

Sydney Coastal Councils Group 2022 Operational Plan

Priorities for the 2022 Operational Plan are based on feedback from the SCCG Annual Survey and a workshop held with the General Managers and CEOs of SCCG Member Councils

2019-2029 Objectives	2022 Initiatives	Priority
Goal 1: People and Places Adapt to Climate Change Future Shocks and Stressors		
a. Coastal management programs in our region are delivered effectively and efficiently	i. Lead and facilitate the Greater Sydney Harbour Coastal Management Program (CMP) Steering Committee and Partners Group.	1
	ii. Project management role in the development of the Greater Sydney Harbour CMP.	1
	iii. Continue to identify impediments to the CMP process and advocate for these to be addressed on behalf of members.	1
b. The resilience of our region to the effects of natural hazards and climate change is increased	iv. Identify and support funding opportunities for research and implementation of actions that deliver climate change adaptation and resilience.	2
	v. Advocate for planning principles, controls and policy frameworks that minimise development pressures on water quality and our coastal environments, and enhance community resilience to natural hazards and climate change impacts.	2
	vi. Investigate opportunities to apply for a C&E Grant to develop studies that assist multiple CMPs.	2
	vii. Work with councils to facilitate priorities and implementation of works to address coastal hazards including beach nourishment	2
Goal 2: Waterways and foreshore are protected and healthier		
a. Direct and indirect pollution loads are reduced in key hotspots in our region	i. Monitor and identify actions to address pollution hotspots through the Sydney Water Incident Status Dashboard.	1
	ii. Work collaboratively with government agencies, organisations and academic institutions to identify and address existing and emerging water quality/pollution issues.	1
	iii. Continue to facilitate the Get the Site Right program and encourage all member councils to participate in addressing sediment and erosion on construction sites.	2

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b. Improved water quality at beaches and estuaries in our region	iv. Continue to prepare regular water quality monitoring reports and provide to Committees for consideration and necessary action (e.g. Beachwatch).	2
	v. Collaborate with State Government agencies on water quality strategies/projects.	1
	vi. Develop and utilise the risk-based framework as a model for consistent water quality monitoring across the SCCG region.	2
	i. Investigate opportunities to expand Randwick Council's Beach Pollution Ends Here webpage for SCCG region.	2
	ii. Strengthen relationship with MEMA and councils in relation to waterway health actions	2
Goal 3: Marine biodiversity is protected and enhanced in the bioregion		
a. Marine biodiversity in the Hawkesbury Shelf marine bioregion is maintained or improved	i. Advocate for the establishment of new marine protected areas in the marine bioregion that meet the internationally binding principles of Comprehensive, Adequate and Representative (CAR)	1
	ii. Develop a regional and consistent approach to monitor and manage the impact of marine debris and litter to reduce impacts upon marine biodiversity	
	iii. Support and promote activities that improve and protect marine biodiversity in our coasts and estuaries	1
b. Compliance actions in existing marine	iv. Liaise with MEMA to address compliance issues at marine protected areas identified by our member Councils.	2

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protected areas are improved	v. Explore opportunities with the NSW Government to finalise plans of management for marine protected areas in the bioregion.	2
	vi. Actively promote adoption of living seawall initiatives across the SCCG region and identify any impediments to establishment.	2
Goal 4: The SCCG Region is comprised of sustainable, liveable and 'smart' cities		
a. Water flows are captured and re-used through Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) practices.	i. Advocate for Mandatory WSUD model provisions in planning controls.	1
	ii. Facilitate and/or raise awareness of capacity building programs for members.	2
b. Identification of best practice examples of sustainable, liveable, smart cities.	iii. Assist members in research and distribution of information/case study material on examples of actions to achieve liveable, smart cities.	2
	iv. Pursue opportunities for the adoption of SMART technologies that improve the effectiveness and efficiency of our Councils' water management and monitoring	1
Goal 5: There is a collaborative, effective and consistent approach to coastal and estuarine management		
a. SCCG outputs are improving the capacity of its member Councils to protect and manage its coastal and marine environments	i. Develop strategies, training and tools to support members through future changes to the regulation and management of the coastal and estuarine environment.	1
	ii. Advocate regionally and at a state and federal level of behalf of members on sustainable coastal management, consistent with the SCCG strategic goals and where there are common advocacy positions among member councils.	1
	iii. Identify expert members who can be engaged in policy development and communication processes and leverage connections and expertise.	1

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b. Members are actively engaged	iv. Continue to enable members to participate in decision-making by providing a range of engagement opportunities at all levels.	1
	v. Implement the Summerama Program to build community engagement opportunities on the coastal environment and water quality actions.	1
	vi. Continue to provide information via communication channels (website, newsletter, materials, surveys).	1
c. Strong partnerships are built and maintained with key stakeholders	vii. Deliver on commitments identified in MOUs with Sydney Institute of Marine Science and Sydney Water.	1
	viii. Continue to strengthen existing partnerships and explore options for other types of partnerships such as LGNSW, EPA, TfNSW and universities.	2
Goal 6: SCCG is trusted and respected to make representations that reflect the value of its members		
a. Our strategic objectives align with the concerns, interests and needs of our members	i. Undertake the annual members survey.	1
	ii. Meet with members regularly and consult at committee meetings.	1
b. Member Councils' values are reflected in the work of the SCCG	iii. Survey members to determine values.	1
	iv. Alignment of values with the Strategic Plan review.	1
c. Maintain a high standard and ensure relevance of SCCG outputs for members	v. Ensure SCCG outputs meet the needs of members.	1