

# SHOROC INCORPORATED

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday 18 February 2015, 3-5pm

SHOROC Boardroom 33/42-46 Wattle Road, Brookvale



### Board Members Present

Cr Peter Abelson	Mayor of Mosman, SHOROC President
Cr Jacqueline Townsend	Mayor of Pittwater
Cr Jose Menano-Pires	Deputy-Mayor of Warringah
Veronica Lee	General Manager Mosman Council
Mark Ferguson	General Manager Pittwater Council, SHOROC Treasurer
Stephen Clements	Deputy General Manager Manly Council
Malcolm Ryan	A/General Manager Warringah Council

### In attendance

Ben Taylor	Executive Director SHOROC
Jacqui Fishpool	Communications and Office Manager SHOROC

## Item 1 Welcome and apologies

Cr Peter Abelson chaired the meeting and welcomed those attending. Apologies were received from Cr Jean Hay AM Mayor Manly, Cr Michael Regan Mayor Warringah, Rik Hart General Manager Warringah Council and Henry Wong General Manager Manly Council.

## Item 2 Adoption of 26 November 2014 minutes and matters arising

### 2.1 Minutes of 26 November 2014 Board meeting

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#### **RESOLUTION**

The SHOROC Board resolved to:

- Adopt the minutes of the 26 November 2014 meeting.

*Moved Cr Jacqueline Townsend/seconded Mark Ferguson*

*Carried unanimously*

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## Item 3 Regional planning and government relations

### 3.1 Advocacy in lead up to NSW Election

**REGIONAL PRIORITY** Improve coordinated regional planning and integration of regional priorities with NSW and Commonwealth plans and policies.

**SHOROC ACTION** Partner with the NSW Government in development of regional plans and policies.

#### SUMMARY

Proposed next steps for advocacy using the SHOROC 2015 NSW Election priorities paper.

#### REPORT

The 2015 NSW Election will be held on 28 March. In the lead up to the 2011 NSW Election, SHOROC developed the *Shaping Our Future* strategy outlining key infrastructure needs for the region. This strategy was used as the platform for regional advocacy to seek to influence the policy positions of prospective NSW MPs, resulting in commitments from local MPs for the new Northern Beaches Hospital and investment in a Northern Beaches Bus Rapid Transit system.

The SHOROC Board approved and adopted the SHOROC 2015 NSW Election priorities paper (**Tab A**) on 26 November 2014 as the basis for SHOROC and collaborative council advocacy in the lead up to the Election.

The Board provided a copy of this paper to the local NSW MPs at the December 2014 SHOROC Leaders' Forum and it formed the basis of discussion.

GMAC has considered and recommends the next steps for advocacy using the SHOROC 2015 NSW Election priorities paper in the lead up to NSW Election are:

- Letters to all political parties and local candidates (when known) seeking their position on the priorities included in the paper
- Media announcement of the priorities paper one month before the election
- Targeted media releases in the weeks following highlighting key priorities (with a focus on transport) and seeking commitments from election candidates, including delivery of Bus Rapid Transit for the Warringah Road corridor and Northern Beaches Link (tunnel).
- Publication in the week leading up to the election of responses received from political parties and candidates

Councils may also wish to write to local candidates and/or make local media announcements highlighting the paper and the regional priorities.

#### RESOLUTION

The SHOROC Board resolved to:

- Agree that the next steps for advocacy using the SHOROC 2015 NSW Election priorities paper in the lead up to NSW Election are:
  - Letters to all political parties and local candidates (when known) seeking their position on the priorities included in the paper
  - Media announcement of the priorities paper one month before the election (27 for 28 Feb)
  - Targeted media releases in the weeks following highlighting key priorities and seeking commitments from election candidates, with a focus on transport including delivery of Bus Rapid Transit for the Warringah Road corridor and Northern Beaches Link (tunnel).
  - Online publication in the week leading up to the election of responses received from political parties and candidates.
- Encourage individual councils to consider local advocacy using the paper including for example writing to local candidates and/or making local media announcements highlighting the paper and regional priorities.

*Moved Cr Peter Abelson/seconded Mark Ferguson*

*Carried unanimously*

## 3.2 Transport infrastructure and planning

**REGIONAL PRIORITY** Modal shift to faster and more reliable public transport together with less congested roads. Funding allocated and construction commenced on major agreed priority public transport and road upgrades.

