

Coast Protection Board

Minutes of Meeting 516

Date: 20 June 2025

Time: 9:30am–12:45pm

Location: DEW 81-95 Waymouth St, Adelaide, Meeting rooms 10.5 & 10.6, and Teams online

Welcome and Acknowledgement

The Presiding Member opened the meeting at 9:30 am with an Acknowledgment of Country and recognised a quorum. The Board accepted the agenda and noted where decisions were required.

2. Administration

2.1 Introductions & Apologies

Board Members

Hon Paul Caica, Presiding Member

Mr James Buder

Ms Kathryn Galpin

Mr Leith Blacker

Professor Bronwyn Gillanders

Professor Beverley Clarke

Secretary to the Board

Mr David Osborn (Manager, Coast)

Department for Environment and Water (DEW) Staff

Ms Mary-Anne Healy (Director Climate Change, Flood Risk and Coast)

Ms Zeljka Danilovic (A/Team Leader, Policy and Advice, Coast)

Mr Daniel Walton (A/Senior Planner, Coast), (Item 5.3)

Ms Shangchen Sun (Project Officer – Board Secretariat & Grants, Coast) (minute taker)

Ms Olivia D'Arienzo (Business Support Officer, Coast)

Apologies

Ms Cate Hart (Executive Director, Environment, Heritage and Sustainability Division)

Alison Turner (Coastal Programme Officer) (Item 4.1)

Introduction

New Board member: Mr Leith Blacker is Director, Infrastructure and Development at the Lower Eyre Council and is responsible for the effective, efficient and customer-focused delivery of services and strategic advice to Council and the Chief Executive Officer. He previously held the position of Director, Development and Environmental Services with the same council. Leith holds a Bachelor of Architecture and a Graduate Certificate in Building and Planning.

2.2 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

Nil.

2.3 Minutes

2.3.1 Confirmation of Minutes

The draft minutes of Meeting 515, held on 9 May 2025, were received by the Board.

The Board resolved to:

Approve the minutes of Meeting 515 held on 9 May 2025.

2.3.2 Business Arising Meeting Action Report

The Board resolved to:

Note the Action Items from Meeting 515 held on 9 May 2025.

2.3.3 Note Key Outcomes Statement

The Key Outcomes Statement from the 9 May 2025 Board meeting was tabled for noting.

The Board resolved to:

Note the Key Outcomes Statement from Meeting 515 held on 9 May 2025.

3. Strategy and Policy

3.1 Emerging Issues and Relationships

David Osborn raised the concerns of Mr Hanna of Glenelg, about the ongoing sand collection at Glenelg required for the sand-pumping pipeline. Mr Hanna expressed opposition to the removal of seagrass or sand from the beach and indicated the possibility of organizing protest. The DEW Coast Unit is currently working with the City of Holdfast Bay and the police to ensure any future protests are conducted safely and do not disrupt beach operations.

Unapproved photos from recent Board's visit in May 2025 appeared on the social media account of a stakeholder known to oppose the current beach management activities at West Beach.

The Board resolved to:

Note emerging issues.

3.2 Policy & Strategy Review Update

3.2.1 Board Performance Survey

Board members and supporting staff completed a Board performance survey.

The survey covered areas such as compliance, strategic leadership, and governance. Many areas identified as requiring improvement are covered by the proposed Governance Framework which is on the agenda for this meeting, or are in the process of being address, such as development of a strategic plan.

To improve the effectiveness of meetings and decision-making, the Board requested that draft minutes be circulated within five business days of each meeting whenever possible.

Survey results showed strong performance in areas such as integrity, financial oversight, and strategic planning. However, Board diversity was identified as an area needing improvement, though it falls outside the Board's remit.

One of most urgent priorities identified is the development of an effective communication strategy with stakeholders.

DEW Coast Unit staff will have a meeting with Climate Change Team regarding Board's requirements under recently approved DPC Circular 007 – Climate Ready Government.

The Board resolved to:

Note the results of the 2025 Board performance survey

Request draft meeting minutes be provided to members within 5 business day of the meeting, whenever possible

Request a file be opened to record potential amendments to the Coast Protection Act.

3.2.2 Strategic Plan

A format for the public-facing strategic plan was presented, with Option 1 selected. Board member raised concerns about the inclusion of two vision statements in the plan. The Board agreed to retain the outward vision statement in the Plan, and to move the inward vision to a more appropriate document, such as governance framework. A brief discussion was held on enhancing the graphic design and use of visual aids to improve the plan's accessibility and engagement. The draft was approved with the following amendments:

- move inward vision to Governance Framework
- amend priority 3.3 to read 'Advocate for increased resourcing for regional coastal management'
- amend priority 5.2 to read 'Coast protection grants are outcome-based'.

The Board resolved to:

Approve its Strategic Plan 2025-2030 with amendments

Note that the Strategic Plan is subject to Minister's approval.

