

## MINUTES

### Maritime Advisory Council

<b>Date</b>	Friday 21 November 2014	
<b>Time</b>	09:00am to 12:00pm	
<b>Venue</b>	Level 9, Roads and Maritime Services, 101 Miller St North Sydney	
<b>Chairperson</b>	Darren Vaux	
<b>Attendees</b>	<b>Members</b> Kay Cottee (Deputy Chair) Alan Blake Lawrie McEnally Jan Thurgar John Barbouttis David Edwards Ian Ford Brett Moore Howard Glenn	<b>Visitors</b> Maryanne Graham, RMS Angus Mitchell, RMS Paul Christison, RMS Adam Culbert, Office of the Minister for Roads and Freight Andrew Mogg, TfNSW David Surplice, TfNSW, Secretary Stacey Tannos, Marine Rescue NSW James Glissan, Marine Rescue NSW Dean Storey, Marine Rescue NSW Mark Hutchings, Marine Area Command Alex Burrell, Marine Area Command
<b>Apologies</b>	The Hon. Duncan Gay, Minister for Roads and Freight Peter Duncan, RMS	

<b>1.</b>	<b>Welcome and Apologies (Minister, Chair)</b>
1.1	The Chair welcomed attendees and advised of apologies.
<b>2.</b>	<b>Confirmation of Agenda and Declaration of Conflicts of Interests (Chair)</b>
2.1	The Chair confirmed the Agenda with members. No Conflicts of Interest were declared.
<b>3.</b>	<b>Minutes from MAC meeting – 26 August 2014 (Chair)</b>
3.1	The Chair presented the Minutes of the 26 August 2014 MAC meeting. Alan Blake moved and Lawrie McEnally seconded the adoption of the Minutes. The Minutes of the 26 August 2014 MAC meeting were confirmed as a true and correct record.

<b>4.</b>	<b>Actions from MAC meeting – 26 August 2014 (Chair)</b>
4.1	<p>The Chair noted that all items Actions from the 26 August 2014 meeting are complete, underway, or subject to a tabled paper.</p> <p><u>Item 3.2 – New Advisory Group Arrangements (MMC)</u> - Refer to <b>Item 5.2.</b></p> <p><u>Item 6.1 – National System for Commercial Vessels (NSCV) (RMS)</u></p> <p>RMS and MMC have discussed issues previously raised by Ian Ford regarding implementation of the NSCV. RMS is assisting Industry to comply with requirements and has conducted regional information sessions to ensure awareness of changes.</p> <p><u>Item 7.2 – Marine Rescue Funding (RMS)</u> - Refer to <b>Item 7.</b></p> <p><u>Item 7.3 – Sydney Harbour Destinations Plan (RMS)</u> - Refer to <b>Item 6.4.</b></p> <p><u>Item 8.3 – Safety Campaign Update (MMC)</u> - Refer to <b>Item 5.3.</b></p> <p><u>Item 8.4 – Moorings Review (MMC &amp; RMS)</u> - Deferred for discussion at the next meeting of the Maritime Advisory Council.</p> <p><b>Action: MMC to undertake detailed analysis of submissions on the Moorings Review and work with RMS to develop a package of reform proposals for consideration at the next MAC meeting.</b></p> <p><u>Item 9.3 – Waterways Fund Financial Statements (RMS)</u> - Refer to <b>Item 6.3.</b></p>
<b>5</b>	<b>Maritime Management Centre Items on Notice (Howard Glenn)</b>
5.1	<p><b>Regional Boating Plans Update</b></p> <p>Consultation on the draft versions of the 11 Regional Boating Plans is now complete and Plans are being finalised for release. MMC hosted 22 public information sessions to an estimated audience of over 500 people and received 480 written submissions on the Draft Plans.</p> <p>A number of issues presented across numerous regions which need to be addressed, including:</p> <p><u>Riverbank erosion:</u> The impact of boating on riverbanks was raised as a significant issue by stakeholders in a number of regions and MMC is now conducting consultation on the Tweed, Clarence and Williams River to inform the development of a state-wide policy framework for identifying the most effective local management responses. Following consultation, the policy framework will be used to develop and implement local management plans in the three pilot areas.</p> <p><u>Slipways:</u> An audit of slipway facilities across the state has identified that there are two noticeable gaps in the servicing network. MMC is exploring options to address these issues.</p> <p><u>Moorings:</u> A number of issues in relation to moorings, particularly mooring minders, were raised and have been fed into the Moorings Review.</p> <p><u>Storage:</u> The need for a more strategic approach to boat storage was identified in a number of regions. Some Councils have expressed interest in piloting more efficient methods of on-water vessel storage.</p> <p>The Chair and Deputy Chair commended the comprehensive community engagement processes recently undertaken by MMC.</p>
5.2	<p><b>NSW Boating Now Update</b></p> <p>In October 2014 senior managers from RMS and MMC held a three-day workshop to review the proposed priority projects for each region. Councils and sporting/boating clubs and associations provided submissions which included over 300 suggested priority projects.</p> <p>Across the 11 regions, 188 projects have now been identified to receive funding support, totalling an estimated \$33.26 million.</p> <p>Exact funding allocations for individual projects will be determined during the delivery phase, following negotiations with Councils, finalisation of individual project designs and confirmation of the most efficient delivery method.</p>

