



SSROC 2019

ANNUAL REPORT



SSROC





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President's Message

COUNCILLOR JOHN FAKER

Overview

The number of people who live in the southern Sydney region continues to grow, so that now the population is almost 1.7 million. Our local councils continue to serve the people and the communities that they belong to. We have moved beyond the days of “roads, rates and rubbish”, to providing the local services needed to sustain thriving communities, families, local economies and environment. Southern Sydney region is also host to critical state and national assets, contributing the broader economy by servicing these key assets like Sydney Port and Sydney Airport, major world-class teaching hospitals and universities, as well as road and rail connections. In short, what we do as councils is not only important locally, but contributes very much to the economy of NSW and the nation.

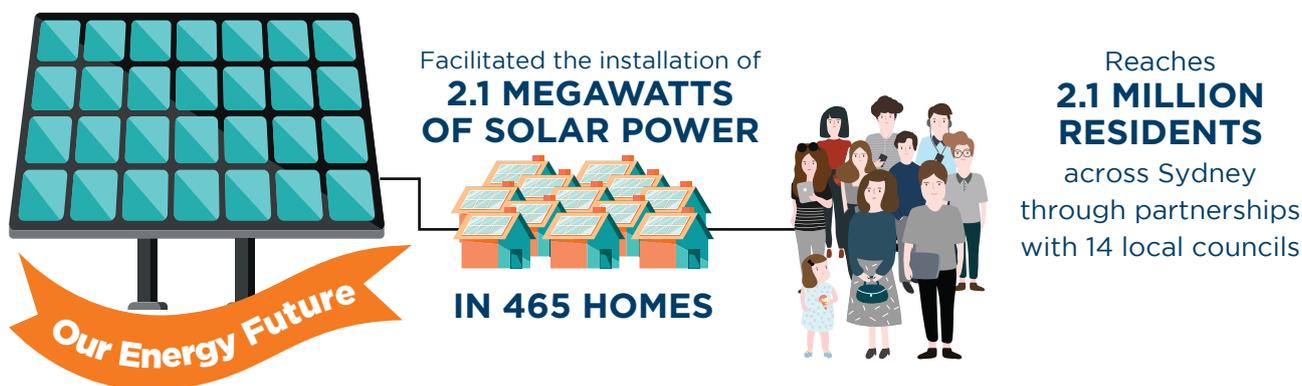
As President of the Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (SSROC), I am proud to lead a group of councils that recognise the benefits of collaboration, cooperation and sharing, achieving results that bring benefits greater than might otherwise be possible. Our joint procurement initiatives continue to bring real financial savings to all the member councils, and

our other shared services enable great work to be done through collective advocacy, joint projects and shared resources.

My thanks to all member councils, especially the Delegates, for their support of SSROC. My fellow Executive members, Mayor of Canterbury Bankstown, Cr Khal Asfour and Cr Daniel Nicholls from Sutherland Shire Council, have demonstrated their commitment this year, and I appreciate their support.

SSROC's Secretariat coordinates, facilitates, and delivers many services and projects for our councils, achieving great results. I thank our General Manager, Namoi Dougall, for her key role in all that SSROC does and achieves. I thank also our Secretary and Treasurer, Matthew Stewart, General Manager of Canterbury Bankstown for his input.

I thank the SSROC core staff and I am impressed by how much such a small team can achieve by working with council officers and coordinating joint initiatives. Thanks also to council General Managers and the many council officers who work together in the strong and mutually beneficial collaboration that is SSROC.



Highlights of the Year

It is only sensible to check periodically and objectively that SSROC is continuing to deliver the value that I believe it is capable of delivering. So this year I challenged the secretariat to demonstrate that our regional organisation is good value for money. The resulting assessment, developed using a methodology devised by EY, is a compelling demonstration of just how valuable SSROC is to its member councils. The evaluation found that, for every \$1 that each council invests each year, each receives more than \$20 back. That is measured based only on quantifiable benefits such as procurement savings, competitive pricing of goods and services, grant funding received and more efficient street-lighting. The actual figure would be much higher if it were possible to put a dollar figure on other services, such as the value of the collective advocacy, research, and the working groups that our council officers prize as project, professional development and networking opportunities. Therefore I strongly commend our regional organisation as very beneficial to all member councils, and look forward to our continued association in the future.

