



Sydney Coastal Councils Group Inc.

**Strategic Plan
2005 – 2008**

December 2005

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FORWARD

The Sydney Coastal Councils Group Strategic Plan has been prepared to document and highlight the focus of the Group for the next three years. This document represents the fifth Business Plan of the Group since 1989 and has been developed in direct consultation with Member Councils through the Directional Committee, Full Group and Technical Committee.

The Sydney coastal region contains a rich diversity of natural and cultural assets that are recognised and valued internationally. The region experiences significant industrial and residential development pressures as well as increased tourism and recreational use.

The Sydney Coastal Councils Group Strategic Plan 2005-2008 recognises the pressures and impacts facing the Sydney coastal region. It also recognises that coastal management is very much a cross sectorial activity with the three spheres of government, regional bodies, industry and the community sharing responsibilities for its management.

This Strategic Plan covers the Sydney coastal region defined as the Local Government Areas of Member Councils including: Botany Bay, Hornsby, Leichhardt, Manly, Mosman, North Sydney, Pittwater, Randwick, Rockdale, Sutherland, Sydney, Warringah, Waverley, Willoughby and Woollahra and the adjacent marine waters within three nautical miles of the coastline.

The implementation of the Sydney Coastal Councils Group Strategic Plan 2005 – 2008 will be guided by the broad ranging coastal management goals and guiding principles focused on the pursuit and achievement of Ecologically Sustainable Development. The principles are intended to guide decision making and help integrate stakeholder coastal management practices and activities. They are also intended to guide the implementation of the SCCG Objectives and the SCCG Activities to achieve the identified SCCG Outcome Statements.

The SCCG Strategic Plan will be reviewed annually and reported to the Annual General Meeting. This process will assess the pursuit towards achievement of 'Outcomes Statements' by evaluating implementation of 'SCCG Objectives' through performance indicators for associated 'SCCG Activities' .

I would like to thank the Strategic Plan Directional Committee for their involvement in the development of the Strategy and all the Member Council representatives who facilitated and participated in the plans consultation and adoption.

Yours sincerely,



Clr. Patricia Harvey OAM
Chairperson
Sydney Coastal Council Group Inc.

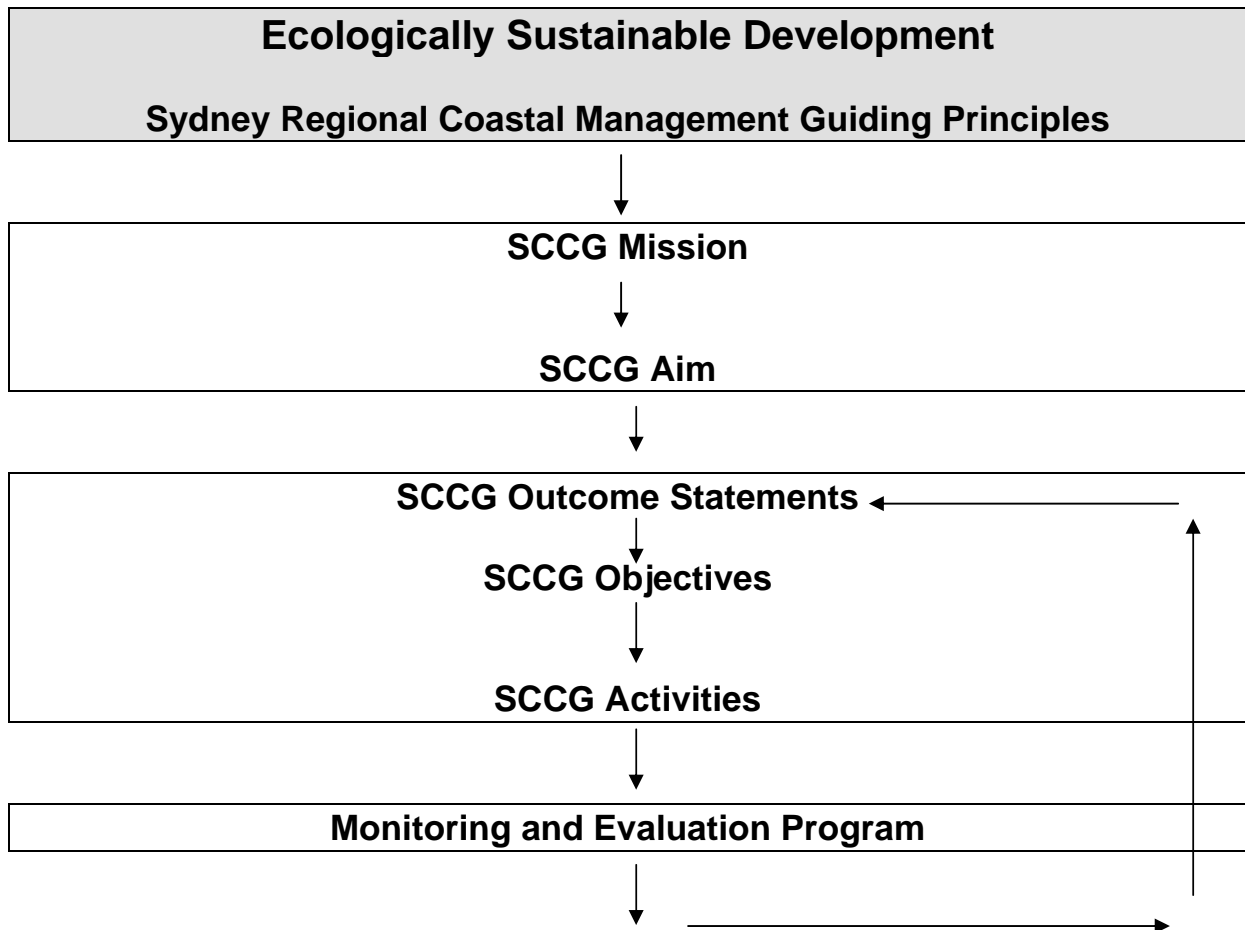
1. PURPOSE OF THE DOCUMENT

The Sydney Coastal Council Group's Strategic Plan has been prepared to document and highlight the SCCG focus for the next 3 years. This document represents the fifth Business Plan of the SCCG since its inception in 1989.

Purpose of this document is to provide SCCG Members and external stakeholders with details of the Sydney Coastal Councils Group including background, structure, members, overarching Sydney regional coastal management guidelines principles and SCCG strategies.

This is a dynamic strategy that is evaluated annually and comprehensively reviewed after 3 years.

Diagrammatic Representation of the Sydney Coastal Councils Group Strategic Plan 2005 – 2008



2. THE SYDNEY COASTAL REGION

For the purposes of the Strategy the Sydney coastal region is defined as the Local Government areas of the SCCG member councils and the adjacent marine waters within 3 nautical miles of the coastline.

In the past 50 years Sydney's coastal zone has witnessed significant increases in both population and tourism and intensive residential, industrial and commercial development. The development and use of the sometimes fragile coastal ecosystems has led to the gradual degradation of these resources. The high population density of Sydney continuously threatens the remaining extremely sensitive natural coastal areas.

The coastal zone of the Sydney region, with its warm summer climate and ocean temperatures and its rich diversity of natural and cultural resources, supports many activities such as recreational fishing, boating, bathing and surfing; commercial fishing and mariculture; many forms of industry; waste treatment and disposal; extensive residential and commercial development; transport; and the conservation of terrestrial and marine resources and natural and cultural heritage.

The Sydney region currently supports approximately 4.2 million people, sprawling over approximately 12,000 km² (ABS, 2003). The coastal zone of Sydney extends from Broken Bay in the north to Port Hacking in the south, and contains approximately 86 km of ocean shoreline and over 340 km of estuarine frontage. There are 38 ocean beaches separated by high sandstone and shale cliffs, four drowned river valley estuaries (Sydney Harbour, Broken Bay (Hawkesbury), Port Hacking (Bate Bay) and Botany Bay) and four coastal lagoons (Manly, Curl Curl, Dee Why and Narrabeen) which periodically enter the ocean across the northern beaches. Sydney's coastline is fronted by a narrow and steep continental shelf extending less than 30 km from the shoreline after which the sea bed plunges rapidly from a depth of approximately 200 metres to as much as 3 – 4 km in some areas. This continental shelf formation results in the coastal region of Sydney being exposed to a high wave energy environment as well as a deep water wave climate, giving rise to impressive vertical sandstone and shale cliffs and very dynamic beach zones.

Many natural and landscape features of Sydney's coastal zone are considered to be of significant value. These include many parks and reserves, sandstone cliffs, headlands, rock shelves, beaches, remnant bushland, National Parks and other protected areas.

There are both marine and terrestrial protected areas in the coastal region of Sydney. There are seven National Parks with foreshore access (Royal, Sydney Harbour, Garigal, Ku-ring-gai, Georges River, Botany Bay and Lane Cove) and 10 Aquatic Reserves: Narrabeen Head, (Long Reef (Dee Why), North Harbour (Manly), Towra Point (Kurnell), Shiprock (Port Hacking); Cabbage Tree Bay (Manly), Barrenjoey Head (Pittwater), Cape Banks (La Perouse), Bronte – Coogee, Boat Harbour (Kurnell). The NSW Department of Primary Industries (NSW Fisheries) also has eight Intertidal Protected Areas where the collection of intertidal invertebrates is prohibited.

The Sydney coastal region also contains many significant heritage items. Today there are approximately 1500 Aboriginal heritage sites within Sydney's coastal local government areas including rock engravings, drawings and stencils, shelters, shell middens, camp sites, burial sites, axe grinding grooves, waterholes and scarred trees.

