



AUSTRALIAN
COASTAL
COUNCILS
ASSOCIATION INC.



A Sustainable Future for Coastal Australia



A National Asset Enjoyed by all Australians



Maintain the coast for future generations



Councils at forefront of managing risks





Key Coastal Policy Proposals

- Intergovernmental Agreement on the Coastal Zone
- National Coastal Zone Policy
- Resources to manage the coast for all Australians
- Align Financial Assistance Grants with Coastal Populations
- Increase funding for Australia's climate science research
- Measures to minimise legal risks for coastal councils



Intergovernmental Agreement

- Intergovernmental Agreement on the Coastal Zone in cooperation with state, territory and local governments:
 - to define the roles and responsibilities of each tier of government in relation to coastal zone management; and
 - to be integrated and overseen by a relevant COAG council or Ministerial council.



National Coastal Zone Policy

- National Coastal Zone Policy and Strategy to set out the principles, objectives and actions that must be undertaken to address the challenges of integrated coastal zone management for Australia.



Resources to Manage Coast for all Australians

- Provide resources to manage and maintain the coast for all Australians, including funding to increase the adaptive capacity of councils to address climate change impacts.



Align Funding Grants with Coastal Populations

- Establish accurate and consistent methods of measuring the impact of tourists and other non-resident population groups in coastal areas to help planners and decision-makers better match resources with local populations.



Findings – study of non-resident populations

Surf Coast Shire VIC – 9,000 (34% higher)

Eurobodalla Shire NSW – 11,296 (31.6% higher)

Busselton City WA – 8,429 (27.8% higher)

Shoalhaven City NSW – 22,000 (24.5% higher)

Mornington Peninsula VIC – 30,391 (21% higher)

Cairns Regional Council QLD – 28,655 (18.3% higher)



Increase Funding for Climate Science Research

- Increase funding for Australia's climate science research programs which coastal councils need as the basis for planning and implementing effective adaptation measures



Minimise legal risks for coastal councils

- Promote adoption in all jurisdictions of legislation to give similar effect to that provided by Section 733 of the NSW Local Government Act.



Productivity Commission inquiry into natural disaster funding

- *‘State Governments, where they have not already done so, should provide local governments with statutory protection from liability for releasing natural hazard information and making changes to local planning schemes where such actions have been taken ‘in good faith’ and in accordance with state planning policy and legislation.’*

A closing thought...





Australian Taxation Revenue

- Vertical fiscal imbalance –
 - Commonwealth receives 81% of tax revenues
 - States and territories receive 15% of tax revenues
 - Local government receives only 3.4% of tax revenues



Relationship Between Three Tiers of Government

- Commonwealth has the money.
- States have the power.
- Local government has the problems.



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