Dramatically escalating energy costs for running our street lights, aquatic centres and all operations gave rise to last year's **Program for Energy and Environmental Risk Solutions (PEERS)**. This year we have seen the benefit of that ambitious project, with the price of 20% to 50% of our electricity supply now sourced from renewable energy and fixed at a very competitive rate for the next 10 years, while we retain the capacity to approach the market again for the remainder of the supply after another 2 years. As a result of this unique initiative, SSROC has been nominated for the Innovative Management Initiative Award by Local Government Professionals.

Our Energy Future, our regional program designed to increase the proportion of energy consumed that is derived from renewable sources, has continued to deliver advisory services. The program, which is now delivered by the Australian Energy Foundation, has facilitated the installation of 2.1 megawatts of solar power in 465 homes. Today it reaches over 2.1 million residents across Sydney through partnerships with 14 local councils. I am proud to say that this successful service was conceived, developed and seed-funded by SSROC and a team of representatives from 8 member councils.

This year has seen major disruptions to the waste and resource recovery services on which all councils rely. Shocks have taken the form of China's restrictions in waste imports, which was followed by similar actions in other nations that industry relied upon. These combined with the revocation of the exemption by the NSW Environment Protection Authority under which waste operators were able to apply compost-like material, derived from general waste, to land. This has left councils with some massive challenges for recycling and waste disposal. Councils are committed to continuing collection services so that there will be no disruption to residents and no risks to public health. But our ability to divert waste from landfill is seriously imperilled. As President of SSROC I fully support the Local Government NSW **Save Our Recycling** campaign. The challenges for recycling and managing our general red-lid bin will continue into next year and beyond.

I am pleased to acknowledge and thank the NSW Environment Protection Authority for continuing to fund regional waste and resource recovery under their **Waste Less, Recycle More** package. I thank them for continued funding for our Regional Strategic Coordinators, and for a wide range of projects under the Better Waste and Recycling Fund.

Looking Forward

As I look to 2019, I am excited that we are already exploring options for further development of PEERS, which will bring us even more opportunities for procuring renewable energy and better electricity prices.

Our work in waste and resource recovery will be more challenging than ever in the coming year and beyond, as we respond to the changing context for recycling and general waste management. At a strategic level, our Waste Strategy Steering Committee will focus on our regional, and our metropolitan, responses to major critical issues including long-term planning for infrastructure and data management necessary to generate the information needed for decision-making at that level. I anticipate close cooperation with our peers, WSROC, NSROC and other metropolitan councils in this strategic planning.

At the same time, continuing collaboration through our regional organisation will lend strength to our advocacy and bring new, innovative solutions urgently needed in response to current issues and the rapidly evolving situation. Some of our more immediate projects will focus on developing the circular economy and stimulating markets for products with recycled content by adjusting our procurement practices. Importantly also, our regional waste education program will continue to support our communities to do the right thing with their waste, emphasising the message “right thing – right bin”, but now with more advanced messages, such as waste minimisation and avoiding plastics.

Our advocacy on the issue of affordable housing will certainly continue into the coming year, as we build on the evidence-base for the effectiveness of NSW’s affordable housing measures.

Finally, in a year of challenges perhaps the most exciting is the coming of the Smart Community. Next year will see councils progressing with new initiatives as they strive to bring technology to achieve the Smart Community. A new working group will focus on working together to deliver a common framework that will help councils to avoid the pitfalls of proprietary smart infrastructure, but still allow them to develop their own approach to delivery. As we all work to understand and manage common issues such as privacy, governance, big data analytics and interoperability, we can share our learnings, standards and platforms so that we can all achieve the social, environmental and economic benefits of the Smart Community of the future.

Conclusion

The challenges of the year ahead should not be underestimated. But equally, they represent huge opportunities: acting regionally will lay the foundations for our councils to deliver ever-better community services next year and into the future. I look forward to our continuing cooperation through SSROC.

Councillor John Faker
PRESIDENT





2019
**Organisation
Structure**

Introduction to SSROC

The Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (SSROC) is an incorporated association of 11 local councils, originally established in 1986.

SSROC is the forum through which the councils work together to solve common problems, co-operate in policy development, and lobby other levels of government.

The Organisation

DELEGATES

The Board of SSROC comprises two councillors delegated from the following member councils:

Bayside Council, Burwood Council, Canterbury Bankstown Council, City of Canada Bay, City of Sydney, Georges River Council, Inner West Council, Randwick City Council, Sutherland Shire Council, Waverley Council, Woollahra Municipal Council.

