



**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON  
THURSDAY 4 NOVEMBER 2021**

**IN ATTENDANCE**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Council/Organisation</b>
Clr Candy Bingham*	Northern Beaches Council
Clr Ian White	Northern Beaches Council
Mr Yianni Mentis	Northern Beaches Council
Clr Megan McEwin*	Woollahra Council
Mr Craig Swift-McNair	Woollahra Council
Clr Kathy Nielson*	Randwick City Council
Clr Lindsay Shurey	Randwick City Council
Clr Lynne Saville	Willoughby City Council
Clr Wendy Norton	Willoughby City Council
Mr David Roberts*	Willoughby City Council
Clr Michael Forshaw	Sutherland Shire Council
Clr Greg McLean*	Sutherland Shire Council
Clr George Copeland*	Waverley Council
Clr Paula Masselos	Waverley Council
Mr Jon Stiebel	Inner West Council
Clr Rochelle Porteous*	Inner West Council
Mr Peter Barber	Bayside Council
Ms Sarah Joyce	SCCG
Ms Jacqui McLeod	SCCG
Ms Ana Terrazas	SCCG
Ms Kate Vitnell	SCCG

**Note: \* indicates voting delegate**

## **ITEM 1 OPENING**

### **1.1 OPENING AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

The SCCG Chair, Cllr Lindsay Shurey, opened the meeting at 5.11pm and provided an Acknowledgement of Country.

### **1.2 ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES, QUORUM**

Apologies were recorded including: Mr Peter Massey from North Sydney Council and Ms Debra Just from Willoughby City Council. Bayside and North Sydney Council were not represented at the meeting.

### **1.3 DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

Nil declarations were received.

## **ITEM 2 ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

### **2.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Minutes from the SCCG AGM held on 26 November 2020 were received and noted. Future minutes of the AGM will be confirmed at the first Executive Committee meeting following the AGM.

### **2.2 Annual Finance Statements and Audit Report 2020-21**

The Annual Finance Statements and Audit Report for the 2020-21 financial year were received and approved. It was identified that relevant documentation will be filed with the Department of Fair Trading following the AGM. The Chair, Cllr Lindsay Shurey, noted the strong financial position of the Sydney Coastal Council Group in 2020-21 and acknowledged the recently awarded grants in providing ongoing financial stability. An increase in salaries was observed and attributed to several contractors which were engaged using surplus from the Greater Sydney Harbor CMP Project Management funding. A general surplus was also acknowledged, and it was confirmed that funds are being held for future use in two major grants projects including the Greater Sydney Harbour CMP and Regional Litter Prevention Strategy. Membership fees are also received in the previous financial year.

R2. The Annual Finance Statements and Audit Report for the 2020-2021 Financial Year were received and approved.

(McEwin/Bingham)  
Carried

## **ITEM 3 GOVERNANCE MATTERS**

### **3.1 Process for 2022 Committee Delegations**

The Chair noted changes to committee delegations process which would otherwise be part of the AGM business. Due to council elections, the composition of the current Executive Committee is subject to change. The SCCG will write to councils in January 2022 seeking delegates on the Executive Committee and Office Bearers will be confirmed at the first Executive Committee meeting in 2022.

### **3.2 ANNUAL MEMBER SURVEY REPORT 2020-21**

The Annual Members Survey was received and noted. SCCG Executive Officer noted that almost all of those surveyed were supportive of SCCG's activities and overall satisfied with performance. The feedback received from the Annual Members Survey Report was drawn upon in the 2022 Operational Plan.

### **3.3 ANNUAL REPORT 2020-21**

The Chair noted that the SCCG Annual Report presents a combination of Treasury and Secretarial Report to be received by the committee. The significant achievements of the Group were highlighted considering limited staffing capacity and COVID.

The Executive Officer, Sarah Joyce, and Regional Litter Prevention Strategy Coordinator, Sue Burton, provided separate presentations on two large grants the SCCG Secretariat have obtained in the previous year.