**SHOROC ACTION** Advocate for priority public transport and road infrastructure.  
Partner with the NSW Government on planning and implementation.

### SUMMARY

Update on implementation of major transport upgrades across the region and advocacy priorities.

### REPORT

#### Background

The NSW Government's Northern Beaches Transport Action Plan (NBTAP) is a five-year program of works to implement the package of transport infrastructure upgrades developed collectively by the councils through SHOROC as the *Shaping Our Future* strategy in 2011. The funding includes:

- \$45 million allocation in 2014-15, plus \$5 million Restart NSW funds for tunnel feasibility studies
- \$644 million allocation over the next five years, including:
  - \$233 million for Bus Rapid Transit and public transport including new commuter car parks and five new transport interchanges. Notably this includes significant upgrade of east-west public transport and foreshadowed implementation of a BRT on this route in the future.
  - \$400 million for Northern Beaches Hospital, Road Connectivity and Network Enhancements project (underpasses, road and intersection upgrades at Frenchs Forest).
  - \$5 million for Northern Beaches Tunnel Feasibility Study (from Restart NSW).
  - \$6.25 million for Mona Vale Road upgrade planning.

#### Implementation

The current priorities for transport planning and advocacy as endorsed by the Board in November 2014 are:

- Effective and efficient implementation of all elements of the Northern Beaches Transport Action Plan within the committed timeframes and consistent with the objectives and priorities of councils.
- Fast tracked implementation of Bus Rapid Transit for the critical Dee Why-Chatswood link in the next five years.
- Finalise planning, identify a suitable funding mechanism and begin delivery of the tunnel linking Northern Beaches with the Warringah Freeway.
- Strongly encourage a model shift to public and active transport.
- Partner with councils in planning and management of the Northern Beaches Transport Action Plan and region-wide transport management.

#### **SHOROC Transport Planning & Management Group**

The SHOROC Transport Planning and Management Group is working with Transport for NSW and the RMS at an administrative level to seek to ensure coordinated and effective implementation of the NBTAP and its major projects. This group includes representatives from Manly, Mosman, Warringah and Pittwater councils, Transport for NSW, Roads & Maritime Services (RMS) and Willoughby and North Sydney councils.

The group meets regularly, with a meeting scheduled at the time of circulation of these Business Papers on 10 February 2015. Key issues on the agenda include:

- Current project status and priorities
  - Bus Rapid Transit and other public transport improvements (Pittwater & Warringah roads)
    - BRT business case
    - Commuter Car Parking Strategy
    - Travel demand surveys

- On-road upgrades
  - Urban design
  - Bus network and services design
- Warringah Road upgrades
- Tunnel feasibility analysis
- Active transport planning
- Governance, working structure, and engaging with elected, internal and external stakeholders

To date this group is working effectively and is building a good working relationship with Transport for NSW and RMS. A verbal briefing can be provided for the Board.

### **Northern Beaches Hospital precinct road and intersection upgrades**

On 19 December 2014 the NSW Government announced it will move ahead with the \$400 million east west road underpass and widening of the southern side of Warringah Road, from west of Forest Way to east of Wakehurst Parkway. These upgrades are Stage 2 of the planned road upgrades to support the future Northern Beaches Hospital. More information is available at [www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/sydney-north/northern-beaches-hospital](http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/sydney-north/northern-beaches-hospital)

The next step is that RMS will display for comment an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Stage 2 road upgrades, expected by mid-2015.

### **Tunnel feasibility planning**

Infrastructure NSW released its updated State Infrastructure Strategy in November 2014. It includes a recommendation that *“Transport for NSW undertake further review and development of Beaches Link, with a view to a potential investment being made over a 10 to 20 year timeframe”*. The NSW Government agreed with this recommendation as part of its Rebuilding NSW plan, and the Premier has stated that the government is looking at options to bring this timeframe forward.

This investigation is already underway and SHOROC has written to the Premier to request to be kept informed and involved in the feasibility studies and to offer assistance for the project.