These councils are also entitled to nominate two additional councillors as alternate delegates.

THE MEMBER COUNCILS



Executive

Each year at the Annual General Meeting, the Delegates elect three of their number to fill the Executive positions of President, Senior Vice President and Junior Vice President. Executive members for 2018/2019 are:



PRESIDENT
Councillor John Faker
(BURWOOD)



SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT
Councillor Khal Asfour
(CANTERBURY BANKSTOWN)



JUNIOR VICE PRESIDENT
Councillor Daniel Nicholls
(SUTHERLAND)

Delegates

BAYSIDE COUNCIL

Councillor Bill Saravinovski (*Mayor*)
Councillor Ed McDougall

BURWOOD COUNCIL

Councillor John Faker (*Mayor, SSROC President*)
Councillor George Mannah
Councillor Ernest Chan (*Alternate*)
Councillor Heather Crichton (*Alternate*)

CITY OF CANADA BAY COUNCIL

Councillor Angelo Tsirekas (*Mayor*)
Councillor Marian Parnaby
Councillor Michael Megna (*Alternate*)
Councillor Charles Jago (*Deputy Mayor, Alternate*)

CITY OF SYDNEY COUNCIL

Councillor Jess Miller
Councillor Christine Forster
Councillor Robert Kok (*Alternate*)
Councillor Craig Chung (*Alternate*)

CANTERBURY-BANKSTOWN COUNCIL

Councillor Khal Asfour (*Mayor, SSROC Senior Vice President*)
Councillor Clare Raffan (*Deputy Mayor*)
Councillor Nadia Saleh (*Alternate*)
Councillor Linda Eisler (*Alternate*)

GEORGES RIVER COUNCIL

Councillor Kevin Greene (*Mayor*)
Councillor Sam Elmir (*Deputy Mayor*)
Councillor Con Hindi (*Alternate*)
Councillor Nick Katris (*Alternate*)

INNER WEST COUNCIL

Councillor Darcy Byrne (*Mayor*)
Councillor Rochelle Porteous
Councillor Lucille McKenna (*Alternate*)
Councillor John Stamolis (*Alternate*)

RANDWICK CITY COUNCIL

Councillor Kathy Neilson (*Mayor*)
Councillor Alexandra Luxford
Councillor Anthony Andrews (*Alternate*)
Councillor Carlos Da Rocha (*Alternate*)

SUTHERLAND SHIRE COUNCIL

Councillor Jack Boyd
Councillor Daniel Nicholls (*SSROC Junior Vice President*)
Councillor Michael Forshaw (*Alternate*)
Councillor Ray Plibersek (*Alternate*)

WAVERLEY COUNCIL

Councillor John Wakefield (*Mayor*)
Councillor Dominic Wy Kanak (*Deputy Mayor*)
Councillor George Copeland (*Alternate*)
Councillor Marjorie O'Neill (*Alternate*)

WOOLLAHRA COUNCIL

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

Staff

SSROC employs staff to undertake the organisation's day-to-day work. The key positions are:

General Manager

Namoi Dougall

Program Manager – Environment, Waste, Planning and Transport

Helen Sloan

Strategic Planning Manager

Mark Nutting

Contracts & Procurement Manager

Cathy Dizon

Procurement Projects Officer

Yamini Agarwal

Program & Communications Officer

Kate Hannan

Office Manager

Natasha Anderson

Executive Assistant

Colleen Stretton

Strategic Regional Coordinator – Resource Recovery & Waste (EPA Funded)

David Kuhn

Hazel Storey

Waste Educators – Better Waste Recycling Fund (EPA Funded)

Louie Leung

Annie Walker

Mei Li Quah

Senior Internal Auditors – engaged by councils

Bindu Mathew

Umayal Sivanandan

The staff team is complemented from time to time by project personnel, engaged to carry out special projects funded by grant income or council contributions.

Working Groups

Working groups of council officers work with the staff team to develop and implement SSROC programs.

The groups are a key component of the success of SSROC.