The Sydney coastal region contains many of NSW's oldest and most significant European heritage items, including historical and architecturally significant residential and commercial buildings; navigation structures such as lighthouses; stone walls and crater huts; and defence structures such as gun emplacements and fortifications particularly in and around Sydney Harbour and West Head in Pittwater.

The coastal strip of Sydney supports a large variety of vegetation communities such as: eucalyptus forests; Hawkesbury sandstone open forests; Sydney sandstone woodland; coastal scrub; coastal grasslands; swamp forests; mangrove forests; seagrass beds; saltmarsh areas; littoral forests; sand dune vegetation; banksia scrubs; riverine vegetation; wet and dry coastal heath; wet and dry sclerophyll forests; and casuarina swamps.

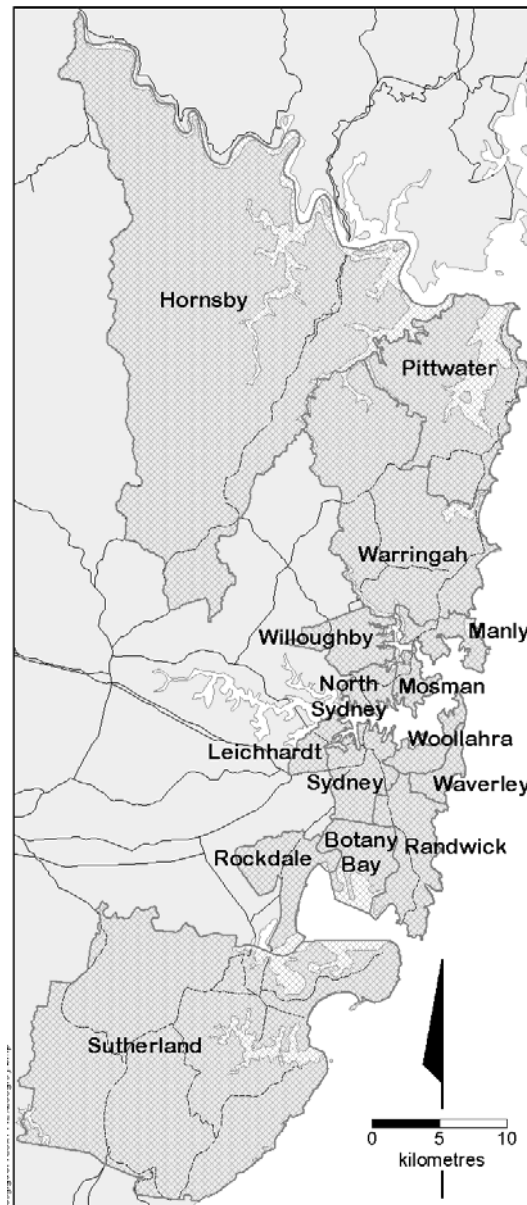
The coastal region also supports a wide diversity of fauna species including mammals, reptiles, amphibians, terrestrial and sea birds, fishes, crustaceans, molluscs, polychaete worms, arthropods and insects. There are numerous threatened species of flora and fauna in the Sydney region under pressure from urbanisation, degradation, loss of habitats, pollution and feral animals.

Many local councils in the Sydney coastal region have also developed the landscape and made general facility improvements along Sydney's coastline. These include: the development of coastal walkways for the northern, eastern and southern beaches, featuring interpretative information and educational signage; educational resources, including environment centres at North Narrabeen, City, Manly, Bondi and Sutherland and community education programs; improved coastal viewing and recreation facilities; and formalised access to many sensitive areas.

3. ABOUT THE GROUP

The Sydney Coastal Councils Group Inc. (SCCG) was established in 1989 to promote co-ordination between member councils on environmental issues relating to the sustainable management of the urban coastal environment. The Group consists of 15 councils adjacent to Sydney marine and estuarine environments and associated waterways. Member Councils include: Botany Bay, Hornsby, Leichhardt, Manly, Mosman, North Sydney, Pittwater, Randwick, Rockdale, Sutherland, Sydney, Warringah, Waverley, Willoughby and Woollahra. The Group represents over 1.3 million Sydneysiders. The SCCG covers 1346 Km² and encompasses the waterways of: The Hawkesbury River, Broken Bay; Pittwater; Port Jackson; Middle and North Harbours; the lower Lane Cove River, Botany Bay and the lower Georges and Cooks Rivers; and Port Hacking.

Figure 1: Sydney Coastal Councils Group - Member Councils



3.1 SCCG Structure

- **Powers and nature of association**

The SCCG is a voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils (ROC) established under the provisions of sections 355, 357 and 358 of the *Local Government Act, 1993*. The functions and powers of the Group are provided in the Constitution and have been ratified by all the member councils. The Group was incorporated in February 1998 under the *Associations Incorporation Act, 1984*.

The Constitution sets out the name; aims and objectives; membership; representation from member councils; details for determining the chairperson and meeting arrangements; voting; what represents a quorum; business at meetings; powers of the Group, Executive Committee and other types of committees; employment of staff; office location; financial matters; annual reporting; cooperative arrangements; termination of membership; amendments; termination of the Group and declaration of pecuniary interests. (*The Constitution is available on the SCCG web site*).

- **Organisational structure**

The structure of the Group consists of the

- **Full Group** that meets quarterly and consists of one to three **delegates of the member councils**;
- **Executive Committee**, which meets between meetings of the full Group, and consists of up to eight elected representatives. The Chairperson, two Vice-Chairpersons (ocean and estuarine), Secretary (honorary); Treasurer (honorary), and up to three other delegates,
- **Advisory Committees** made up of councillors and staff, which meet as required;
- **Technical Committee**, which meets every two months and consists of one or more professional staff representatives (strategic planners, environmental officers, engineers, catchment liaison and policy officers and environmental health officers) from each member council.
- **Working groups** are established from time to time by the Technical Committee to address key issues and projects.

Membership is of a voluntary and cooperative nature. The **SCCG's Constitution** sets out the objectives and rules of the Group and will be implemented through the 2005/2008 SCCG Strategic Plan.

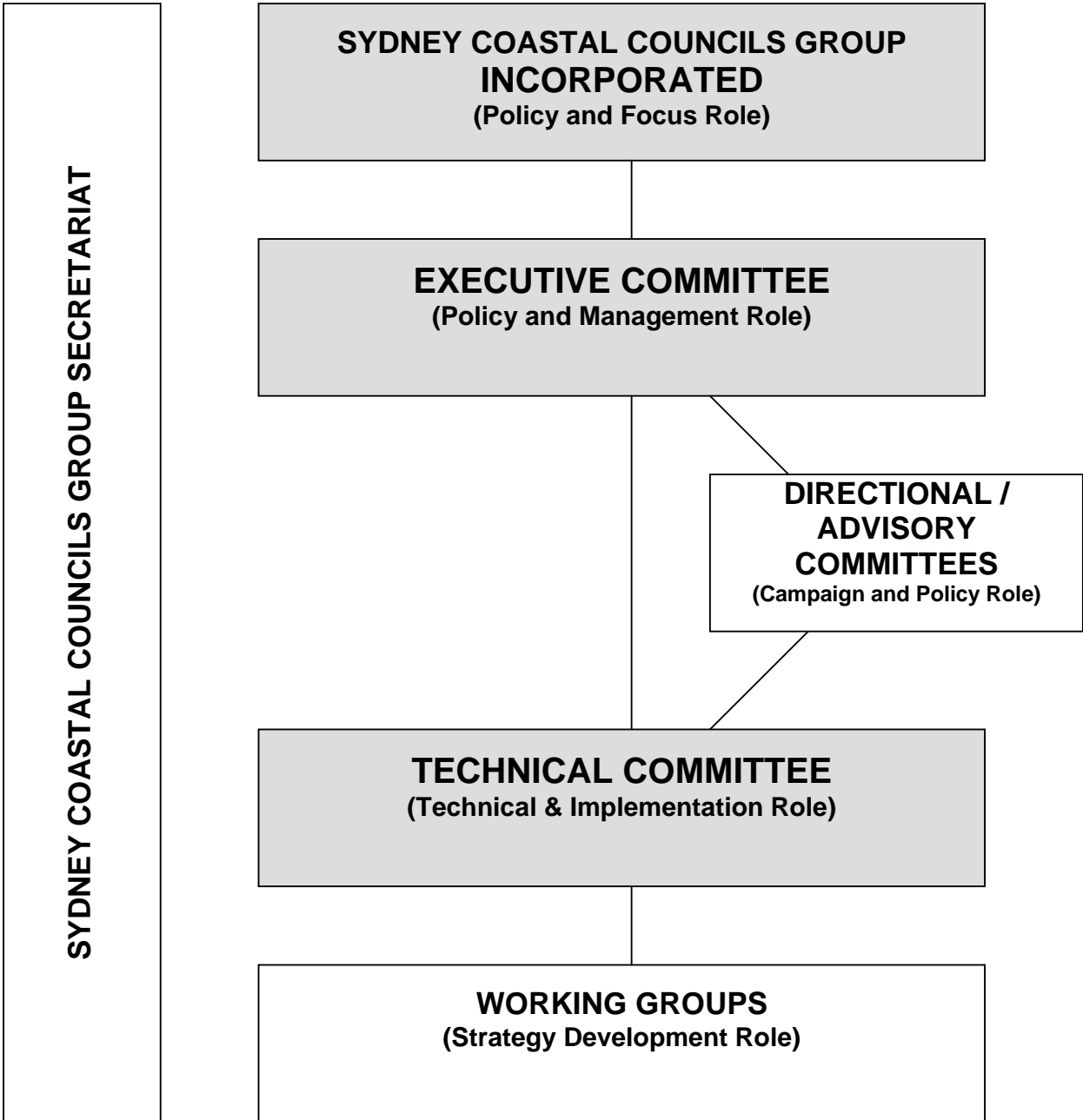
The Secretariat of the Group including the Regional Coastal Environment Officer/ Executive Officer and the Coastal Projects Officer are hosted by a financial member council for a period of three years. The Host Council is nominated and determined at the Annual General Meeting. A **Service Provider Agreement** lists the arrangements between the Group and the hosting council. The current agreement is with the City of Sydney for the period August 2004 to June 2007. Previous host councils are: Warringah Council July 1990 - June 1992; Sydney City Council July 1992 - April 1995; Pittwater April 1995 - April 1998; Willoughby City Council May 1998 - June 2001, Randwick Council July 2001 – August 2004.