### **Advocacy for Dee Why-Chatswood Bus Rapid Transit**

Following the Board resolution, SHOROC wrote to the Premier and Minister for Transport to support Warringah’s request and urgently seek a meeting with the Minister for Transport to advocate for fast tracked implementation of Bus Rapid Transit for the critical Dee Why-Chatswood link (**Tab B**). This was also raised strongly at the 2 December 2014 Regional Leaders’ Forum. It is understood a Warringah Council delegation has meet with representatives from Transport for NSW to discuss this issue and an update will be provided to the Board.

As per Item 3.1 it is proposed to seek commitments at a political level to implementing Dee Why-Chatswood Bus Rapid Transit.

### **Yellow lines education campaign**

Following 26 November Board meeting SHOROC has been tasked with developing a joint regional community education campaign regarding the introduction of yellow lines. GMAC has approved a joint campaign and this will be implemented over the coming month.

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## **RESOLUTION**

The SHOROC Board resolved to:

- Note the update on the work with TfNSW and RMS to coordinate implementation of the Northern Beaches Transport Action Plan including the SHOROC Transport Planning and Management Group.
- Note the update on current projects including the Northern Beaches Hospital precinct road and intersection upgrades and tunnel feasibility planning.
- Note the update on advocacy for the Dee Why-Chatswood Bus Rapid Transit.

*Moved Cr Jose Menano-Pires/seconded Cr Peter Abelson*

*Carried unanimously*

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### 3.3 Metropolitan Strategy – A Plan for Growing Sydney

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<b>REGIONAL PRIORITY</b>	Housing growth & choice: Facilitate appropriate growth in housing including a range of housing choice
<b>SHOROC ACTION</b>	Coordinate and facilitate council Metropolitan Strategy Subregional Delivery Plan development and/or support Subregional Boards with Urban Planning Directors Partner with the NSW Govt in development of regional plans and policies including Subregional Delivery Plan

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#### SUMMARY

Update on *A Plan for Growing Sydney* and commencement of subregional planning.

#### REPORT

The NSW Government released its new Metropolitan Strategy *A Plan for Growing Sydney* on 14 Dec. 2014.

#### North Subregion

Arising from the plan's release, the next stage is the development of six subregional plans. These plans will "identify the locations for future housing and employment growth", and link this growth to "infrastructure that supports communities, such as schools, health services, transport, electricity and water projects". As expected the subregion for the councils of SHOROC is the North Subregion encompassing the 11 councils of northern Sydney (Hornsby, Hunters Hill, Ku-ring-gai, Lane Cove, Manly, Mosman, North Sydney, Pittwater, Ryde, Warringah, Willoughby).

The North Subregion excerpt from *A Plan for Growing Sydney* is attached (**Tab C**).

At the time of circulation of these papers, a briefing for GMs, Directors and ROC EDs of the North Subregion was planned for 10 February. Representatives of the Department were also to attend the 12 February meeting of Mayors and GMs from councils of northern Sydney to provide a briefing on the Plan and subregional planning for the North Subregion.

#### Strategy implementation and subregional planning process

The *Greater Sydney Commission* is the lead delivery agency for *A Plan for Growing Sydney*, including development of the Subregional Plans. The Commission is to be formed from July 2015.

Until the Commission is formed, a *Ministerial Advisory Council* (MAC) will advise the Minister and the Department on the Plan and oversee development of the Subregional plans.

*Local Government Advisory Committees* for each subregion will coordinate and provide input to the MAC and Department on the subregional plans. These Committees will include one representative from each council. The representative is to be determined by the council and could be an officer or elected official.

It is understood the intention is that a representative of each subregional committee will be a member of the MAG and Commission (once formed).

The Department commenced informal discussions with council officers in late 2014. Following the 10 Feb 2015 GM briefing, it is understood the Department plans to convene a series of workshops for each subregion with council planning staff to commence the subregional planning process.

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**Next steps**

It is understood the Department is aiming to have all subregional plans completed by 30 June 2015.

The Minister/Department will need to make decisions as to the form and structure of the Greater Sydney Commission (and the interim Ministerial Advisory Council) and the Local Government Advisory Committees.

