

Iftar off the menu for Minns

NSW Premier Chris Minns has backed his decision to cancel an annual iftar dinner with Muslim community groups and leaders, after peak Islamic bodies announced they would be boycotting the event.



Chris Minns

On Friday, the NSW government followed Victoria in scrapping the government-organised dinner celebrating

iftar – the first meal Muslims eat after sunset when fasting during Ramadan.

Mr Minns denied claims he had “abandoned” the state’s Muslim population amid inflamed tensions among Jewish and Palestinian community members due to the conflict in Gaza, where the death toll has passed 30,000.

“In recognition of the fact that they didn’t feel able to or didn’t want to come, we won’t hold the dinner,” he said.

“I understand there’s reasons for it. But I don’t want them to think that we hadn’t planned one, and that we’re not obviously prepared to celebrate Ramadan. My responsibility right now is about community cohesion, peace and safety.”

Jail for rape of teen boy

A social media influencer has been jailed for three years after she sexually assaulted a boy, 14, twice in one night and told him not to tell his father.

The woman, 46, who cannot be identified, was found guilty of two counts of aggravated sexual intercourse with a child under 16 years old.

The court was told she climbed into bed with the boy on an evening in mid-2021 and forced him to engage in oral and penetrative sex.

Judge Sarah Hopkins noted she had low prospects of reoffending and sentenced her to three years in jail.

She will be eligible for parole in February 2025.

A PERFECT STORM OF THREATS TO HOMES



EXCLUSIVE
Anton Rose

Coastal erosion will pose a severe risk over the next 30 years to almost double the number of NSW homes now under threat, according to a study of climate outlooks and their impact on properties.

The investigation “shaped” the current and future risk profile of NSW homes from coastal erosion, fires and floods.

The scientific modelling, from British-based global climate analysts Groundsure, reveals thousands of NSW homeowners and investors face severe consequences to land values, zoning restrictions, and insurance premiums because of the possibility of increased erosion, fire and flood threats driven by climate change.

The number of homes at risk from coastal erosion in Sydney is set to rise from 937 now to 1387 by 2050, though the mid-north coast is where the risk is set to increase the most.

The number of properties on the state’s mid-north coast now prone to beach erosion today, 377, will almost double to 635 in the next 30 years.

The study found the combine value of NSW coastal properties currently exposed to coastal erosion damage is \$25bn.

In Sydney, Cronulla Beach homes face the biggest risk.

The study found there were currently 148 Cronulla properties under a “very high risk assessment” of coastal erosion. By 2050 that figure increases to 184 properties.

In 2022 North Cronulla beach almost disappeared as huge swell smashed the sandbank protecting the local shops, walkway and homes.

Plans to avoid a repeat through a sea wall constructed of 7000 tonnes of sandstone boulder were described as a balancing act between keeping homes safe and protecting the

TOP TEN SUBURBS AFFECTED BY...

COASTAL EROSION

SUBURBS AFFECTED NOW

SUBURB	PROPERTIES HIGH RISK %
1. Port Stephens	57.25%
2. Cronulla	4.65%
3. Palm Beach	8.31%
4. Pindimar	9.54%
5. Yamba	2.67%
6. Stockton	4.37%
7. Vacluse	2.84%
8. Port Macquarie	0.42%
9. Burraneer	5.55%
10. Nth Batemans Bay	15.77%

SUBURBS AFFECTED IN 30 YEARS

SUBURB	PROPERTIES HIGH RISK %
1. Cronulla	57.25%
2. Port Stephens	4.65%
3. Stockton	8.31%
4. Palm Beach	9.54%
5. Yamba	2.67%
6. Port Macquarie	4.37%
7. Pindimar	2.84%
8. Byron Bay	0.42%
9. North Arm Cove	5.55%
10. Vacluse	15.77%

FLOODS

SUBURBS AFFECTED NOW

SUBURB	PROPERTIES HIGH RISK %
1. Narrabri	71.65%
2. Moree	42.50%
3. Forbes	39.94%
4. Walgett	73.37%
5. Moama	47.31%
6. Walcha	42.74%
7. Nyngan	78.49%
8. Yamba	59.11%
9. Hillston	67.34%
10. Bourke	93.46%

SUBURBS AFFECTED IN 30 YEARS

SUBURB	PROPERTIES HIGH RISK %
1. Narrabri	71.65%
2. Moree	42.50%
3. Forbes	39.94%
4. Walgett	77.37%
5. Moama	47.31%
6. Walcha	42.74%
7. Nyngan	78.49%
8. Yamba	59.11%
9. Hillston	67.34%
10. Bourke	93.46%

BUSHFIRE

SUBURBS AFFECTED NOW

SUBURB	PROPERTIES HIGH RISK %
1. Blue Mountains NP	48.81%
2. Colo Vale	48.05%
3. Booligal	42.36%
4. Howes Valley	96.52%
5. Deniliquin	7.77%
6. Kurrajong Heights	69.61%
7. Moama	8.01%
8. Nymboida	79.67%
9. Coolacurripa	66.23%
10. Comara	94.15%