Please also see the Sydney Coastal Council Group web site for details of:

- SCCG Committees,
- SCCG Working Groups and Directional Committees,
- SCCG External Representations,
- SCCG Project Committees,
- SCCG Staff



ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE



4. SYDNEY COASTAL COUNCILS GROUP STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

The implementation of the Sydney Coastal Councils Group Strategic Plan 2004 – 2008 will be guided by the broad ranging coastal management goals and guiding principles set out within this section. The underlying focus of these is the pursuit towards and achievement of ESD of Sydney's coastal zone. The principles are intended to guide decision making and help integrate stakeholder coastal management practices and activities. They are also intended to guide the implementation of the **SCCG Objectives** and the **SCCG Activities** to achieve the identified **SCCG Outcome Statements**.

4.1 Ecologically Sustainable Development Goals and Objectives

As defined in the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD) requires the effective integration of economic and environmental considerations in decision-making processes. Ecologically sustainable development is achieved through the implementation of the following principles and programs:

- (a) the precautionary principle
- (b) inter-generational equity
- (c) conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity
- (d) improved valuation, pricing and incentive mechanisms

The 1997 amendment to the *Local Government Act 1993*, entitled the *Local Government Amendment (Ecologically Sustainable Development) Act 1997*, enhances the environmental management roles of Councils and requires Councils to have regard to the principles of ESD in carrying out their responsibilities such as exercising approval powers.

GOAL

Development that improves the total quality of life, both now and in the future, in a way that maintains the ecological processes on which life depends.

CORE OBJECTIVES

- To enhance individual and community well-being and welfare by following a path of economic development that safeguards the welfare of future generations,
- To provide for equity within and between generations,
- To protect biological diversity and maintain essential ecological processes and life-support systems.

4.2 Sydney Regional Coastal Management Guiding Principles

The following principles were developed after an extensive consultation process with conservation and community groups and the three spheres of government. They are based on the recommendations of the Resources Assessment Commission's Coastal Zone Inquiry and the Commonwealth Government's Coastal Policy and are consistent with the principles of the National Strategy for Ecologically Sustainable Development, the NSW Coastal Policy and the Memorandum of Understanding for the Coastal Action Program signed by the Commonwealth of Australia, the State of NSW and the Local Government and Shires Associations of NSW.

• GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR THE SYDNEY COASTAL REGION

Sustainable Resource Use

(i) Integrated Assessment and Decision Making

- Ecological integrity must first be maintained before resource use availability is assessed.
- The ecological and physical links between terrestrial and marine systems must be taken into consideration in the use and management of coastal zone resources.
- The environmental, economic, social and cultural values of coastal zone resources should be identified and the impacts of uses on those values should be determined as far as practicable before decisions are made;
 - As far as practicable, assessment should be made on local, regional, national and global scales. They should take into account long-term impacts on the resource itself and on other resources and other users. As far as practicable, negative effects of resource use should be minimised.
 - Cumulative impacts should be taken into consideration before decisions are made about the use of coastal resources where identified and where not. As far as practicable, cumulative impacts that have net negative effects should be avoided. It is also necessary to guard against the unintended negative effects of numerous small decisions by taking a broader strategic perspective on managing the coast.
- Coastal zone resource uses should be frequently monitored to ensure that impact assessments are accurate. If impacts differ from those predicted, remedial actions, including reviewing the resource allocation, should be undertaken.

(ii) The Precautionary Approach

- If there is a risk of serious or irreversible adverse impacts resulting from the use of a coastal resource, that use should be permitted only if those impacts can be mitigated.
- If a use is assessed as having a low risk of causing serious or irreversible adverse impacts, or if there is insufficient information with which to assess fully and with certainty the magnitude and nature of impacts, decision making should proceed in a conservative and cautious manner. The absence of scientific certainty should not be a reason for postponing measures to prevent or mitigate negative impacts.

(iii) Resource Allocation

- Coastal resources should be allocated to the use with the greatest long-term community benefit, where benefit is determined by taking environmental, economic, social and cultural considerations into account.
 - The degree to which an activity is dependent on being located in the coastal zone should be taken into account when resources are being allocated. Priority should be given to uses that are particularly dependent on coastal locations or coastal resources. As far as practicable, assessment should be made on local, regional, national and global scales. They should take into account long-term impacts on the resource itself and on other resources and other users. As far as practicable, negative effects of resource use should be minimised.
 - Alternative uses of coastal resources and opportunities for multiple or sequential use should be identified before allocation decisions are made. Multiple or sequential use of the coast should occur only when one use will not significantly diminish a resource's value for subsequent uses. When this is not possible resources in an area should be allocated to competing uses, so that the greatest range of beneficial uses is satisfied while minimising conflict between uses and users. At times it may be necessary to use areas for a single purpose or a restricted number of purposes.
 - Coastal areas in or near their natural state should not be developed for uses that diminish their value.
- Development in the coastal zone should occur in accordance with predetermined strategic coastal management plans.
- Controlled public access to the coast, including beach, foreshore and marine areas, should be maintained for recreation, tourism and other public activities. The extent, location and type of access may need to be controlled to mitigate adverse effects of this access, to resolve incompatible uses, to conserve and maintain ecological integrity, or in the interest of public safety.

(iv) The User-pays Principle (where user-pays system(s) are preferred)

- Prices charged for access to coastal resources should reflect all short and long-term environmental, economic and social costs associated with use of those resources.
 - If it is not possible to measure these costs their existence and relative importance should be taken into account before decisions are made.
- Economic instruments should be applied equitably across all sectors of society, although the circumstances of disadvantaged groups should be taken into account.
- The cost of development in coastal areas, including infrastructure costs, the costs of environmental management and monitoring, and the costs of managing natural hazards, should be borne by development proponents.
 - If a direct benefit accrues to the community as a result of a development it is reasonable that costs be apportioned between the developer and the community in accordance with the distribution of benefits.
 - When developments in the coastal zone will result in increased tourism and recreational use, the developer must assess the hazards that might affect users and to develop facilities for managing the increased use. Comprehensive arrangements should be established to meet the continuing costs of management and maintenance.

Resource Conservation

- Natural physical processes must be safeguarded. Development should take account of natural processes. If the disruption of natural processes is unavoidable every attempt should be made to limit that disruption and its impact on the area and adjoining coastal areas.
- As far as practicable, use of the coastal zone should have no or minimal adverse impacts on regional biodiversity and ecological processes.
- Sites of national, regional and local ecological, cultural, archaeological, historic and scientific significance should be identified and maintained.
- Waste disposal into coastal waters should be avoided and should only be an interim measure after all avenues for re-use and recycling of by-products of resource use have been exhausted.
- Existing pollution discharges should be progressively reduced to levels where there is a minimal probability of adverse impacts on the receiving environment.

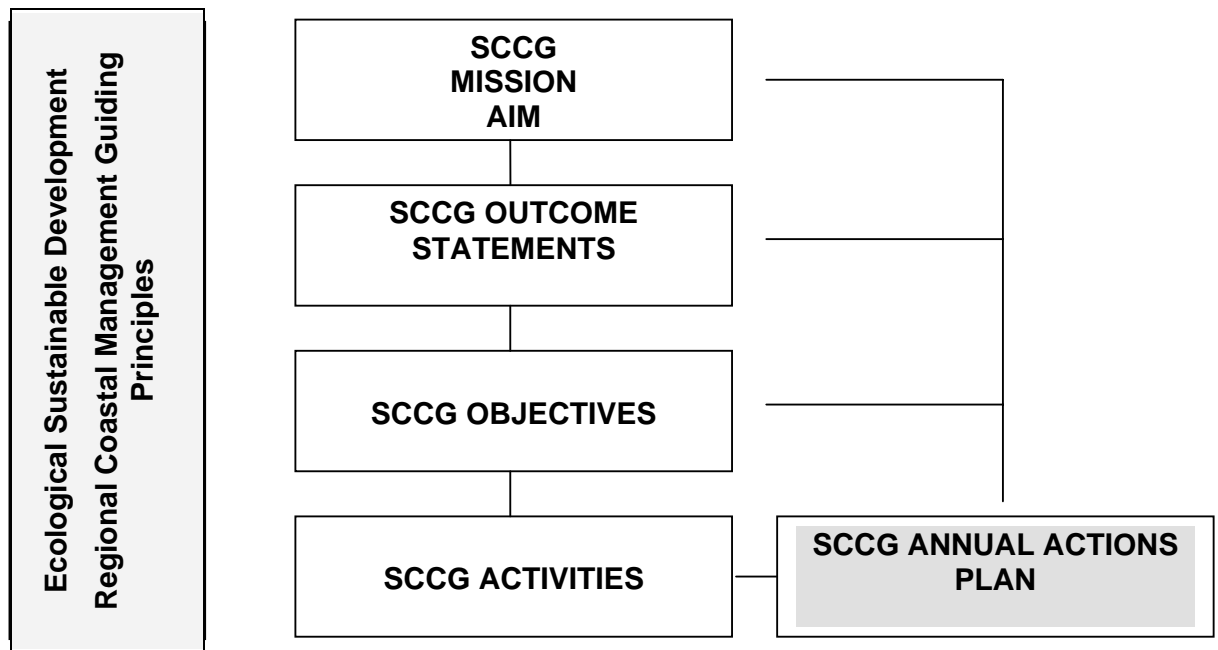
Public Participation

- Effective public consultation and participation are essential to the planning process and should be encouraged before decisions are made. For participation to be effective, the public requires sufficient information and opportunity to be informed about alternative uses. Processes for deciding about coastal zone management should be open and publicly documented to allow for scrutiny.
 - Local communities, including local industries, should be encouraged to share direct responsibility for management of local coastal areas and to participate in the development and implementation of management strategies.
 - The interests of indigenous peoples linked to the lands within the Strategy area should be recognised and considered in resource use decision making. This requires, among other things, effective protection of cultural and intellectual property, including storylines, participation in the management of resources in which people have traditional or cultural interests, and conservation of the resources upon which these activities are based.
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5. SYDNEY COASTAL COUNCILS GROUP – STRATEGIC IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM

The **Strategic Implementation Program** is intended to guide and prioritise the management actions for the Sydney Coastal Council Group. The implementation of the Strategic Implementation Program will be directed by the Regional Coastal Management Guiding Principles set out in Section 4, with the underlying focus being the achievement of Ecologically Sustainable Development.