The current active working groups are:

- Environmental Managers
- General Managers
- Strategic Planners
- Strategic Procurement
- Waste Management



**2018/2019
Major Achievements**



Projects

The **Program for Energy and Environmental Risk Solutions** (PEERS) that began last year to jointly procure renewable energy for councils, successfully achieved significantly lower pricing than for traditional grid electricity. The ground-breaking PEERS initiative has been nominated for the Innovative Management Initiative Award by Local Government Professionals.

The 17 participating councils achieved pricing below market rates starting 1 July 2019. These rates are fixed for ten years for the renewable portion (between 20% and 50%) and three years for the grid portion. The renewable energy PPA has a longer term than a typical retail electricity agreement as this allows the generator's costs to be spread over a longer period, reducing the rate per kilowatt hour. This provides councils with significant price stability benefits for part of their load in a highly volatile market.

The electricity generated from renewable sources is eligible to create Large-scale Generation Certificates (LGCs) under the *Renewable Energy (Electricity) Act 2000*. Since electricity retailers are required to surrender LGCs each year, they are tradeable. Under SSROC's agreement, councils will be entitled to receive the LGCs that the renewable power station generates. They will be able to sell them to liable entities, bringing income to council, or they may choose to retire them, forgoing the income but reducing the supply of LGCs and increasing pressure on retailers to source more electricity from renewable sources.

SSROC's new agreement:

- is the first time that, on their own, a group of councils in Australia has aggregated its demand to achieve a renewable energy PPA as a significant component of its electricity supply;
- sets prices for the renewable portion of the electricity supply at below current market rates for a ten-year period;
- includes grid electricity for three years, permitting councils to approach the market again at that time, to ensure continuing competitive pricing;
- allows councils to seek tenders for additional renewable energy after three-years;
- forces the electricity market to adjust its contracts to accommodate the requirements of local government, which has restrictions that do not apply to commercial operations.



In addition to bringing councils closer to achieving their carbon emissions and renewable energy targets, the agreement brings real tangible cost savings. It also significantly reduces the risk of future price shocks by locking in a price below the current market for 20 to 50% of the supply for ten years. Councils will also be able to identify a particular renewable generation project where their electricity is generated.

Our Energy Future is the program designed to implement the Renewable Energy Master Plan developed in 2012/13 by (then) eight member councils and SSROC with the Institute for Sustainable Futures at UNSW. Under the plan, the eight founding councils established a community energy advisory service in 2015 that was taken on in 2017 by the Australian Energy Foundation, which continues to deliver the service today. This year has seen the service go from strength to strength, and now reaches over 2.1 million residents across Sydney through partnerships with 14 local councils. Our Energy Future has facilitated the installation of 2.1 megawatts of solar power in 465 homes.

Councils plan to continue to support Our Energy Future's community energy service next year, and services will continue to develop.

The **Waste Disposal Project** began the year with the landmark achievement of the first year of full operation by Veolia Environmental Services of its Woodlawn Mechanical Biological Treatment (MBT) facility, and its Banksmeadow Transfer Station. So it was with a powerful sense of dismay that SSROC and the six participating councils learned in October 2018 of the revocation by the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) of the exemption under which the MBT is licensed. To date, little is known about the research that led to the EPA's decision, or what the future of the MBT might be. The compost-like material that should by now be used for mine rehabilitation is in fact being stockpiled, with every likelihood that it will be landfilled.

The Councils and Veolia will of course address any risks to human health that might be caused by the revocation, as soon as we understand them.

The **2019 Regional Waste Audit Project**, has begun. This year's project will be the biggest audit program that we have undertaken yet, to be delivered by Anne Prince Consulting (APC), selected through a competitive process. This detailed examination of the composition of each waste stream of each council (except Waverley), provides essential information for waste and resource recovery planning purposes, as well as a key input to the evaluation of the effectiveness of council's services. With some merged councils also seeking continuity of data by auditing on the basis of the former LGAs, and others needing a separate analysis of high-rise developments, the project is logistically more complex than ever before. We look forward to the results at the completion of the 9-month project.

SSROC member Councils have for some time suspected that boarding house developments in the region have not been delivering the affordable housing that the government intended they should. This year City Futures, the research centre at UNSW Built Environment, completed the project that provided the objective evidence that this view is correct. The **Occupant Survey of Recent Boarding House Developments in Central and Southern Sydney**, concluded that overall, of the estimated 6,000 boarding rooms approved, around half were deemed operational. Of those, the occupants were typically more like conventional renters than traditional boarding house residents or social house waitlists. This evidence will be used to inform our future advocacy in relation to affordable housing. Next year, City Futures will complete the second part of the research that SSROC has commissioned, looking to the effectiveness of secondary dwellings, often termed “granny flats”, as a form of affordable housing.

