

SYDNEY COASTAL COUNCILS GROUP Inc.

AGENDA FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY 16 SEPTEMBER, 2006

AT CITY OF SYDNEY COUNCIL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 12.00 noon

The meeting venue is the City of Sydney, Council Chambers, Level 1, Sydney Town Hall, 483 George Street Sydney. Delegates are to enter Via the George St Main Entrance, where the Commissionaire will direct delegates to the Council Chambers. Some very limited parking is available under the building (this must be pre booked). Alternative parking is available in the various parking stations on Kent Street, however public transport is recommended..

A lunch will be provided by the City of Sydney Council prior to commencement of the meeting.

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1. **OPENING** (Welcome to the City - Clr. Phillip Black)
2. **APOLOGIES**
3. **DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS**
4. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**
 - 4.1 **Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the SCCG held on 17 June at the North Sydney Council Chambers, hosted by North Sydney Council.** **1**

Recommended that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the SCCG held on hosted by North Sydney Council.
 - 4.2 **Minutes of the Technical Committee Meeting of the SCCG held on 15 June at Manly Oval hosted by Manly Council.** **14**

Recommended that the Minutes of the Technical Committee Meeting of the SCCG held on 15 June hosted by Manly Council be received and noted.
 - 4.3 **Minutes of the Technical Committee Meeting of the SCCG held on 17 August hosted by North Sydney Council.** **27**

Recommended that the Minutes of the Technical Committee Meeting of the SCCG held on 17 August hosted by North Sydney Council be received and noted.
5. **BUSINESS ARISING**

Business arising from minutes other than those items listed below in Reports.
6. **ANNUAL REPORT**
 - 6.1 **Chairperson's Annual Report** *The report to be distributed at the meeting*

Recommended that the Chairperson's Annual Report be received, considered and adopted as part of the 2005/2006 Annual Report.

6.2 RCEO Annual Report

The report to be distributed at the meeting

Recommended that the RCEO (public officer) Annual Report be received, considered and adopted as part of the 2005/2006 Annual Report.

7. ANNUAL ELECTIONS

Important information concerning voting procedures

All nominations must be from official delegates of financial member councils. Reference should be made to the attached list of delegates at the back of the Business Papers. Each financial member council has one vote at the AGM.

Nominations for office bearing positions are welcome and encouraged prior to and at the AGM. For further information concerning the elected positions, delegates are encouraged to phone the Regional Coastal Environment Officer, Geoff Withycombe, on 9246 7791 or 0425 325148.

“Open Exhaustive Voting” procedures as established under the provisions of the *Local Government Act, 1993* will be followed unless otherwise determined by the Chairperson.

Executive Members

The Executive Committee consists of the Chairperson, two Vice Chairpersons, Treasurer and Secretary and up to three other committee members who are delegates of financial member councils. A maximum of three additional delegates can be nominated for Executive members. The Committee is supported by the Secretariat and meetings are held four times a year at the convenience of the Committee members. This Committee oversees the management of the Incorporated Association.

7.1 Chairperson

Incumbent: Clr. Patricia Harvey OAM Mosman Council

7.2 Vice Chairpersons

(i) Vice Chairperson (estuarine council)

Incumbent: Mayor Patrick Reilly Willoughby City Council

(ii) Vice Chairperson (ocean council)

Incumbent: Clr. Bob Spencer Sutherland Council

7.3 Treasurer (Honorary)

Incumbent: Clr. Wilhelima Gardner Woollahra Council

7.4 Secretary (Honorary)

Incumbent: Clr. Alex McTaggart Pittwater Council

7.5 Executive Members

Incumbents:

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| 1) Clr. George Copeland | Waverley Council |
| 2) Clr. Barbara Aird | Manly Council |
| 3) Clr. Wendy McMurdo | Hornsby Council |

7.6 Nominations for SCCG Honorary Members

The SCCG consider nominations for Honorary membership for 2006/2007 to include by not limited to:

- Ms Shirley Colless, Incumbent
- Mr Phil Colman, Incumbent
- Prof. Bruce Thom, Incumbent
- Mr Angus Gordon. Incumbent

7.7 Nominations for External Committees (if required)

The members of external committees are appointed by the relevant State Government agencies or Ministers. Nominations for the committees below are not required unless a representative is resigning from a committee. The Chairperson will ask if members of external committees wish to continue. If there are to be no changes the agenda moves on to the next item of business.