SUBURBS AFFECTED IN 30 YEARS

SUBURB	PROPERTIES HIGH RISK %
1. Blue Mountains NP	48.81%
2. Malua Bay	0.00%
3. Araluen	0.00%
4. Colo Vale	48.05%
5. Moruya	0.00%
6. Lilli Pilli	0.00%
7. Booligal	42.36%
8. Deniliquin	7.77%
9. Bellbrook	39.71%
10. Howes Valley	96.52%

See the full list of suburbs and towns with homes at risk at [DAILYTELEGRAPH.COM.AU](https://www.dailytelegraph.com.au)

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“If you plan ahead and mitigate you will see less damage

Carmelo Pesce
Sutherland mayor

Friends Emma Fogarty and Ashleigh Atkins enjoy a stroll on Cronulla Beach, where coastal erosion is a serious threat to properties according to a new report. Picture: Sam Rutty

‘Sleepy’ camera spies on drivers

EXCLUSIVE
David McCowen

Car manufacturers are bracing for backlash from motorists over new in-car cameras that watch drivers for signs of distraction or tiredness behind the wheel.

Mitsubishi will introduce the first ute with a driver monitoring camera when the 2024 Triton reaches showrooms in March, with other manufacturers working on plans to equip new cars with the technology.

The technology will be mandatory in every vehicle sold in Europe from 2026, with local Australian makers conceding the cameras will be compulsory here too to ensure they meet strict car safety ratings.

The cameras watch for signs of drowsiness or distraction including yawning, mobile phone use, and extended periods gazing away from the road ahead.

The Australasian New Car Assessment Program, the independent body responsible for safety regulations, assesses vehicles according to how well they recognise signs of drowsiness on the Karolinska Sleepiness Scale that scores people from 1-10, ranging from “extremely alert” to “extremely sleepy”.

Current common safety systems include forward collision warning, lane departure warning and speed monitoring.

But car makers including Mitsubishi have struggled to discern differences monitored on in-car cameras between yawning, laughter or singing, resulting in false positives that can distract drivers.

Australian road testers frequently criticise driver monitoring systems in new cars for sounding unnecessary alarms.

Some vehicles, such as the latest Nissan X-Trail, can interpret minimal steering input on straight roads as an emergency before trying to jolt the driver awake with dramatic brake applications.

Chinese car makers Nio and XPeng have also been criticised for falsely assuming ethnically Asian drivers were driving with their eyes closed, drawing the ire of customers.

Most manufacturers claim driver monitoring technology is a closed loop that uses software to review live footage of the driver without storing images or sending them back to a central location.

NRMA spokesman Peter Khoury said: “The community would not be opposed to the use of that data particularly if achieving road safety outcomes. What is absolutely critical and non-negotiable is that any use of data does not breach privacy laws or any legislation that relates to the capture and use of individual data. This is critical to maintaining trust.”

environment.

Sutherland mayor Carmelo Pesce told The Saturday Telegraph this week: “When it got eroded it (the sand) sat in the bay but it all came back.

“We mitigated quite a lot around North Cronulla with the amount of tonnage of stone we put there. We were dredging in Port Hacking and dumped it out and it’s bought the beach back.”

Asked if there was any concern for future coastal erosion, Mr Pesce was confident Cronulla was not facing a disaster scenario with homes claimed by wild seas.

“I think over the years ... in

1974 we lost surf clubs in Cronulla area, if you plan ahead and mitigate and take action you will see less damage, you have to plan ahead,” Mr Pesce said.

“The emergency works took many months, at times through the evening and on weekends, and staff ensured our community remained informed throughout, even spending time on the ground to answer questions and address concerns.”

Port Stephens tops the list of towns currently under threat of coastal erosion with a “very high risk assessment” against 150 properties.

The beachside enclaves of Yamba, Port Macquarie and Old Bar near Foster are all among the top 20 towns across the state likely to feel the worst impacts of coastal erosion by 2050.

The investigation also found 40 per cent of all properties in NSW are now at “moderate to high risk” of flooding. The combined local government areas that make up the Sydney basin, are the areas most at risk over the next 30 years.

When it comes to bushfires the investigation claims the number of Eurobodalla properties at high risk of bush-

fire today, 2,584, will treble to 7,688 by 2050.

The area described as “the Blue Mountains National Park” topped the list for most properties in NSW now under very high risk from bushfires at 1068, and also tops the list in 30 years time.

Malua Bay near Batemans Bay on the south coast has no homes listed as currently under very high bushfire risk.

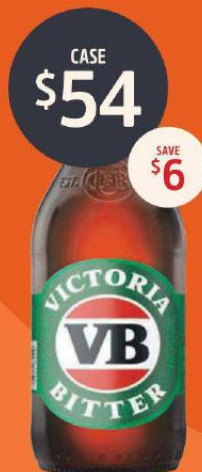
But it leaps to second on the list of areas with 882 future properties under very high risk in 30 years’ time.

The report found the 2019-2020 Black Summer fires cost NSW \$4.9bn.

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