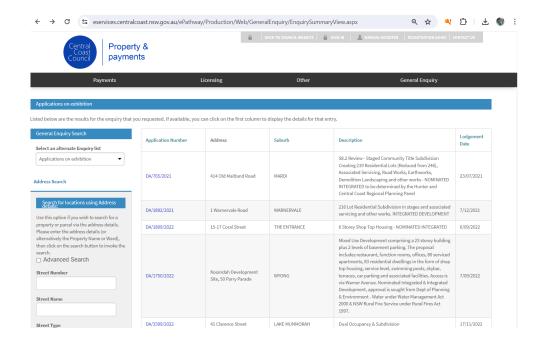
Then you'll see this screen.



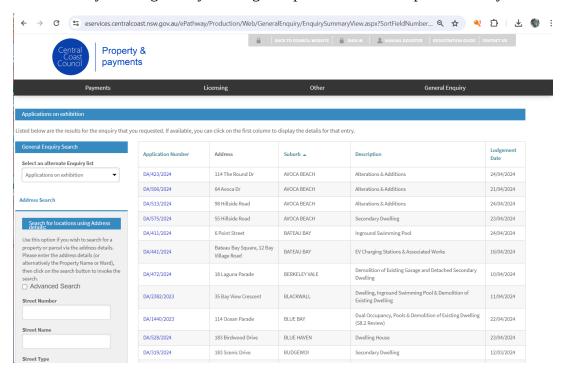
Finally the link to the actual eplanning portal, click on eplanning portal (above) and you'll see it in all it's glory -



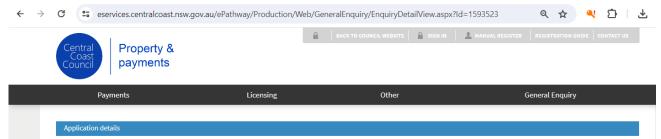
Select "Applications on Exhibition" by clicking on it with your mouse and then click on Next. This will show you all the Development Applications currently on exhibition for the entire Central Coast.

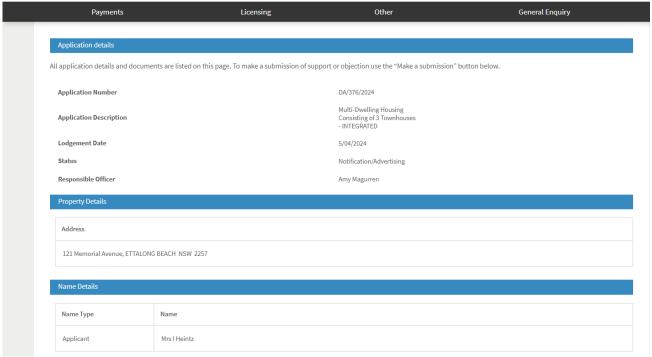


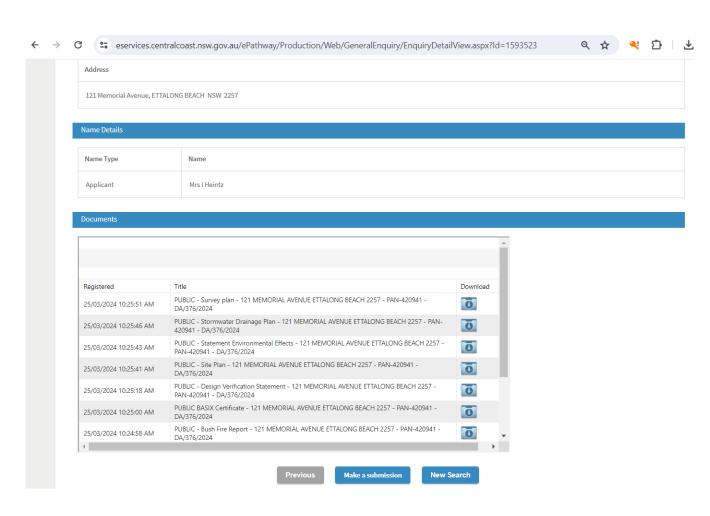
They can be sorted by clicking on any heading except address. It is helpful to sort by suburb.



