

Coast Protection Board

Minutes of Meeting 523

Date: 26 June 2026

Time: 09:30– 13:00

Location: 81-95 Waymouth St, Adelaide

1. 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.

2a. Administration

2.1 Introductions & Apologies

Board Members

Hon Paul Caica, Presiding Member

Professor Beverley Clarke

Mr James Buder

Ms Kathryn Galpin

Mr Leith Blacker

Department for Environment and Water (DEW) Staff

Ms Sandy Carruthers, Executive Director, Biodiversity Science, Coasts and Information

Dr Matthew Ward, Director Biodiversity Science, Coasts and Information

Dr Nicole Pelton, A/Manager Coasts

Ms Shangchen Sun, Project Officer – Board Secretariat & Grants

Mr Rizwan Mahmood, Senior Policy Officer

Guests

Hon Emily Bourke MLC, Minister for Climate, Environment and Water (Item 3.1 and Item 5a)

Mr Gus Crouch, Ministerial Adviser (Item 3.1 and Item 5a)

Ms Annabel Sandery, Principal Advisor Coastal Resilience, DEW (Item 5.2)

Ms Felicity Beswick, A/Team Leader, Coastal Operations and Engineering (Item 5.3)

Mr Kym Gerner, Senior Coast and River Planner, DEW (Item 4.2.1)

Dr Lexi Schwarz, Project Manager, Environmental Approvals, Department for Infrastructure and Transport (Item 4.2.2)

Mr Toby Carter, Director, Land and Environment, Department for Infrastructure and Transport (Item 4.2.2)

Ms Stephanie Luyks, Manager, Engagement, Department for Infrastructure and Transport (Item 4.2.2)

Mr Andrew Querzoli, Environmental Advisor, Department for Infrastructure and Transport (Item 4.2.2)

Dr Karl Hillyard, H5 Bird Flu Preparedness Coordinator, DEW (Item 7)

Apologies

Professor Bronwyn Gillanders, Board Member

Ms Lucy Jensen, A/Team Leader Coastal Policy and Governance, DEW

Ms Alison Turner, Coastal Scientific Officer, DEW (Item 4.1.1)

3a. Engagement and Communications

3.1 Emerging Issues and Relationships

Minister for Climate, Environment and Water

The Minister for Climate, Environment and Water reflected on her first three months in the portfolio and emphasised the importance of elevating coastal issues within government discussions and acknowledged the challenges associated with ageing coastal infrastructure and increasing climate-related risks. The Minister also highlighted the significant value of the Government's recent investment in Adelaide Beach Management, including the \$55 million package for sand management.

The Board discussed increasing costs associated with coastal hazard risk management. Board members noted the importance of understanding future liabilities and investment requirements to support long-term planning and funding decisions.

The Minister and Board Members discussed the need for proactive planning approaches, including improved planning controls, infrastructure and road design, integrated stormwater management and consideration of natural coastal processes. Discussion also highlighted the importance of avoiding future coastal risk through improved land use planning, contemporary infrastructure design, and consideration of long-term coastal hazard exposure when making development and investment decisions.

The Board resolved to:

***Note** the discussion with the Minister for Climate, Environment and Water*

Director Biodiversity Science, Coasts and Information

The Director, Biodiversity Science, Coasts and Information, provided updates on preparedness activities associated with H5N1 avian influenza; ongoing monitoring of algal bloom impacts; Adelaide Beach Management operations and planning; and recruitment activities within the Biodiversity Science, Coasts and Information Branch that support an integrated coastal management approach.

The Director also provided an update on statewide marine park assessment surveys and ongoing interagency collaboration supporting integrated coastal and marine management.

The Board resolved to:

***Note** the update provided by the Director, Biodiversity Science, Coasts and Information.*

Ms Kathryn Galpin, Board Member, joined the meeting at 9:20 am.

