

SSROC

Ordinary Meeting Agenda



Date	Thursday, 15 August 2019
Time	6:00 pm for 6:30 pm
Venue	Campsie Customer Service Centre Canterbury Bankstown Council
Address	Level 2 137 Beamish Street CAMPSIE Parking: is available in the car park at the rear of the Customer Service Centre, access via Shakespeare Street Access to the building is through the front door

Section 1	Presentation – Mr Peter Poulet, Central City District Commissioner and Ms Silvija Smits, Greater Sydney Commission	
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Section 11	General Business	
Section 12	Next Meeting Next meeting will be the SSROC Annual General Meeting/Ordinary Meeting on Thursday, 14 November 2019, 6.00 pm for 6.30 pm.	

Councillor John Faker (Mayor, Burwood Council), SSROC President, declared the SSROC Ordinary Meeting of Thursday, 16 May 2019 open at 6.35 pm.

1. PRESENTATION

A presentation (attached) was made by Deborah Brill, Director, Housing and Infrastructure Policy, NSW Department of Planning and Environment on opportunities for local government to deliver affordable rental housing through the planning system.

Topics covered in the presentation:

- the new Planning, Industry and Environment cluster and its benefits
- Local Strategic Planning Statements
- Local Housing Strategies
- changes to SEPP70 made on 28 February 2019
- preparing an affordable housing contributions plan
- Local Character and the *Local Character and Place Guideline*

The presentation was followed by a Q&A session.

IN ATTENDANCE

Bayside Council

Councillor Bill Saravinovski (Mayor)
Councillor Ed McDougall

Burwood Council

Councillor John Faker (Mayor)

Canterbury Bankstown Council

Councillor Linda Eisler

City of Sydney

Councillor Christine Forster

Georges River Council

Councillor Sam Elmir (Deputy Mayor)

Inner West Council

Councillor John Stamolis

Randwick City Council

Councillor Kathy Neilson (Mayor)

Sutherland Shire Council

Councillor Michael Forshaw

Waverley Council

Councillor Marjorie O'Neill

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Bayside Council

Ms Meredith Wallace (General Manager)

Canterbury Bankstown Council

Mr Matthew Stewart (General Manager)

SSROC

Ms Namoi Dougall (General Manager)

Ms Helen Sloan (Program Manager)

Mr Mark Nutting (Strategic Planning Manager)

Ms Natasha Anderson (Office Manager)

Ms Kate Hannan (Program and Communications Officer)

Ms Colleen Stretton (Executive Assistant)

2. APOLOGIES

Burwood Council

Councillor George Mannah

Councillor Heather Crichton

Councillor Ernest Chan

City of Canada Bay

Councillor Angelo Tsirekas (Mayor)

Councillor Marian Parnaby

Councillor Michael Megna

Councillor Charles Jago (Deputy Mayor)

Canterbury Bankstown Council

Councillor Khal Asfour (Mayor)

Councillor Clare Raffan (Deputy Mayor)

Councillor Nadia Saleh

City of Sydney

Councillor Jess Miller

Councillor Robert Kok

Councillor Craig Chung

Georges River Council

Councillor Kevin Greene (Mayor)

Councillor Con Hindi

Councillor Nick Katris

Inner West Council

Councillor Darcy Byrne (Mayor)

Councillor Rochelle Porteous

Councillor Lucille McKenna

Randwick City

Councillor Alexandra Luxford
Councillor Anthony Andrews
Councillor Carlos Da Rocha

Sutherland Shire

Councillor Jack Boyd
Councillor Daniel Nicholls
Councillor Ray Plibersek

Waverley

Councillor John Wakefield (Mayor)
Councillor Dominic Wy Kanak (Deputy Mayor)
Councillor George Copeland

Woollahra Council

Councillor Peter Cavanagh (Mayor)
Councillor Nick Maxwell
Councillor Susan Wynne

OTHER APOLOGIES

Burwood Council

Mr Bruce Macdonnell (General Manager)

City of Canada Bay

Mr Peter Gainsford (General Manager)

City of Sydney

Ms Monica Barone (Chief Executive Officer)

Georges River Council

Ms Gail Connolly (General Manager)

Inner West Council

Mr Michael Deegan (Chief Executive Officer)

Randwick

Ms Therese Manns (General Manager)

Sutherland

Ms Manjeet Grewal (Chief Executive Officer)

Waverley

Mr Ross McLeod (General Manager)

Woollahra

Mr Gary James (General Manager)

SSROC resolved to accept the apologies, as submitted.

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No conflicts of interest were noted.

4. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolved that Delegates:

1. Adopt the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday, 21 February 2019 held at Burwood Council Chambers.
-

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

5.1 Affordable Housing

Resolved that Delegates:

1. Receive and note the report.
-

6. ADVOCACY AND ISSUES MANAGEMENT

6.1 Recent Submissions

Resolved that Delegates:

1. Receive and note the report.

6.2 Submissions under Consideration

Resolved that Delegates:

1. Receive and note the report.
-

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

7.1 SSROC News

Resolved that Delegates:

1. Receive and note the report.
-

8. JOINT ACTIVITIES WITHIN SSROC

8.1 Projects Update

Ms Helen Sloan (SSROC) provided an update and answered questions on several issues/projects:

- Mixed Waste Organic Output (the output that comes out of processing the residual waste) - discussions continue with the EPA for reinstatement, in an adjusted form, of the exemption that allows that process to operate.
- Regional kerbside waste audit is well underway.
- Clean up processing contract (kerbside bulky dry waste collection) – another area where SSROC is attempting to recover more resources from waste instead of it being landfilled.
- Our Energy Future (the community energy service) – installed solar capacity now exceeds 2MW; our first sales of battery storage, Tesla Powerwalls, have gone into about 25 homes; the program has now expanded into some of the northern Councils.

Resolved that Delegates:

1. Receive and note the report.

8.2 Procurement Activity

Resolved that Delegates:

1. Receive and note the report.
-

9. EXTERNALLY FUNDED PROJECTS

9.1 Street Lighting Improvement Program

Resolved that Delegates:

1. Receive and note the report.

9.2 Regional Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy

Resolved by Delegates to:

1. Receive and note the report.
-

10. GENERAL BUSINESS

There was no general business.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, 15 August 2019, venue to be confirmed.

Councillor Faker thanked all in attendance.

MEETING CLOSE

There being no further business Councillor Faker declared the meeting closed at 7.15 pm.

SECTION 5. PRESIDENT'S MINUTE

ITEM 5.1 Meeting the Challenge of Energy with our Program for Energy and Environmental Risk Solutions (PEERS)

RECOMMENDATION:

That member Councils continue to work together in the collaboration that is SSROC to our mutual benefit.