A Beachwatch Advisory Committee – Department of Environment and Conservation

Briefing notes

The Department of Environment and Conservation commenced a review of the BAC several months ago. Although this review is not yet finalized. The Chair of the BAC, Bernard Carlon has informed that it is clear that there is a continued need for a committee. Terms of reference and representation are currently being considered. The Chair has also informed the Group that the SCCG has been represented on the BAC since the committee's inception in 1993 and given that the SCCG continues to be a key stakeholder, it is expected that ongoing representation from our Group will be sought.

Incumbents: Clr. Patricia Harvey OAM / SCCG Secretariat

B DEC Peak Local Government Groups Meetings

Briefing notes

The Department of Environment and Conservation (formerly EPA) organises quarterly meetings with the peak local government groups to present DEC activities and consider the various groups initiatives. The meetings are chaired by the Director-General. The meetings are designed to engender a cooperative and open partnership between the EPA and local government. The Department of Environment and Conservation has also commenced a review of this committee with revised Terms of Reference and committee structure to be finalised soon.

Incumbents: Clr. Patricia Harvey OAM / SCCG Secretariat

8. CORRESPONDENCE (summary report attached)

8.1 Sent and Received Correspondence

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Recommended that the circulated "sent" and "received" correspondence be received and noted.

8.2 SCCG correspondence from the last meeting (including responses where available)

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- I. SCCG representation on the Sydney Metropolitan CMA
- II. Finding Solutions to Sydney's Water Needs - Letter to the Federal Secretary for Water
- III. State Government support for the Australian Aerial Patrol in Sydney
- IV. SCCG support for a Ecological Sanctuary for North Head

Recommended that the SCCG correspondence and Ministerial responses (where available) be received and considered.

9. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

9.1 3 year performance based contracts for SCCG employees

The RCEO and the CPO have both successfully undertaken the annual performance review. The RCEO contract has also been reviewed and renewed by the Performance review Committee.

Recommended that the delegates from the Secretariat performance review committee verbal report be received and noted.

9.2 SCCG Annual Incorporated Associations Statement - Dept. of Fair Trading 55

Recommended that the report be received and adopted.

9.3 Amendments to the SCCG Constitution 60

Proposed Amendment (*constitution amendments require ¾ of member councils support*)

The proposed Amendments are to ensure constituency with the new SCCG Strategic Plan. The amended Constitution is attached for consideration. Those sections in **Bold** are nominated for new inclusion while sections in *italics* are proposed for removal. Ie Amendments to Section 2 and 4.

Recommended that: the Group consider the proposed amendment to the SCCG Constitution as recommended by the Executive Officer to ensure consistency with the new SCCG Strategic Plan 2005.

10. PRESENTATION

10.1 The Hon. Malcolm Turnbull MP - Federal Member for Wentworth & Parliamentary Secretary for Water.

Briefing Notes

The Hon. Malcolm Turnbull MP will outline his views on what is required to find sustainable solutions to Sydney's water needs.

Recommended that:

1. The presentation be heard and considered at the meeting,
2. Mr Turnbull be thanked for his presentation.

11. REPORTS

11.1 Beachwatch & Harbourwatch Programs - Clr. Harvey 68 (Minutes and report attached)

Recommended by the Beachwatch Advisory Committee representatives that:

- 1) The report on Beachwatch and Harbourwatch Programs be received and noted.
- 2) The Representatives' report be heard.

11.2 Sydney Metropolitan Catchment Management Authority Update

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Briefing Notes

An update report prepared by the Sydney Metropolitan CMA is attached for delegate's information. The report has kindly been prepared by the CMA support Team.

