

SYDNEY COASTAL COUNCILS GROUP Inc.
PO Box 999, Manly NSW 1655
Email: info@sydneycoastalcouncils.com.au
Web: www.sydneycoastalcouncils.com.au
ABN: 39 638 876 538



Reference: 033-22

Thursday, 28 July 2022

The Hon. Wendy Tuckerman MP
GPO Box 5341
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Re: Request to provide periodic progress updates on the Future Directions Statement for the NSW Coastal and Estuary Management Program.

Dear Minister,

Thank you for your recent letter to the Greater Sydney Harbour councils regarding their participation in the development of the Greater Sydney Harbour Coastal Management Program (CMP).

I am happy to report that Strathfield Council is considering coming on board which would take the total number of councils collaborating on this vitally important project to 21 – all of the councils in the catchment.

On a matter related to all CMPs, I wish to draw your attention to the Future Directions Statement (FDS) for the NSW Coastal and Estuary Management Program. The FDS was released by Shelley Hancock on 1 June 2021. One year into its implementation we recommend publicly reporting on implementing the FDS, especially since councils have received limited information about further progress in implementing the various actions of the FDS since its release.

As the Local Government Minister, with responsibility for overseeing the implementation of the *Coastal Management Act 2016*, we seek your commitment to the implementation of the FDS, and/or revise it if needed.

It would also be beneficial to local councils if periodic updates could be made available on progress implementing the FDS and other key coastal management policy changes and guidance material. The SCCG believes improvements to communications between the Department and Councils is greatly needed to expedite the development of CMPs (e.g. through a quarterly newsletter and engagement with Councils in drafting materials to guide Councils implementing CMPs).

If you have any queries, please contact me on M. 0407 733 075 or by email at executiveofficer@sydneycoastalcouncils.com.au.

Your consideration of this matter is appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Penny Joyce
SCCG Executive Officer



Sutherland Shire
COUNCIL



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