Under the NSW government’s **Waste Less, Recycle More** package, SSROC receives funding for regional coordination and for the delivery of relevant projects. This funding is most welcome, as it enables SSROC to achieve beneficial outcomes for member councils and their residents that would not otherwise be possible. 2018/19 projects have included case studies on interventions in residential unit blocks, increasing reuse in partnership with the Zero Waste Network, modelling the financial implications of changing kerbside collection of clean-up materials, a procurement project to deliver **Clean-up Processing services**, and **Procure Recycled** – an initiative to increase the recycled content in the wide range of products that councils buy. Another round of the popular and successful **Waste Education Project** which achieved 156 workshops to 2,474 participants throughout the SSROC Region. This program has been running for three years now and in that time has engaged 7,376 participants in 439 workshops. Workshops are hosted by community groups and English classes and cover recycling, reducing plastic and food waste and how to buy and sell second-hand items. Bilingual educators delivered the workshop topics in a variety of languages including English, Mandarin, Cantonese, Arabic and Spanish. Participants commit to an action to reduce waste on a postcard at the end of each workshop which is then sent to participants as a reminder two to three weeks later.



SSROC community waste educators delivered to

439 WORKSHOPS
+
2,474 PARTICIPANTS
on food waste to recycling

Advocacy

During the year SSROC played a highly constructive role influencing the NSW planning process as it undergoes major reform.

CITIES FOR US SUMMIT

SSROC held a successful **Cities for Us Summit** in collaboration with Shelter NSW and with support from the Planning Institute of Australia, City Futures UNSW, and the Committee for Sydney.

Over 150 attendees from a range of councils, NGOs, consultancies and academia, participated in facilitated discussions focussed on density, local infrastructure funding, and affordable housing, community amenities and services that make our cities more livable.

CITIES FOR US SUMMIT FOUR KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

Bringing together the finances to get community infrastructure in place sooner

RECOMMENDATION

1 Move to establish a Growth Infrastructure Compact by District and key Precincts between the Greater Sydney Commission, Infrastructure NSW, Department of Planning and Environment and Sydney councils to make sure local community infrastructure keeps pace with growth. Extend the current pilot of the Growth Infrastructure Compact in the Greater Parramatta and Olympic Park area to other locations like the Sydenham to Bankstown Urban Renewal Corridor.

RECOMMENDATION

2 Seek transparent, holistic reform to local and state development contributions and VPA regimes to ensure that contributions for a place are predictable and serve their different purposes. Clearly configured contribution regimes will transparently demonstrate how they are calculated and how they are spent.

Tackling cost of living pressures by providing more affordable rental housing

RECOMMENDATION

3 Strategically extend SEPP 70 to all Sydney councils to consistently and more fairly meet Sydney's pressing problem of housing unaffordability. The provision of regional housing affordability data, policy guidelines and model submission arrangements from DPE will enable Councils wanting to come under SEPP 70 to streamline their application process and reduce the wasteful duplication of public resources.

Making equitable growth happen with genuine community engagements.

RECOMMENDATION

4 Pilot Local Renewal Agencies in neighbourhoods undergoing intensive redevelopment, not currently being led by a State agency. These council led pilots would endeavour to deliver place sensitive models supported by strong community engagement.



The Communique recommendations were presented to the (then) NSW Planning Minister, The Hon. Anthony Roberts in September 2018. Minister Roberts welcomed the discussion and expressed particular interest in the proposal to pilot a local renewal agency working in neighbourhoods undergoing major redevelopment. The Sydenham to Bankstown transit corridor was referred to as one possibility. Of particular appeal was the ability for such a Council-led agency to deliver a place sensitive collaborative model shaped by strong community engagement.

Minister Roberts expressed his support for the work of the Summit in the Communique's press release.

Following the Summit's success, SSROC convened a project working group to develop the concept and explore options for a local renewal partnership. The group continues to explore options for a local government urban renewal partnership model, involving growth infrastructure funding and strong community engagement, for application in communities undergoing intense redevelopment like the Sydenham to Bankstown transit corridor.