The Department is seeking feedback from councils on the proposed structure and implementation plan in regard to the following questions:

1. How do we best incorporate subregional perspectives and local government expertise through membership of the Greater Sydney Commission (GSC)?
2. How could the GSC effectively collaborate with subregions and individual councils within the subregions?
3. Which immediate priorities should the GSC focus on?
4. How could the GSC work with communities across Sydney as they plan for the future of Sydney?

It is recommended the Board discuss these questions and provide consolidated feedback to the Department.

Subregional planning is a major role of SHOROC under the 2014-18 Corporate Plan, which includes:

- Coordinate and facilitate council Metropolitan Strategy Subregional Delivery Plan development and/or support Subregional Boards with the Urban Planning Directors Group.
- Partner with the NSW Government in development of regional plans and policies including Subregional Delivery Plan.

There are existing forums in place to support collaborative subregional planning across the north subregion. Further or alternative groups may be required to support the subregional planning process. Existing groups include:

- the meetings of Mayors and GMs of councils of northern Sydney (matches subregional group)
- SHOROC Urban Planning Directors Group
- Northern Planners group of senior planning staff from all 11 north subregion councils.

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**RESOLUTION**

The SHOROC Board resolved to:

- Note the update on *A Plan for Growing Sydney* and commencement of subregional planning.
- Note the North Subregion encompasses the 11 councils of northern Sydney (Hornsby, Hunters Hill, Kuring-gai, Lane Cove, Manly, Mosman, North Sydney, Pittwater, Ryde, Warringah, Willoughby).
- Agree that the Executive Director prepare a submission to the Minister in respect to the Greater Sydney Commission and related sub regional planning issues based on the information sessions to date and the discussions at the Board Meeting 18 February 2015 for circulation for out of session approval by Board members.

*Moved Mark Ferguson/seconded Cr Jacqueline Townsend*

*Carried unanimously*

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### 3.4 Health & hospital planning

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**REGIONAL PRIORITY** World class health services, with Northern Beaches Hospital operational by 2018 and Mona Vale Hospital upgraded. Improved community health facilities and broader health services.

**SHOROC ACTION** Advocate for region and support delivery of hospital projects as member of NSW Government working parties.  
Review and identify further priorities and advocate as required

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#### **SUMMARY**

Update on the Northern Beaches health planning and meeting with NSW Health and Healthscope.

#### **REPORT**

##### **Future use of Manly Hospital site**

The SHOROC Board at its 26 November 2014 meeting agreed *that the SHOROC policy for the Manly Hospital site following its closure be extended to advocate for the site being used for age appropriate accommodation and rehabilitation services.*

The SHOROC President subsequently wrote to the Premier, Minister for Health, and the Chief Executive of the Northern Sydney Local Health District (NSLHD) to advise of this policy and seek a response. To date a letter has been received from the NSLHD (**Tab D**).

##### **NSW Health and Healthscope meeting**

The NSW Government in December signed the contract with Healthscope to design, build, operate and maintain the new Northern Beaches Hospital.

NSW Health has requested a meeting with the SHOROC Board to introduce Ms Deb Latta from Healthscope, the person heading up Northern Beaches Hospital project. This meeting has been arranged for 5pm to directly follow the SHOROC Board meeting.

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#### **RESOLUTION**

The SHOROC Board resolved to:

- Note the response from the NSLHD regarding the future use of the Manly Hospital site.
- Agree SHOROC arrange a meeting either prior to or following the 6 May 2015 Board meeting with Mr Anthony Manning from Health Infrastructure and Ms Deb Latta from Healthscope, the person heading up Northern Beaches Hospital project.
- Agree that SHOROC contact Ms Karen Gill, Service Development Manager Palliative Care Northern Sydney Local Health District to be kept informed of any developments or information requirements and to seek a copy of the draft report of the review of palliative care services in the local health district.

*Moved Cr Jacqueline Townsend /seconded Mark Ferguson*

*Carried unanimously*

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### 3.5 Items for brief mention

Brief updates on advocacy, projects and other Board resolutions listed below for information.

