MEDIA RELEASE

$1.6 MILLION IN COST SAVINGS FOR COUNCILS THROUGH SHOROC

Over $1.6 million in savings have been realised by Manly, Mosman, Pittwater and Warringah councils by partnering through SHOROC, the regional organisation of councils on Sydney's Northern Beaches.

Less than two years into the program designed to increase efficiency and save council funds, SHOROC has exceeded the four-year savings target set in 2010 by more than 60 per cent, taking the total savings to councils to $1,619,719.

"Saving over $1.6 million by working with our neighbouring councils means we can deliver more for our communities," said Cr Jean Hay, SHOROC President and Mayor of Manly.

"We have strategically focused on joint procurement of services and major regional tenders such as for road construction materials, tyres, stormwater maintenance services, and services and minor capital works to deliver these significant savings," said Mayor Hay.

"The work has really gained momentum and the total savings to councils in the past six months alone has reached $1,297,269 demonstrating a four-fold increase in savings from the previous reporting year" Cr Hay added.

This is a timely announcement by SHOROC as the NSW Government seeks to strengthen regional collaboration by councils particularly through Regional Organisation's of Councils, or ROC's, to help ensure the future financial sustainability of councils.

"SHOROC's strategic direction remains tightly focussed on helping achieve financial sustainability for its member councils through its Cost Savings Program."

Building on the savings through joint tendering and the jointly-owned Kimbriki resource recovery centre, the SHOROC Board has agreed there is a potential for more shared services on a regional scale.

"We've demonstrated some great savings through joint tendering but I think this is only just the beginning of what can be achieved for our four councils when we look at collaborative service delivery," Cr Hay said.

Ends Media Contact: Ben Taylor, SHOROC 9905 0095