



NSW Coastal Council

NSW Coastal Council Meeting – summary minutes

25 August 2020

Meeting was held online.

Coastal Council members in attendance:

- Annelise Tuor, Chair
- Kate Brooks
- Pam Dean-Jones
- Martijn Gough
- Hannah Power
- Shay Simpson
- Bruce Thom

The meeting agenda included updates on the Council's 2020-21 Work Plan and presentations by the Department Planning Industry and Environment Legal Services and Coastal Science teams.

Council's 2020-21 Work Plan tasks and updates:

1. *Application of "beneficiary-pays" principle to implementing coastal protection options in certified Coastal Zone Management Plans and Coastal Management Programs.*

Update: Further examination of the recommendations of the [Coastal & Estuary Grant Program Review](#), and [DPIE response](#), is being undertaken to clarify the contextual issues which may present difficulties for local councils in the application of beneficiary pays principles. The results of this work will further inform Council's advice to DPIE on potential pathways for improved integration of economic assessments in CZMP and CMP actions decision making.

2. *Coastal Council audit process and related communication materials.*

Update: Work is progressing on the development of a Performance Audit Framework consistent with the requirements of the CM Act 2016 ([Section 26](#)) to assess how effectively a local council is implementing its CMP and to identify any opportunities for local council capacity building. A draft framework being prepared for Council consideration will outline the audit scope, assessment criteria, information needs, resourcing and how the audit framework can be communicated to local councils and other stakeholders.

3. *Opportunities to improve water quality outcomes and identify opportunities to integrate actions in the Marine Estate Management Strategy with CMPs.*

Update: Opportunities for enhanced integration of [MEMS Initiative 1](#) deliverables (Improve water quality and reduce marine litter) and local council CMPs are being identified through a review of the MEMS local government engagement facilitation frameworks and communication strategies. A key resource for this work are the [quarterly updates](#) on delivery of MEMS initiatives.

4. *Implementation review of the Lake Cathie Coastal Zone Management Plan.*

Update: DPIE NE Region and Port Macquarie Hastings Council (PMHC) have assisted

Council in compiling information on the planning, certification and status of actions for the implementation of the Lake Cathie CZMP. Further information is being sought from PMHC and DPIE on specific issues potentially impeding the plan's implementation.

Presentations were given by DPIE Legal Services and DPIE Coastal Science. Legal Services summarised legal challenges to coastal management in NSW, relevant court cases, and the principles established by the cases. Coastal Science outlined its integrated coastal and marine science program and how it addresses many of the research and information needs of local councils in the preparation of CMPs.

NEXT MEETING: Next Council meeting is scheduled for 27 October 2020.