

SEA LEVEL RISE POLICY

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**PREPARED BY:
ASSET SERVICES UNIT**



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SUTHERLAND SHIRE

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to outline the principles guiding Council's approach to sea level rise within the Sutherland Shire.

2. APPLICATION

The policy applies to land that is predicted to be inundated up to 2.22 mAHD in the 1% annual exceedance probability (AEP) 'storm tide' event of 1.5 mAHD plus a sea level rise of 0.72 m projected to occur in 2100 under the adopted emissions scenario.

3. PRINCIPLES

3.1 Application of Principles

No one principle should be applied to the detriment of another. Principles must be collectively considered and applied to the extent that is reasonable and practicable in the circumstances.

3.2 Projected Sea Level Rise

Council will apply the following sea level rise projections derived from the Intergovernmental Panel of Climate Change (IPCC) fifth assessment report (AR5) released 2013 – 2014 based on the representative concentration pathway emission scenario RCP6.0 and taken from a 2015 baseline year.

Year	Projected Sea Level Rise (m)
2015	0.00
2020	0.03
2030	0.10
2040	0.15
2050	0.23
2060	0.30
2070	0.39
2080	0.50
2090	0.61
2100	0.72

3.3 Application of Sea Level Rise Projections

Council will consider sea level rise when determining development applications and when preparing planning proposals, policies, flood studies, floodplain risk management studies and plans, and coastal management programs.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES

4.1 Responsible Officer

Council's Team Leader Stormwater and Waterway Assets is the officer responsible for this policy, including reporting on the application of the policy.

4.2 Council

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council is responsible for the application of this policy consistent with the guiding principles for councils and Council's integrated planning and reporting framework as outlined in the act.

4.3 Chief Executive Officer

Council has delegated the Chief Executive Officer the authority to ensure the policy is correctly applied.

4.4 Directors

Directors are responsible for ensuring their Division adheres to the requirements of this policy and provide guidance in respect of the application of the policy within their division and the organisation.

4.5 Staff

Staff must adhere to the requirements of this policy and operate within the authority of the policy principles outlined above.

5. MONITORING

Application of the policy will be monitored during statutory planning, strategic planning, floodplain risk management and coastal management when considering land affected by sea level rise.

The policy will be reviewed in accordance with Council's normal policy review process or as-required in response to the release of new advice on items such as sea level rise, legislative changes, NSW Government directions and Council resolutions.

6. RECORD KEEPING, CONFIDENTIALITY AND PRIVACY

Council adheres to and complies with the *NSW State Records Act 1998* and *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998* through its Enterprise Content Management Policy and Privacy Policy.

7. BREACHES OF POLICY

Breaches of this policy will be dealt with in accordance with normal disciplinary procedures and will be advised to the Chief Executive Officer and / or Director Shire Infrastructure via the Manager Asset Services.

8. RELATED DOCUMENTS

None

9. RELEVANT LEGISLATION, REGULATIONS AND GUIDELINES

- Local Government Act 1993
- State Records Act 1998
- Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998
- Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009

- Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979
- Coastal Management Act 2016
- Marine Estate Management Act 2014

10. DEFINITION OF TERMS

Term	Meaning
Representative Concentration Pathway (RCP)	A trajectory showing the projected change in greenhouse gas concentrations based on possible changes in emissions due to different socio-economic decisions and assumptions.
Storm surge	A rise in sea level that occurs during storms due to a combination of low atmospheric pressure and strong winds piling water up against the coast.
Storm tide	A water level that results from a combination of storm surge and a normal tide.
1% annual exceedance probability (AEP)	An event that will have a 1% chance of occurring in any one year.
Australian Height Datum (AHD)	The official national vertical datum for Australia measured in meters and used as a vertical control for mapping. Mean sea level is 0.0 mAHD.

End of Document

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