

Coast Protection Board

Minutes of Meeting 517

Date: 1 August 2025

Time: 9:30 am–12:55 pm

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 Beverley Clarke

Apologies

Professor Bronwyn Gillanders

Department for Environment and Water (DEW) Staff

Mr David Osborn (Manager, Coast)

Ms Mary-Anne Healy (A/Executive Director, Environment, Heritage and Sustainability)

Ms Zeljka Danilovic (Coordinator, Policy and Governance, Native Vegetation Branch)

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

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

Dr Matt Ward (Director Biodiversity Science, Coast and Information)

Guests

Ms Diane Favier (A/Director Climate Change, Flood Risk & Coast) - Item 3.3

Ms Alison Turner (A/Principal Coastal Scientific Officer) - Item 4.1

Mr Ashley Millar (Manager, First Nations Partnerships and Reconciliation) - Item 4.1

Mr Daniel Walton (A/Principal Coastal Planner) - Item 5.3

2.2 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

Nil.

2.3 Minutes

2.3.1 Confirmation of Minutes

The draft minutes of Meeting 516, held on 20 June 2025, were received by the Board.

The Board resolved to:

***Approve** the minutes of Meeting 516 held on 20 June 2025.*

2.3.2 Business Arising Meeting Action Report

The Board noted the new format introduced for items. A column was added to indicate whether an update has occurred since the previous meeting. Items will stay on register until all members note as "complete".

The Board resolved to:

***Note** the Action Items.*

2.3.3 Key Outcomes Statement

The Key Outcomes Statement from the 20 June 2025 Board meeting was tabled for noting.

The Board resolved to:

***Note** the Key Outcomes Statement from Meeting 516 held on 20 June 2025.*

3. Strategy and Policy

3.1 Emerging Issues and Relationships

David Osborn noted the toxic algal bloom continues. The Coast Protection Board and Coast Unit assist in providing information on this matter, including the Coast Unit Science team's involvement with ongoing monitoring work, but monitoring and public communication efforts are primarily driven by other units of DEW, the EPA and PIRSA.

The Board resolved to:

***Note** emerging issues.*

3.2 Policy & Strategy Review Update

3.2.1 Draft Work Plan 2025/26

Priority actions identified in the Strategic Plan 2025-2030 have been incorporated into the annual work plan for 2025/26. A workshop was held with the Coast Unit staff to ascertain what other actions could be undertaken in 2025 and incorporated into the plan.

The Board resolved to:

***Note** the work plan developed under the Strategic Plan 2025-2030 for 2025-2026 (Attachment 1)*

***Endorse** the format of the work plan, noting that it may be subject to change as the work progresses*

***Consider** whether other priorities or actions should be included in the work plan*

***Consider** the work plan in relation to the 2025-2026 budget (Item 6.2)*

***Approve** inclusion of the Strategic Plan and Work Plan as standard items on Board meeting agendas.*

3.3 Governance Matters

3.3.1 Financial Authorisations

Zeljka Danilovic updated the Board regarding the review of financial authorisations.

The Board resolved to:

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

3.3.2 DEW/CPB Letter of Agreement

A Letter of Agreement between the Board and the Department for Environment and Water formalises the obligations and functions of the Coast Unit in support of the Coast Protection Board under the *Coast Protection Act 1972*.

A draft Letter of Agreement was provided for consideration. James Buder identified a need to further define "secretariat" duties and responsibilities in the document, and to include provisions for "policy support". Mr Buder also expressed a preference for further detailing the other functions of the Coast Unit, such as powers exercised under delegation.

The Board resolved to:

***Consider** a revised draft Letter of Agreement between the Board and Department for Environment and Water out-of-session.*

3.3.3 DPC Circular 7 – Climate Ready Government

Diane Favier, A/Director Climate Change, Flood Risk & Coast, provided an update to the Board on DPC Circular 7 – Climate Ready Government, which outlines requirements public agencies must comply with.

The Board resolved to add reference to Climate Ready Government under Priority 2 of its Strategic Plan and add Climate Ready Government as a standing agenda item.

The Board resolved to:

***Note** the requirements under DPC Circular 7 – Climate Ready Government*

***Approve** the course of action regarding compliance with the Circular as proposed in this paper*

***Amend** its Strategic Plan 2025-2030 to include reference to Climate Ready Government under Priority 2*

***Add** Climate Ready Government as a standing agenda item.*

4. Engagement and Communications

4.1 Presentations

4.1.1 Seabed Monitoring (Rods) Program

Ms Alison Turner, Acting Principal Coastal Scientific Officer, provided an overview of the Coast Unit's long-term seabed monitoring (rods) program. The program utilises a series of 1.6 metre brass rods inserted into the seabed at a depth of 1 metre along the Adelaide metropolitan coast, to measure changes in seabed elevation and seagrass coverage. There are currently 6 rod profiles comprising 200

data points. Data is used to ground-truth remote sensing measurements such as hydrographic survey data, as well as inform other government and academic research programs such as seagrass restoration, blue carbon and developing new seagrass mapping techniques such as the SmartSat project which seeks to assess live seagrass cover and species using satellite-based hyperspectral imagery.

