

'We are a strong and committed advocate for all our members'.

# STRATEGIC ASPIRATIONS & BUSINESS PLAN

2023-2025

www.sacoastalcouncils.com.au



### INTRODUCTION

Half of South Australia's sixty-eight local Councils are coastal...

eight are located along the metropolitan Adelaide coastline, with the remaining twenty-six spread around the vast 5000km + regional coastline, from Eyre Peninsula, Spencer Gulf, Yorke Peninsula, Fleurieu Peninsula & Kangaroo Island and Limestone Coast.

All Councils are under increasing pressure to do more, with less. Coastal Councils have an additional responsibility to provide, manage and maintain a wide range of coastal assets that not only benefit residents and ratepayers, but a much wider visiting and tourist population.

Regardless of size and location, or whether they are metropolitan or regional, coastal Councils are facing the same issues and resourcing pressures including; accelerated cliff and dune erosion; inundation; managing coastal access; maintenance and replacement cost of recreational infrastructure like jetties and boat ramps; planning and development anomalies in coastal areas; sand and beach management; illegal dumping; dredging; managing coastal biodiversity; and construction and maintenance of protection infrastructure including levees, seawalls and groynes.

Every day SA coastal Councils are dealing first-hand with these issues and the impact on their communities. To overcome these challenges Councils consistently identify several barriers, but also the remedies and opportunities to deliver better coastal management outcomes, including;

- New funding and investment strategies are needed to meet the growing demand for infrastructure and mitigate risk from coastal hazards.
- Better coordination between levels of government is needed to maximise resources and enhance efficiencies.
- The desire to develop local expertise in coastal planning and decision making to reduce the risk from coastal hazards; and
- To build Local Government resources and capacity, particularly in small and non-metropolitan Councils to undertake the range of required coastal management works, maintenance, data capture and monitoring.

Over the last ten years expenditure by Local Government on coast protection, management and infrastructure has nearly doubled, however the level of funding from other tiers of government to support this has remained relatively static.

Over the next ten years, the cost of managing the coast is forecast to grow exponentially, with Councils in SA conservatively identifying capital works and operating expenses in excess of \$210 million.

Based on the mounting challenges facing coastal Councils and strong demand from the sector for a more collective approach, the 'South Australia Coastal Councils Alliance' was formally launched in October 2019 with the initial objectives of providing;

- 1. An informed, coordinated advocacy voice: and,
- A forum for information sharing and networking on coastal management issues facing Councils across SA.

This Plan identifies the strategic objectives of the South Australia Coastal Councils Alliance (SACCA) for 2023-25 and its annual activities.

### **LEADERSHIP**



Photo depicts representatives from South Australian coastal Councils at the launch of the Alliance in 2019 including Mayor Sam Telfer (LGASA President), Mayor Keith Parkes (Inaugural SACCA Chairperson) and Mayor Richard Sage (Inaugural SACCA Vice Chairperson). The 'SA coastal snapshot' below was presented at the launch. Photo Courtesy of Ms Anita Crisp.