The Strategic Implementation Program focuses on the key **Outcomes Statements** and associated **Objectives** and **Activities** to facilitate the implementation of the SCCG Mission and Aim.



SCCG Outcomes Statements have been developed from the SCCG Business Management Plan 2001 – 2004, the Sydney Regional Coastal Management Strategy, 1998 and in consultation with SCCG member councils. They are:

1. *The exchange of information on urban coastal management to member councils is coordinated and facilitated,*
2. *Community awareness on matters related to the urban coastal management is enhanced,*
3. *The role and capacity of member councils to manage the coastal environment is improved,*
4. *Member Council interests are represented on issues in relation to regional and national coastal management,*
5. *Sustainable and Integrated Coastal Zone Planning and Management is facilitated.*

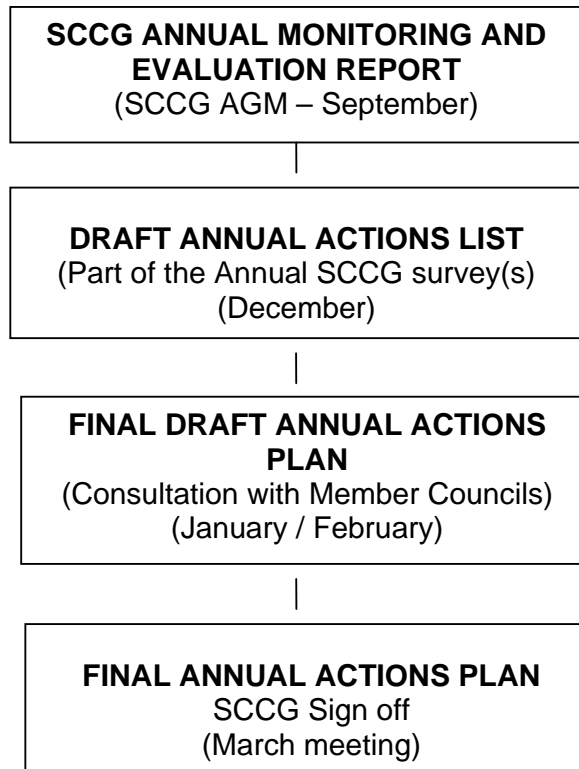
Under each **SCCG Outcome Statements**, the Strategic Implementation Program provides a series of **Objectives** together with **Activities** to focus and actions of the SCCG Secretariat and services to be provided to member councils.

- **Annual Action Plan**

Annual implementation of the Strategic Implementation Program will be directed by the development of an **Annual Action Plan**. This Plan will identify **specific Actions** to address the SCCG Objectives and SCCG Activities.

The Annual Action Plan is developed in December - February of each year following the annual **Monitoring and Evaluation Report** submitted as part of the SCCG AGM held in September. Consultations on this draft Plan will occur as part of the Annual Survey of the Full Group and the Technical Committee (to occur in December – February). The final Draft Annual Action Program is forwarded in January / February to Member Councils for final endorsement prior to sign off by the SCCG Full Group at their March meeting.

Annual SCCG Action Plan development process:



This process aims to:

- Ensure that specific actions are reviewed and developed annually,
- Ensure direction, consultation and active participation by member councils' elected members, senior executives and all SCCG representative delegates,
- Ensure that identified Actions are consistent with member councils' and SCCG delegates' issues and needs and will facilitate activity to move towards the achievement of the SCCG Outcomes Statements through the implementation of SCCG 'Objectives' and 'Activities'.



SCCG Mission

The Sydney Coastal Councils Group is to provide leadership and encourage a focused and coordinated approach to sustainable coastal management undertaken by and in partnership with the member councils to protect and conserve terrestrial and marine ecosystems, and to manage social and economic conditions to achieve this. The Group will facilitate outcomes concerning coastal issues, exceptional to those the member councils could achieve individually.

SCCG Aim

The **principal aim** of the Group is:

To promote cooperation between, and coordination of actions by member councils in consultation with the broader community on issues of regional significance concerning the sustainable management of the urban coastal environment.

SCCG Outcome Statements

1. The exchange of information on urban coastal management to member councils is coordinated and facilitated.
 2. Community awareness on matters related to the urban coastal management is enhanced.
 3. The role and capacity of member councils to manage the coastal environment is improved.
 4. Member Council interests are represented on issues relating to regional and national coastal management.
 5. Sustainable and Integrated Coastal Zone Planning and Management is facilitated.
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OUTCOME 1				
The exchange of information on urban coastal management to member councils is coordinated and facilitated				
OBJECTIVES	ACTIVITIES	RESPONSIBILITY	DATE	PERFORMANCE MONITORING
1.1 Continue to maintain a Secretariat providing support services	SCCG Employment of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Coastal Environment Officer / Executive Officer and Coastal Projects Officer Other staff on a needs basis SCCG Finances <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual Member Contributions SCCG Financial Management 	SCCG Executive Committee	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employment records Annual Performance Assessments Annual membership ¼ reports / Audit
1.2 Facilitate the coordination of SCCG committees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Executive Committee Full Group Technical Committee Directional Committee(s) 	SCCG Secretariat	Quarterly Quarterly Bi-monthly Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No.s of meetings All minutes completed 100% of resolutions addressed
1.3 Establish internal and or interagency committees on issues in relation to urban coastal management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working Groups Steering Committees 	SCCG Secretariat	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No.s of meetings All minutes completed 100% of resolutions addressed
1.4 Provide information and regular updates on SCCG activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SCCG quarterly newsletter Bi-monthly SCCG Key Activities Report SCCG web site Individual Council interviews 	SCCG Secretariat	Quarterly Bi-monthly Ongoing As identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of newsletters No. of reports No. web visits / web updates Details of interviews
1.5 Identify gaps and needs for information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council surveys Gap analysis 	SCCG Secretariat	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual SCCG survey analysis

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research programs 			
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OUTCOME 2				
Community awareness on matters related to the urban coastal management is enhanced				
OBJECTIVES	ACTIVITIES	RESPONSIBILITY	DATE	PERFORMANCE MONITORING
2.1 Develop education materials for Councils and the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fact sheets / Brochures • Flyers • Multi-media • Technical and assessment reports 	SCCG Secretariat Technical Committee	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details of materials developed
2.2 Raise awareness of member councils issues and needs in 'media'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Media releases • Media interviews • Direct consultation with journalists • Other Publications 	Chairperson Executive Committee EO	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details of published media
2.3 Represent and raise the profile of the SCCG and member councils activities at public forums / events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment Day(s) • Community forums • Conferences / seminars • Other opportunities as they arise 	SCCG	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No. and details of promotional events
2.4 Promote community consultation and participation in SCCG activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance at meetings • Representation on relevant SCCG committees • Direct and indirect consultations 	SCCG	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details of consultation requests • Participation in SCCG events
2.5 Encourage other organisations and authorities to develop appropriate community education materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct consultations • Representation on relevant 'external'+ and member council education committees 	SCCG	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details of activities • Representation on committees



OUTCOME 3				
The role and capacity of member councils to manage the coastal environment is improved.				
OBJECTIVES	ACTIVITIES	RESPONSIBILITY	DATE	PERFORMANCE MONITORING
3.1 Continue to identify and secure funding from Government and other appropriate organisations to fulfil the implementation of the SCCG Strategic Plan and member councils' objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual preparation of Grant availability lists • Preparation of grant applications • Provision of advice, support & assistance for grant applications 	SCCG Secretariat	March Ongoing Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual grant list developed (Y/N) • No. and details of grant applications
3.2 Facilitate increased awareness and capacity building of member councils representatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forums/ Seminars/ Conferences • Training activities / sessions • Research partnerships 	SCCG Secretariat	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No. and topics of forums / training • Partnership details
3.3 Continue to encourage the incorporation of SCCG guidelines / best practice into member councils' Corporate Plans and management structures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Model Wetlands DCP • WSUD and Integrated Water Cycle Planning and Management provisions • Groundwater Management Handbook • AGS/ SCCG Geotechnical Practice Notes & Guidelines 	SCCG	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details and no. of guidelines incorporated • Annual SCCG survey analysis
3.4 Maintain relevant contact registers and associated data bases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member Councils • Government agencies / MPs • Media • Relevant organisations / industry 	SCCG Secretariat	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact registers available and maintained
3.5 Maintain member council awareness of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government structures / policies • Emerging issues • Community attitudes / values 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitation of Information materials • Facilitation of Government / community presentations / forums and briefings 	SCCG Secretariat	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No. and details of information distributions
3.6 Science / Research Encourage & facilitate integrated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate Partnership activities with research organisations. • Macquarie University – (Climate); University 	SCCG	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual outcomes of research partnerships

coastal zone research	NSW (Masters Program); EICC – CRC (Advisory Board; CSIRO (“systems” - partnership)			
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OUTCOME 4				
Member Council interests are represented on issues relating to regional, national and international coastal management.				
OBJECTIVES	ACTIVITIES	RESPONSIBILITY	DATE	PERFORMANCE MONITORING
4.1 Continue to strengthen the Group’s involvement and influence in the development and review of Government policy, legislation and activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SCCG representation of relevant Government committees • Preparation of regional submissions • Direct and indirect consultations / liaison with government representatives 	SCCG	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details of SCCG representations • No. and details of SCCG Submissions • Details of government consultations and issues addressed
4.2 Review and present member Council interests at appropriate forums	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance at seminars and conferences • Preparation and delivery of papers • Disseminate SCCG and member Council information to inquiring organisations 	SCCG	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance at Conferences • Details of conference papers • Details of information distributions