4.1.2 DEW Reconciliation Action Plan

Mr Ashley Millar, Manager of the First Nations Partnerships and Reconciliation Team, highlighted the work of the Reconciliation Team in managing the Department for Environment and Water's Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) deliverables and Close the Gap commitments.

Action areas of the previous RAP included strengthening First Nations partnerships, employment outcomes for Aboriginal staff, and facilitating access to cultural practices on public land. The Reconciliation Sub-Committee of Executive is responsible for the implementation of strategic initiatives and policies to assist DEW in achieving these objectives. The previous RAP had 90 objectives, 66 of which were complete, 16 are ongoing and 7 are delayed but expected to resume.

The Department for Environment and Water is primarily focused on Close the Gap objective 15 – relationships with land and waters (Native Title rights). DEW engagement involves park management, facilitation of major projects, interpretive signage, co-management of Boards and informing First Nations groups of changes to Acts or other plans that affect them.

The Board noted potential future engagement opportunities through Ashley Millar and his team in furthering the Board's First Nations engagement priority.

The Board resolved to:

***Note** the presentations provided on the Seabed Monitoring (Rods) Program and the DEW Reconciliation Action Plan.*

4.2 Correspondence and Media Reports

David Osborn noted an increase in correspondence following recent storm events.

The Board discussed an invitation received to sponsor the 6th Australasian Young Coastal Scientists and Engineers Conference in September and resolved not to sponsor an interstate conference

Leith Blacker suggested to find out more information about local hub.

James Buder suggested developing a matrix/set of criteria to assist in assessment of future sponsorship requests.

The Board resolved to:

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

***Resolved** not to sponsor the 6th Australasian Young Coastal Scientists and Engineers Conference*

***Approve** a response letter to Ms Nadia Moffatt (Attachment 28)*

***Note** the relevant media articles provided for information (Attachments 29-45)*

***Note** the Formal Letter of Complaint from John Dundon (Attachment 46).*

5. Operations

5.1 Manager's Report

David Osborn confirmed that several positions within the Coast Unit are due to be advertised within the following week.

The Climate Ready Coasts Executive Steering Committee has approved proposed data acquisition programs (bathymetry and hydrodynamic modelling) but precise locations are to be determined.

The Coast Unit completed the Board's FOI annual report for State Records of SA. The Board received no FOI applications in 2024/25.

Dr Matt Ward was introduced as the new Director, Biodiversity Science, Coast and Information following DEW's recent organisational restructure in effect from 4 August 2025.

The Board resolved to:

Note the Manager's Report.

5.2 Coastal Programs Report

Autumn beach works have been completed at West Beach, Henley Beach South and Semaphore.

The Glenelg to Kingston sand pumping pipeline is currently operating. Storms have caused issues with beach lowering at Glenelg, limiting the volume of sand able to be accessed on the beach.

Routine harbour dredging continues.

The Board resolved to:

Note the update on metropolitan beach operations.

5.3 Planning and Development Report

Mr Daniel Walton, A/Principal Coastal Planner, flagged emerging issues with requests and inquiries for redevelopment, sub-division, and lease extensions related to vulnerable leasehold land on Hindmarsh Island.

A substantial development application for a leasehold site at Mundoo Channel drive was received. The lease expires in 2060, and current flood modelling indicates the access road to this settlement will be underwater before 2060.

The Coast Unit staff will liaise with Alexandrina Council staff to provide advice on coastal hazard risk at this site.

5.3.1 DA Activity Report

The Board resolved to:

Note the Development Applications Activity Report.

5.3.2 Significant Development Proposals

The Board resolved to:

Note the Significant Development Proposal Report.

5.3.3 Sea Level Rise Code Amendment

Mr Daniel Walton updated the Board on progress related to the Sea Level Rise Code Amendment, including work required on governance arrangements pursuant to formal consultation 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

Nil.

6. Budget and Finance

6.1 Finance Report

The Board noted that 95% of the previous financial year's budget was expended. Forecast figures for current financial year are still being finalised but expected to be comparable to last year.

The Board resolved to:

***Note** the 2024-25 Finance Report*

***Note** 2024-25 underspend.*

6.2 Budget Pre-Approval for 2025-26

The Board resolved to:

***Approve** the draft 2025/26 budget (Attachment 1).*

7. Any Other Business

A meeting with Green Adelaide regarding the Regional Landscape Plan 2026-31 is anticipated. The Board recommended that David Osborn and/or Matt Ward attend if possible, together with the Presiding Member.

8. Topics for Minister for Climate, Environment & Water

- Climate Ready Government
- Presentation on the Seabed Monitoring (Rods) Program
- Presentation from the Reconciliation Team
- Update on the Algal Bloom
- Budget Plan 2025-2026

9. Statement of Key Outcomes

- Climate Ready Government
- Presentation on the Seabed Monitoring (Rods) Program
- Presentation from the Reconciliation Team
- Update on the Algal Bloom

10. Meeting Schedule for 2025/26

The Board agreed to continue meeting every six weeks.

The Board resolved to:

Approve the proposed Board meeting dates for 2026.

11. Next Meeting Scheduled for Friday, 12 September 2025

Meeting closed at 12:55 pm.



Presiding Member of the Coast Protection Board

Date: 12.09.2025