Recommended that the report be received and discussed.

11.3 Control and Eradication of the *Caulerpa Taxifolia* (report to be tabled at the meeting)

Briefing Notes

The SCCG have resolved that *Caulerpa taxifolia* be a standing item on SCCG agendas until such time that the issues is adequately addressed. An Activities Update report is attached for delegate's discussion. The report to be tabled at the meeting includes management update details from the DPI and also outcomes from the recently reconvened SCCG *Caulerpa taxifolia* Task Force meeting.

Recommended that:

- 1) The report prepared by James Sakker (DPI) be received and discussed.
- 2) Outcomes to date be considered by the Committee for additional actions.

11.4 Final Groundwater Management Handbook for Local Government (Document to be distributed at the meeting)

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Briefing Notes

The SCCG Groundwater Management Handbook 'exhibition and review' period closed on 1 June. Positive responses were received from right across the county. The Group has been working actively with DIPNR (Groundwater Unit) to finalise the document for release.

The Groundwater Management Handbook is the first of its kind in a NSW. The Handbook serves to inform, educate and guide State and Local Governments, industry and the broader community about the sustainable management of groundwater. The Handbook provides advice on the consideration and management of groundwater resources across the SCCG region with special interest will be given to the management of groundwater in coastal urban areas.

The SCCG will discuss launch and promotion of the Handbook with delegates.

Recommended that:

- 1) RCEO verbal report be received and noted.
- 2) The Group write to all members of Working Group and those who assisted to finalise the document thanking them for their contributions.
- 3) 2 hard copies and electronic version of the manual be provided to each member Council (to both Mayor and General Manager) the
- 4) The SCCG continue to pursue funding opportunities to undertake capacity building program(s) for councils and other stakeholders utilising the Handbook as the key technical and guidance resource.

11.5 Partnership Program – MOU (University of NSW & SCCG) 2006 Projects

- o **The Economics of Reuse – A triple bottom line approach to Urban Recycled Water Projects – Chris Cook**
This project reviewed literature that identified and assessed issues surrounding economic, environmental and social costs and benefits involved in the urban water cycle. The paper focused on areas where market and regulatory failure have prevented an equitable assessment of supply methods, particularly those associated with potable and recycled water. Using this research this project developed a framework to allow assessment of water supply projects using a broad triple bottom line.

o **Sustainable Tourism for Coastal Councils** – Patricia Cabezas

This research project provides an overview of the concept of sustainable tourism and its beginnings. I have provided the world-wide context to sustainable tourism, followed by a brief national context and a summary of the NSW regulatory planning system. This project has attempted to provide a background and a starting point for further work which would need to be undertaken by the Sydney Coastal Councils Group.

o **Conservation on Private Lands – Australian Local Government Initiatives** – Elizabeth Phillips

This report investigates the existing literature on private land conservation programs in Australia, with special reference to local council schemes. It has found that by reviewing the previously run schemes throughout Australia Councils in the Sydney Coastal Region could successfully adapt incentive schemes that would lead to conservation of biodiversity values.

o **An Investigation into the Human Health Implications associated with the Use of recycled Water for the Irrigation of Playing Fields in the Sutherland Shire** – Ken Lundy

This paper explores the opportunities available for treated effluent reuse for the irrigation of playing fields and golf courses within the Sutherland Shire area in Sydney. It focuses on the health implications associated with irrigation using treated water from the Cronulla Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) as well as other reclamation opportunities.

All reports will be available at the meeting

2nd Semester Projects - **The 5th round of project(s) are now being scoped for second semester implementation. Nominations include:**

Suggested second session projects

- The GreenBiz Project (Rockdale Council)
- Barriers to and issues with the use of swimming pool backwash for irrigation (Sutherland)
- A review of previous studies assessing the abundance of in-fauna and epi-fauna in beach sands and the impact of this fauna on beach management practices (Manly)
- An assessment of methods for Triple Bottom Line Reporting (SCCG)
- A review of existing Climate Change policy and Regulation (SCCG)
- Appropriate monitoring methodologies and designs to measure and demonstrate the impact of environmental projects, such as Lagoon dredging. (Warringah).