Issue	Corporate project/ resolution	Status/update
<b>Regional Leaders Forum (NSW MPs)</b>	10. Partnerships	Next meeting to be arranged for July 2015.
<b>Private certifiers</b>	Board via email Sept 2014	Proposal from Mosman Mayor for advocacy. SHOROC is seeking a workshop for councils with Michael Lambert who is leading review of the Building Professionals Act 2005. The BPB has advised it is seeking Mr Lambert's approval.
<b>10/50 vegetation clearing entitlement areas</b>	Board via email Sept 2014	SHOROC has advocated strongly to support council positions for a moratorium and review of the legislation, including the release of the regulatory impact statement for the legislation. Minister Stokes proposed at the December SHOROC Leaders' Forum he would arrange a workshop for SHOROC with the RFS Commissioner.
<b>Economy</b>	4. Employment and containment	Regional economic development working group formed and is identifying regional priorities for submission to GMAC and the Board for consideration.
<b>Kimbriki Sub-Committee of the SHOROC Board</b>	8. Waste	The Sub-Committee met on Thursday 18 December and resolved to encourage councils to further investigate grant opportunities for problem waste solutions for the Manly and Mosman council areas. The committee also discussed ideas for 2015 education campaigns with areas identified including product stewardship for waste disposal, in particular for mattresses, illegal dumping and litter campaigns. (Tab E). The next meeting is on Wednesday 25 March.
<b>Regional Waste Avoidance &amp; Resource Recovery Strategy and projects</b>	8. Waste	The Regional Waste Strategy <i>Too Good To Waste</i> has now been adopted by all four member councils and the Board. Implementation is now underway including grant applications, education campaigns and working toward the common collection system. Regional resources to help councils further engage with householders on kerbside recycling are currently being planned.
<b>Belrose regional mountain biking facility proposal</b>	7. Regional council facilities	SHOROC formed a working party of council staff to support any potential interested third-parties to submit an EOI to operate a regional downhill mountain biking facility for the northern beaches at Belrose. Two (2) EOIs were submitted and the NSW Government is currently evaluating these for recommendation to the Minister to determine the next steps.
<b>Northern Beaches Regional Action Plan</b>	12. Coordinated regional planning	Development has been delayed by government until after the 2015 NSW Election in March.
<b>Regional Youth Strategy</b>	12. Coordinated regional planning	A final draft is currently being prepared by the Department of Education and Communities. A working group of council staff is working with the department on the strategy.
<b>Regional Ageing Strategy</b>	12. Coordinated regional planning	The final strategy endorsed by SHOROC is awaiting Ministerial launch.

#### RESOLUTION

The SHOROC Board resolved to:

- Note the brief updates on advocacy, projects and other Board resolutions listed for information.
- Note the 18 December 2014 minutes of the Kimbriki Sub-Committee of the SHOROC Board.

*Moved Cr Peter Abelson /seconded Veronica Lee*

*Carried unanimously*

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## Item 4 Joint services

### 4.1 Regional procurement service update

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**REGIONAL PRIORITY** Provide services to support enhanced capacity and sustainability of councils

**SHOROC ACTION** Deliver Business Improvement Program for participating councils

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#### **SUMMARY**

Update on SHOROC centralised procurement and contract management service and joint tenders.

#### **REPORT**

##### **Background**

SHOROC provides a centralised procurement and contract management service for councils across northern Sydney managed by Mr Adrian Harley as Regional Procurement Manager. This service was established in July 2014 as part of the Business Improvement Program for councils. It is overseen by the SHOROC Business Improvement Program Working Group and funded by participating councils.

Mr Harley identifies joint tender opportunities, conducts the tender process on behalf of councils and manages the joint contracts. This is a flexible service so councils can choose to participate depending on individual business needs. The single tender process, single contract and centralised contract management service is designed to increase council buying power to help reduce costs, remove duplication of effort and reduce the costs of doing business.

##### **Current situation**

This service currently includes 9 joint contracts with a total estimated value of \$18.5M annually. These include:

- Road construction services and materials
- Rates notices and parking permits
- Fire testing and maintenance
- Off-site record storage
- Ready mixed concrete (commenced in 2014)
- Line marking & sign posting (commenced in 2014)
- Cash collection services (commenced in 2014)
- Stormwater inspections, cleaning and maintenance (commenced in 2014)
- Minor capital works (currently being re-tendered to commence March 2015)

Councils participating in the program since commencement in July 2014 include:

- Manly
- Mosman
- Pittwater
- Hornsby
- Hunters Hill
- Lane Cove
- Ku-ring-gai
- Ryde
- Willoughby

##### **Next steps**

The Minor Capital Works tender is to be completed in the coming month. There are plans in place for three further tenders in the coming six months and four potential tenders are being explored. Mr Harley is also currently working with councils to identify a regional procurement plan for councils across northern Sydney which will be implemented over the coming years.