3.2.3 Governance Framework

The Cabinet approved updates to Circular 16 and Board Guidelines. The Governance Framework may need updating once these documents are released to agencies. The Framework will be subject to regular reviews, one year after adoption, then every 2-3 years. Draft was approved with the following amendments:

- include inward vision from draft Strategic Plan
- section 1.2, paragraph 3: remove first sentence, then move the rest of the text about member resignation to form section 1.4
- section 4.7: replace 'must' with 'will, whenever possible'

The Board resolved to:

Approve draft CPB Governance Framework with amendments

Note that Cabinet approved updated Circular 16 and Guidelines, and that CPB Governance Framework may need to be updated once these documents are released.

3.2.4 CPB Policy

The policy will be progressed for final editing and visual design, and the Board will receive a final copy of the document before it is forwarded to the Minister for approval.

The Board resolved to:

***Note** the changes made to the Policy document since the previous Board meeting*

***Approve** the document for final editing and visual design.*

3.3 Board Delegations

Zeljka Danilovic worked with Crown Solicitor's Office (CSO) on Board's questions from last meeting. The Instrument of Delegation has since been revised and update to address CSO advice. The updated delegations will be submitted to Minister for final approval. The review of financial authorisations will be provided for Board's consideration at the next meeting.

The Board resolved to:

***Approve** draft instrument of delegation*

***Note** that the new instrument of delegation will come into effect once approved by the Minister*

***Note** that the financial authorisations will be provided for consideration at the next meeting.*

3.4 District Management Plans for Coastal Protection District

At meeting 508, held on 21 June 2024, the Board requested a review of historical district management plans which were prepared under the Coast Protection Act. A copy of the Metropolitan District Management Plan from 1982 was tabled.

Members noted legislative requirements arising out of the Coast Protection Board, and the interaction of management plans with the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act regarding the definition of Coast.

It was noted that districts were established prior to the formation of the Landscape Boards, which are responsible for developing and implementing their own landscape regional plans. Earlier districts were created primarily for planning purposes and predate the current SA planning system. As a result, many of these districts have been largely superseded by more current governance and planning frameworks.

The Board emphasized the integrated coast management, suggested modernizing districts to clarify interactions between stakeholders and Board.

It was noted that climate adaptation plans represent an additional layer under the heading of district management plans. The Landscape Boards were observed to be more focused on conservation efforts, with less emphasis on adaptation planning.

The Board suggested pursuing Option 2 (write to the Minister to seek the removal of section 20 from the Act) as the preferred approach. However, this item will remain a standing agenda item for the time being and will be subject to ongoing discussion and review, and may form part of Board's more comprehensive work on advising the Minister on potential amendments to the Coast Protection Act.

Members noted that Mr Osborn recently attended a presentation by Prof Nick Harvey on the history of the Coast Protection Act, and resolved to invite Prof Harvey to make a similar presentation to members as well.

The Board acknowledged and appreciated Zeljka Danilovic's valuable contributions to the Coast Protection Board.

The Board resolved to:

***Note** the information provided in the paper*

***Write** to the Minister to seek removal of section 20 from the Coast Protection Act as part of Board's advice to the Minister on potential amendments to the Act.*

4. Engagement and Communications

4.1 Presentation – Coast Science Team

Deferred

The next meeting will likely include two presentations: one from Coast Science Team and another from the First Nation team.

4.2 Correspondence and Media Reports

Grant open emails have been successfully sent to all coastal councils.

Mr Chlanda wrote to the Board seeking Board's support to vary a native vegetation heritage agreement to establish a tourist accommodation on the land.

The Board resolved to:

Note the correspondence received and responses sent on behalf of the Board

Approve a response letter to Mr Chlanda (Attachment 44)

Note the relevant media articles provided for information (Attachments 45-68).

5. Operations

5.1 Manager's Report

David Osborn mentioned that a strategic restructure to further improve the operation of DEW has now concluded. In effect from 4 August 2025, the Coast Unit will transfer in full to the Biodiversity Science, Coast and Information Branch, led by Mr Matt Ward, within the Biodiversity and Nature Economy Division, led by Ms Sandy Carruthers. Mr Matt Ward will be invited to join the next Board meeting on 1 August 2025.

The Coast Unit continues to support the LGA Climate Ready Coasts Program with the review of compendiums to the CHAP guidelines which CPB adopted previously. Work is underway on data components, including Erosion Hazard Assessment, with a draft expected by July 2025; the Steering Committee met on 18 June and will hold a short follow-up meeting after the upcoming Board meeting.

The Coast Unit continues to deliver the Adelaide Beach Management Review Implementation project. Cabinet will make decision soon, which will impact the ongoing work of both metropolitan beach operations and Coast Unit's work moving forward.

