



Everyone owns the beach

Cabanos cannot be left unattended to reserve a spot at the beach

We've been hearing concerns from our Port Stephens community that cabanos are being left, sometimes for days at a time, to reserve a spot at the beach. Cabanos, or any personal items, should not be left unattended for long periods of time in public spaces.

Council will be increasing compliance at key sites over the Australia Day weekend (from Saturday 25 to Monday 27 January) at Fly Point, Little Beach and Shoal Bay Beach.

Obvious unattended items such as cabanos will be packed down and moved to a general nearby location in accordance with the Public Spaces (Unattended Property) Act 2021.

Delegated Rangers will place a sticker on the item notifying the owner of the items as being "unattended" as required under the Public Spaces (Unattended Property) Act 2021.

If Council were to "take possession" of the item, it would need to be notified. This is done via an "Unattended Items" sticker.

Legislation allows the notification of "unattended items" and following a period of 7 days and be taken into possession and disposed of if the value is under \$200.

Items that are left in a position that may be in a position causing health and safety risk to those within the vicinity may be moved, to mitigate the health and safety risks.