Purpose of the report:	President's minute.
Background	We achieve so much when we work together as SSROC. This last year has seen some great collaborations, resulting in financial savings, as well as productive regional advocacy.
Current Status:	<p>Since 1 July 2019, 19 councils, including 9 SSROC members, entered into a new electricity contract which delivered pricing well below the market rate. In a NSW first, around 20 per cent of the electricity is now derived from renewable sources through the Moree Solar Farm. It is a first not only because such a large group of councils are acting together and the price for the renewable energy is fixed for over 11 years, but also because of the innovative contractual model that supports the supply. SSROC, by bringing together 19 councils in one contract, ensured enough scale that our retailer, Origin Energy, agreed to our contract terms. SSROC appreciates Origin's willingness to enter into that contract and SSROC believes this may lead to a quantum shift in the relationship between electricity retailer and council needed for a more sustainable energy supply.</p> <p>As the PEERS project starts its second phase procurement, with even more councils participating, we can look forward to another approach to market with a load large enough for SSROC to be considered an industrial-scale customer which will drive even better pricing and better customer relationship management.</p> <p>Thank you to the SSROC team, who worked tirelessly to manage the procurement and contractual arrangements of PEERS¹ and for the work already undertaken on phase 2. Also thank you to all council officers who contributed, especially those who formed the evaluation panel.</p>

SECTION 6. ADVOCACY AND ISSUES MANAGEMENT

ITEM 6.1 Recent Submissions

RECOMMENDATION:

That Delegates:

1. Receive and note the report and endorse the recent submissions.

Purpose of the report:	To inform Delegates of recent submissions by SSROC.
Background:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 10 May 2019 – submission to IPART – comments on the draft NSW Public Lighting Code reporting manual.• 30 May 2019 – submission to the Department of Finance, Services and Innovation on the NSW Government's Internet of Things (IoT) on the draft IoT Privacy Policy and Guide (please contact ssroc@ssroc.nsw.gov.au should you wish to peruse)• 31 May 2019 – submission to Sydney Metro Corporate Plan Consultation – comments on Sydney Metro's Corporate Plan 2019-2021.• 12 June 2019 – submission to the Department of Finance, Services and Innovation on the NSW Government's Internet of Things (IoT) cyber security policy (please contact ssroc@ssroc.nsw.gov.au should you wish to peruse).• 28 June 2019 – submission to the Department of Finance, Services and Innovation on the NSW Government's draft Internet of Things (IoT) Policy (please contact ssroc@ssroc.nsw.gov.au should you wish to peruse).• 24 July 2019 – submission to Better Regulation Division, Department of Finance, Services and Innovation on the Building Stronger Foundations Discussion Paper.• 2 August 2019 – submission to the Hon Gladys Berejiklian, MP in support of maintaining cardiac surgical services at the Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick (copy attached in Item 6.5).
Current Status:	These submissions have already been made. Unless stated to the contrary, the submissions are on the SSROC website. To download, go to: http://www.ssroc.nsw.gov.au/submissions

SECTION 6. ADVOCACY AND ISSUES MANAGEMENT

ITEM 6.2 Submissions for Consideration

RECOMMENDATION:

That Delegates:

1. Receive and note the report.
2. Offer any comments in relation to the consultation.

Purpose of the report:	To identify submissions currently being developed, and provide an opportunity for Delegates to offer comments.
Background:	SSROC Secretariat develops submissions in relation to priority issues as resources permit, usually to a deadline imposed externally. Whenever the deadline allows, Delegates' views on the submissions are sought.
Current Status:	<p>The following submissions are currently being developed and expected to be submitted prior to the submission deadlines, where applicable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Office of Local Government (OLG) consultation on IPART's final report – Review of the Local Government Rating System by 27 September 2019 (extended by two weeks from the original 13 September 2019 deadline in response to the secretariat's request).• OLG consultation on IPART's final report – Review of reporting and compliance burdens on Local Government by 25 October 2019.• OLG consultation on IPART's final report – Local Government compliance and enforcement by 15 November 2019.• The announcement of the release of the reports is attached, and the reports can be downloaded here: https://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/strengthening-local-government/ipart-local-government-reports-consultation-2019

The NSW Government is pleased to have made progress on three reviews of the local government system completed by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART).

At the Government's request, IPART undertook broad ranging reviews of the local government rating system, reporting and compliance burdens on local government and local government compliance and enforcement in recent years. The Government acknowledges IPART's expertise, as well as the valuable input of councils and many others in the community involved in undertaking these reviews.

IPART's final reports have now been released publicly and the Office of Local Government will commence a public consultation process on recommendations that are open for consultation. Submissions may be made through the Office of Local Government's website or the NSW Government *Have Your Say* website during these consultation periods.

Each of IPART's reviews were commissioned to identify how best to deliver the Government's commitment to ensure a fair and equitable rating system, cut red tape and reduce costs and delays for business and the community. These issues are critical to the future of local government and local communities across NSW.

IPART provided the Government with substantial final reports that recommend significant reforms and, therefore, require serious consideration. They address a number of complex issues, including the current structure of the rating system, arrangements for rating exemptions and pensioner concessions, and a broad range of local government regulation and compliance issues.

A significant number of IPART's recommendations could substantially change our system of local government and impact directly upon communities. Having considered IPART's findings and recommendations at length, the Government has ruled out implementing recommendations that would adversely impact vulnerable members of the community, such as pensioners or charities, or have a substantial financial impact upon taxpayers or the broader community. These include;

REPORTING & COMPLIANCE REVIEW REPORT

- The removal of restrictions on fees for statutory approvals and inspections (recommendation 3); and
- The capping of statutory fees below cost recovery (recommendation 6).

REVIEW OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT RATING SYSTEM REPORT

- Fundamental restructure of the current rates exemption framework, including the removal of a number of important rates exemptions. Instead the Government will address clear anomalies with existing rating exemptions (recommendations 14, 15, 17 and 19-21); and
- The creation of a rates deferral scheme for eligible pensioners to replace the existing pensioner concession framework (recommendation 26-28).

Further, a number of recommendations concern matters which are now the subject of separate consultation and review processes by a range of NSW Government agencies. These recommendations will not be consulted on through this process and are identified as such in the relevant consultation guide.

The Government's *Local Government (Amendment) Bill 2019* passed Parliament on 19 June 2019 and will shortly commence.

Once assented to, the new provisions will provide, among other things, more time for recently established councils to have important conversations with their communities regarding rates harmonisation, whilst not precluding those councils who wish to harmonise, and subsequently wish to apply to IPART for a Special Rates Variation.

The new provisions will also extend the cut-off date for councils to make a decision on the administration of elections in 2020.

In addition, the new provisions will remove some of the current limits on local government procurement, and proposes further amendments to cut red tape and reduce the regulatory burden on councils and local communities. Specifically, the Bill:

- increases the tender threshold for councils from \$100,000 to \$250,000. However, the threshold for contracts involving services provided by council employees at the time the tendering process is undertaken will remain at \$150,000;
- provides sensible exemptions on disclosing fees to prevent councils from being commercially disadvantaged in procurement negotiations;
- provides options to utilise pre-qualified professional services, to directly procure services from disability employment organisations; and
- enables further steps towards supporting cost-sharing and service provision between neighbouring councils by allowing for agreed delegation of regulatory functions and mutual recognition of Section 68 approvals, where appropriate.

With this in mind, the NSW Government is now seeking additional feedback from councils, communities and other interested stakeholders on the remaining recommendations in IPART's final reports.

Public consultation on each of IPART's Final Reports closes on the following dates:

- *Local Government Rating System* - September 13
- *Reporting and Compliance Burdens on Local Government* - October 25, and
- *Local Government Compliance and Enforcement* - November 15.

To support the community in providing feedback, a consultation guide has been issued with each report indicating which of IPART's proposals are still under consideration. Copies of these guides are attached for your further information.

Following the completion of public consultation, the NSW Government will consider what further action should be taken on IPART's recommendations.