### **MEMBER COUNCILS**

#### regional councils

Adelaide Plains Council

Alexandrina Council

Barunga West Council

District Council of Ceduna

**District Council of Cleve** 

**Coorong District Council** 

Copper Coast Council

District Council of Elliston

District Council of Franklin Harbour

**District Council of Grant** 

Kangaroo Island Council

Kingston District Council

District Council of Lower Eyre

District Council of Mount Remarkable

Port Augusta City Council

City of Port Lincoln

Port Pirie Regional Council

**District Council of Robe** 

District Council of Streaky Bay

District Council of Tumby Bay

City of Victor Harbor

Wakefield Regional Council

Wattle Range Council

City of Whyalla

District Council of Yankalilla

Yorke Peninsula Council

### metropoltan Councils (tba)

City of Marion

City of Onkaparinga

City of Playford

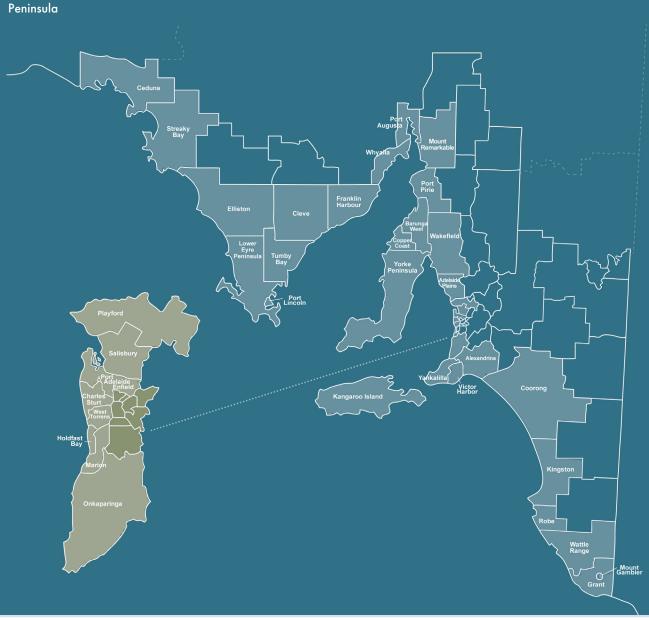
City of Port Adelaide Enfield

City of Charles Sturt

City of Salisbury

City of West Torrens

City of Holdfast Bay



### **GOVERNANCE**

The SA Coastal Councils Alliance is governed by an Executive Committee. Committee members and proxy members are nominated by their respective Regional Local Government Associations from the Councils within each of the following coastal zones for a 2-year term;

<b>SOUTHERN REGION</b> 2 DELEGATES 2 PROXIES	CENTRAL/ METROPOLITAN ADELAIDE 2 DELEGATES 2 PROXIES	NORTHERN ZONE 2 DELEGATES 2 PROXIES	WESTERN ZONE 2 DELEGATES 2 PROXIES
S&HLGA and LCLGA	ACCN	Upper Spencer Gulf and Legatus LGAs	EPLGA
Grant, Wattle Range, Robe, Kingston, Coorong, Alexandrina, Victor Harbor, Kangaroo Island, Yankalilla	Onkaparinga, Marion, Holdfast Bay, West Torrens, Charles Sturt, Port Adelaide Enfield, Salisbury, Playford	Adelaide Plains, Wakefield, Yorke Peninsula, Copper Coast, Barunga West, Port Pirie, Mount Remarkable, Port Augusta, Whyalla	Franklin Harbor, Cleve, Tumby Bay, Port Lincoln, Lower Eyre, Elliston, Streaky Bay, Ceduna

<sup>\*</sup> The President of the LGA shall be an ex-officio member of the SA Coastal Councils Alliance.

### Chairperson

- One Chair and one Deputy Chair shall be selected from and by the Executive Committee members for two years.
- The Chair of the Executive Committee shall be the primary spokesperson of the SA Coastal Councils Alliance.

### Meeting Frequency

- The Executive Committee will meet at least quarterly, or on an as needs basis.
- The SA Coastal Councils Alliance will meet annually in October/November, as part of the annual SACCA Coastal Forum.

### Resources

- Executive support for the SA Coastal Councils Alliance and Executive Committee shall be provided by an Executive Officer.
- Core funding for SACCA shall be sought from annual membership subscriptions from Councils via Regional Local Government Associations.
- Additional project or specialist support shall be funded by stakeholder grants, Councils or other external assistance as relevant.

### Delegated Authority

 Nil – The SA Coastal Councils Alliance is an informal representative network of the States thirty-four coastal Councils. The Alliance Executive Committee is chaired by a Council elected member. The Alliance reports against its strategic objectives regularly to its members.

#### Review

 The SACCA Strategic Objectives and Business Plan 2023-25 will be reviewed annually.

### **SACCA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2023-2025**

The 2023-25 SA Coastal Councils Alliance Executive Committee consists of the following members.