	<p>The Chair stated that the development of the Regional Boating Plans culminating in the identification and funding of the proposed list of priority projects under NSW Boating Now is an extraordinary outcome for boaters, the Government, and regional communities.</p> <p>Members discussed potential options for ongoing ownership and maintenance of maritime infrastructure and agreed that further discussion regarding these issues is required.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Options for ownership and maintenance of maritime infrastructure to be an Item on Notice at the next MAC meeting.</p>
5.3	<p><b>Boating Safety Update (Item 8.1 – Boating Safety Incident Statistics brought forward to this section)</b></p> <p><u>Boating Safety</u></p> <p>In 2013/14 NSW recorded its best boating safety result for over 20 years, with a significant reduction in boating fatalities. Fatalities were also down 35 per cent on the long-term boating season average.</p> <p>TfNSW has been placing a strong emphasis on the importance of wearing lifejackets. RMS is underpinning this work with a program of seven strategic boating education and on-water compliance campaigns run statewide over the boating season, targeting; life jacket wear; alcohol; speed; on-board fire; night safety and propeller strike.</p> <p>An observational study conducted during the recent boating season indicates rates for wearing lifejackets are higher than 30 per cent across the state – more than three times higher than the nine per cent figure, published in 2007.</p> <p><u>Risk-based approach to Aquatic Events Management (Angus Mitchell)</u></p> <p>In response to a number of fatalities in high speed aquatic events, RMS is taking an outcomes-based risk management approach to ensure that high speed aquatic events are undertaken as safely as possible. RMS has engaged consultants to undertake a risk assessment and is working closely with a number of organised racing groups to ensure that specific events are conducted safely. Consideration is also being given to reviewing legislation regarding Aquatic Licences.</p> <p><u>2014 Hawkesbury River Bridge 2 Bridge Ski Event (Angus Mitchell)</u></p> <p>Jan Thurgar declared a conflict of interest as a Chief Judge of the 2014 Hawkesbury River Bridge 2 Bridge Ski event. The Chair noted the conflict of interest.</p> <p>Maritime investigators are assisting NSW Police with investigations into a fatality that occurred during trials for the 2014 Hawkesbury River Bridge to Bridge event and will prepare a report for the Coroner.</p>
5.4	<p><b>Reports from Maritime Advisory Groups</b></p> <p>The MAC noted the minutes from recent meetings of the Recreational Vessel Advisory Group (RVAG) and Maritime Property Advisory Group (MPAG). No specific actions were referred to the MAC.</p> <p>The Chair noted an item from the RVAG meeting on 14 October 2014 regarding regulatory issues associated with liveaboard vessels. The MAC agreed that the issue of liveaboard vessels should be considered during 2015.</p>
<b>6</b>	<b>RMS Updates (Angus Mitchell and Maryanne Graham)</b>
6.1	<p><b>RMS Updates</b></p> <p><u>Boating Education program</u></p> <p>Recruitment for three additional Boating Education Officers (BEOs) for the 2014-15 boating season is underway. A new edition of the boating handbook is planned for January 2015.</p> <p>John Barbouttis commended the work of the BEOs and strongly endorsed their ongoing use.</p> <p><u>NSW Boating NOW</u></p> <p>Delivery, progress monitoring and acquittal of completed grant funded projects under the Better Boating Program will continue during 2014-15 and 2015-16 under NSW Boating Now. Recent projects completed include improvements to facilities at Davidson Park, Wollstonecraft, Mooney Mooney, West Ballina, Swansea and the Georges River. Major upgrade of Norah Head Boat Ramp is underway.</p>