SECTION 6. ADVOCACY AND ISSUES MANAGEMENT

ITEM 6.3 Boarding Houses, Affordable Rental Housing SEPP Update

RECOMMENDATION:

That Delegates:

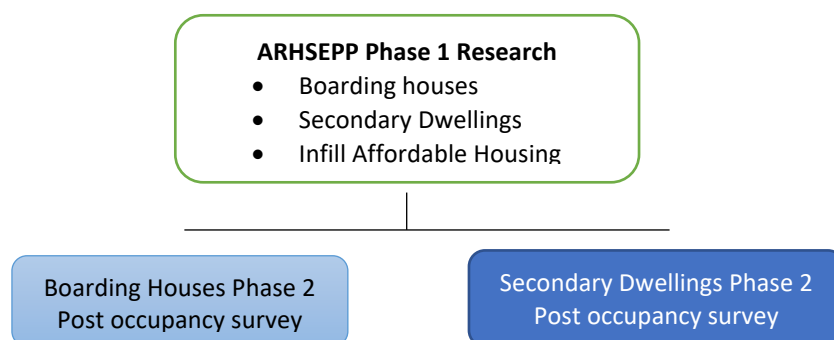
1. Receive and note the report.

Purpose of the report:

For Delegates to note consultations with the NSW Government following the release of the City Futures report *Occupant Survey of Recent Boarding House Developments in Central and Southern Sydney* commissioned by SSROC.

Background:

SSROC commissioned the City Futures Research Centre, UNSW to deliver phase 1 of the research into the effectiveness of the Affordable Rental Housing SEPP in delivering affordable housing in the Eastern City and South Districts. The phase 1 initiative delivered its final report in June 2018.



General Managers, at their May 2018 meeting, agreed to commission phase 2 of the research with a budget of \$40,577.44 (incl GST) to undertake a post occupancy survey of boarding house residents.

The surveying of boarding house residents was completed in December 2018.

Boarding House Post Occupancy Report

On 26 June 2019, SSROC released the *Occupant Survey of Recent Boarding House Developments in Central and Southern Sydney (June 2019)*.

Key findings

The survey found that the SEPP is being used to develop self-contained "micro-apartments" instead of providing affordable housing for marginal households which was its original intent. These "micro-apartments" are predominately occupied by renters who are either employed and/or engaged in tertiary studies.

General Managers noted a project report at their meeting of 4 July 2019. One implication of the research findings was that for the purposes of counting affordable housing supply in local council affordable housing supply assessments, the new boarding rooms should be excluded or the numbers of units heavily discounted.

Current Status:	<p>Since the report's release, the Secretariat together with the report's authors, have met with the Department of Planning Industry and Environment (9 July 2019) and Commissioners from the Greater Sydney Commission (31 July 2019) to present the findings and discuss the report's implications and recommendations. The report was well received.</p> <p>The discussions focused on exploring opportunities for progressing the report's recommendations to improve affordable housing outcomes from boarding rooms and finding a better fit within the Government's strategy for delivering a more diverse and affordable housing continuum.</p> <p>The Department of Planning Industry and Environment has established an internal working group to consider issues related to boarding rooms with a view to potentially producing a discussion paper flagging some potential policy changes.</p>
What next?	<p>The Secretariat will closely monitor future policy developments from the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment regarding boarding rooms developed under the ARHSEPP.</p> <p>City Futures has been contracted to undertake a Post Occupancy Survey of residents living in Secondary Dwellings in Central and Southern Sydney. A project report is to be delivered by October 2019.</p>

SECTION 6. ADVOCACY AND ISSUES MANAGEMENT

ITEM 6.4 Waste and Resource Recovery

RECOMMENDATION:

That Delegates:

1. Receive and note the report.

Purpose of the report:	To inform Delegates of progress on major SSROC projects.
Background:	The waste and resource recovery industry has been severely disrupted by changes to China's and other Asian nations' waste import practices and by the NSW Government's ban on the application for Municipal Waste Organic Outputs (MWOO) to land. Rates of diversion from landfill have dramatically fallen.
Current Status:	<p>City of Sydney CEO, Monica Barone, has agreed to chair the SSROC Waste Management Group to devise and deliver a work plan in response to the issues affecting the waste sector. The group has drafted the attached policy statements and work plan.</p> <p>Preliminary project plans are being developed for each of the priority projects. Funding and resourcing allocations will be considered next.</p>

Regional Policy Statements

It is our policy that we:

1. Change culture to refuse before we reuse, before we recycle, and dispose only as a last resort.
2. Are responsible for all our own waste. Our priority is to transparently manage, and be accountable for, our waste throughout its lifecycle and as close as possible to where its created. This includes tracking all any waste removed from our jurisdiction.
3. Recognise that data identifies the problem and drives the solution. It must be consistent, transparent and mandated.
4. Acknowledge that management of waste is an essential service that requires accessible local facilities.
5. Develop procurement that drives innovation, influences markets and creates new opportunities.
6. Collaborate at a metropolitan scale.

Priority Projects for each Principle

The tables below list the current priority projects and actions relating to each regional principle. (For ease of use, each project and action is linked to only one priority, although it may contribute to more.)

1. Change culture to refuse before we reuse, before we recycle, and dispose only as a last resort.

Project Type	Description	Owner
Education, communications and marketing	Metropolitan and district waste education programs, including working with waste education officers on priorities and key messages and campaigns that advocate and educate on refusal first, and on the waste hierarchy.	ROCs
Advocacy, Stakeholder Engagement and Marketing	Improve product stewardship through legislation and practice (e.g. packaging, e-waste, PV panels, mattresses). Advocate for and seek funding for reuse initiatives so that reuse is integrated with waste management system.	GMs/CEOs/ LGNSW

2. We are responsible for all our own waste. Our priority is to transparently manage, and be accountable for, our waste throughout its lifecycle and as close as possible to where its created. This includes tracking all any waste removed from our jurisdiction.

Project Type	Description	Owner
Advocacy, Stakeholder Engagement and Marketing	Use legal and/or consulting advice to interrogate all relevant waste legislation and regulation including the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery (WARR) Act to develop our position on changes required to support out policy. If required, advocate for legislative and regulatory change.	SSROC GM GMs/CEOs
Education, communications and marketing	Develop consistent, accountable and transparent ways of informing the community about waste flows.	ROCs

3. Recognise that data identifies the problem and drives the solution. It must be consistent, transparent and mandated

Project Type	Description	Owners
Infrastructure and regional planning	Identify what waste data is collected and by whom, as well as, what waste data should be collected and have consultants provide an overview. Analysis of the options, with the assistance of consultants, for the future provision of residual (red bin) waste management infrastructure.	
Advocacy, Stakeholder Engagement and Marketing	Advocate for the necessary waste data mechanisms and for the development of a Sydney Metropolitan Data Plan.	

4. Acknowledge that management of waste is an essential service that requires accessible local facilities.

Project Type	Description	Owner
Infrastructure and regional planning	Understand future infrastructure needs for waste services in order to influence planning and future acquisition infrastructure. Use that information to develop a road map for waste infrastructure at the metropolitan level.	
Advocacy, Stakeholder Engagement and Marketing	Advocate for recognition of waste infrastructure as essential.	

