

# **COCKBURN SOUND MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**

## **Summary of Meeting on 7 February 2020**

### **Update from the Chair**

The Chair informed members that she had been invited by the Westport Taskforce Chair to meet on 4 December 2019 to discuss the Westport Stage 2 process. The Chair also informed members that she had attended the Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) for Productive Coasts and Industries WA Stakeholder Workshop on 4 February 2020. The Chair advised that the Research Priorities Working Group (RPWG) had met on 15 November 2019 to discuss opportunities for future research and monitoring in Cockburn Sound.

### **Westport Taskforce Update**

The Westport Taskforce Chair provided members with an update on the Westport process. The second multi-criteria analysis (MCA-2) has been completed on the shortlist of future port options. A rapid cost-benefit analysis is now being conducted on the top-ranking options from the MCA-2. The Stage 2 Outcomes Report, which will contain the final recommendations, will be made available later in 2020 on the Department of Transport website.

### **Cockburn Sound Seagrass Monitoring Program Update**

Researchers from the University of Western Australia provided members with a presentation on the annual Cockburn Sound seagrass health monitoring surveys and their findings to-date, including research on changes in seagrass root microbiomes.

### **Research Priorities Working Group Update**

The Chair advised members that the following items were discussed at the meeting of the Research Priorities Working Group (RPWG) held on 15 November 2019 to discuss opportunities for future research in Cockburn Sound:

- Real-time (continuous) water quality monitoring in Cockburn Sound
- Department of Water and Environmental Regulation phytoplankton project
- Cooperative Research Centre for Productive Coasts and Industries (CRC PC&I) – Stage 1 Expression of Interest
- Research by Water Corporation, Fremantle Ports and Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (Fisheries)
- Novel methods for monitoring and seagrass management