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#### **RESOLUTION**

The SHOROC Board resolved to:

- Receive and note the update on SHOROC centralised procurement and contract management service and joint tenders.

*Moved Mark Ferguson /seconded Cr Jacqueline Townsend*

*Carried unanimously*

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## Item 5 Governance and operations

### 5.1 SHOROC governance and quarterly finances update

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<b>REGIONAL PRIORITY</b>	Improved engagement with councillors and senior staff in planning and programs and improved understanding of priorities and projects  Continue high operational standards and reporting
<b>SHOROC ACTION</b>	Hold annual Councillor Forum to discuss major regional issues and strategic priorities  Continue to review and adapt SHOROC governance, membership, size and operational policies

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#### SUMMARY

Update on 2015-16 Operational Plan development and planned 2015 SHOROC Councillor Forum, recommendation to put on hold the decision-making governance review, and 2014/15 second quarterly financial report.

#### REPORT

##### 2015-16 Operational Plan development and planned 2015 SHOROC Councillor Forum

SHOROC conducted a full review of its priorities and operations in 2013-14 to develop the 2014-18 Corporate Plan. This year a one-year Operational Plan will be developed, consistent with the 2014-18 Corporate Plan, outlining the priorities, projects and budget for the 2015-16 year.

The development process proposed is as follows:

- 18 Feb: Initial comments sought from Board on any major policy or priority changes proposed for the year ahead
- 18 March: Draft priorities and preliminary budget developed for consideration of GMAC
- April: Briefing of councillors on draft priorities at 2015 Councillor Forum
- April: Draft Operational Plan circulated out of session to Board for comment
- 6 May: Operational Plan submitted to Board meeting for approval

Initial comments are sought from the Board as to any major policy or priority changes proposed for the year ahead.

Arising from discussion at the December 2014 GMAC, it is planned the Councillor Forum be held in early April, with discussion on major issues identified in SHOROC's Corporate Plan such as *Fit for the Future*, infrastructure, employment and services.

#### Decision-making governance review

The SHOROC Board resolved at its 7 May 2014 Board meeting when approving the SHOROC Corporate Plan:

- That SHOROC review its governance structure during 2014/15 financial year to consider alternative voting structures - including but not limited to proportional voting or veto powers to be fully considered by the SHOROC Board within six months.

GMAC at its 11 June 2014 meeting;

- Agreed the Executive Director should conduct the SHOROC decision-making governance review in consultation with GMAC and Executive members.
- Agreed the issues to be considered are:
  - Board decision-making: delegates, voting and operation.
  - Engagement with councils: structure and processes for engaging councillors and council staff in policy development and decision-making.
  - Engagement with other levels of government: structure for engaging with other levels of government effectively and efficiently and ensuring appropriate accountability/representation.
- Agreed an initial options report is prepared for consideration of GMAC at its September 2014 meeting.

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The Board subsequently at its 6 August 2014 resolved to delay the governance review due to the *Fit for the Future* considerations, agreeing that a report will be prepared for the February 2015 Board meeting.

However considering the current situation the Executive Director and GMAC recommend that this planned review of SHOROC's governance structure be put on hold.

It is considered that progressing such a review is premature until there is further clarity regarding the future of councils and regional collaboration arising from the NSW Government's *Fit for the Future* (FFF) process.

Rather than progress a separate review at this stage, it is considered that the future form of regional collaboration should be a core component of council FFF considerations as effective regional collaboration is a core facet of council strategic capacity.

The pilot JO process should also inform the review and council considerations as its focus is on alternative regional collaboration models, including consideration of the regional entity and governing body.

#### **Quarterly financial report**

The second quarterly financial report for 2014-15 including the end of year forecast as at 31 December 2014 is attached (**Tab F**).

