

Media Release

The Hon Lily D'Ambrosio MP

Minister for Energy, the Environment and Climate Change
Minister for Solar Homes



Thursday, 29 July 2021

MARINE AND COASTAL STRATEGY LAUNCHED FOR FEEDBACK

Victoria's unique and precious marine and coastal environments will be further protected by a new strategy released today for consultation by the Andrews Labor Government.

Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change, Lily D'Ambrosio launched the draft *Marine and Coastal Strategy*, which will guide how the state's marine and coastal environments are managed into the future.

The strategy aims to improve coastal habitats and help coastal communities prepare and adapt to the impacts of climate change. It will guide sustainable use and development and help identify the resources and funding needed to sustainably manage the environment.

The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning is working closely with Traditional Owners on the strategy to ensure their rights and obligations are embedded in planning and managing marine and coastal environments.

Victoria has more than 2,500 kilometres of coastline and about 10,000 square kilometres of marine waters providing environmental, social and economic value to the state.

The Government also announced the appointment of new members and reappointment of existing members to the Marine and Coastal Council. The Council provides evidence-based advice on planning and managing marine waters and coastal areas.

Members bring extensive expertise in business and financial management, marine conservation, marine ecology, marketing, public sector governance, and sustainable fisheries.

To view the draft Marine and Coastal Strategy or provide feedback visit engage.vic.gov.au/draft-marine-and-coastal-strategy.

For more information about the Marine and Coastal Council visit marineandcoastalcouncil.vic.gov.au.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change Lily D'Ambrosio

"We are so lucky to have such a beautiful coastline to explore and visit, we need to make sure we take care of it – and that's what this strategy is all about."

"We need to prepare and adapt for a changing climate to ensure our marine and coastal environments are protected into the future."

"All Victorians are encouraged to visit Engage Vic and comment on the draft Marine and Coastal Strategy."