When you find the DA you're interested in just click on the application number on the left hand side and you'll get the details for that particular DA.





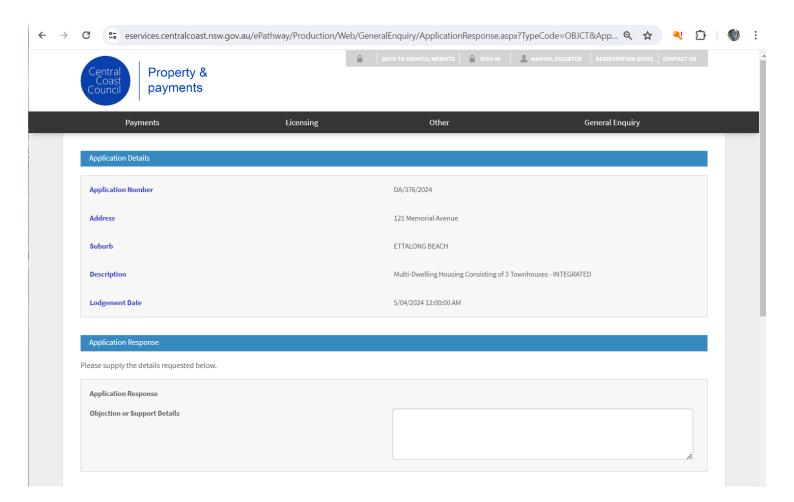


The above screen gives you all the details about that particular DA, including a list of all the documents included in the public exhibition. Such as site plan, survey plan, arborist report, notification plans and the all important Statement of Environmental Effects (SEE).

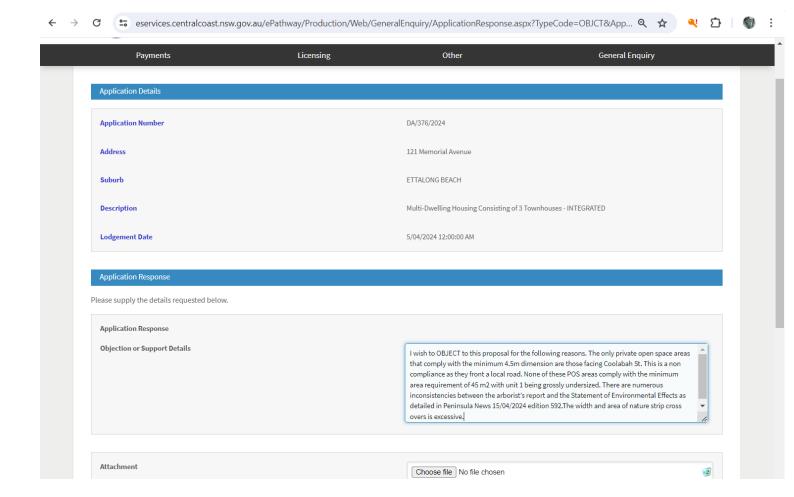
You can download these files to your computer simply by clicking on its "download" arrow. It can sometimes take a while but is a lot better than it used to be.

If you see the "make a submission" button as above, then this DA is open for submissions.

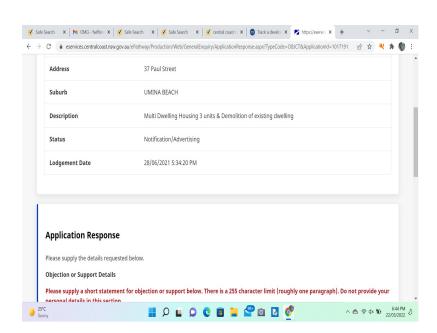
Let's do one! Click on the button and this screen comes up -



