

## SHOROC SHORTLISTED FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT AWARD FOR ADVOCACY AND PLANNING

25 March 2014

SHOROC and its partner councils – Manly, Mosman, Pittwater and Warringah – have been shortlisted as a finalist in the Local Government Managers Australia, NSW 2013 Management Excellence Awards in the Category ‘Partnerships for Growth’ Award.

Titled *Stronger region – a united voice getting results: Regional plan and advocacy campaign for transport and health infrastructure*, the SHOROC submission was based around the *Shaping Our Future* strategy and the associated advocacy campaign.

SHOROC President and Pittwater Mayor, Cr Jacqueline Townsend says to be shortlisted is testament to the hard work and collaborative efforts of partner councils for improved transport and health infrastructure for the Northern Beaches and Mosman.

“In 2010 we developed *Shaping Our Future* as the first ever integrated region strategy to improve public transport, roads and health infrastructure for the Northern Beaches and Mosman.

“We’re getting results and it is great to see that the collaboration, hard work and commitment by our four partner councils being recognised.

Based on this strategy SHOROC worked with our local MPs and coordinated an advocacy campaign for investment in a regional Bus Rapid Transit system, major road upgrades, and improved health services including a new Northern Beaches Hospital while upgrading Mona Vale Hospital.

“The cornerstone of SHOROC’s advocacy campaign has been collaboration across the councils, other levels of government, business and the community.

“We are now realising significant results and thanks to our local MPs and this partnership for the first time in decades major infrastructure funding is being directed at this region including:

- \$7.5 million allocated for road upgrades in past year, with major works foreshadowed
- Bus Rapid Transit system in planning
- \$29 million initial funding for the Northern Beaches Hospital and construction tender underway

“We have provided leadership, a united voice and worked in partnership with the NSW and Commonwealth governments, community and business. I’m proud and excited about what we are achieving for our region and congratulate everyone involved in bringing the strategy to fruition,” said Cr Townsend.