	<p><u>Wharf Upgrade Program</u> Major upgrades to Drummoyne Wharf and Mosman Bay Wharf were completed in September and October 2014. Closures of Cremorne Point and Pyrmont Bay wharves are being coordinated to manage impacts on commercial vessel operators as upgrades occur.</p> <p><u>Aquatic licence policy and procedure review</u> A review of the RMS 'Aquatic Licence Policy and Procedure' is nearing completion and will deliver administrative and processing improvements. A more significant review of the policy is proposed in connection with the MMC led review of the Marine Safety (General) Regulation 2009.</p> <p><u>Service NSW implementation</u> In consultation with Service NSW, RMS is implementing a new initiative whereby maritime staff will visit Service NSW sites regularly to engage with the boating community. The trial addresses boating community concerns that the face to face customer service and support previously available at Maritime Service Centres is no longer available.</p> <p><u>Investigations</u> Maritime investigators completed an investigation into a tow incident at Moama on the Murray River. RMS is developing a Safe Work Method Statement for emergency towing and will share this work with NSW Police and Marine Rescue NSW.</p>
6.2	<p><b>Marine Rescue NSW Funding</b> The update on Marine Rescue Funding was deferred to <b>Item 7 – Marine Rescue NSW Presentation.</b></p>
6.3	<p><b>Waterways Fund Financial Expenditure</b> (Paul Christison, Financial Controller Maritime) The Financial Controller Maritime provided an update on the 2013-14 Waterways Fund Financial Overview and 2014-15 Budget. The Financial Overview will be published in the 2014 Roads and Maritime Annual Report.</p> <p>A longer term revenue and expenditure budget and financial model for the Waterways Fund is in development and will be aligned with Government priorities.</p> <p>The Chair noted that one of the key roles of the Maritime Advisory Council is oversight of maritime expenditure and as such, Waterways Fund updates should be included as a standing Item on Notice at all future MAC meetings.</p> <p><b>Action: Waterways Fund update to be included as a standing Item on Notice at all future Maritime Advisory Council meetings.</b></p>
6.4	<p><b>Sydney Harbour Destinations Plan</b> 18 marinas are currently part of the Plan and rents have been discounted for 10 of the 18 marinas. The remainder will have their rents adjusted for 2013-14 as they provide audited financial statements. It is intended that all marinas under the Plan will have their rents reviewed by the end of 2014-15.</p> <p>The annual audit program for the Destinations Plan is expected to be finalised by 30 April 2015 and this process will inform further improvements to the program.</p> <p>An issue has arisen with regards to replacing the on-site flags which signal the marinas in the Plan, which are the responsibility of the marina lessee to maintain. RMS is currently assessing solutions to the issue.</p>
<b>7</b>	<p><b>Marine Rescue NSW Funding (Chair; Marine Rescue NSW; Marine Area Command)</b></p>
7.1	<p>The Chair acknowledged the great work of the Marine Rescue NSW (MRNSW) volunteers.</p> <p>One of the legislated roles of the MAC is to provide advice to the Minister for Roads and Freight on maritime expenditure priorities. The Chair advised that the MAC is concerned that existing funding arrangements between RMS, the Ministry of Police and Emergency Services (MPES) and MRNSW provide insufficient detail on how the Marine Rescue Contribution is spent. As such the MAC is limited in its ability to advise the Minister on this aspect of maritime expenditure.</p> <p>The Commissioner, MRNSW expressed a counterview that MRNSW provides detailed financial reporting to MPES and should not be required to provide an additional layer of reporting to other bodies, outside</p>

	<p>of its regular financial and audit requirements.</p> <p>MAC members and MRNSW staff discussed and clarified various aspects of MRNSW administration and operations. There was general agreement that increased communication between the organisations would benefit and that consideration be given to MRNSW being a regular visitor to MAC meetings.</p> <p>Marine Area Command provided a presentation on the joint work of Marine Area Command and MRNSW. The relationship with and support from MRNSW is critical to the functions of MPES, to search and rescue functions and to the provision of boating safety in NSW.</p> <p><b>MOTION:</b> Alan Blake moved and Lawrie McEnally seconded a motion that the Chair convey the MAC's discussions regarding Marine Rescue funding arrangements to the Minister for Roads and Freight. The motion was unanimously supported.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Chair to meet with the Minister for Roads and Freight to convey discussions regarding Marine Rescue Funding.</p>
<b>8.</b>	<b>Technical and Standing Items</b>
8.1 A	Boating Safety Incident Statistics was brought forward to Item 5 – Boating Safety Update
<b>9.</b>	<b>MAC Members' Items on notice (Members)</b>
	There were no Members' Items on notice
<b>10.</b>	<b>Next Meeting</b> – The date of the next meeting of the MAC will be confirmed during January 2015, at a date and location determined in consultation with the Minister and the Chair.
<b>END - The meeting closed at 12:45pm</b>	