**Chairperson**Mayor Keith Parkes



**Deputy Chairperson**Mayor Robert Walsh

# Adelaide Coastal Councils Network (ACCN - Central Zone) TBA

#### Southern and Hills LGA (Southern Zone)

Mayor Keith Parkes – Alexandrina Council (delegate)

Mayor Darryl Houston – District Council of Yankalilla (proxy)

Cr Sharon Bland - Coorong Council (proxy)

### **Limestone Coast LGA (Southern Zone)**

Mayor Kylie Boston – District Council of Grant (delegate) Mayor Lisa Ruffell – District Council of Robe (proxy)

#### **Legatus Group (Northern Zone)**

Mayor Darren Braund – Yorke Peninsula Council (delegate) Mayor Mark Wasley – Adelaide Plains Council (proxy)

#### **Upper Spencer Gulf (Northern Zone)**

Mayor Phill Stone - City of Whyalla (delegate) CEO John Banks – City of Port Augusta (proxy)

#### Eyre Peninsula LGA (Western Zone)

Mayor Robert Walsh – District Council of Franklin Harbour (delegate)

Mayor Geoff Churchett – District Council of Tumby Bay (delegate)

Mayor Jo-Anne Quigley – District Council of Lower Eyre Peninsula (proxy)

Mayor Dianna Mislov – Port Lincoln City Council (proxy)

#### **LGA President**

Mayor Heather Holmes-Ross – City of Mitcham (ex-officio member)



### MISSION & ASPIRATIONAL OBJECTIVES

The Mission of the South Australia Coastal Councils Alliance is;

To provide strong leadership, support and advocacy for the benefit of all South Australian coastal Councils and their communities.

The activities of SACCA are guided by its Strategic Objectives and Business Plan and the four key strategic objectives identified below;



- > Support coastal Councils by coordinating state-wide strategic coastal activities.
- > Act as a central point of contact for key stakeholders to engage with SA coastal Councils.



- > Partner with other key stakeholders to advance the interests of SA coastal Councils.
- > Support member Councils in partnering with other stakeholders to advance the interests of SA coastal Councils.



- > Develop and deliver information, services or projects to build expertise and knowledge within the SA coastal Councils community.
- > Build the capacity of the SACCA to deliver its strategic objectives.



- Represent the interests of SA coastal Councils to key stakeholders, including research institutions, industry bodies and State and Commonwealth Governments.
- > Work with key stakeholders to deliver strategic objectives established by the SACCA.

### STRATEGIC ASPIRATIONS AND BUSINESS PLAN

The 2023-25 SACCA business plan is the second for the Alliance and represents both the short and medium targets established by the SACCA Executive Committee based on feedback from all members. As a new organisation for the Local Government sector in South Australia the Alliance is building its foundation while delivering a program of work to benefit its member Councils and their communities. The SACCA Business Plan will be reviewed annually.

The following objectives are included in the 2023-25 business plan and have been identified as **priority actions** by members;

- Reforms in coastal funding arrangements, models and funding amounts.
- For all SA coastal Councils to have prepared coastal climate adaptation plans.
- Sustainable funding, investment and asset management arrangements for the States jetties.
- Statewide and strategic coastal access arrangements that maximise the social and economic benefits and mitigate environmental harms.

OBJECTIVE	SACCA ROLE	SACCA ACTIONS
Support coastal Councils by coordinating state-wide strategic coastal activities.	Coordination	Build awareness of all coastal stakeholders and their activities and create linkages with relevant Councils.
Act as a central point of contact for key stakeholders to engage with SA coastal Councils.	Coordination	Promote the role of the SACCA and its capacity to engage with all coastal Councils across the state.
		Support education, awareness and information dissemination between key stakeholders and relevant Councils.
		Maintain effective and valued communication with coastal Councils.