Board Members

Mr James Buder suggested that Marine Services further utilise the Department for Infrastructure and Transport's (DIT) social media channels to communicate with the community. He noted the importance of translating scientific and data-driven information into clear and accessible messages and emphasised the need for consistent public messaging.

The Board resolved to:

***Note** the update provided by the Board Member.*

5a. Coast Unit Business & Operations

5.2 Presentation – Update on SA Climate Ready Coasts Program

Ms Annabel Sandery, Principal Advisor Coastal Resilience, DEW, provided an update on coastal councils' progress of Coastal Hazard Adaptation Planning (CHAP) under the Climate Ready Coasts Program (CRC).

The Board noted the increasing importance of assessing the costs and benefits of feasible adaptation pathways (for example, protection, accommodation and retreat), including consideration of who benefits from adaptation investments and who may be responsible for future costs.

Dr Pelton described the value of SA's new framework for Coastal Hazard Adaptation Planning in relation to its ability to provide clarity on the scale of coastal risk, including short-, medium- and long-term priorities and funding requirements.

Members also discussed the growing importance of integrating stormwater management, infrastructure planning and coastal adaptation responses to improve long-term resilience outcomes.

The Board resolved to:

***Note** the presentation on the SA Climate Ready Coasts Program.*

5.3 Adelaide Beach Management Operations

Ms Felicity Beswick, A/Team Leader, Coastal Operations and Engineering, provided an update on Adelaide Beach Management operations, including the progress in quarry sand replenishment at West Beach and Henley Beach South, completion of pre-winter beach maintenance at Semaphore and Glenelg North, progress of the Southern Sand Pumping Pipeline replenishment program, and routine harbour maintenance dredging.

The Board noted that key sand movement targets had largely been achieved and that operations continued to be adapted in response to monitoring data and recent storm events.

The Board resolved to:

***Note** the update on Adelaide Beach Management.*

The Minister for Climate, Environment and Water and the Ministerial Adviser left the meeting at 10:30 am.

2b. Administration

2.2 Declarations of Conflict of Interest

Mr James Buder declared a potential conflict of interest in relation to the Northern Water Project, which is being led by the Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT), and advised that he would not participate in discussion of Item 4.2.2 presentation on the Northern Water Project.

Hon. Paul Caica, the Presiding Member noted his recent appointment as Presiding Member of the South Australian Fire and Emergency Services Commission (SAFECOM). It was agreed that this did not constitute a conflict of interest in relation to matters before the Board.

The Board resolved to:

***Note** the declarations.*

2.3 Confirmation of Meeting 522 Minutes and Actions

2.3.1 Minutes from Meeting 522

The draft minutes of Meeting 522 held on 1 May 2026 were received by the Board.

The Board resolved to:

Approve the minutes of Meeting 522 held on 1 May 2026.

2.3.2 Key Outcomes Statement

The Key Outcomes Statement from Meeting 522 held on 1 May 2026 was tabled.

The Board resolved to:

Note the Key Outcomes Statement from Meeting 522 held on 1 May 2026.

2.3.3 Action Items Register

The Board resolved to:

Note the Action Items Register.

3b. Engagement and Communications

3.2 Correspondence and Media

3.2.1 Correspondence

The Board considered correspondence received since the previous meeting. The Board discussed the importance of ensuring clarity in reporting requirements and appropriate responses to stakeholder queries.

The Board resolved to:

Note the correspondence received and sent.

Action: DEW to respond to requested meeting with the LGA Executive Director.

3.2.2 Media

The Board resolved to:

Note the media coverage tabled.

4. Governance, Policy and Planning

4.1 Governance and Policy

4.1.1 Presentation - Coast Protection Board-owned land

The Board resolved to:

Note that a presentation on Coast Protection Board-owned land will be provided at another meeting.

4.1.2 Coast Protection Board – Stormwater Management Authority Meeting Summary

Dr Nicole Pelton, A/Manager Coasts presented the Stormwater Management Authority and CPB joint meeting summary report.