OUTCOME 5				
Sustainable and Integrated Coastal Zone Management is facilitated.				
OBJECTIVES	ACTIVITIES	RESPONSIBILITY	DATE	PERFORMANCE MONITORING
5.1 Policy Integration Encourage the integration and application of Government environment policies and strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocacy for coordinated, partnership and holistic approaches to water, and coastal management policy and planning in Sydney. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coastal Policy for Sydney • Commonwealth involvement and leadership • GMR planning / management 	SCCG	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details of Advocacy • Development and maintenance of policy & strategy data base(s)
5.2 Total Water Cycle Management Encourage consideration, planning for, promotion and implementation of Total Water Cycle Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SCCG Conferences/seminars/forums • Information provision & coordination • Regional advocacy and direct consultations • Preparation of appropriate regional guidelines 	SCCG	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details of events and activities • Details of guidelines implemented
5.3 Water Quality Encourage improvements to water quality of marine and terrestrial environments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage Commonwealth, State & Local Governments to use consistent water quality guidelines. • Encourage the development of regional & appropriate (scientific) monitoring programs. • Assist and coordinate NRM / Coastal data collection for the region (eg GIS) • Encourage & participate in educational & public reporting programs (eg Beachwatch) • Encourage the development & implementation of efficient & effective water quality management process and new technology. • Facilitate information distribution 	SCCG	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details of advocacy • Data provided via agreements • Details of advocacy • Details of information distribution

<p>5.4 Sewage</p> <p>Encourage an adequate, maintained, utilised and efficient sewage system that protects the environment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage and promote the development of innovative techniques and technology for treating and reusing sewage and grey water. • Encourage the implementation of Government strategies to reduce sewerage overflows. • Encourage the decentralisation of sewage system(s) where appropriate 	<p>SCCG</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details of advocacy, promotion and deliverables
<p>5.5 Stormwater / Drainage / Flooding</p> <p>Encourage an adequate, maintained, utilised and efficient stormwater system that protects the environment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage and assist the implementation of innovative techniques, technologies and guidelines for treating and reusing stormwater. • Encourage and facilitate the implementation of regional WSUD, stormwater reduction and reuse. • Encourage and promote best practice stormwater asset management systems and processes. • Develop & review regional integrated stormwater management guidelines and plans (under a catchment management framework) 	<p>SCCG</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details of advocacy, promotion and deliverables
<p>5.6 Catchment Management</p> <p>Promote and assist Total Catchment Management principles</p> <p>Support catchment and regional bodies to facilitate and achieve and integration and efficient resource management.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and review integrated catchment management plans and investment strategies in association with Catchment Management Authorities (Sydney/Hawkesbury). • Encourage & provide support for Catchment Management Authorities in their pursuit to implement coastal objectives of their Catchment Action Plans and other various NRM plans. 	<p>SCCG</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details of advocacy, promotion and deliverables

<p>5.7 Ecosystem management</p> <p>Encourage & where required develop guidelines for the protection and restoration of coastal ecosystems and their biodiversity.</p> <p>Ecosystems including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marine • Intertidal • Estuarine • Fresh water • Groundwater • Terrestrial 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist and promote the identification and management of key threats to biodiversity • Encourage and facilitate the identification and mapping of key ecosystems and habitats. • Encourage and facilitate the development of management structures and plans for key ecosystems. • Encourage and enhance community involvement in ecosystems management • Encourage the provision and effective management of protected areas: National Parks, Regional Parks, Crown Reserves, Recreation Reserves, Aquatic Reserves, Intertidal Protected Areas • Encourage the identification & rehabilitation of contaminated sites. • Encourage, & where required, develop regional guidelines for the sustainable management of marine, estuarine, fresh water, groundwater and terrestrial areas (eg. tourism, commercial and recreational fishing, aquaculture, extraction industries to ensure the protection of the environment). 	<p>SCCG</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details of advocacy, promotion and deliverables
<p>5.8 Public Access (Foreshores)</p> <p>Encourage the protection and enhancement of public access and use of foreshore areas (including beaches and headlands) while ensuring fragile ecosystems and habitats are preserved and risks to public safety is minimised.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oppose the alienation of any foreshore lands • Facilitate the development of procedures and methodologies to identify and better manage recreational usage of coastal areas. • Facilitate the promotion of safe and environmentally responsible use of 	<p>SCCG</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details of advocacy, promotion and deliverables

	<p>foreshore areas through education programs and activities (eg Summer Activities Program)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and promote regional recreational trails supported by integrated community education & promotion. 			
<p>5.9 Coastal Processes</p> <p>Encourage investigation, research and management, of coastal processes and incorporation of related issues into planning and management actions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist councils understanding and planning for coastal process including 'emergency' planning and response. • Identify, develop and share best practice Coastal/Estuarine Risk management systems, plans and procedures. • Assist member councils develop and consider best management Development Control provisions. 	SCCG	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details of advocacy, promotion and deliverables
<p>5.10 Climate Change</p> <p>Encourage researched, recognition, monitoring, planning and abatements of climate change related impacts and hazards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research • Partnerships • Frameworks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate a gap analysis of existing policies and provisions. • Facilitate the development and implementation of regional climate change research and management responses through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Decision making frameworks ○ Regional scenario modelling ○ Impact identification of local / regional infrastructure, environment & social impacts. • Encourage and participate in the development of effective education strategy(s) 	SCCG	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details of advocacy, promotion and deliverables
<p>5.11 Cultural Heritage</p> <p>To encourage the recognition, respect and protection of Cultural Heritage.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist improve the understanding and commitment for conservation, interpretation and where appropriate public access to areas and items of cultural value. 	SCCG	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details of advocacy, promotion and deliverables

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assist with the recognition of the rights and needs of Indigenous people• Encourage and facilitate the involvement of Indigenous peoples in integrated coastal zone management.			
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6. SCCG STRATEGIC MONITORING AND EVALUATION PROGRAM

The SCCG Strategic Plan will be reviewed annually and reported to the Annual General Meeting. The process will assess the pursuit towards achievement of 'Outcomes Statements' by evaluating implementation of 'SCCG Objectives' through performance indicators for associated 'SCCG Activities'.

The process aims to:

- To allow for the effective monitoring and assessment of implementation performance of the Strategic Plan,
- To recommend possible changes to Outcomes Statements, Objectives, Activities and Actions,
- To ensure that services are delivered and the SCCG continues to be of value to member councils.

The desired outcomes of the monitoring program include:

- a practical monitoring and evaluation system for the assessment of performance and identification of areas requiring attention;
 - core and general indicators that directly identify the performance of 'SCCG Activities', to achieve SCCG Outcomes Statements and address 'SCCG Objectives';
 - data that can be incorporated into Annual reports, SoERs and used as feedback for corporate and natural resource management plans;
 - better understand of the implications of management actions designed to assist member councils;
 - a program that will facilitate information exchange between the Secretariat, SCCG delegates and SCCG member councils.
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7. Member Council Local Government Area Descriptions

- **Hornsby Council LGA** 

Hornsby Shire is located approximately 24 km north west of the Sydney Central Business District. The Shire has an area of approximately 510 km² and is bounded in a triangular shape by Epping in the south, Wiseman's Ferry in the north and Brooklyn in the east. The Hornsby Shire is unique with its contrasting environments reflecting urban, rural, bushland and riverine settings. There is also a diverse range of retail, commercial, industrial, residential and recreational uses within the shire. There are three islands in the Shire namely Milson, Danger and Long Islands.

There are five main drainage catchments in the LGA: the Hawkesbury-Nepean; Berowra Creek; Lane Cove River; Marramarra Creek; and Cowan Creek. Associated with the drainage catchments are marinas, ferries, boat sheds, boating, fishing and oyster farming industry. Heritage items are located along the foreshores with Aboriginal middens and remnant vegetation throughout the Shire. It is an important recreational area and contains wetlands and National Parks.

- **Botany Bay City Council LGA** 

The City of Botany Bay is located on the northern side of Botany Bay and includes several hundred hectares of Botany Bay, with approximately 4 km of foreshores. The Botany Bay City Council area is located within the Botany Basin which is a natural topographical basin surrounding Botany Bay. The northern portion of the basin is drained by the Cooks River, Alexandra Canal and the Botany Wetland ponds flow southwards through Botany before discharging into the Bay. The foreshore area has been manipulated substantially during the last 20 years due to reclamation for the construction of Port Botany and the parallel runway at Sydney Airport.

