

ITEM 16

NOTICE OF MOTION - COUNCILLOR TANIA BROWN - HILL 60 ROCK PLATFORM SAFETY REVIEW

Councillor Tania Brown has submitted the following Notice of Motion –

“Given the ongoing incidents at Hill 60 resulting in loss of life of five rock fishermen, I formally move that -

- 1 Staff engage with Department of Primary Industries Fisheries, NSW Police (Marine Area Command), National Parks and Wildlife Service and Randwick City Council (location of Rock Fishing Safety Act trial) on their experiences and suggestions to improve the safety of rock fishers.
- 2 A delegation ideally comprising the Lord Mayor, Deputy Lord Mayor, Ward 3 Councillors, General Manager and Paul Scully MP be formed, and recommend the delegation meets with State Ministers Adam Marshall MP and David Elliot MP if able.
- 3 The delegation expresses Council's concern at the high level of fatalities at this location and seek a discussion on solutions to ensure the safety of rock fishers in the future.
- 4 Council note that NSW Police and Emergency Services personnel risked their lives by entering the water to reach the individuals involved in Friday's incident and that Surf Life Saving Association members joined NSW Ambulance in providing life support assistance. We extend our thanks and appreciation to all involved in this rescue.”

Background provided by Councillor Tania Brown:

Since 22 January 2021 five fishermen have lost their lives fishing from the rock platform at Hill 60, with others injured and emergency service personnel placing their own lives at risk through search and rescue.

This situation requires multiple levels of government and agencies to come together to discuss a coordinated response.

Safety messages and the availability of life rings are sadly not enough to change behaviour and prevent future fatalities. A policy discussion is required on other options such as mandated life vests and community education and how Council and State Government can work together on addressing this challenging situation.