

NSW Coastal Council Meeting 2 – summary minutes

6 August 2018

Professor Bruce Thom chaired the meeting. Coastal Council members in attendance were:

- Professor Bruce Thom, Chair, NSW Coastal Council
- Kate Brooks, NSW Coastal Council
- Ron Cox, NSW Coastal Council
- William Glamore, NSW Coastal Council
- Angus Gordon, NSW Coastal Council
- Jane Lofthouse, NSW Coastal Council
- Annelise Tuor, NSW Coastal Council

The Council discussed a number of matters at the meeting, including those summarised below.

COASTAL COUNCIL WORK PROGRAM

The Chair reviewed priorities actions under the five key coastal management issues to inform the Council's work program, as presented to the Minister at the Council's inaugural meeting. Immediate actions are to raise stakeholder awareness of the Council's role and responsibilities under the *Coastal Management Act 2016*, review the status local government progress on coast and estuary management plans, and support local government in the preparation of Coastal Management Programs. Council members endorsed the preparation of a letter to all 55 coastal councils general managers to introduce the Coastal Council, seek their assistance in completing a review of current and historic coastal and estuarine management plans, and to nominate their relevant contact officers. John Hudson, was welcomed in his new role as Secretary to the Coastal Council.

WORKING WITH THE OFFICE ENVIRONMENT & HERITAGE

Administrative arrangements to support the Council's operations, and the role of the new Secretary as the primary point of contact between the Council and OEH (Office of Environment and Heritage), were outlined. OEH support for the Council's operations extend to facilitating engagement between the Secretary and regional OEH teams responsible for supporting local government coastal management programming.

WORKING WITH STATE GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

The Office Environment and Heritage, Department Planning and Environment, Department Primary Industry and Marine Estate Management Authority were invited to give presentations on their coastal programs and potential linkages to local government Coastal Management Programs (CMP). Council members noted the large amount of work underway, or planned, by state government agencies that has implications for local government CMPs. Coastal Council members have an opportunity to communicate on an issues-basis to facilitate a cross-cutting discussion with responsible agencies in support of coordinated action on CMPs. Regional OEH staff are an important communication channel between state government agencies and local government on coast and estuary management issues - the Coastal Council should seek to leverage this.

FIVE KEY COASTAL MANAGEMENT ISSUES

In relation to the five key coastal management issues noted with the Minister, the Chair listed immediate priorities:

- contact all councils to introduce the Coastal Council, make its role and responsibilities under the Act clear, and emphasise the benefits of working with the Coastal Council in the preparation of their CMPs
- complete a review of selected OEH Toolkit Guidelines
- compile and maintain a list all local council Coastal Zone Management Plans (pending and certified) and Estuary Management Plans
- prepare governance and stakeholder engagement plans to support the Council's activities, including establishing an online presence for the Coastal Council through the develop of a new website and content.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Coastal Council is scheduled for September 2018.