Recommended that:

- 1) The report be received and considered
- 2) The SCCG forward final project report to member councils together with promotion for the program (GMs and Mayors)
- 3) Delegates interest in the proposed 2nd semester projects be discussed.

11.6 SCCG Summer Activities Program

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Briefing Notes

The Secretariat is proposing to again undertake the SCCG Summer Activities Program over the 2006/2007 period. The SAP Working Group have resolved that the program be run over of January

The SCCG in partnership with its member councils is to put together a series of activities to encourage the community to enjoy our coast and to become involved in the protection, management and rehabilitation of our coastal and marine environments. The SCCG aims to have at least one activity per member council. Activities may include: Rock pool rambles, Geomorphology tours, Spot lighting, Headland / history walks, Snorkeling.

Delegates are asked to consider possible community based activities that could be held in local areas for this initiative. A SCCG Summer Activity Proforma as been developed for completion of delegates or suitable persons within member councils. It is hoped to have all events determined and confirmed by October 2006.

Recommended that:

1. The report be received and noted,
2. The CPO lead discussion on possible and activities and promotion for the 2007 program,
3. SCCG work with Member Councils and the media to ensure effective promotion of the initiative.

11.7 “A Systems Approach to Regional Climate Change Adaptation Strategies in Metropolises” – SCCG- CSIRO partnership grant“ **PENDING**

Australian Greenhouse Office - Urban Integrated Assessment Programme Application Form 2006-2007

Briefing Notes

The aim of the project is to develop and trial a method for a systems approach to regional climate change adaptation strategies in large urban areas. The project aim directly addresses AGO priorities through:

- *Developing and testing an integrated (systems) method to generate information about the likely impacts of climate change and feasible adaptation strategies in the Sydney region;*
- *Deepening the understanding of the likely impacts of climate change and resulting adaptation options in the Sydney region through integration of existing models, vulnerability mapping, and an analysis of adaptive capacity.*
- *Assessing the transferability of the integrated (systems) method to other large urban areas, with transfer to be facilitated through the project National Reference Group.*

Recommended that the verbal report be received and discussed.

11.8 SCCG – Macquarie University Partnership MOU 2006 Climate Change Workshop

Details to be discussed at the meeting

Briefing Notes

Following on from the successful 2005 SCCG / Macquarie University Climate Change in the Sydney Region forum, the partners are currently scoping a 2006 forum to be held in October or November. The initial aims of this workshop are to provide:

- i. short jargon-free presentations on key science findings from, and current research efforts of international experts,
- ii. details of current:
 - o Commonwealth and NSW Greenhouse Office programs and policy activities,
 - o Local government programs
 - o NGO coordination / network initiatives
- iii. opportunity to identify and workshop possible science, policy, network and adaptation and mitigation activities to assist local government's and their communities, and
- iv. To hear from a Panel of Experts about what they think the key future issues are for Local Government areas (facilitated by key journalist / commentator)

Recommended that:

- 1) The report be received and considered
- 2) Delegates provide comment in the preliminary draft forum program.

11.9 Recent SCCG Grant Applications

Briefing Notes

The EO and CPO will review recent SCCG grant applications that have been submitted on behalf of the Group.

Successful

- **Community Action Grant Application:**
“Quantifying the Value of Sydney Beaches in order to assess cost / benefit of necessary coastal protection / abatement measures as a result of enhanced climate change impacts”. **(\$72,125) (Successful, announced 30 May).**

Still Pending

- **Natural Disaster Mitigation Program:**
“Scoping Study for the extraction of sand reserves from the ‘Sydney Shelf Sand Body’ for development protection and augmentation of beach systems under immediate threat from coastal storm activity”. **(\$100,000) (Pending: unsuccessful 1st round, being considered for 2nd round)**
- **Australian Greenhouse Office - Urban Integrated Assessment Programme Application Form 2006-2007**
“Systems Approach to Regional Climate Change Adaptation Strategies in Metropolises” – SCCG-CSIRO partnership grant. “ **(~\$550,000) (Pending)**”
- **Urban Sustainability Program**
“Urban Sustainability Support Alliance”, (LGSA; Eurobodalla; Manly; DEC; Baton Forum; LGMA; SCCG/IES) **(1,551,500) (pending)**