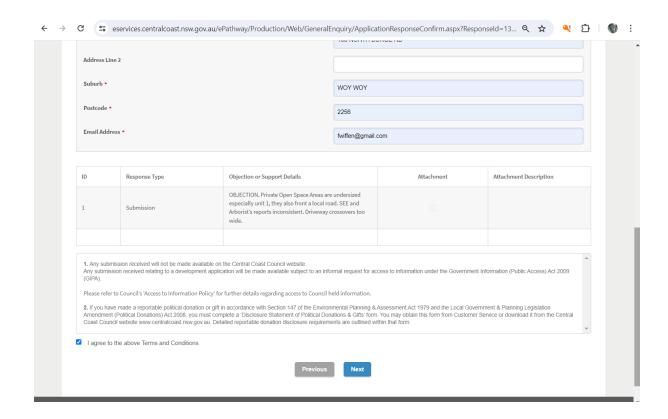
So if we know what we want to say about this DA we can type it directly into the box. Notice that there is no indication of how many words/characters you can type into this box. It will let you type as much as you like. Let's give it a go.



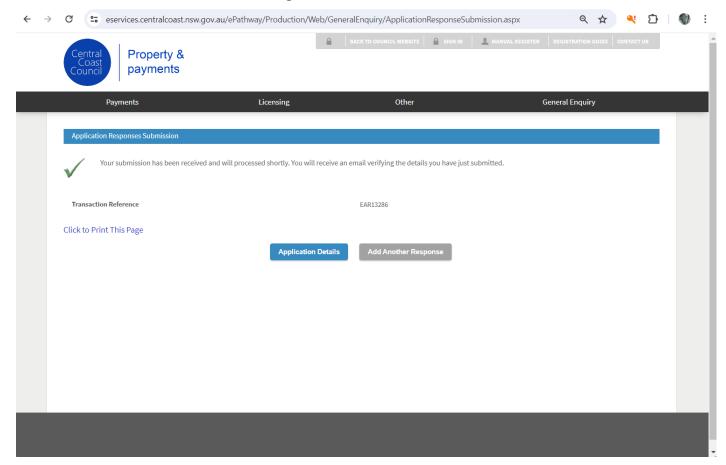
And the result is!



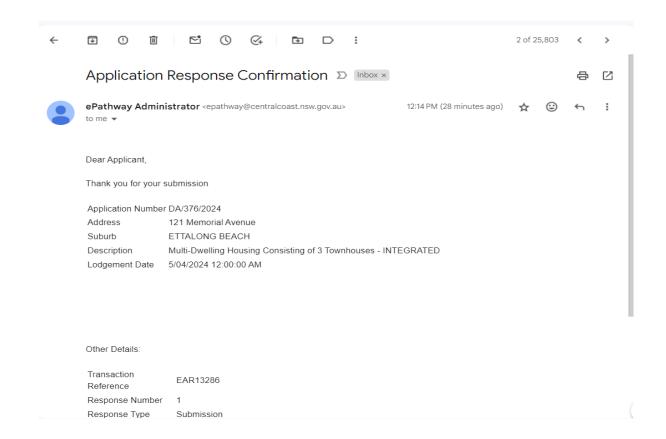
Yes there's a 255 character limit on what you can type in this box. They don't tell you this until you've typed like mad and sent it – only to be told to make it shorter!



So I edited the heck out of my submission and it was accepted and let me go onto the next bit which is the provision of identification details such as name, address and email address. Then press next and ta da! An immediate online acknowledgement.



You should also receive an email acknowledgement such as the one below.



If you don't want to be limited to the 255 chars in the text box you can select a file from your computer and attach it to your submission. I usually write "Objection – please see attached" in the text box and then click "attach a file" which can be in pdf or word format.

However, initially it is quantity we are after. On the first exhibition of a DA it's important that there are 10 or more submissions to force it to a review or the Local Planning Panel. A few sentences is enough, it doesn't need to be War and Peace. Always remember that it must be in your own words. If the council planner suspects that it's a direct copy of another submission it won't be counted.

Hope this helps!