5. Develop procurement that drives innovation, influences markets and creates new opportunities.

Project Type	Description	Owner
Advocacy, Stakeholder Engagement and Marketing	<p>Determine the top 5-10 products councils buy that could be made from recycled material, and support the growth of the market e.g. civil works.</p> <p>Advocate for recycled content in packaging and products procured.</p> <p>Help develop markets by encouraging councils to create demand by preferencing recycled content.</p>	
Contracts and procurement	<p>Investigate the feasibility of developing a metropolitan-wide contract.</p> <p>Review commercial arrangements for waste management options (continue the Treasury/EPA/IWC recycling service procurement project)</p> <p>Work with councils across Sydney to use our purchasing power to influence what markets offer and drive innovation.</p> <p>Joint procurement bulky waste services to enable higher order outcomes.</p>	
Circular economy	<p>Influence markets by procuring materials with recycled content, initially investigate procurement opportunities for civil works materials.</p> <p>Partnership with UNSW to identify new opportunities, materials, markets and commercialisation options. Participate in NSW Circular Economy Innovation Network (CEIN) and any relevant trials.</p>	
Service policy and design, operational strategy	<p>Review Commercial and Industrial (C&I) waste collection options to reduce traffic congestion cause by commercial operators' truck movements.</p>	

6. Collaborate at a metropolitan scale.

Project Type	Description	Owner
Advocacy, stakeholder engagement and marketing	Find ways to fund the development of the waste sector, including advocacy for hypothecation of the waste levy.	GMs/CEOs LGNSW
	Confirm and increase funding for regional coordination services.	SSROC

SECTION 6. ADVOCACY AND ISSUES MANAGEMENT

ITEM 6.5 Woollahra Council Resolution on Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick

RECOMMENDATION:

That Delegates:

1. Receive and note the report.
2. Note and endorse the letter of support sent to the NSW Premier out of session, advocating for the retention of the cardiac surgery unit at Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick.

Purpose of the report:	Seek the Delegates' formal endorsement of the letter of support sent to the NSW Premier out of session by SSROC President, Councillor John Faker, advocating on behalf of SSROC for the retention of the cardiac surgery unit at Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick.
Background:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The NSW State Government is considering closing the cardiac surgery unit of the Sydney Children's Hospital Randwick, which serves children living in the area covered by SSROC.• SSROC's President approved the circulation of a draft letter to all SSROC Delegates for comment before it was sent to the NSW Premier. The letter advocates strongly on behalf of SSROC for the retention of the cardiac surgery unit at Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick. A copy of the briefing note sent to Delegates is at attachment 1.• The email sent to Delegates noted that endorsement would be formally sought at the next Ordinary Meeting on 15 August 2019.• A number of positive expressions of support for the draft letter were received from Delegates without any suggested changes.
Current Status:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• On 2 August 2019, the letter was sent to the NSW Premier by SSROC President, Councillor Faker, advocating for the retention of the cardiac surgery unit at Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick. A copy of the letter was sent to the NSW Minister for Health, Mr Brad Hazzard.• A copy of the letter sent to the Premier is at attachment 2.• At the time of this report's distribution, no reply has been received.

Draft letter to the NSW Premier about maintaining cardiac surgical services at the Sydney Children's Hospital Randwick

Briefing Note

29 July 2019

Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils

1 Purpose

- The SSROC Secretariat is proposing SSROC write to the NSW Premier Gladys Berejiklian (and copied to the NSW Minister for Health, Brad Hazzard) requesting that the NSW Government maintain an appropriately funded cardiac surgical program at the Sydney Children's Hospital Randwick;
- Circulate the draft SSROC letter from SSROC President, John Faker, to Delegates seeking their endorsement, before issuing the draft letter to the Premier.
- Due to the urgency of the matter, comment from Delegates to the Secretariat is requested by cob 1 August 2019.

2 Background

- In 2010, the Sydney Children's Hospital Network was created, with the unique arrangement of a single administration running both the Sydney Children's Hospital Randwick (SCH) and Children's Hospital Westmead (CHW). The intention was to bring children's health in NSW to a prominent position and to ensure that it received appropriate funding to deliver the best care possible.
- The NSW State Government has now proposed to close the cardiac surgery unit of the SCH, which serves children living in the area covered by SSROC.
- Cardiac Surgical services at SCH are essential for the safety of all children being cared for at the hospital, and has been provided for decades. If closed, critically ill babies and children in the municipality will face life threatening delays in receiving treatment and will be forced to travel over 45km to CHW at Westmead (where reportedly there are already lengthy delays) for lifesaving cardiac treatment or to wait for a team to come from Westmead.
- This issue will become more critical as SSROC's population increases by over half million people to meet the housing targets of the NSW Government for 2036.
- To provide the best care for the current and future children in the local government areas covered by SSROC, we need all the essential services of a tertiary children's hospital to continue to be made available at our closest children's hospital in Randwick. "Cardiac surgery is essential. Children born with cardiac defects, those with severe chest infections or injury, those with some

chest tumors or suffering complications of chemotherapy may all need emergency surgery. Transferring those children across Sydney, or waiting for a team to come from Westmead will risk their lives. In a city of 5.7 million people, 2 fully functioning children's hospitals are necessary. SCH is responsible for 40% of the admissions to a pediatric unit in NSW and 80% of the critically ill children who require state-wide emergency retrieval come to that hospital."¹

- The children living in SSROC (and beyond) require a fully comprehensive children's hospital that is readily accessible to the growing population of our area. The NSW Government should not enable SCH to be diminished.

1

Angus Gray, Orthopaedic Surgeon, Former Chair of SCH Senior Medical Staff Council quoted in Woolahra Municipal Council Ordinary Council Business paper, 8 July 2019, Item 15.2



2 August 2019

The Hon Gladys Berejiklian, MP
Premier of NSW
52 Martin Place
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Premier

Re: Maintaining cardiac surgical services at the Sydney Children's Hospital Randwick

I am writing on behalf of the local governments that form the Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (SSROC) to seek your Government's commitment to maintaining cardiac surgical services at Sydney Children's Hospital in Randwick.

Collectively our member councils serve over 1.7 million people. Under the NSW Government's Greater Sydney Region Plan our area is set to grow by over half a million people by 2036.

The current and future children in the southern and eastern parts of Sydney require a fully comprehensive children's hospital that is readily accessible to the rapidly growing population of our area.

A move of the cardiac surgical services to the Children's Hospital at Westmead would be a retrograde step that puts children and their families in our area at greater and unnecessary risk. A quick response to cardiac emergencies is of utmost importance. Delays in receiving urgent treatment can be life threatening for critically ill babies and children.

Being forced to travel over 45 km to Westmead for lifesaving cardiac treatment or to wait for a team to come from Westmead is a situation we need to avoid.

On behalf of the eleven-member councils of SSROC, I seek your urgent assurance that adequately funded cardiac surgical services will be maintained at Sydney Children's Hospital in Randwick.

Yours sincerely



John Faker
President
Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils

cc: Minister for Health and Medical Research, Hon Brad Hazzard, MP

SECTION 7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

ITEM 7.1 SSROC News

RECOMMENDATION:

That Delegates:

1. Receive and note the report.

Purpose of the report:	To advise Delegates of the latest update that is being provided to councils and other stakeholders.
Background:	SSROC issues a periodic update of its activities to councils and other stakeholders for information. It is included here so that Delegates are aware of what is communicated about our work to a broader stakeholder group.
Current Status:	The current update is attached.

SSROC NEWS

WELCOME

Dear SSROC community,

SSROC has had another stellar quarter continuing our great work across our advocacy, programs and procurement projects.

In fact, in order to quantify SSROC's value, SSROC engaged EY to do a membership benefit analysis.

EY's analysis indicated that the minimum value member councils received for every dollar they invested is over \$20, which is an incredible return for all the hard work that SSROC do.

Please read on to find out about the current projects and great work the SSROC team has been undertaking on your behalf.

