

SCCG 2024 Operational Plan

Abbreviations: C&E Grant – Coastal & Estuary Grant, CMP – Coastal Management Program, MEMA – Marine Estate Management Authority, SIMS – Sydney Institute of Marine Science, SOPA – Sydney Olympic Park Authority, TfNSW – Transport for NSW

Blue text – Initiative on hold due to funding yet to be approved

2019-2029 Objectives	2024 Initiatives	Priority	Key Mechanisms for Delivery (Table 2)	Funding Source
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. Advocate for a whole-of-catchment CMP to be delivered for Greater Sydney Harbour	2	SCCG’s CMP Leaders meetings Advocacy submissions	Membership fees
	ii. Continue to identify impediments to the CMP process and advocate for these to be addressed on behalf of members.	1		
	iii. Initiate a project to prepare a coastal adaption planning framework for Greater Sydney Harbour and other member Councils	1	TBD	Subject to Ministerial Direction and Coast and Estuary Grant Application
b. The resilience of our region to the effects of natural hazards and climate change is increased	i. Identify and support funding opportunities for research and implementation of actions that deliver climate change adaptation and resilience.	2	Grants Committee	Membership fees
	ii. Advocate for and promote planning principles, controls, policy frameworks and guidance that enhance community resilience to natural hazards and climate change impacts, such as coastal vulnerability areas, disaster adaptation plans and coastal adaptation guidance.	1	Advocacy Submissions Technical Committee	Membership fees
	iii. Investigate opportunities to apply for a C&E Grant to develop studies that assist multiple CMPs.	2	Grants Committee SCCG’s CMP Leaders meetings	Membership fees

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	iv. Work with councils to facilitate priorities and implementation of works to address coastal hazards including beach nourishment	1	SCCG’s Sand management Working Group	Membership fees
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 reporting system	1	SCCG and Sydney Water meetings	Membership fees
	ii. Work collaboratively with government agencies, organisations and academic institutions to identify and address existing and emerging water quality/pollution issues.	1	SCCG and Sydney Water meetings	Membership fees
	iii. Facilitate the Get the Site Right program and encourage all member councils to participate in addressing sediment and erosion on construction sites.	1	Get the Site Right Planning Group meetings	Membership fees
b. Improved water quality at beaches and estuaries in our region	i. Continue to prepare regular water quality monitoring reports and provide to Committees for consideration and necessary action (e.g. Beachwatch).	2	Executive Committee	Membership fees
	ii. Collaborate with Sydney Water on water quality strategies/projects.	1	SCCG and Sydney Water meetings	Membership fees
	iii. Strengthen relationship with MEMA and councils in relation to waterway health actions identified in the	2	Technical Committee	Membership fees

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	<i>Marine Estate Management Strategy (2018)</i>			
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	Technical Committee Advocacy submissions	Membership fees
	ii. Implement the Sydney Harbour Litter Prevention Roadmap	1	Regional Litter Prevention Committee	NSW WASM Litter Prevention Grant (submitted October 2023)
	iii. Advocate for alternative bather protection measures to shark meshing to reduce impacts on non-target species.	1	Advocacy submissions	Membership fees
	iv. Support and promote activities that improve and protect marine biodiversity in our coasts and estuaries	1	Advocacy submissions	Membership fees
	v. Actively promote adoption of SIMS' living seawall initiatives and seagrass and crayweed restoration projects across the SCCG region	1	Grants Committee	Membership Fees
Goal 4: The SCCG Region is comprised of sustainable, liveable and 'smart' cities				

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a. Water flows are captured and re-used through Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) practices.	i. Work with Stormwater NSW to advocate for improving the process by which developers and consent authorities prepare, submit, assess and approve development applications to ensure compliance with WSUD-based development controls.	1	Advocacy Submissions	Membership fees
	ii. Facilitate and/or raise awareness of WSUD capacity building programs for members.	1	Technical Committee	Membership fees
b. Identification of best practice examples of sustainable, liveable, smart cities.	i. Assist members in research and distribution of information/case study material on examples of actions to achieve liveable, smart cities.	2	Technical Committee SMART and Local Feedback Forum	Membership fees
	ii. Deliver the Smarter Cleaner Sydney Harbour project funded under the NSW Government’s Smart Acceleration Program in partnership with SOPA and CSIRO	1	Partnership with SOPA and CSIRO	Smart Places Acceleration Program
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	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	Advocacy Submissions	Membership fees

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environments	iii. Identify expert members who can be engaged in policy development and communication processes and leverage connections and expertise.	1	Technical Committee, Sand Management Working Group, GM Forum and Executive Committee	Membership fees
b. Members are actively engaged	i. Continue to enable members to participate in decision-making by providing a range of engagement opportunities at all levels.	1	Technical Committee, GM Forum and Executive Committee	Membership fees
	ii. Continue to provide information via communication channels (website, newsletter, materials, surveys).	1	Technical Committee, SCCG web-site, Litter Free Sydney web-site	Membership fees
c. Strong partnerships are built and maintained with key stakeholders	i. Deliver on commitments identified in MOUs with Sydney Institute of Marine Science and Sydney Water.	1	Grants Committee SCCG and Sydney Water meetings	Membership fees
	ii. Continue to strengthen existing partnerships and explore options for other types of partnerships such as LGNSW, EPA, TfNSW and universities. SARAH	2	Development of Advocacy Submissions SCCG's CMP leaders meetings TfNSW meetings	Membership fees
Goal 6: SCCG is trusted and respected to make representations that reflect the value of its members				
a. Our strategic objectives align with	i. Undertake the annual members survey.	1	Survey sent to all members in September each year	Membership fees

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the concerns, interests and needs of our members	ii. Meet with members regularly and consult at committee meetings.	1	See list of meetings with members in Table 2 below.	Membership fees
b. Member Councils' values are reflected in the work of the SCCG	i. Survey members to determine values.	1	Survey sent to all members in September each year	Membership fees
	ii. Alignment of values with the Operational Plan review.	1	Review of operational plan each year.	Membership fees
c. Maintain a high standard and ensure relevance of SCCG outputs for members	i. Ensure SCCG outputs meet the needs of members.	1	Survey sent to all members in September each year	Membership fees

Table 2 – SCCG Committees and their members

Committee	Chair	Frequency	Members
Executive Committee	SCCG Chair	Quarterly or as required	Councillors from all member councils
GM/CEO Forum	SCCG Executive Officer	Quarterly	GMs, CEOs and/or senior staff from all member Councils
Technical Committee	SCCG Principal Project Officer	Quarterly	Technical staff from all member councils
Sand Management Working Group	SCCG Principal Project Officer	Quarterly	Woollahra Council Sutherland Shire Council Northern Beaches Council Bayside Council NSW National Parks and Wildlife Services DPE
Grants Committee	SCCG Principal Project Officer	Quarterly	Bayside Council Randwick Council Waverley Council Northern Beaches Council SIMS
CMP Leaders Meeting	SCCG Executive Officer	Quarterly	NSW Coastal Council DPE Northern Beaches Council Sutherland Shire Council Woollahra Council Randwick Council Waverley Council NSW Coastal Council SIMS Cooks River Alliance Georges Riverkeeper Parramatta River Catchment Group
Sydney Water	SCCG Executive Officer	Quarterly	Sydney Water SCCG Secretariat
Transport for NSW	SCCG Executive Officer	Bi-annually	Transport for NSW SCCG Secretariat