Botany Bay LGA is a heavily urbanised and built up area which has been an important industrial base for Sydney for over 100 years. Botany Bay is a significant economic area with Australia's busiest airport, a major port and some of Australia's major petroleum and chemical plants and storage areas. Botany Bay also contains significant fishing areas, particularly for prawns, oysters and various fish species. It is an important recreational area, containing internationally significant wetlands and nature reserves.

- **Leichhardt Council LGA** 

Most of the 15.7km of foreshore land within Leichhardt LGA has been urbanised and built up from its original foreshore line and level. The foreshores are the most ecologically sensitive and rich areas and are the most popular outdoor recreation locations within the LGA. Seawalls have been erected in most areas to stop erosion and enable the public to utilise all available land. The foreshore areas were the location for many of Sydney's waterfront industries although only a few of these industries remain today. In recent years industrial premises have relocated from the inner City to the outer suburbs and near Botany Bay. Slowly the vacant foreshore areas have become available for residential redevelopment. Council has adopted a policy of developing a continuous public open space network along the foreshore to provide access for invaluable public recreational areas. Remnant bushland exists at Callan Point, Rozelle. There are several heritage items located along the foreshores including wharves, jetties, docks and depots. Aboriginal middens and remnant native vegetation have been identified at Callan Point within the grounds of the Rozelle Hospital.



- **Manly Council LGA**

Manly is located on the southern end of the Manly-Warringah peninsula. The Manly Local Government Area boundary includes both Pacific Ocean and North Harbour frontages. Manly has the longest harbour foreshore of any Local Government Area with 94% of the LGA boundary by water. The coastline is of approximately 30km in length and includes the ocean beaches of Queenscliff, North Steyne, Manly and Shelly Beaches. The harbour beaches include Stores, Collins, Little Manly, Manly Cove, Fairlight, Washaway, Sandy Bay, Castel Rock, Reef, Forty Baskets and Clontarf beaches. The entire foreshore area between the Manly Lagoon entrance and Bantry Bay is listed as being of Heritage significant under the Manly LEP and in 1991 the ocean beachfront and promenade were listed with on the Register of the National Heritage Estate. These areas were central in the introduction of daylight swimming, surf lifesaving and board riding into Australian culture. North Head is currently nominated for National Heritage listing with Councils supporting the establishment of a North Head Sanctuary. The site contains the only remaining ancient sand dune system in the Sydney Harbour vicinity. Manly Council maintains 81 park and reserve areas, many of which directly front onto the ocean and harbour beach foreshores. The Manly Scenic Walkway extends from the Spit Bridge to Manly Beach, with an extension planned to Shelly Beach and North Head. This recreational facility takes in many of the cultural and natural coastal features of the harbour and surrounding areas providing panoramic views of the harbour areas, including the Sydney Harbour National Park. Manly has several IPAs including Shelly Beach and portions of land forming Sydney Harbour. Cabbage Tree Bay is a 'No Take' Marine Reserve and the area south of North Harbour has been a declared an Aquatic Reserve.

Manly Lagoon is situated on the northern boundary of Manly LGA. It has a catchment area of 18 km² fed by three major creeks including: Burnt Bridge, Brookvale and Manly Creeks. The Lagoon periodically opens to the ocean. This waterway is constantly under pressure from the impacts of stormwater runoff, and sewage overflows and development pressures. An Integrated catchment Management Strategy for Lagoon management has been developed with Warringah Council, relevant State agencies and the community.



- **Mosman Council LGA**

The Mosman LGA is located approximately 7 km north of the Sydney Central Business District. It is primarily a residential and commercial area surrounded by the very irregular coastline of Middle and Sydney Harbours. The coastline extending approximately 16 km contains many headlands and points projecting into Port Jackson, Middle Harbour and Long Bay to the west of Beauty Point. In all there are approximately 13 headlands with some prominence. Between these headlands are many popular swimming and recreation beaches, bays and coves including Chinamans Beach, The Spit, Edwards, Balmoral, Cobblers and Obelisk Beaches, Clifton Gardens and Little Sirius Cove. Other foreshore areas include significant rocky foreshore areas, wooded bushland including many protected areas, and reserves, such as Sydney Harbour National Park. The foreshore areas also include several significant Aboriginal and non – Aboriginal heritage items, such as middens, rock art, defence structures including gun emplacements and fortifications and marine heritage items such as shipwrecks, wooden and stone wharves, navigation aids, baths, sandstone pillars and sea walls.



- **North Sydney Council LGA**

North Sydney LGA has an 18.6 km stretch of foreshore area and is bounded by the waters of Port Jackson in the south and the waters of Middle Harbour to the north east. These areas are of national significance as they make up a part of the amenity of Sydney Harbour, a drowned river

valley. The areas are characterised by recreational areas, native bushland, pedestrian areas, waterfront industry and private property. The area contains several heritage items including navigation aids, wooden and stone wharves, shipyards and slipways, sea walls and baths. The remnant bushland of North Sydney totals approximately 47 hectares and is generally restricted to the Sydney Harbour and Middle Harbour foreshores making these foreshore areas an integral component of the harbour foreshore scenery which is predominantly Hawkesbury sandstone vegetation with some pockets of shale soils associated with wet sclerophyll forests (e.g. Berry's Creek, Gore Cove, Primrose Park, Robertson Point, Balls Head Reserve and Berry Island Reserve).



- **Pittwater Council LGA**

The Pittwater Council LGA is located on the southern side of Broken Bay at the entrance to the Hawkesbury Nepean estuary. Established in 1992, Pittwater is one of Sydney's newest Councils, occupying a total area of 125km². Whilst Pittwater is home to approximately 57,000 people, this number is seasonally increased by the many visitors to the area who enjoy the iconic surf beaches, the tranquil waterways and the expansive areas of national park.

Pittwater's ocean coastline is approximately 18km long, extending from Barrenjoey Headland in the north to the Narrabeen Lagoon entrance in the south. The open coastline is shaped by eight district embayments tied by rocky headlands and includes 10 surf beaches, being Palm, Whale, Avalon, Bilgola, Newport, Bungan, Bongin Bongin, Mona Vale, Warriewood and Turimetta. Associated with the rugged headlands are 10 wave-cut rock platforms, biologically fascinating areas of intertidal rocky shore, four of which are Intertidal Protection Areas.

An important feature of Pittwater is the retention of large areas of natural bushland within the developed urban areas. Littoral rainforest remnants, freshwater wetlands, coastal heathlands and open forests all provide important habitat for a huge diversity of flora and fauna including a number of threatened species.

The defining attribute of the LGA is the drowned river valley of the Pittwater estuary. With a surface area of 17.5km², the waterway is bounded by 77km of foreshore consisting of sandy beaches, creek inlets, steep embankments, rocky shores and tidal flats. The waterway also contains important estuarine habitat types including mangrove wetlands, saltmarsh, mudflats and seagrass meadows which are important habitats for many aquatic, marine and terrestrial species.

Barrenjoey Peninsula at the northern end of the LGA is another significant feature, ending in a well defined tombolo that connects Palm Beach to Barrenjoey Headland and the historic Barrenjoey Lighthouse.



- **Randwick Council LGA**

Randwick Council LGA has a total foreshore length of 29.3 km extending from Clovelly at its northern border with Waverley Council, to the northern beaches of Botany Bay where it borders with Botany Bay City Council. The coastline comprises 9 beaches including: Clovelly, Coogee, Maroubra, Malabar and Frenchmans Beach at La Perouse. There are also a number of rocky headlands (including the significant Malabar Headland), the Botany Bay National Park, and several bays and rock platforms. The Randwick City coastline includes two aquatic reserves: Clovelly and Gordons Bay; and at Cape Banks on the northern headland of Botany Bay. An intertidal protection area extends around Long Bay; and a Grey Nurse Shark critical habitat has been established at Magic Point, located off South Maroubra Beach. Randwick City Council has installed an extensive publicly accessible coastal walkway. Council is also striving to achieve a continuous coastal walkway along the entire length of coastline within the next twenty years.

The City's effective population is expanded by 11 million visitors per year or more than 30,000 per day on average. Conservatively it is estimated that 4.6 million non-residents per year enjoy local beaches and coastal facilities on a regular or casual basis.

La Perouse has significant indigenous and non-indigenous heritage value: it is associated with Captain Cook's voyage of discovery in 1770; it is the location where the First Fleet first landed before establishing the first penal colony in Port Jackson in 1788: and it is where the French Fleet of Laperouse landed. Malabar Headland is an area of outstanding beauty and along with Botany Bay National Park contains much of the last significant patches of "Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub" an endangered ecological community.

Approximately 15% of Randwick's coastline is in its near original state prior to European settlement. Parkland reserves comprise approximately 65% of the coastline, including Botany Bay National Park, while residential and road developments make up approximately 10%. The remaining 25% is comprised of restricted access areas such as golf courses, Port Botany and Commonwealth land. Approximately 2% of the coastline has been reclaimed in the Bay area for port and shipping facilities at Port Botany.

The South Western Ocean Outfall Sewer (SWOOS) system discharges primary treated effluent 3km offshore via a deep ocean outfall at Malabar.



- **Rockdale Council LGA**

Rockdale Council is located in the southern Sydney region on the shores of historic Botany Bay between the Georges and Cooks Rivers, 10 km from the Sydney Central Business District. Rockdale's coastal foreshores, and tidal and littoral zones, represent approximately half of the boundaries of the LGA. These areas form an important recreational and tourism resource, and are extensively used for much of the year. They also provide a significant recreational and commercial fishing area which is widely utilised by a diversity of boating activities. The coast contains large areas of open space including the internationally significant Rockdale Wetland Corridor which is subject to international migratory bird treaties.