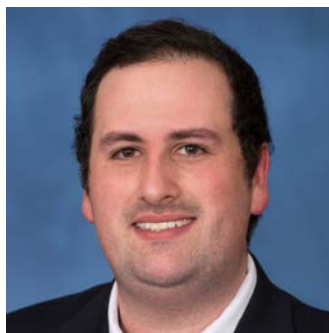
Warm regards,
SSROC President
Councillor John Faker
Mayor Burwood Council



SSROC President
Mayor John Faker
Burwood Council



SSROC Senior Vice President
Mayor Khal Asfour
Canterbury Bankstown



SSROC Junior Vice President
Cr Daniel Nicholls
Sutherland Shire Council



A MESSAGE FROM SSROC GENERAL MANAGER

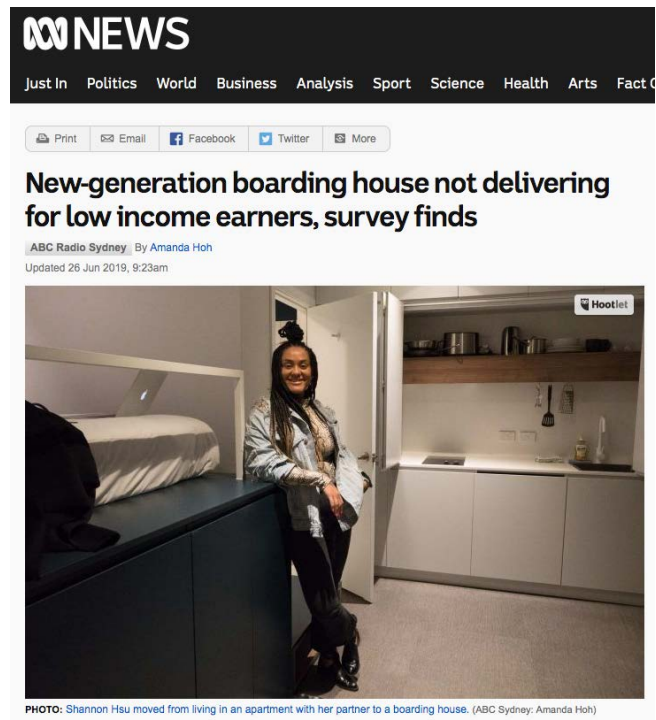
Welcome to SSROC's third edition of the quarterly SSROC News for 2019.

SSROC is continuing to deliver the best possible outcomes for all our member councils.

I am incredibly proud to announce that SSROC won the Innovative Leadership and Management award for Program for Energy and Environmental Risk Solutions (PEERS 1) at the 2019 Local Government Excellence Awards.

PEERS 1 is the first of its kind in NSW and is a landmark agreement on behalf of 18 councils that will result in up to 35% of their retail electricity being supplied by a renewable energy generator from 1 July 2019.

This award is a fantastic recognition of all the hard work the SSROC team put in and I cannot wait to see what happens with PEERS 2.



We've also had some great media coverage highlighting some of our other valuable work.

SSROC's Boarding House Post Occupancy Report was featured on ABC Radio and ABC News online, and our Waste Education workshops were showcased across SBS News online.

We welcome feedback on our publications - please contact Kate Hannan on kate.hannan@ssroc.nsw.gov.au or phone 02 8396 3811.

If there is anything regarding the work of the Secretariat that you would like to discuss, please call me on 02 8396 3800.

Warm regards,
Namoi Dougall
SSROC General Manager

PLANNING AND ADVOCACY

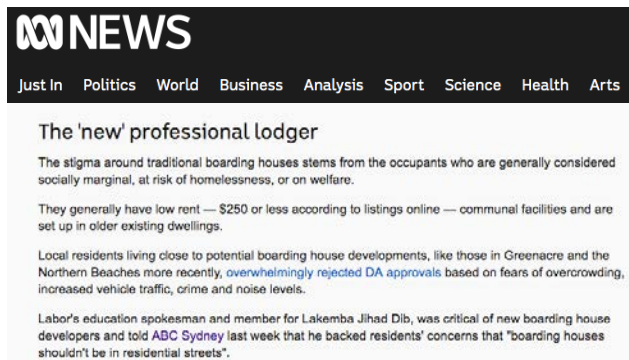
SSROC released the Occupant Survey of Recent Boarding House Developments in Central and Southern Sydney. It tells the previously untold story of who is living in these 'new generation' boarding houses.

The survey found that the SEPP is being used to develop self-contained "micro-apartments". Boarding house rooms for single occupants can be a minimum of 12 square metres (plus private kitchen and bathroom facilities).

These "micro-apartments" are predominately occupied by renters who are either employed and/or engaged in tertiary studies, instead of providing affordable housing for marginal households which was its original intent.

The research has found that Division 3 of the ARHSEPP that concerns boarding houses is not delivering many affordable rental housing options to those who need it. In fact, the research found that the occupants of boarding houses were often closer in profile to typical renters than traditional boarding house occupants or social housing waitlists.

The survey also highlighted that the 9 out of 10 low-income occupants were found to be in rental stress, with nearly 90% of low-income earners paying more than a third of their income on rent.



With over 86% of new boarding house developments rented out under formal tenancy agreements and taking on the form and occupancy of mainstream apartments rather than traditional boarding houses the survey suggests that this form of accommodation is not meeting the stated objectives of providing a housing option for households excluded from standard rental tenancies.

While these "micro-apartments" are able to be fast-tracked under the ARHSEPP, the developments are mostly not operating as lodgings. The survey raises a compliance issue, as development consent for a boarding house is defined in the standard Local Environmental Plan as "wholly or partly let in lodgings".

The study concludes that while these types of micro-apartments may have a place in Sydney's housing supply, they need to be considered as part of wider apartment mixes and design. There ought to be a much stronger requirement that anything delivered under the ARHSEPP directly contributes to an affordable housing option to targeted households.

PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS

The regional joint programs and projects that SSROC manages for member councils have been continuing over the last few months. Here is an update on the major ones:

Our Energy Future

2MW of solar generation capacity has been installed through the Our Energy Future program!

Our Energy Future is the SSROC regional program that aims to increase the take-up of renewable energy and reduce the consumption of energy derived from fossil fuels. It includes a community energy service that provides information to residents, and vets service providers, which is just beginning its third year of operation.

SSROC is excited to report that at the end of its second year of operation, the program broke through 2MW of generating capacity, with 490 installations capable of generating 2,200 kW of clean, green power and abating an estimated 43,000 tonnes of CO2-e over a 15-year lifespan.



An Initiative of Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils

125 households have benefited from home energy assessments, which provide advice on how to save money through energy efficiency actions. 16 buildings have also been upgraded to LED lighting through the program, with the helpline handling almost 3,000 calls from residents seeking advice.



The Australian Energy Foundation (formerly Moreland Energy Foundation), which runs the community energy service for councils, now has 14 councils using its services, with 8 SSROC member councils, including the 6 founders, and now 6 non-members. Congratulations to you all!

SSROC member participants: Bayside, Canada Bay, Canterbury Bankstown, Georges River, Inner West, Randwick, Waverley and Woollahra.

Non-member participants: Hornsby, Mosman, North Sydney, Northern Beaches, Parramatta and Willoughby.

WASTE AVOIDANCE AND RESOURCE RECOVERY

Circular Economy

After six months of preparation, SSROC is thrilled to announce that we have signed an MOU to work with UNSW's globally recognised Centre for Research and Technology – known as the SMaRT Centre.

Our first joint project is facilitating a series of three focussed think tanks about the circular economy.

They are designed to bring different professional disciplines and government and non-government specialists together to jointly explore and understand how we can together progress the region's move towards a circular economy.

The partnership with UNSW is especially valuable as they also host the NSW Circular Economy Innovation Network (CEIN) funded by the Office of the Chief Scientist and Engineer. For more information contact Strategic Waste Coordinator: Hazel Storey (hazel.storey@ssroc.nsw.gov.au).

