



NSW Coastal Council

NSW Coastal Council Meeting – summary minutes

2 August 2023

Meeting was held at the Department Planning and Environment offices in the Sydney CBD (Kings Street).

Coastal Council members in attendance:

- Annelise Tuor, Chair
- Grahame Byron
- Pam Dean-Jones
- Martijn Gough
- Hannah Power
- Shay Simpson
- Bruce Thom AM

Representatives from the Department Planning and Environment (Environment and Heritage Group - Marine Coastal Estuary and Flood; Water Wetlands and Coastal Science) and the NSW Reconstruction Authority also attended by video.

Following an Acknowledgement of Country by Grahame Byron, Council members were welcomed to the third meeting of the Coastal Council (the Council) for 2023.

The main agenda items included: A report on ongoing work from Council's 2022-2023 Work Plan on Coastal Management Program (CMP) implementation performance audit guidance; and guest presentations from the NSW Reconstruction Authority and Environment and Heritage Group – Water Wetlands and Coastal Science.

Council's 2022-2023 Work Plan

Council completed its 2022-2023 work plan in March 2023. One task from this work plan, the preparation of a CMP implementation performance audit framework and related communication strategy, has continued to be developed in collaboration with the DPE Marine Coastal Estuary and Flood (MCEF). Council endorsed the preparation of a summary of this work for the incoming government.

Summary of outgoing Council activities.

A new Coastal Council is to be appointed by the Minister by November 2023. The current Council was appointed in May 2020. During its term it has met formally 20 times, successfully completed three annual work plans set by the Minister, overseen the conduct and reporting of three annual surveys of coastal practitioners, and prepared over thirty separate briefs and reports to government.

Guest Presentation – State Disaster Management Plan (NSW Reconstruction Authority)

Hala Hubraq (Director Adaptation, NSW Reconstruction Authority) provided background to the NSW Reconstruction Authority (Authority), its legislation and leading role in the preparation of a NSW State Disaster Mitigation Plan (SDMP). The SDMP will identify potential strategies and actions for reducing the impact of disasters; assess and consider the impacts of climate change on disasters; and determine priority projects for regions to mitigate the impact of disasters. The SDMP will also set priorities for disaster adaptation plans and strategic plans prepared under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, including disasters related to coastal hazards.

Guest Presentation – Department Planning and Environment (Environment and Heritage Group Water Wetlands and Coastal Science)

Dr. Tracey MacDonald (Director Water Wetlands and Coastal Science) and her team gave presentations on research currently underway on the Coastal and Marine Climate Change Adaptation Program and NSW Estuary Report Cards.

The Coastal and Marine Climate Change Adaptation Program is comprised of four research projects:

- Updated statewide coastal erosion and inundation exposure assessment.
- Changing inundation regimes in estuarine systems.
- Open coast hazards and beach response to climate drivers and coastal inundation.
- Nuisance inundation and application of tide gauge-based tools to model future inundation frequency.

The statewide estuary monitoring and reporting program (NSW Estuary Report Cards) commenced in 2007 and covers the state's 174 estuaries. A review of the program, including stakeholder engagement, is planned to inform the development of a new and updated monitoring program.

NEXT MEETING: The next and final meeting of the current Council is scheduled for 26 September 2023.