OBJECTIVE	SACCA ROLE	SACCA ACTIONS
Partner with other key stakeholders to advance the interests of SA coastal Councils	Collaboration	Work with the SA Department for Environment and Water (DEW) Coast Protection Unit to support and deliver relevant coastal projects, programs and services.
		Work with the Local Government Association of SA to deliver projects and develop informed policy and strategy initiatives including the Climate Ready Coasts project.
		Collaborate with the Adelaide Coastal Councils Network (ACCN) to create linkages between metropolitan and regional coastal Councils to share expertise and resources.
		Work with interested parties to influence coastal R&D at local, state and national level.
		Engage with National stakeholders (incl. the Australian Coastal Councils Association, Local Government coastal alliances, state LGA bodies) to represent interests of SA Councils, learn from experience and collaborate where mutually beneficial.
		Seek out opportunities to partner with the State & Federal Governments on solutions to prevent plastic entering the marine environment, particularly via stormwater.

OBJECTIVE	SACCA ROLE	SACCA ACTIONS
Support member Councils in partnering with other stakeholders to advance the interests of SA coastal Councils.	Collaboration	Facilitate information exchange and provide support in creating partnerships between Councils and key stakeholders incl. the LGA SA & other Councils, State and Federal Governments, Australian Coastal Councils Alliance and research institutions.

OBJECTIVE	SACCA ROLE	SACCA ACTIONS
Develop and deliver information, services or projects to build expertise and knowledge within the SA coastal Councils community.	Capacity Building	Provide support (either financial or in-kind) where appropriate to encourage coastal zone management capacity building and R&D, this includes working with the LGA SA to deliver the Climate Ready Coasts (CRC) project.
Build the capacity of the SACCA to deliver its strategic objectives.	Capacity Building	Establish and periodically review strategic and business planning frameworks for SACCA.
sindlegic objectives.		Resolve long term sustainable funding arrangements for SACCA
		Continuously improve SACCA governance arrangements.
		Develop an advocacy plan including a relationship matrix.

OBJECTIVE	SACCA ROLE	SACCA ACTIONS
Represent the interests of SA coastal Councils to key stakeholders, including research institutions, industry bodies and State and Federal Governments.	Advocacy	Actively promote the principles identified in the SACCA 'Funding the Future' R&D project and engage all relevant stakeholders to consider reforms in both coastal zone management roles and responsibilities as well as shared investment models.
		Seek out opportunities to represent the activities of SACCA at various forums and promote the strategic objectives of SACCA.
Work with key stakeholders to deliver strategic objectives established by the Alliance.	Advocacy	Identify opportunities for a statewide and strategic approach to coastal access management including coordinated tools/resources and funding.
		SACCA will actively support the objective for all SA Councils to have coastal adaptation plans based on a statewide consistent framework (consistent with the objectives of the CRC project).
		SACCA will actively encourage and engage in reforms aimed at resolving a State strategic plan, tenure agreements and service level plans with sustainable funding for jetties & marine infrastructure
		Work with the State Government to identify agreed methods for sand replenishment (including dredging) to address erosion and amenity.
		Seek clarification from the State on how scientific data informs and is integrated into State policy and planning frameworks. Specifically -
		Transparency of assumptions included in the policies.
		Integrity of data used to inform policy settings.
		Clarity of included risk positions/tolerances.
		<ul> <li>The risks and opportunities associated with introducing relative sea level rise methodologies.</li> </ul>
		Promote the value of 'equity in investment' by State and Federal Governments in our coasts via an increased awareness of SACCA, its role and future opportunities.

## **FUNDING & 2023/25 BUDGETS**

Income for the South Australia Coastal Councils Alliance is derived from three main sources:

- Subscriptions and project fees from SA Coastal Councils via Regional LGAs
- 2. Project funding through partnerships with external organisations.
- 3. Events

Annual expenditure is divided between three main areas:

- Operating expenditure required to employ an Executive Officer, and general costs for administration, subscriptions/memberships, travel and other general organisational expenses, and
- 2. Projects expenditure required to deliver specific projects.
- 3. Events