Rethinking Waste

Chair of the SSROC Waste Managers Group, City of Sydney CEO, Monica Barone, has been leading a review by the waste managers of our regional waste priorities.

FIND WAYS TO

AVOID, REDUCE, REUSE & RECYCLE



The region is re-orientating our focus in light of the global upheaval to the waste industry over the past 12-18 months, and the growing urgency, challenges and opportunities for addressing waste at the Sydney Metropolitan scale.

waste
MANAGEMENT REVIEW



HOME MAGAZINE NEWS FEATURES ▾ EVENTS



Circular Economy Innovation Network hold first meeting

Community Education Program

SBS online recently promoted our popular waste education program.

10 JUL 2019 - 4:02PM

These inspiring groups prove that we can fight (and win) against Australia's plastic crisis



With reporting and evaluation time coming up we've run focus groups again to give us detailed insights into the program's impact and the extent to which workshop participants take home, talk about and act on what they've learnt. Both sessions indicated very positive receptivity and behaviour change.

"[I'm]taking my own bags, separating soft/hard packaging, using leftovers more. He [Louie] does it in such a way that....he's not preaching, he's passionate and it's contagious. We all know recycling is good, [but] I wasn't really convinced of it before....but it's important to defend the animals and it's a world problem and it is going to affect us. It brings the message home." - Feedback from a program participant from HIPPY, Belmore.

Since September 2018 Louie and Mei Li have worked with 2,403 participants through 150 workshops representing 44 education and/or community based interest groups (as at 30 June 2018).

It has been another productive year. With the project working group, we are planning some revisions for our next phase of workshops which will start again in September.

If you know of community groups who'd like to hear about our work, or you would like some help with recycling, reducing use of single use plastics and how to take part in the reuse economy please contact our Regional Educators: Louie Leung (louie.leung@ssroc.nsw.gov.au) or Mei Li Quah (meili.quah@ssroc.nsw.gov.au).

SBS IN FOCUS SBS World Movies Voices Indigenous Untold Australia The Handmaid's Tale
SBS HOME ON DEMAND GUIDE PROGRAMS RADIO NEWS SPORT CYCLING FOOTBALL MOVIES FOOD
Food home Watch Cook Read Win

Spreading the plastic-free message

Culturally diverse communities living within 11 local councils areas, [south of Sydney's Harbour Bridge](#), are currently being provided with free education workshops teaching residents to recycle, reduce plastic use and make environmentally sound choices when shopping for food.

[Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils \(SSROC\)](#) runs four environmental workshops regularly: Essential Food Tips, Can I recycle this?, Why Reduce Plastic and Buy Swap Sell Second Hand Online.

SSROC's waste and resource recovery community educator, Mei Li Quah, tells SBS that it's her job to find the community groups in need of education – like a migrant class learning English – and organise for the workshop.

"But there are new things you have to adapt to if you are in a new country. You may need to change what you cook and what you buy."

Over the last three years, over 7,400 people have participated in the free workshops, which are also available in Arabic, Cantonese, Korean, Mandarin, or Spanish.

"Many people think Australia (and Sydney) is very beautiful and want to keep it clean," says Quah. "Meanwhile, most people want to do the right thing and do better with their waste and recycling."

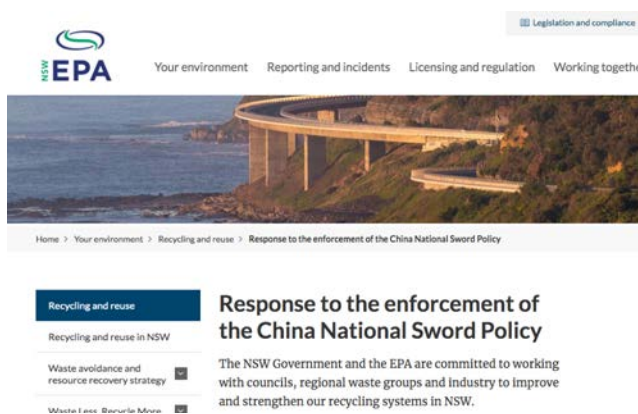
"But there are new things you have to adapt to if you are in a new country. You may need to change what you cook and what you buy. Sometimes plastic packaging is the default option as well. But [the workshops show people that] there may be other packaging options available that they may not be aware of."

PROCUREMENT

SSROC strategic procurement and contracts team has engaged and finalised several procurement projects in the third quarter of 2019. Some highlights include:

Civil Works Forum for Supply Chain – a response to China Sword

In continuation of the regional response to China Sword, the Civil Works forum held in June further explored the creation of ‘recipes’ and the use of recycled materials in asphalt for various applications - roads, footpath, parks and roundabouts, etc - and specifications are expected to be released in October 2019.



Following consultation across 537 councils nationally and with all major agencies and stakeholders, councils will next test demonstration sites with verified inclusion of crushed glass and RAP. The testing and verification (including plastic) is still being undertaken by the EPA and SSROC is continuing working with stakeholders to progress the risk profile.

There is great interest in this innovative China Sword response and much potential for an aggregated council response across both SSROC and WSROC to influence the regional market.

Excavated Civil Works Materials Disposal and Recycling Sites

As councils are losing parts of their depot to WestConnex, SSROC with council engineers, will call a tender for a Disposal and Recycling site. The scope of works requires a pick-up of sorted excavated civil works materials from council sites to a licensed site for recycling it into a road base and then sell it back for councils.

This is the aggregation and collaboration fit for a regional contract in which we can achieve a strategic and sustainable outcome in procurement benefiting from a competitive price, environmental and social initiatives of the successful licensed site.



The Program for Energy and Environmental Risk Solutions (PEERS)

SSROC won the Innovative Leadership and Management award for Program for Energy and Environmental Risk Solutions (PEERS 1) at the 2019 Local Government Excellence Awards.

PEERS 1 is the first of its kind in NSW and is a landmark agreement on behalf of 18 councils that will result in up to 35% of their retail electricity being supplied by a renewable energy generator from 1 July 2019.

SSROC has received more than our anticipated commitment and volume from a combination of member and non-member councils to go ahead with a second PPA (PEERS 2).

It is expected that PEERS 1 and PEERS 2 will combine in 2.5 years to achieve even more savings and benefit for members and participants with an expected load of 200GWH.



Retailers have shown great interest in winning this size load from creditworthy councils, regardless of the split of renewable energy and the balance of electricity needs.

Questions?