Unsuccessful

- **Environmental Trust Research Program**
“Finding Suitable options for cleaning ocean rock pools and platforms to assist Councils throughout NSW manage ocean rock pools and platforms in a safer and ecologically sustainable manner. “
- **Environmental Trust Education Program**
“Groundwater Education Project – the sharing of Knowledge and capacity to improve groundwater education and management. “

Recommended that the update report be received and considered.

11.10 15th NSW Coastal Conference – Coasting Towards a Sustainable Future

Briefing Notes

The 15th Coastal Conference to be held from the 7th to the 9th of November in Coffs Harbour. All delegates are strongly encouraged to attend.

Both the RCEO and CPO have submitted successful abstracts for presentation at the conference’

Geoff Withycombe & A/Prof. Tim Smith (CSIRO), ***Managing for Climate Variability in the Sydney Region, Issues, Needs and New Solutions for Local Government***

Craig Morrison, ***Overcoming barriers to coastal sustainability and facilitating improved delivery of regional management: A Case Study of the Sydney Coastal Councils Group.***

The 2006 NSW Coastal Conference theme, is "**Coasting Towards a Sustainable Future**". This year's conference program will focus on current and emerging issues relating to coastal and marine sustainability. Planned conference topics include: coastal lakes and waterways; water reuse; coastal zone management and marine biodiversity.

Further information is provided from the conference web site at: www.coastalconference2006.com

Recommended that:

- 1) The report be received and noted
- 2) Delegates consider attending the 15th Annual NSW Coastal Conference.

11.11 SCCG Submissions (see Item 8.2)

Letters

- V. SCCG representation on the Sydney Metropolitan CMA
- VI. SCCG support for a Ecological Sanctuary for North Head
- VII. NRC Coastal advisory Committee and delegates to NRC Commissioner
- VIII. Finding Solutions to Sydney's Water Needs - Letter to the Federal Secretary for Water

Recommended that the recent SCCG submissions be received and noted.

11.12 Key Activities Report for June – September 2006

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Recommended that the SCCG key Activities report for June - August 2006 be received and noted.

12. TREASURER'S REPORT

12.1 Annual Financial Statement for the period 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006

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Recommended that:

- 1) The Annual financial statement for the period 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006 be received and noted.
- 2) That Sydney Coastal Councils Group Inc make the following statement (subject to the satisfactory audit of the SCCG finances).

In the opinion of the Members of the Sydney Coastal Councils Group Inc:

(a) the accompanying general purpose financial report of and special schedules of the Sydney Coastal Councils Group Inc for the period ending 30 June 2006 are drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of:

- (i) the state of affairs of the Group as at 30 June 2006, and the operating result and cash flows for the financial year ended on that date and all controlled entities; and
- (ii) the other matters required to be disclosed;

(b) the general purpose financial report and special schedules are in accordance with the accounting and other records of the Group; and

(c) the general purpose financial report is drawn up in accordance with accounting policy disclosed in the statement; and

(d) no circumstances have arisen which would render the report false or misleading in any way.

12.2 Financial Statement for the period ending 31 August 2006 (to be distributed at the meeting – pending availability).

Recommended that the Financial Statement for period ending 31 August 2006 be received and noted.

13. GENERAL BUSINESS

13.1 Items for Press Release

Recommended that items for press release be considered.

13.2 Agenda items for the next SCCG meeting

Recommended that delegates suggest additional agenda items including presentations for the next SCCG meeting proposed for Saturday 9 December 2006.

13.3 Next Meeting

Recommended that the next meeting of the Group be held on 9 December at a Council to be determined at the meeting.

A current contact list of delegates and member councils is attached to the back of the business papers