The NSW Government proposed to amend SEPP 70 to include all local government areas in the state. This would mean that that councils no longer needed to seek the Minister's approval to be included in SEPP 70.

In line with the Cities for Us Communique recommendations, the SSROC Secretariat made a submission in support of the proposed changes.

The NSW Government approved amendments to SEPP 70 prior to entering the caretaker period. This signalled a major change in policy approach to support affordable housing delivery.

The amendments to SEPP 70 enabled the expansion of the coverage of the SEPP to include all councils across NSW. These changes removed the administrative step of entering an LGA into SEPP 70, thereby expediting councils' ability to investigate and develop an affordable housing contributions scheme. It does so by entering all LGAs into SEPP 70. It is optional for a council to develop an affordable housing contribution scheme that imposes consent conditions for affordable housing.

Affordable housing contribution schemes enable development contributions to be collected by councils for affordable housing from developers.

In support of the changes the (then) Department of Planning and Environment published a Guideline for councils to help them prepare their own affordable housing contribution schemes. The Guideline seeks to ensure consistency in the way schemes are prepared with clear linkages to information contained in a council's Local Housing Strategy.

SSROC Secretariat facilitated a special workshop of the Planners Group at the City of Sydney offices to discuss key policy issues as part the Councils' preparation of their Local Strategic Planning Statements. It covered a range of issues that included: liveability; productivity; sustainability; and infrastructure as well as cross boundary issues and impacts.

SSROC Secretariat then met with the new Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, Mr Robert Stokes, about the previous Cities for Us Summit recommendations. This discussion included the operations of SEPP 70 amendments to expand the SEPP to all NSW Councils and how the proposed mechanisms councils will apply when developing affordable housing contributions schemes for approval.

OCCUPANT SURVEY OF RECENT BOARDING HOUSE DEVELOPMENTS IN CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN SYDNEY

SSROC released original research, the Occupant Survey of Recent Boarding House Developments in Central and Southern Sydney undertaken by City Futures UNSW on behalf of SSROC. The report 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 meters (plus private kitchen and bathroom facilities).

These "micro-apartments" are predominately occupied by renters who are 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. 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 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" can be fast-tracked under the ARHSEPP, the developments are mostly not operating as lodgings. The survey raised compliance issues, as development consent for a boarding house is defined in the standard Local Environmental Plan as "wholly or partly let in lodgings".

The study concluded 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 stronger requirement that dwellings delivered under the ARHSEPP directly contributes to an affordable housing option to targeted households.

The key findings of the research were subsequently presented to the Department of Planning and Environment and the Greater Sydney Commission.





Procurement

SSROC has an established regional procurement program aimed at achieving stronger buying power by aggregation of goods and services within our region and beyond.

MEASURABLE SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT PROJECTS

Our project-based procurement strategies and practices ensure measurable sustainable procurement is achieved. The best value procurement not only delivers on safety, transparency, efficiencies and compliance at a competitive price but also achieves the best economic, environmental and social benefits for our councils.

These benefits are demonstrated in all of SSROC’s contracts. For example, SSROC’s mattress collection and recycling contract collects approximately 77,000 mattresses across the region from 8 participating councils per annum. Up to 75% of the mattress materials are separated and recycled which avoids these ending up in landfill. Additionally, one of the contractors is a not for profit social enterprise which further expands the economic, environmental and social benefits of the procurement contract.

The gross pollutant trap and ancillary services contract for stormwater management achieved a 90% recycling recovery rate with the SSROC region. This is a substantial amount of waste that is not going to landfill which enabled a massive cost reduction in the waste levy. Approximately 2,000 tonnes per annum is coming from stormwater and gross pollutant traps from the SSROC region.

The Program for Energy and Environmental Risk Solutions (PEERS) won an Excellence Award from Local Government Professionals NSW 2018 for Innovative Leadership and Management. Achieved through a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA), PEERS managed the financial, environmental and contractual risk for the councils’ energy efficiency and delivered the best value pricing for electricity and gas.

PEERS reduces the risk of future price shocks and increases the proportion of renewable energy consumed. SSROC extended the opportunity to aggregate the cost of the contract to other councils, with the invitation being enthusiastically embraced by 18 councils. PEERS entered into Large Market Sites and Renewable Energy (PPA) contracts with Origin Energy and ERM Retail Power for Small Market Sites. PEERS not only achieves lower carbon emissions but also provides significant cost savings for the 18 participating councils. Approximately 440,000 megawatts per hour of renewable energy is supplied by Moree Solar Farm over the life of the agreement.