Along the approximate 7 km of foreshore in Botany Bay, the Council and Sydney Ports Corporation have undertaken works to improve and protect the beach amenity. A number of groynes have been constructed along Lady Robinson Beach to protect the sandy beaches and public facilities from erosive wave action amplified by the construction of the Third Runway at Sydney Airport. Works have also included extensive beach nourishment and improved access paths.

The northern border of Rockdale is rimmed by 4.5 km of waterways in the Cooks River and Wollie Creek. The key recreational beach on Botany Bay is Lady Robinsons Beaches scattered along which are six historical baths.



- **Sutherland Council LGA**

Sutherland's coastal zone extends from within Botany Bay along the southern banks of the Georges River, around the Kurnell Peninsula to the southern ends of the Royal National Park at Garie Beach, a total length of approximately 96 km. The area also includes the drowned river valley estuary of Port Hacking. The beaches of the area serve as an important recreational resource for residents of the Shire and greater Sydney. Estuarine beaches in Botany Bay include Towra and Silver Beaches, and in Port Hacking they include Deeban Spit, Hordens, Gunyah and Jibbon Beaches. There are 12 groynes along Silver Beach. The ocean beaches include Cronulla, Wanda, Elouera, North and South Cronulla, Marley, Little Marley, Wattamolla, Little Garie, Garie,

Burning Palms, Werrong and Bulgo. The coastal zone varies from sand dunes to high rise apartments and cliff areas.

There are many areas of significant vegetation within the LGA, including the Royal, Heathcote, Georges River and Botany Bay National Parks and the Towra Point Nature Reserve. The Kurnell Peninsula contains the latter, which covers approximately 50% of the Shire. The Towra Point Nature Reserve is inhabited by numerous migratory birds, protected under the international agreements CAMBA and JAMBA. Sutherland has two Aquatic Reserves under the management of NSW Fisheries: Towra Point (Botany Bay) and Shiprock (Port Hacking) reserves both within Botany Bay. There are also three IPAs in the LGA located at Inscription Point, Kurnell; Boat Harbour, Kurnell; and Cabbage Tree Point, Bundeena.

Sutherland LGA has approximately 34 km of water frontage along the Georges and Woronora Rivers not including the canal estates at Sylvania Waters.

The Cronulla sewage treatment plant (Cronulla Ocean Outfall Sewer - COOS) currently discharges effluent at the cliff line at Potter Point.



- **City of Sydney Council LGA**

Natural waterways are a major geographical feature of the Sydney area, with more than 50% of the City's boundaries bordered by the waters of Sydney Harbour, totalling approximately 14 km. Sydney is a key port for leisure, trade and defence vessels. Circular Quay and Darling Harbour provide facilities for sea passengers, the bays around Pyrmont receive container cargo and Garden Island is one of the major naval bases on Australia's eastern seaboard.

The foreshore areas of the Sydney LGA have been urbanised and built up from the original foreshore line and level. They are characterised by the use of seawalls to stop erosion and to maximise the amount of useable land. These areas of the harbour are used by millions of tourists, visitors and commuters each year, providing panoramic views of the harbour and famous landmarks such as the Sydney Harbour Bridge and the Sydney Opera House. Heritage items in the Sydney Harbour area include wharfs, baths and pools. The Botanic Gardens and the Domain are located in the LGA, providing significant parklands and passive recreation areas.

The City of Sydney is one of many LGAs which has streams draining into Sydney Harbour, however, these have been gradually piped. Over time, the waters of the harbour have suffered environmental degradation due to the inflow of pollutants from different sources. Council cleans and maintains the stormwater drains in the City. The City of Sydney has historically installed trapped gully pits on all of its stormwater drainage systems. These trapped gullies are regularly cleaned and significant quantities of sediment are removed before stormwater reaches the harbour. The City of Sydney amalgamated with South Sydney Council in 2003 while also taking over some areas of Leichhardt Council via local government areas boundary adjustments.



- **Warringah Council LGA**

The Warringah LGA is centrally located on Sydney's northern beaches and is home to approximately 140,000 residents. Warringah has 14 km of coastline stretching from Manly Lagoon to the entrance of Narrabeen Lagoon. Warringah's coastal zone contains nine ocean beaches, four coastal lagoons, and parts of the Middle Harbour and Hawkesbury estuaries. The ocean beaches include: Narrabeen, Collaroy, Fishermans, Long Reef, Dee Why, Curl Curl, and Freshwater. In recent years, particular focus has been given to the coastline along the Collaroy/Narrabeen beachfront, as this is one of the most vulnerable areas in Australia to coastal

erosion. Of the nine beaches in the Warringah LGA, it is Collaroy/Narrabeen Beach that presents Council with its greatest challenges.

Warringah's coastal zone has significant bluffs and several rock platforms. Dee Why rock platform was gazetted as an IPA in 1993 and Long Reef Headland has been protected as an Aquatic Reserve since 1980. Warringah Council manages four coastal lagoons of varying size that are intermittently closed and open to the ocean; these are Narrabeen, Curl Curl, Dee Why and Manly. Manly and Narrabeen lagoons are managed jointly with Manly and Pittwater Councils respectively. These lagoons and their surrounding areas contain environmentally sensitive areas, including seagrass beds and saltmarsh. Dee Why Lagoon is listed on the Register of the National Estate. Beach dune systems have been rehabilitated, revegetated and stabilised with native vegetation, and are protected with controlled access points.



- **Waverley Council LGA**

Waverley's LGA is only 9.027 square kilometres and is the most densely populated LGA in Australia. Waverley's coastline stretches approximately 7.5 km. The area contains three beaches, Bondi, Tamarama and Bronte, and is dominated by cliffs and headlands comprised largely of 20 million year old Hawkesbury sandstone imbedded with layers of softer shale. The constant force of erosion has led to the formation of four significant rock platforms. Two of these sites have been declared IPAs. One is from Bondi Beach, through Mackenzies Bay to Tamarama Beach; the other extends from Bronte Beach to the Waverley Cemetery. The coast walk from Bondi to Bronte and the cliff walk from Dover Heights to Vaucluse take full advantage of the aesthetics of the coastal area and provides the public with many recreational and educational opportunities. There are five remnant vegetation areas existing in the coastal zone: Diamond Bay, Eastern Reserve, Hugh Bamford Reserve, the southern side of Tamarama Marine Drive and the cliff area at the southern end of Bronte Beach, including the hanging swamp on the eastern side of Waverley Cemetery. The LGA also contains three ocean pools.

The sewage outfalls discharge to the ocean: two release raw sewage at Diamond Bay/Vaucluse and the Bondi sewage treatment plant releases primary treated effluent 2 km offshore via a deep water ocean outfall.



- **Willoughby Council LGA**

Located only 8.5kms north of the Sydney CBD, New South Wales, Willoughby is bordered by Middle Harbour to the east, Lane Cove River to the west, North Sydney to the south and Ku-ring-gai and its National Park to the north. Willoughby is ideally positioned geographically, economically and culturally.

Willoughby has a total land area of 23km², which includes nearly 20kms of harbour foreshore, a great variety of open spaces, 10 major walking trails and 22 playing fields. Bushland, National Park and open space make up 21per cent of the local area.

Willoughby City has a rich heritage and boasts some of the most famous historic sites in Sydney including Walter Burley Griffin cottages and the Castle that gave both the local suburbs of Castle Cove and Castlecrag their names.

Willoughby has a population of about 66,000 people in an estimated 28,000 households. We enjoy a diverse ethnic and cultural mix, with people coming from a wealth of different backgrounds including Chinese, Japanese, Italian, Armenian, Greek, Croatian and Korean. We live in a diverse mix of residential accommodation that ranges from large harbour-side and neighbourhood homes to new high-rise apartment buildings.

Add the Royal North Shore Hospital and many health services, some of Sydney's best schools, thriving CBDs in Chatswood and St Leonards, industrial areas in Artarmon and East Chatswood to our city's many wonderful attributes.



- **Woollahra Council LGA**

The Woollahra Local Government area occupies 12 km² of spectacular harbour foreshore and the majority of Sydney's eastern suburbs, just 10 minutes from Sydney's central business district. Woollahra shares its local government boundaries with both the City of Sydney and Waverley Council.

Approximately 51,000 residents live within the municipality. Residential areas feature a diverse range of architecture, from heritage properties to contemporary development. The population is well serviced by unique and popular commercial centres. The urbanisation of the area has led to the removal of a significant amount of original vegetation. Woollahra Council's Bush regeneration programs and a partnership with community volunteers help with the regeneration of natural bushland areas.

Woollahra's landscape is predominately characterised by sandstone slopes and gullies and the relatively wide sandy flats of Rose Bay. The area is also defined by its proximity to Sydney Harbour and ocean cliffs, as well as by its parks and reserves and privately and publicly owned open space. The majority of the municipality drains directly into the Sydney Harbour catchment. Catchment management, water quality monitoring, gross pollution traps, creek stabilisation and stormwater management are top priorities for the Council. An Environmental Levy (2002-06) provides additional funding for the treatment of stormwater, creek rehabilitation and flood mitigation. Woollahra Council received a NSW Coastal Council Commendation Award in 2003 for its Parsley Bay Remediation Project and achieved milestone 5 of the Cities for Climate Protection Program in early 2005 for its greenhouse reduction initiatives.

Woollahra's natural environment plays an important role in Council's decision making processes. Woollahra Council is committed to the ongoing efforts of the Sydney Coastal Councils Group in promoting greater cooperation and coordination on environmental issues and the sustainable management of one of our greatest assets – our coastline.

8. REQUIREMENTS AND EXPECTATIONS OF BEING A SCCG MEMBER AND DELEGATE

The Sydney Coastal Council Group is a Regional Organisation of Councils with membership and associated contributions on a voluntary and cooperative nature

REPRESENTATION BY MEMBER COUNCILS

- A member council will be represented on the Full Group by up to three delegates appointed by that member council; such delegates may be elected members and/or staff as determined by the individual council.