#### **Greater Sydney Harbour CMP Presentation**

- Sarah Joyce (SJ) provided an overview of the Greater Sydney Harbour CMP which is currently being developed in partnership with PRCG, DPIE, Transport for NSW and Sydney Water
- Greater Sydney Parklands identified that waterways are highly valued.
- Stage 1 Scoping Study complete in 2018. Stage 2 currently in development; recently awarded \$274,000.
- Conceptual diagrams developed to allow the community to understand the threats. Available on the SCCG website for all Councils to use.
- It was queried whether there been an assessment of commercial and recreational vessels. SJ identified that this was not part of the Stage 2 Assessment at this stage but as Transport for NSW are members of the CMP this will be considered in future.
- Consultant to be engaged to delivery Stage 2 assessment. Detailed analysis on how each of the Council manages stormwater, what the community values and its waterways and what are the priorities.

#### **Regional Litter Prevention Strategy**

- Sue Burton (SB), Regional Litter Prevention Strategy Coordinator provided an overview of the Regional Litter Prevention Strategy in partnership with the PRCG. First project of this scope.
- Working with a Steering Committee in three Councils. Strategy currently in draft and will be released early November for public consultation.
- Three objectives contained in the strategy:
  1. Provide a regional approach to achieve the NSW litter prevention target of 60% reduction in litter by 2030
  2. Reduce the volume and incident of litter entering Sydney Harbour and associated waterways through litter prevention activities
  3. Embed litter prevention activities within councils and other organisation in the Greater Sydney Harbour catchment
- Currently applying for grant funding in 2022 to employ a regional litter coordinator to implement the strategy.
- It was queried whether mapping will be conducted to understand the trends and litter hotspots. The Strategy will capture those litter 'stories' as much as possible. Surfrider Associations are a

- key community group to advocate on litter prevention.
- Sue Burton noted that extended producer responsibility is being investigated independently, particularly for cigarette butts. Community pressure is key to this.

A copy of these presentations is attached to these minutes.

## RESOLUTIONS

R3. The SCCG Annual Report 2020-21 was received and noted.

(McLean/Nielson)  
Carried

### 3.4 2022 Operational Plan

The draft 2022 SCCG Operational Plan identified the workplan for the next year. The draft Plan has undergone lengthy consultation period, beginning with the General Managers Forum identifying priorities. The Technical Committee was also provided an opportunity to review of session and the draft Operational Plan was given in principle support by both the Executive Committee and General Managers Forum recently. The plan reflects six goals identified in our 10-year Strategic Plan.

## RESOLUTIONS

R4. The SCCG 2022 Operational Plan be approved.

(McEwin/Porteous)  
Carried

## ITEM 4 GENERAL BUSINESS

### 5.1 Meeting Date

The next AGM date was noted as Thursday, 24 November 2022.

### 5.2 Agenda Items for Next Meeting

The Chair noted that proposed agenda items for any of the SCCG committees are welcome but must be provided to the Secretariat at least 4 weeks prior to the meeting.

**Meeting closed at 5:53pm**

## ITEM 5 PANEL DISCUSSION

Watch panel discussion [here](#).

Password: SCCGMember

The SCCG held a panel discussion on the question “Why is a regional cohesive voice so important?”. The discussion was facilitated by Simon Stroud from the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment and involved the following panel members:

- Emeritus Professor Bruce Thom, member of NSW Coastal Council, Chair of Greater Sydney Harbour Project Management Group and founding member of Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists
- Councillor Lindsay Shurey, from Randwick City Council and Chair of SCCG
- Daylan Cameron, STL Water, Floodplains and Coast in Greater Sydney Region, DPIE or Bruce Coates, Manager MCEF, DPIE
- Lyndall Pickering, Strategy Manager – Waterways and Environment, Sydney Water
- Prof. Martina Doblin, Director and CEO at Sydney Institute of Marine Science

## **Key Messages**

- Ecology of our region is inherently connected – the environment and its processes does not operate in silos or according to LGA boundaries.
- There are operational and cost efficiencies of having councils and organisations working in partnership. An example of this being the Greater Sydney Harbour CMP where SCCG can coordinate a vision as well as drive the project management and collaboration between 20 councils.
- Peer to peer learning and information sharing is a key aspect of collaboration and creates consistent and in turn enhanced environmental outcomes.
- Creates a powerful voice for action and in particular of advocacy positions.
- Regional cohesive voice will become more important with a changing climate in particular the issue of sea level rise as these issues will require a coordinated approach as well as pooling of resources for adaptation

Meeting closed at 6:45pm