

# MEDIA RELEASE



## SHOROC AWARDED FOR ADVOCACY AND PLANNING AS COUNCILLORS PLAN FOR FUTURE

16 April 2014

SHOROC and its partner councils – Manly, Mosman, Pittwater and Warringah – have been recognised as a leader of regional partnerships as councillors have come together again to plan for the future of the region.

SHOROC won a Highly Commended Award at the Local Government Managers Australia NSW 2013 Management Excellence Awards in the Category 'Partnerships for Growth'.

At a recent SHOROC Forum the Chief Executive of the NSW Office of Local Government Mr Ross Woodward also stated that the NSW Government sees SHOROC and its partner councils "as leaders in local government, showing how regional collaboration can work".

SHOROC President and Pittwater Mayor, Cr Jacqueline Townsend says the recognition acknowledges the hard work and collaborative efforts of partner councils for improved transport and health infrastructure.

"We developed *Shaping Our Future* in 2010 as the first integrated regional strategy and we're now realising significant results. For the first time in decades major infrastructure funding is being directed at this region including major public transport and road upgrades and of course the Northern Beaches Hospital.

"We're now looking to the future and how we can make our region even better. Collaboration continues with councillors and senior staff from all four councils coming together last week to identify future priorities.

"The SHOROC Forum gave councillors and staff the opportunity to workshop and identify priorities for the region and also hear from the NSW Government about local government reform and in particular how local and state government can work better.

The Hon Jonathan O'Dea MP, Member for Davidson spoke about the importance of looking at the region as a whole, beyond council boundaries. Mr Ross Woodward, Chief Executive Office of Local Government outlined the work being undertaken in the Local Government Review.

"With a strong track record in regional coordination and collaboration, SHOROC and its partner councils are highly regarded as a strong and progressive organisation.

"The LGMA award and recognition by the Office of Local Government demonstrates the benefits for this region that the collaboration between councils can bring. Priorities identified by the councillors at the Forum will be incorporated in the SHOROC Corporate Plan and we look forward to even greater results in the future," said Cr Townsend.

The Local Government Management Excellence Awards is an annual program that recognises councils that demonstrate excellence and innovation. This year, Local Government Professionals Australia, NSW received record-breaking nominations across ten categories.

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Shore Regional Organisation of Councils – a partnership of Manly, Mosman, Pittwater & Warringah Councils