SSROC will continue to keep your councils updated on the status of the ongoing projects tabled above. Should you have any questions about any of the projects, feel free to contact Cathy Dizon on 02 8396 3802 or cathy.dizon@ssroc.nsw.gov.au



Should you have any questions or want to find out more about our joint procurement program, including current contracts and tenders, please visit our WEBSITE or contact us on 02 8396 3800 or ssroc@ssroc.nsw.gov.au

SECTION 8. JOINT ACTIVITIES WITHIN SSROC

ITEM 8.1 Projects Update

RECOMMENDATION:

That Delegates:

1. Receive and note the report.

Purpose of the report:	To inform Delegates of progress on major SSROC projects.
Background:	SSROC plans, manages and delivers a range of projects in response to the needs of member councils. These may be initiated by the ROC Committees, General Managers, officers in working groups, or in response to opportunities that arise.
Current Status:	<p>Mixed Waste Organic Output (MWO) Exemption The EPA advised on 30 July 2019 that there is a delay in the EPA's planned release of its position statement. No revised date or consultation period has been notified.</p> <p>SSROC Regional Kerbside Waste Audit Collection of samples for the main audit is complete, and council reports are being compiled. Canada Bay has received its final report, and draft reports will shortly be ready for Sutherland, Burwood, Randwick, Woollahra, Sydney and Bayside. Sample collection for high-rise audits was completed on 5 August 2019, and data entry is currently under way. Participating Councils: Bayside, Burwood, Canada Bay, Canterbury Bankstown, Georges River, Inner West, Randwick, Sutherland, City of Sydney and Woollahra.</p> <p>Clean Up Processing Contract The draft request for tenders has been reviewed by councils and feedback is being incorporated into the document and schedules. The team is currently working on the evaluation framework. Participating Councils: Bayside, Burwood, Georges River, Inner West, Waverley and Woollahra.</p> <p>NSW EPA Better Waste and Recycling Fund Implementation of the Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy continues, and SSROC is required to submit its project funding allocation for the regional Better Waste and Recycling grant by 31 August 2019. This is currently being considered in the light of the work plan (refer item 7.4, Waste and Resource Recovery).</p> <p>Our Energy Future Moreland Energy Foundation, which runs the community energy service for councils, has been renamed the Australian Energy Foundation. Installed solar generating capacity has now exceeded 2MW with 490 installations, and batteries have been installed in 25 homes. A roundtable meeting with all participating councils was held on 16 July 2019 to review performance to date and plan for the coming third year of operation. Participating Councils: Bayside, Canada Bay, Canterbury Bankstown, Georges River, Inner West, Randwick, Waverley and Woollahra, as well as Hornsby, North Sydney, Northern Beaches and Willoughby.</p>

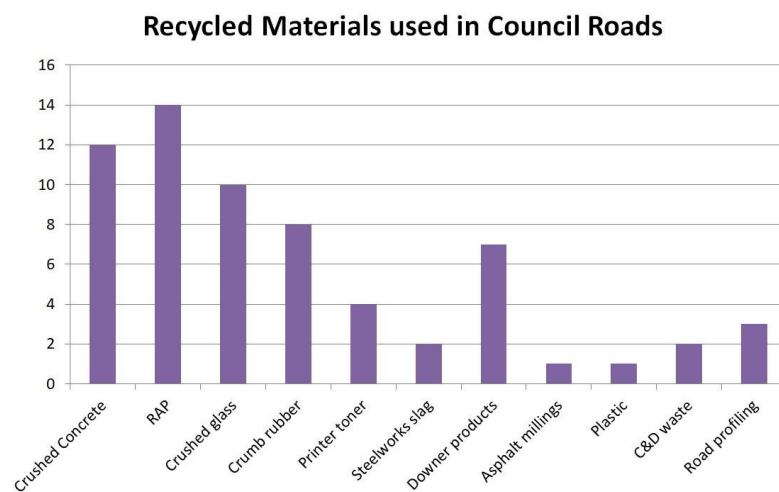
Using Recycled Materials in Civil Works

This project is exploring the viability of using recycled content in road-making materials. It will:

- assess potential demand
- assess which materials are already acceptable for use
- identify additional work required
- draft a model policy for councils

SSROC and member councils' engineers are working with NATSPEC, which is the relevant standards body, and also plan to engage other key stakeholders including RMS and EPA in the project.

Councils are participating in trials and have demonstrated projects already and NATSPEC has provided the chart below indicating the percentage of recycled materials used in council roads for information.



(Source Natspec project report April 2019).

This project objective is to develop the market for materials with recycled content as to grow the circular economy.

SECTION 8. JOINT ACTIVITIES WITHIN SSROC

ITEM 8.2 Procurement Activity

RECOMMENDATION:

That Delegates:

1. Receive and note the report.

Purpose of the report:	To advise Delegates of progress on major SSROC procurement activities.
Background:	SSROC manages 150 suppliers, across 47 categories of various goods and services with an annual spend of at least \$40 million.
Current status:	<p>Excavated Civil Works Materials Disposal and Recycling Site Update</p> <p>Council engineers have now finalised the Request for Tender Documents (RFT) for issue mid-August (instead of July) and for completion in October/November. The scope of works requires a pick-up and transport of sorted excavated civil works materials from council sites to a licensed site for recycling into a road base to be used by councils. This is an example of how aggregation and collaboration in regional contracting can achieve a strategic and sustainable outcome, a competitive price and environmental and social initiatives.</p> <p>Seven (7) councils are participating: City of Sydney, Sutherland, Bayside, Inner West, Canada Bay, Woollahra and pending Georges River.</p> <p>Model Public Lighting Strategy and Council-Owned Lighting Tender (COLT)</p> <p>SSROC plans to work with the suppliers and Next Energy to update the list of lights in the COLT contract. SSROC will seek councils' feedback on the contract and endeavour to address the barriers to take-up.</p> <p>Vendor Panel – SSROC Enterprise</p> <p>The initial six (6) contracts selected by the Strategic Procurement Group are being used by member councils for quotations. SSROC will progressively add additional contracts to Vendor Panel.</p> <p>The use of SSROC VendorPanel assists councils with compliance, efficiency, and transparency.</p> <p>Horticultural, Soil and Turf Services</p> <p>The tender recommendation report is completed and participating councils will seek councils' approval for decline and negotiate.</p> <p>Collaboration with Procurement Australia</p> <p>The tender for Wet Hire of Plant and Equipment has been completed.</p> <p>Hygiene Services Tender</p> <p>The tender for the Collection, Replenishing and Cleaning of Sanitary Bins and associated hygiene services is on issue.</p>

SECTION 8. JOINT ACTIVITIES WITHIN SSROC

ITEM 8.3 Program for Energy and Environmental Risk Solutions 2 (PEERS 2)

RECOMMENDATION:

That Delegates:

1. Receive and note the report.

Purpose of the report:

To update Delegates of progress on SSROC PEERS 2.

Background:

SSROC is conducting a second round of PPA that could purchase renewable energy from a combination of sources for a number of Councils.

Current status:

PEERS 2 - Renewable Energy Power Purchase Agreement (PPA 2)



Following the success of our first PPA agreement, numerous councils are now signed up for PPA2. With Sourced Energy, the SSROC proposed strategy is to:

- Combine with other councils/groups to go to market between July and October for a bundled PPA with best available terms that combine ~20% renewable energy and ~80% regular grid power.
- Ensure the contract has a mechanism for managing longer term price risk in the regular and renewable market.
- Look to purchase more renewable energy if it is cheaper and under better terms in future market approaches.
- Combine with an even larger group in subsequent approaches to market.

“Load is Everything” and, to date, SSROC PPA2 has received signed MOUs from:

- Port Stephens, Lake Macquarie, Cessnock, Northern Beaches, Hornsby, Central Coast are confirmed. CNSWJO and REROC have confirmed participation for volume, however, are still considering participation in the evaluation process. Fairfield Council is still getting approval.
- Retailers are very interested in winning this load from creditworthy counterparty customers such as councils, regardless of the split of renewable and non-renewable power.
- Expected load 200GWh

SSROC PEERS Team

- SSROC – Project management and procurement compliance
- Sourced Energy - Energy markets, PPA value advice, commercial negotiation, modelling of price outcomes, risk management

- Next Energy – Technical and commercial energy strategy advice
- Independent Probity advisor
- Independent Tier 1 legal advisors

Evaluation Panel members will be from participating councils with a mix of finance, sustainability and senior management roles.