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#### **RESOLUTION**

The SHOROC Board resolved to:

- Approve the 2015-16 Operational Plan development process.
- Note the update on the planned 2015 SHOROC Councillor Forum.
- Agree that SHOROC's planned review of its governance structure during 2014/15 financial year to consider alternative voting structures, including but not limited to proportional voting or veto powers, be put on hold to enable further clarity regarding the future of councils and regional collaboration arising from the NSW Government's *Fit for the Future* process.
- Endorse the September 2014 financial report.

*Moved Mark Ferguson /seconded Cr Jacqueline Townsend*

*Carried unanimously*

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## 5.2 Fit for the Future update

**REGIONAL PRIORITY** Strengthen regional model to improve capacity and to respond to NSW Government local government and planning reform agenda.

**SHOROC ACTION** Work with NSW Govt to strengthen regional collaboration model as part of local government and planning reform, including proposing to act as 'pathfinder' region.

### SUMMARY

Updates from individual councils on *Fit for the Future* as considered appropriate, and update on Joint Organisation pilots.

### REPORT

#### Background

The NSW Government announced its Local Government Reform package *Fit for the Future* on 10 September 2014. The *Fit for the Future* Blueprint outlines that the process involves four stages:

1. Self-assessment: Councils are to review their current performance against the *Fit for the Future* criteria using a self-assessment tool provided.
2. Preparing a roadmap: Councils will need to prepare a roadmap for becoming *Fit for the Future*, either by improving or by merging, taking account of their community's needs and future outlook (submit by 30 June 2015).
3. Review: The Expert Panel will review each council's roadmap...and make recommendations to the Minister for Local Government based on its assessment.
4. Implementation: From October 2015 councils who are *Fit for the Future* (from Stage 1) will begin to implement their roadmaps. Any council mergers are to be completed by September 2016. A new Local Government Act will also be in place by September 2016.

The SHOROC Board resolved at its 16 October 2014 Extraordinary General Meeting that SHOROC convene a workshop of the three councils identified in the Independent Local Government Review Panel's report, namely Manly, Pittwater and Warringah, to discuss *Fit for the Future* and options for further cooperation in early November. This workshop was held and next steps are currently under consideration by individual councils.

#### Council updates

This item is listed for individual councils to provide an update.

#### Joint Organisation pilots

While JOs are not proposed for the metropolitan area, the outcomes of the JO pilots should be valuable in regard to council considerations and the future regional collaboration in Sydney including SHOROC, particularly considering the fact "*Effective regional collaboration*", "*Credibility for more effective advocacy*" and a "*Capable partner for State and Federal agencies*" are core facets of council strategic capacity. As reported to and noted by the Board, the future form of regional bodies should be a core and complementary consideration in any discussions on the future of local government.

The NSW Government recently released a progress report on the Joint Organisation (JO) pilots (**Tab G**). There are five pilot JOs focussed on: JO objectives and functions; relationships and boundaries; entity and governing body; and enabling and resourcing.

Of note is that the focus and structure of the JOs is largely consistent with the focus of SHOROC. Key priorities are development of a regional plan, regional advocacy and leadership and strong intergovernmental relations, together with flexible participation in joint procurement/projects/services.

### RESOLUTION

The SHOROC Board resolved to:

- Note the individual council *Fit for the Future* updates provided.
- Note the update on the Joint Organisation pilots.

*Moved Cr Peter Abelson /seconded Veronica Lee*

*Carried unanimously*

### 5.3 Meeting of northern Sydney councils

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<b>REGIONAL PRIORITY</b>	Strengthen regional model to improve capacity and to respond to NSW Government local government and planning reform agenda.
<b>SHOROC ACTION</b>	Lead establishment of proposed North Metro Council of Mayors and provide admin Transition SHOROC to new North Metro Council of Mayors at suitable time.

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#### SUMMARY

Update on the proposed Northern Sydney Council of Mayors.

#### REPORT

##### Background

The SHOROC Board has resolved that it continues to support the proposed formation of a Northern Sydney Council of Mayors as a larger regional grouping of councils for northern Sydney as a key element of stronger local government.

However the formation of the proposed Northern Sydney Council of Mayors has been put on hold due to the *Fit for the Future* process.