Coast Unit Staff visited the Mt Compass sand quarry and highlighted the comprehensive exercise of sand washing process to control quality meet the strict criteria. It is suggested for the Board to visit the Mt Compass sand quarry in the future.

Channel 7 positively reported on beach replenishment works and their importance in protecting against storm damage.

National Coast to Coast Conference

David Osborn, Nicole Pelton and Beverly Clarke participated in the National Coast to Coast Conference on the Gold Coast in early June. Observations were shared, including large-scale sand management

efforts and beach restoration works carried out following Cyclone Alfred. The Conference will be held in Adelaide in 2028.

The Board resolved to:

Note the Manager's Report.

5.2 Coastal Operations Report

A recent storm event was compared to a similar high tide and storm surge incident in 2016, which resulted in the inundation of Broadway Café and other seafront buildings. Jetties were closed due to safety concerns, and localized flooding was reported. West Beach replenishment works are expected to finish early next week. This brings the total in the past 12 months to 200,000m³. Henley Beach remains low and continues to receive sand replenishment. Dune erosion has been observed at both Semaphore South and Semaphore Park. Seagrass collected from Glenelg is being transported by truck to help rebuild dunes in affected areas. Dredging operations are ongoing across various locations. The Glenelg sand pump experienced damage to its electrical components due to inundation but has since been repaired and is operational.

The Board resolved to:

Note the update on Coastal programs.

5.3 Planning and Development Report

The Board resolved to:

Note an out of session Board response to the draft Limestone Coast and Murray and Mallee Regional Plans was submitted to DHUD-PLUS.

5.3.1 DA Activity Report

The Board resolved to:

Note the Development Applications Activity Report.

5.3.2 Significant Development Proposals

The development of Osborne Nuclear-powered Submarine Construction Yard is continuing across government agencies on the environmental impact assessment, which remains an ongoing issue. The focus includes exploring the development of a more dynamic modelling approach to better inform future planning and decision-making.

The Board resolved to:

Note the Significant Development Proposal Report

5.3.3 Sea Level Rise Benchmarks - Code Amendment

Cate Hart presented to the Planning Commission on 19 June 2025 on how the planning system can better address climate change.

Draft proposed amendments to the Coastal Areas Overlay were summarised, including updating the wording to reference groupings derived from CSCA, specifically in relation to the years by which certain

developments are required to meet defined deadlines. Coast Unit is yet to arrange a meeting with DHUD-PLUS.

The Board resolved to:

Note the report on the progress of the Sea Level Rise Code Amendment.

5.3.4 Hydrogen and Renewable Energy Act referral report

First referral under HRE Act received in January 2025, which not formally referred to the Board, but Coast Unit staff provided input into a consolidated DEW submission regarding identifying several sites on the Eyre Peninsula as potential sites for meteorological masts.

The Board recently approved comments on the formal referral out of session.

The Board noted that there is currently no fee structure in place for the consideration of HRE Act referrals. The DEW Planning and Assessment Unit is collecting time effort data (i.e. hours spent) from DEW staff involved in the referral process to assist in determining resource implications for the Department. The Board determined that this agenda item should not be standard or recurring. It may be reviewed as needed when referrals occur. No delegations from the Board to DEW Coast Unit staff to respond to HRE Act referrals are currently in place.

6. Budget and Finance

6.1 Finance Report

Current underspend against the budget stands at \$320,000, however, this does not indicate that the funds are uncommitted. This underspend will be reduced when the previously approved projects and other Board invoices are processed and paid for in June. The Board noted that the revenue from development applications is expected to be lower, with an anticipated shortfall of \$30,000.

The Board resolved to amend its decision on LGA SA grant funding for conducting the quality assurance function, with a total amount of \$140,000 this financial year, up to \$60,000 in 2026/27 and up to \$60,000 in 2027/28.

The Board resolved to:

Note the attached finance report.

Note current underspend compared to the budget is \$320k with one month remaining in the financial year.

Note nearly 50% of the DA referral fees revenue budget has been received

Amend its decision regarding the grant funding agreement with LGA SA for quality assurance function.

6.2 Budget Pre-Approval for 2025-26

Deferred to the next meeting on 1 August 2025

7. Any Other Business

None raised.

8. Topics for Minister for Climate, Environment & Water

- Board Strategic Plan, Policy, Governance Framework and Delegations will be forwarded to the Minister for approval.
- Newly appointed Board member, Mr Leith Blacker, attended his first meeting.

9. Statement of Key Outcomes

- Board Strategic Plan, Policy, Governance Framework and Delegations will be forwarded to the Minister for approval.
- Newly appointed Board member, Mr Leith Blacker, attended his first meeting.

10. Next Meeting Scheduled for Friday, 1 August

Meeting closed at 11:32 pm.



Presiding Member of the Coast Protection Board

Date: 01.08.2025