In PEERS 2 SSROC strives to develop a new PPA for more councils with the aim of increasing the load offered to the market in PEERS 3 when combined with the loads of PEERS 1. PEERS 3 combined load will cover more than half the consumption of councils in NSW and thereby will drive the market to deliver better pricing and terms for the whole group.

SECTION 9. EXTERNALLY FUNDED PROJECTS

ITEM 9.1 Street Lighting Improvement Program Update

RECOMMENDATION:

That Delegates:

1. Receive and note the report.

Purpose of the report:

To inform Delegates of progress and to highlight current program priorities.

Current Status:

The SSROC SLI Program, numbering 29 councils and 90% of the street lights in the Ausgrid region, has been involved in several on-going street lighting activities in recent months. The status of key activities is as follows:

1. Cost Reductions for Councils from AER 2019-2024 Pricing Review

The Australian Energy Regulator's final 2019-24 pricing decision for Ausgrid will see council street lighting costs decline by an average of 22% from 1 July 2019 (with individual reductions varying widely from 5%-43% depending on the LGA). Compared to 2018-19 pricing, total savings for councils over the next five-year regulatory period to 2024 will exceed \$45m. SSROC has not been able to report on this substantive win for councils before now as some errors were identified in the original AER decision which have only now been corrected. As a result, the AER has recently released a [revised decision for Ausgrid](#).

SSROC understands that Ausgrid will shortly write to each council outlining the specific reductions for each LGA. The reductions come from a combination of reduced capital and maintenance charges. SSROC also notes that Ausgrid has reduced the maintenance costs associated with new LED lighting by some 30%, further strengthening the case for the rapid replacement of legacy lighting.

SSROC acknowledges the success from two years of work by SSROC staff and our advisers, Next Energy, on this pricing decision. Ausgrid is also to be commended for its substantially more transparent approach in formulating its initial street lighting pricing model and in responding to issues raised by SSROC. The SSROC SLI Program has played an active role in each of the last three Australian Energy Regulator pricing reviews and built up significant expertise in this important area as a result.

2. 'Lighting the Way' Project to Replace Up To 104,000 Street Lights with LEDs

Twenty (20) councils encompassing more than 70% of the lighting on Ausgrid's network have now formally agreed to Ausgrid's residential road LED upgrade program with several others in the late stages of decision making. Ausgrid commenced LED deployment in many areas in recent months and had completed about 18,500 installations by 30 June 2019 (which takes total Ausgrid LED deployments to about 70,000). However, an unfortunate recent fatality of an Ausgrid employee while working on non-street lighting work has caused the temporary cessation of all live-line works until completion of investigations. In the interim, Ausgrid is continuing to install LEDs at a rate of up to 1,000 per week where the lights are outside live line clearances or can be isolated. When LED street lighting installation works in proximity to live lines are able to start again, Ausgrid is ready to accelerate LED deployments to an average of 2,000 lights per week.

With the finalisation of the AER decision, Ausgrid is expected to make revised offers to those councils that have not yet formally agreed to proceed with LED replacements. Ausgrid's offer will also explain recently finalised Government financial support to remove the upfront cost barriers associated with upgrading 50W and 80W mercury vapour luminaires and explain how this funding and the traditional ESS scheme work together. The SSROC SLI Program team remains at councils' disposal to answer any questions about the revised offer and provide briefings as needed.

3. LED Tender and Smart Controls EOI

SSROC undertook consultations with councils and Transport for NSW earlier this year on Ausgrid's draft street lighting specification. Ausgrid has now released its LED street lighting tender to the market. New and improved LED lighting choices, particularly for main roads and to support smart city projects, are expected in early 2020 as a result of the tender. SSROC has offered to assist Ausgrid in the evaluation of tenders received.

Ausgrid has also agreed to stage a smart controls EOI to better understand product costs and benefits. SSROC has provided Ausgrid with sample EOI documentation from another similar utility process and provided a target list of 14 suppliers that Ausgrid may wish to consider. SSROC understands that Ausgrid intends to release an EOI in the coming weeks and has offered to assist Ausgrid in the evaluation of any submissions received.

4. NSW Public Lighting Code

A new mandatory [NSW Public Lighting Code](#) came into effect from 1 July and is the culmination of several years of successful advocacy by SSROC and participating councils. It sets minimum service levels for Ausgrid, higher penalties for non-compliance and introduces a range of new reporting requirements. SSROC has been working closely with Ausgrid to comment on proposed updates to key policies to align with the Code.

5. Outcomes for May-June Council Consultation Meetings

With major street lighting pricing, technology and service changes underway, the SLI Program Managers were asked to conduct individual in-house briefings for all 29 councils in the SSROC SLI Program which have recently been completed. These briefings involved over 160 council staff from a wide range of disciplines. Councils expressed strong support for the SLI Program and a continued focus on the following priorities:

- a. LED upgrade project
- b. LED tender
- c. Smart controls EOI
- d. AER pricing decision implementation
- e. NSW Public Lighting Code implementation
- f. Securing access to Ausgrid inventory and maintenance data
- g. Progressing solutions for legacy decorative lighting

Key emerging issues for Councils were:

- The growing time, costs and complexity of minor capital works (both contestable and non-contestable)
- 4G/5G augmentation (beyond the scope of the SLI Program but a strong desire for a coordinated regional approach, possibly in conjunction with Ausgrid, was noted)
- Smart city device deployment agreement (beyond the scope of the SLI Program but the possibility of a negotiated regional agreement with Ausgrid was noted)

SSROC's General Manager will be raising each of these current and emerging priorities with Ausgrid's senior management at a meeting in August. Based on council feedback, SSROC will also be instituting a series of more regular updates and meetings for councils

in 2019/20 designed to meet the differing needs of staff, executive leadership teams and council members.

6. SSROC SLI Program Continuation in 2019/20

SSROC's service provider for the SLI Program, Next Energy, was asked in June to make a proposal for continued project management of the program in 2019/20 based on the feedback from consultation meetings with councils (see previous item). This proposal was supported by SSROC General Managers at a recent meeting based on the strong demonstrated benefit/cost ratio of the program over the years and recent successes in securing lower pricing, a large-scale LED deployment, a new LED tender, a smart controls EOI and a new mandatory NSW Public Lighting Code from 1 July. This program continues to be a widely supported successful joint initiative.

SECTION 9. EXTERNALLY FUNDED PROJECTS

ITEM 9.2 Regional Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy

RECOMMENDATION:

That Delegates:

1. Receive and note the report.

Purpose of the report:	To advise Delegates of progress on the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) funded waste and resource recovery projects.
Background:	<p>SSROC receives funding from the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) from the Waste Less, Recycle More program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regional Coordination Support funds, (\$317,432 for 2018/19);• Better Waste and Recycling funds (\$359,108 for 2018/19);• Litter Regional Implementation Program funds (\$40,000) <p>Currently SSROC receives no other grant funding.</p>
Current status:	<p>The secretariat continues with the implementation of the 2017-21 strategy, and the annual action plan for 2019/20 is being drafted to reflect the priorities of the Waste Management Group.</p> <p>Recruitment continues for a second Regional Strategic Coordinator, Waste and Resource Recovery, the position description having been altered to better reflect the emerging priorities. Three candidates have been selected for interview in the week beginning 5 August 2019.</p> <p>The main projects already under way are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Developing the circular economy by identifying opportunities from the domestic waste stream, in partnership with UNSW;• Recycling contestability – piloting a new commercial framework with Inner West and potentially other councils, in the procurement of recycling services;• Developing the market for civil works materials that incorporate recycled content;• Continuing the waste education program in 2019/20.