The Mayors and GMs of the 11 councils of northern Sydney have agreed to continue to meet on a regular basis. The most recent meeting was held on 14 November 2014. The minutes included the following actions:

- *Considering the current situation, it was agreed that the Mayors and GMs of Councils of Northern Sydney would continue to meet regularly to discuss the Fit for the Future plan, opportunities for collaboration and to share information. It was agreed:*
  - *To meet every two months, with the next meeting in early February*
  - *That the SHOROC and NSROC Executive Directors would identify a suitable date, issue invitations and arrange logistics*
  - *To share information between councils in the interim on Fit for the Future and related issues, with SHOROC to establish a mechanism such as a web portal to enable efficient information sharing across the group.*

At the time of circulation of these papers the next meeting of Mayors and GMs of the councils of northern Sydney was scheduled for 12 February 2015.

The agenda included:

- Northern Subregion briefing and discussion on *A Plan for growing Sydney* (the Metro Strategy) from representatives of the Department of Planning & Environment to enable direct feedback on the Plan and governance framework.
- *Fit for the Future* - council updates

#### Next steps

This item is listed for discussion of the meeting and any actions arising.

It is recommended that the Board discuss the meeting outcomes and determine the next steps. An updated report will be circulated following the meeting if required.

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#### RESOLUTION

The SHOROC Board resolved to:

- Note the update on the meeting of Mayors and GMs of the councils of northern Sydney.
- Note the meeting of 12 February 2015 was a useful and constructive meeting on sub regional planning and that the scheduled 19 March 2015 meeting will continue to focus on regional planning.
- Agree to propose at the next meeting of Mayors and GMs of the councils of northern Sydney that the northern Sydney councils consider whether to advocate for a Minister for Northern Sydney.

*Moved Veronica Lee/seconded Mark Ferguson*

*Carried unanimously*

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## Item 6 Additional matters raised by councils

*Nil*

## Item 7 General business

### 7.1 School safety zones

Cr Jose Menano-Pires suggested there would be potential benefit in a coordinated regional campaign to promote safety around school zones and in school drop-offs and requested SHOROC investigate the need such a regional campaign.

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#### **RESOLUTION**

The SHOROC Board resolved:

- SHOROC liaise with council communications and road safety officers and the police local area command to identify the need for a joint regional school safety campaign.

*Moved Jose Menano-Pires/seconded Cr Jacqueline Townsend*

*Carried unanimously*

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### 7.2 Signs

Cr Townsend suggested there may be benefit in council collaboration to identify strategies to improve visual amenity, legibility and safety by the reduction of signs, noting that Mosman Council was implementing a road sign reduction program in its LGA.

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#### **RESOLUTION**

The SHOROC Board resolved to:

- Request that responsible officers in each council meet to discuss strategies to improve visual amenity, legibility and safety by the reduction of signs including investigating international examples.

*Moved Cr Jacqueline Townsend/seconded Cr Peter Abelson*

*Carried unanimously*

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### 7.3 Promotion of SHOROC collaborative achievements

Cr Abelson highlighted that SHOROC has been very successful in regional advocacy, planning and services and requested that the good advocacy and collaborative achievements of SHOROC should be more proactively promoted throughout and outside the region.

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#### **RESOLUTION**

The SHOROC Board resolved to:

- Encourage the Executive Director to more actively promote the SHOROC achievements within and externally to the region.

*Moved Mark Ferguson/seconded Cr Peter Abelson*

*For: Mark Ferguson, Cr Peter Abelson, Cr Jacqueline Townsend, Veronica Lee, Stephen Clements*

*Against: Cr Jose Menano-Pires, Malcolm Ryan*

*Carried*

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## Item 8 Confirm time and date of next meeting

Next ordinary meeting: 6 May 2015, 3-5pm at the SHOROC Offices.

# ATTACHMENTS

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**Tab A** SHOROC 2015 NSW Election Priorities paper

**Tab B** Letter to Minister for Transport re Warringah Rd BRT

**Tab C** Excerpt from *A Plan for Growing Sydney*

**Tab D** NSLHD letter re Manly Hospital

**Tab E** Kimbriki Sub-Committee 18 Dec 2014 - Draft Minutes

**Tab F** SHOROC December 2014 financial report

**Tab G** Joint Organisations Pilot Interim Report