The office of a delegate shall become vacant if:

- (a) the delegate resigns by letter addressed to the Council which appointed him/her;
 - (b) the delegate is replaced by his/her Council at any time;
 - (c) the delegate ceases to remain an elected member of that Council.
- General Managers will ensure that appropriate Council representation is provided at SCCG meetings to ensure that interests and issues of all member councils is represented.
 - Where the office of a delegate becomes vacant, the Council concerned is to appoint another delegate.
 - Where a delegate of a Council is unable to attend a meeting of the Full Group, Technical Committee, the Council may be represented by another person appointed for the purpose of being an alternative delegate.
 - Where a delegate has missed 3 meetings without notification, the Group shall write to the member council seeking an alternative delegate.

MEETINGS

- Ordinary Meetings of the Group shall be held quarterly. Member Councils to host the Full Group meetings on a voluntary rotational basis. Member councils will be represented by up to three delegates (normally 2 Councillors and one senior staff representative).
- Technical Committee meeting will be held bi-monthly. Member Councils to host Technical Committee meetings on a voluntary rotational basis. Member councils will be represented of one or more professional staff representatives (where possible senior members of staff including: strategic planners, environmental officers, engineers, catchment liaison and policy officers and environmental health officers) from each member council.

BUSINESS AT MEETINGS

- The business conducted at a meeting of the Full Group or Technical Committee shall consist of:
 - (a) Matters identified by a member council or delegate;
 - (b) Matters which the Chairperson thinks fit to submit to the meetings;
 - (c) Consideration of reports by staff of the Group of member councils;

- (d) Consideration of any recommendation or report by any committee;
- (e) Consideration of any recommendation or report by any State Government department, research organisation, NGO or community group;

and otherwise as the Group decides.

TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

- A Council may withdraw from membership of the Group on giving six months notice of termination to the Group. When such termination takes effect the Constitution remains in force between the remaining members of the Group.

FINANCE

- The financial contribution by each member council is on an voluntary and cooperative basis. Costs of the Group shall be apportioned on the following basis:
 - a) An annual membership fee based on a flat rate to be determined at the Annual General Meeting
 - b) A further supplementary contribution, calculated on a population basis for each member council, determined annually at the Annual General Meeting.
- Member Councils will provide Annual Membership Contributions by the end of July for that financial year.

COOPERATION

- For the purpose of performing any powers, duties or functions, the Group may make use of the services of an employee of a member council if the prior approval of the Council is obtained.

RESOLUTION OF INTERNAL PARTIES

- All disputes between delegates and member councils relating to the implementation of the SCCG Strategic Plan and or management of the Group are to be resolve cooperatively and if necessary referred to an independent arbitrator for resolution, as so determined by the Executive.
-

9. SCCG REGISTER – Delegates 2005/2006

Key to committees:

* = Delegate;
= Alternative;
E = Executive;
TC = Technical Committee;
BAC = Beachwatch Advisory Committee;

Addresses:

Contacts:

Botany Bay City Council

141 Coward Street
Mascott NSW 2020
phone (02) 9366 3666
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DX 4108 Maroubra Junction

Bronwyn Englaro TC* (GM Peter Fitzgerald)
Jacqui Ashbry TC
Clr. Brian Troy *

Hornsby Council

296 Pacific Highway
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phone (02) 9847 6666
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DX 9655 Hornsby

Dr Ross McPherson TC * (GM Robert Ball)
Clr. Wendy McMurdo *
Clr. Felicity Findlay #

Leichhardt Council

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Bridget Dwyer TC * (GM Peter Head)
David Paton TC
Clr. Alice Murphy *
Clr. Nick Dyer *

Manly Council

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Manly NSW 2095
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Dr Paul Smith * TC (GM Henry Wong)
Tim MacDonald TC
Clr. Barbara Aird * E
Clr. Dr. Peter MacDonald *
Clr. Judy Lambert #

Mosman Council

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Phone (02) 9978 4000
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DX 9301 Mosman

Belinda Atkins TC (GM Viv May)
John Heptonstall TC
Warren Burgess *
Clr. Patricia Harvey OAM * E BAC
Clr. Lynette Elsegood *

North Sydney Council

200 Miller Street
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Peter Massey * TC (GM Penny Holloway)
Penny Barker TC
Clr. Veronique Marchandau *
Clr. Trent Zimmerman *
Clr. Patrick Conaghan #

Pittwater Council

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Mia Dalhby-Ball TC
Paul Hardie * TC
Mark Beharell TC
Clr. Lynne Czinner * E
Clr. Natalie Stevens *

(GM Mark Ferguson)

Randwick City Council (host)

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John Earls TC
Tony Watson * TC
Clr. Margaret Woodsmith *
Clr. Anthony Andrew *
Clr. Ted Seng #
Clr. Paul Tracey #

(GM Ray Brownlee)

Rockdale City Council

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Rockdale NSW 2216
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DX 25308 Rockdale

Micaela Hopkins* TC
Clr. Gary Green *
Clr. John Ajaka *

(GM Chris Watson)

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Dr. Guy Amos TC *
Peter Le TC
Clr. Bob Spencer *
Clr. Scott Docherty*
Cr. Matt Daniel #
Clr. Kevin Schrieber #
Clr. Magdi Mikhail #

(GM John Rayner)

Sydney City Council

438 George St, Sydney
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DX 1251 Sydney

Nik Midlam * TC
Kathryn Cassidy TC
Clr. Phillip Black
Clr. Chris Harris

(CEO Peter Seamer)

Warringah Council

Civic Centre
Pittwater Road
Dee Why NSW 2099
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Dennis Corbett *
Daniel Lovett TC
Daylan Cameron TC

(GM Stephen Blackadder)

Administrator – Mr Dick Perrson

Waverley Council

9 Paul St.
Bondi Junction NSW 2022
phone (02) 9369 8000
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DX 12006 Bondi Junction

Geoff Reinhard TC
Niki Carey * TC
Clr. George Copeland * E
Clr. Mora Main *

(GM Kim Anson)

Willoughby City Council

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 Chatswood NSW 2067
 phone (02) 9777 1000
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 DX 29596 Chatswood

Tim Bartley * TC
 Ron Yi / Sue Stanford TC
 Mayor Patrick Reilly * E
 Clr. Wendy Norton *

(GM John Owen)

Woolahra Council

536 New South Head Road
 Double Bay NSW 360
 phone (02) 9391 7000
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 DX 3607 Double Bay

Sam Badalati * TC
 Rebecca Peacock TC
 Clr. Christopher Dawson *
 Clr. Wilhelmina Garder *

(GM Gary James)

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EXECUTIVE

Clr Patricia Harvey (Chairperson)
 Mayor Patrick Reilly (Vice Chair – Estuarine)
 Clr. Lynne Czinner (Secretary)
 Clr. Barbara Aird (Member)
 Clr. Wendy McMurdo (Member)

Clr Bob Spencer (Vice Chair - Ocean)
 Clr. Wilhelmina Gardner (Treasurer)
 Clr. George Copeland (Member)

SECRETARIAT

Geoff Withycombe

(F/T Regional Coastal Environment Officer / Executive
 Officer, Public Officer)

Craig Morrison

(F/T Coastal Projects Officer)

HONORARY MEMBERS (2006)

Ms Shirley Colless
 Mr Phil Colman
 Mr Angus Gordon
 Professor Bruce Thom

10. SCCG PUBLICATIONS

COASTAL MANAGEMENT

- *Sydney Regional Coastal Management Strategy, (1998).*
- *Regional Policy and Strategy for Water Quality Monitoring (1998).*
- *Coastal State of the Environment Guidelines for Sydney, (1996).*
- *Water Quality Guidelines for Sydney's Estuarine, Fresh and Groundwaters, (1996)*
- *Options for Cleaning Sydney's Estuarine Tidal Baths and Ocean Rock Pools for Local Government: A Discussion Paper, (1996)*
- *Preventing Cigarette Butt Litter: A resource package for local government (2001)*
- *Regulating the Use of In-Sink Waste Disposal Units - Issues Report, (1999)*
- *Groundwater Management Handbook – A guide for Local Government, (2006)*

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

- *Water Sensitive Planning Guide 2003 (WSUD in Sydney Project, (-SCCG, WSROC, UPCMT)*
- *Sydney Harbour / Parramatta River Regional Needs Analysis Report (2002) (SEO Program)*
- *Benchmarking Stormwater Quality Management Programs, (2001)*
- *Stormwater Pollution Interception and Treatment System, (1998)*
- *Urban Stormwater Management Model Policies and Guidelines (1995) to assist local councils in strategic planning issues and policy development.*
- *On-site Stormwater Detention Guidelines for Urban Councils (1995) to protect downstream property from increasing flooding problems.*
- *Urban Stormwater Quality Management Guidelines (1994) focusing on Council properties and activities.*
- *Stormwater Pollution Control Code for Local Government (1992) focusing on source control from private premises.*

WETLANDS MANAGEMENT

- *Model DCP: Protecting Sydney's Wetlands, (2001), (includes resource folder & 1:25,000 wetland maps)*
- *Protecting Wetlands in Sydney Coastal Councils – Stage 1, Background Information and Literature Review Report (2000)*

EDUCATIONAL PAMPHLETS

- *Water Pollution: It's Your Choice* designed to target the broader community.
 - *Pollution on Tap* – designed for commercial outlets / shop owners concerning footpath cleaning
 - *SEPP 71 – Coastal Protection – Fact Sheet*
 - *Section 94 – Developer Contributions Fact Sheet 2003*
 - *Desalination Fact sheet, 2005*
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