The Board resolved to:

Approve the summary of outcomes, identified opportunities for collaboration, and proposed to continue collaboration with Stormwater Management Authority on the identified issues.

4.1.3 Coast Protection Board and Green Adelaide Board Joint Meeting

Dr Nicole Pelton, A/Manager Coasts, presented the meeting invitation and the proposed agenda for Coast Protection Board and Green Adelaide Board Joint Meeting to be held on 23 July 2026.

The Board resolved to:

Note the invitation from Green Adelaide and the proposed Agenda for a joint meeting to be held on Thursday 23 July 2026.

Action Follow up with Minister's Office regarding an invitation to the joint meeting.

4.2 Planning & Development

4.2.1 Development Activity and Significant Development Proposals

Mr Kym Gerner, Senior Coast and River Planner, DEW, provided an update on development activity and significant development proposals for the period 1 April to 30 May 2026.

The Board resolved to:

Note the Development Activity and Significant Proposals Update for the period 1 April to 30 May 2026.

4.2.2 Presentation - Northern Water Project Update

Staff from the Northern Water Project Team of the Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) provided an update on the desalination plant project.

The Board resolved to:

Note the update from DIT on the Northern Water Project.

5. Coast Unit Business & Operations

5.1 Manager's Report

Dr Nicole Pelton, A/Manager Coasts, provided an update on Coast Unit activities. This included recent recruitment within the team and ongoing organisational restructuring to strengthen capability across coastal planning, operations and science functions.

Dr Nicole Pelton also highlighted the success of the Climate Ready Coasts (CRC) Program, including recognition with a commendation at the National Planning Institute of Australia (PIA) Awards in the climate and resilience category.

The Board resolved to:

Note the Manager's Report.

6. CPB Budget

6.1 Finance Report

Dr Nicole Pelton, A/Manager Coasts, DEW provided an update on the Board's current financial position and revised projections for the end of the financial year. The Board approved a proposal to vary an existing grant agreement to support expansion of a high-priority project being undertaken by the Yorke Peninsula Council.

The Board resolved to:

Note the finance report as of 31 May 2026.

Approve DEW to issue a grant variation to Yorke Peninsula Council for the project "Address Coastal Hazards at Mud Alley, Foul Bay".

6.2 CPB Funding Request

The Board considered a request to sponsor the 7th Australasian Young Coastal Scientists and Engineers Conference (AusYCSEC) 2026 and discussed the value of supporting early-career professionals and strengthening future capability in the sector.

The Board resolved to:

Approve the request to sponsor the 7th AusYCSEC 2026 as:

- a. "Conference Supporter" (AUD \$1,000)
- b. "Coffee Break Sponsor" for the South Australian local hub (AUD \$550)

Action DEW to invite conference organisers to present to the Board at a future meeting.

Mr Leith Blacker left the meeting at 11:45 am.

7. Any Other Business

Special Briefing: H5 Bird Flu

Dr Karl Hillyard, H5 Bird Flu Preparedness Coordinator, DEW, provided a briefing on H5 Bird Flu, including an overview of the emerging strain, potential impacts on wildlife and industry, and preparedness activities at national and state levels. The Board noted surveillance and monitoring arrangements, risk assessments, and the importance of early detection and coordinated response. The role of community awareness and reporting was also emphasised.

The Board resolved to:

Note the H5 Bird Flu Update.

Action CPB newsletter to include H5 Bird Flu information aligned with the whole of government communications.

8. Summary of Meeting 523

8.1 Items for Communique to Minister

8.2 Items for Statement of Key Outcomes

The Board discussed the duplication involved in the preparation and publication of Key Outcome Statements given the publication of approved meeting minutes.

The Board resolved to:

Approve discontinuation of the preparation and publication of Key Outcome Statements.

9. Next Meeting

- 23 July 2026 – Joint workshop with Green Adelaide
- 14-18 September 2026 – Kangaroo Island field trip

Meeting closed at 13:00.



Presiding Member of the Coast Protection Board

Date: 17.09.26