The regional domestic waste audit program has again be commissioned. It will be the biggest undertaken yet with 13 general audits and 9 high rise audits. Councils achieve significant cost savings by conducting the audits as a single program. The program is due to complete in November 2019.

The Carbon Management Services contract assists participating councils to achieve the reduction of carbon emissions from council operations, with some councils aiming to achieve carbon neutrality through an intelligent resource management system. Contractors systems enable, facilitate and support Council actions to reduce carbon emissions from all sources of greenhouse gases (GHG) that originate within the defined Council's scope. They also enable efficient and accurate management of utility billing. The Contractors systems are capable of developing a carbon footprint inventory to identify the highest sources of Council Operational GHG emissions. The identification of the largest sources of emissions assists carbon reduction plans that originate within the councils' scope.

VENDOR PANEL SSROC ENTERPRISE

SSROC member councils purchased vendor panel, a web-based procurement portal in which councils can conduct their quotations against SSROC contracts easily. It is a fully auditable and transparent system that assists in managing risk in procurement.

SSROC PRIORITISES RECYCLED MATERIALS IN PROCUREMENT

Restrictions on recyclable materials exported from Australia in recent years have led to the stockpiling and landfilling of valuable resources, highlighting a lack of domestic end markets and the inadequate infrastructure for processing recycled materials. SSROC's procurement and waste regional response team is seeking to create a demand for recycled raw materials for re-use for civil works for our region.

SSROC is working with engineers to determine demand, appetite of the industry, and barriers to take up. We are engaging with various stakeholders to ensure that specifications for local roads include recycled material and that councils can be confident of the quality and safety of products with recycled content. SSROC will seek commitment from our member councils to undertake further actions towards a circular economy.

OTHER SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED SSROC CONTRACTS

- Heat, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) contract
- Fire Services contract
- A collaborative contract with Procurement Australia for Wet Hire of Major Plant and Equipment and Banking Services.



Submissions

- 8 August 2018 – submission to General Manager, Networks, Australian Energy Regulator on *Ausgrid Public Lighting Pricing Proposal 2019-24*.

- 5 October 2018 – submission to National Waste Strategy Taskforce, Department of the Environment and Energy on *Update of the 2009 National Waste Policy*.

- 30 October 2018 – submission to NSW Department of Fair Trading on *Improving Certifier Independence: Options Paper*.

- 13 November 2018 – submission to Waverley Council on *Draft Waverley Sustainable Visitation Strategy Survey*.

- 20 November 2018 – submission to Special Advisor – Government and Community Relations, Sydney Airport on *Preliminary Draft Sydney Airport Master Plan 2039*.

- 6 December 2018 - submission to NSW Environment Protection Authority on the *Too Good to Waste – Discussion Paper on a Circular Economy for NSW*.

- 19 December 2019 – submission to Director, Housing and Infrastructure Policy, Department of Planning and Environment on *Proposed Amendment to State Environmental Planning Policy (Affordable Rental Housing) 2009 boarding house provisions*.

- 19 December 2019 – submission to Director, Housing Policy, Department of Planning and Environment on *Proposed Amendment to Environmental Planning Policy No 70 (State-wide application)*.

- 31 January 2019 – submission to Transport for NSW on *Older Persons Transport and Mobility Plan 2018-2022*.



- 5 February 2019 – submission to General Manager, Networks, Australian Energy Regulator on *Ausgrid Revised Public Lighting Pricing Proposal 2019-24*.

- 6 February 2019 – submission to CDS Policy and Compliance Team, NSW EPA on *Draft Alternative Waste Treatment Facility Processing Refund Protocol*.

- 22 February 2019 – submission to Australian Government Civil Aviation Safety Authority on *review of Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS) Operations*.

- 28 February 2019 – on line submission to Department of Environment on *NABERS five-year 2019-2023 Strategic Plan Survey*

- 28 February 2019 – submission to Productivity and Safety Team, National Transport Commission on *barriers to the safe use of innovative vehicles and mobility devices*.

- 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*

- 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*.

- 28 June 2019 – submission to the Department of Finance, Services and Innovation on *the NSW Government's draft Internet of Things (IoT) Policy*.



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