

SURF LIFE SAVING SYDNEY

COVID-19 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN 2020-2021



1. PURPOSE & BACKGROUND

The role of Surf Life Saving Sydney Clubs and Support Operations is to provide Lifesaving Services across the Coastal Sydney Metropolitan area.

As such, our services are vital for the protection of members of the public recreating by the coastline, including but not limited to people recreating on beaches, coastal rock platforms and boating activities.

On 11 March 2020 the World Health Organisation (WHO) declared the COVID-19 outbreak a Pandemic.

In response, the Australian Federal, State and Territory governments have developed a series of measures to deal with the public health risk of COVID-19 and its possible consequences. Specifically, the NSW Minister for Health and Medical Research has issued a series of Public Health Orders under section 7 of the Public Health Act 2010, including the Public Health (COVID-19 Restrictions on Gathering and Movement) Order (No 4) 2020 which currently has effect.

Surf Life Saving Sydney Clubs and Support Operations provide Lifesaving Services across the Coastal Sydney Metropolitan area. As such, our services are vital for the protection of members of the public recreating by the coastline, including but not limited to people recreating on beaches, coastal rock platforms and boating activities.

The purpose of this plan is to provide a clear staged approach to resource management to ensure continuity of operations in the event that beaches and coastal areas are closed; to provide support and guidance to clubs and services, and also to provide support to Local Government.

Public Health Orders and health advice affecting public spaces

The most relevant health advice from the NSW Government and directions contained in the Public Health Orders (as at 01/10/2020) affecting management of outdoor public spaces are:

- The health advice recommending physical distancing. This advice is advisory only and is not the subject of a direction under a Public Health Order. The advice recommends reducing the close physical contact we have with one another and staying 1.5 metres away) from other people where possible. This does not apply to people living in the same household.
- The occupier of premises, which includes owners, must not allow persons on the premises if the size of the premises is insufficient to ensure there is at least 4 square metres of space for each person on the premises.
- Persons must not participate in an outdoor public gathering of more than 20 people.

2. STAKEHOLDERS

There are a number of internal and external stakeholders for whom this plan has been developed including:

- Surf Life Saving Sydney Clubs
- Surf Life Saving Sydney Support Operations Services
- Surf Life Saving NSW (SLSNSW)
- NSW Police Force (NSWPF)
- Waverley Council (WC)
- Randwick City Council (RCC)
- Sutherland Shire Council (SSC)
- National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)

3. KEY CONTACTS

POSITION	NAME	PHONE	EMAIL
24/7 SLSS Coordinator	Primary Contact	0490 087 801	
Plan Owner, Director Lifesaving	Matt Spooner	0452 261 642	dol@surflifesavingsydney.com.au
President, SLSS	Peter Agnew	0407 938 880	president@surflifesavingsydney.com.au
Manager, Support Operations SLSS	Jackson Towns	0452 579 648	som@surflifesavingsydney.com.au
Manager, Lifesaving SLSS	Scott Muir	0433 471 545	lifesavingmanager@surflifesavingsydney.com.au
Manager, Education SLSS	Craig Howie	0410 546 013	education@surflifesavingsydney.com.au
Emergency Management Coordinator SLSS	Kane Hughes	0402 846 784	emergencymanagement@surflifesavingsydney.com.au
SLSS Clubs	Via Lifesaving Manager		
Executive Manager Lifeguards, Waverley Council	Rachel Hensman	0421 955 189	rachel.hensman@waverley.nsw.gov.au
Lifeguard Manager, Waverley Council	Matt Du Plessis	0466 956 854	matt.duplessis@waverley.nsw.gov.au
Director City Services, Randwick City Council	Todd Clarke	0400 911 822	todd.clarke@randwick.nsw.gov.au
Aquatic Services Manager, Randwick City Council	Duncan Rennie	0450 038 900	duncan.rennie@randwick.nsw.gov.au
Manager, Ocean Safety and Lifeguards, Sutherland Shire Council	Brett Richardson	0414 193 804	brichardson@ssc.nsw.gov.au
Operations Manager Public Safety SLSNSW	Brent Manieri	0404 363 454	bmanieri@surflifesaving.com.au
State Operations Centre SLSNSW		02 9471 8092	soc@surflifesaving.com.au

4. SCOPE

This plan outlines the arrangements made in response to plans made by various local government bodies and pertains to the service delivery of SLSS during varying stages of each council's beach management and public space management plans.

As each stakeholder's plans differ slightly, this plan will provide a staged provision of Surf Life Saving services in response to beaches being opened, restricted access and closed, in three stages. At all times, Surf Life Saving Sydney Clubs and Services will provide services as per the requirements of the SLSNSW Standard Operating Procedures (Lifesaving Services), and Lifesaving Service Agreements. (Annex).

5. RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

STAGE 1: NORMAL OPERATIONS

Beach area is operating as normal, under the requirements of the LGA/ Area COVID Plan. Beach access is unrestricted; however Local Government actively monitors beach attendance numbers to ensure compliance with the Public Health Order.

OPERATIONS / RESPONSE	NOTES
Normal Patrol Operations for both Clubs and Support Operations Services.	
Club Operations: Clubs continue active patrols with no active restrictions on patrolling members present. Patrol members must at all times practice social distancing and comply with their individual SLSC's Lifesaving COVID Safety Plan.	
Support Operations: Support Operations patrols at normal readiness levels, including but not limited to roving patrols by Surf Rescue 30 Offshore Rescue Boat, Rescue Watercraft, Duty Officers, and UAV Aerial Surveillance. Support Operations assets may be tasked in consultation with Local Government to provide additional roving surveillance to areas outside of patrolled locations, to assist with coverage of these areas and provide intelligence back to LG and SLSNSW of patronage numbers in these areas.	

5. RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

STAGE 2: RESTRICTED ACCESS

In accordance with each areas plan, Councils provide varying strategies relating to restricting beach access in the event that patronage numbers are close to the maximum allowable under the Public Health Order.

OPERATIONS / RESPONSE	NOTES
<p>Club Operations: Clubs should consider beach patronage and conditions before making any changes to their patrolling strength. At all times, clubs must ensure compliance with their Lifesaving Service Agreement. This equates to a maximum of five (5) Bronze Medallion members for each patrol. This number must include: Patrol Captain, IRB Driver and Crew and an Advanced Resuscitation Techniques award holder.</p> <p>Clubs will continue to maintain surveillance of their Primary and Secondary Patrolling areas as per their Lifesaving Service Agreement.</p> <p>Support Operations: Support Operations Services may be tasked or directed to increase patrols in the area by the SLSS Rescue Coordinator. This may include increased assets such as UAV's, RWC's etc being stood up and tasked to the area to assist with water safety in black spot areas in the event that members of the public are disbursed from beaches to coastal rock areas or unpatrolled locations. UAV surveillance may also be requested by the Local Government Authority via the Rescue Coordinator for assistance in monitoring patronage numbers.</p>	<p>Local Government Authority should advise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• SLSNSW State Operations Centre,• SLSS Rescue Coordinator,• SLSS Director of Lifesaving,• Relevant Club Captain (Via the DOL/RCO)

5. RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

STAGE 3: TEMPORARY BEACH CLOSURE

Councils provide varying mechanisms and qualifications for Temporary Beach Closures, when beach patronage numbers exceed the maximum allowable under the Public Health Order.

OPERATIONS / RESPONSE	NOTES
<p>Club Operations: Clubs should consider beach patronage and conditions before making any changes to their patrolling strength. Clubs may reduce their patrolling numbers in line with their Lifesaving Service Agreement. This equates to a maximum of five (5) Bronze Medallion members for each patrol. This number must include: Patrol Captain, IRB Driver and Crew and an Advanced Resuscitation Techniques award holder.</p> <p>Clubs should remove their patrol from the beach and take up a surveillance position off the beach. (e.g. in a club house or similar).</p> <p>Clubs must also maintain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Rescue Ready” Equipment: First aid equipment, spinal equipment, rescue boards and tubes, • A “Rescue Ready” IRB - maintained on the beach, ready to be launched if required. <p>Clubs may also conduct surveillance of their Secondary Patrolling areas using an IRB or ATV.</p> <p>Clubs should maintain an ability to stand up patrols on the beach immediately if a decision to re-open a beach is made.</p>	<p>The Local Government Authority should advise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SLSNSW State Operations Centre, • SLSS Rescue Coordinator, • SLSS Director of Lifesaving, • SLSNSW On-Call Media Officer (Via DOL/RCO) • SLSS Media Officer (Via DOL/RCO) • SLSS Emergency Management Coordinator (Via DOL/RCO) • Relevant Club Captain (Via the DOL/RCO) • Relevant Club President (Via DOL/RCO)
<p>Support Operations: Support Operations Services may be tasked or directed to increase patrols in the area by the SLSS Rescue Coordinator. This may include increased assets such as UAV’s, RWC’s etc being stood up and tasked to the area to assist with water safety in black spot areas in the event that members of the public are disbursed from beaches to coastal rock areas or unpatrolled locations. UAV surveillance may also be requested by the Local Government Authority via the Rescue Coordinator for assistance in monitoring patronage numbers.</p>	<p>Should a Club decide to make changes to their strength (e.g. reduce to minimum numbers, the club should notify:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SLSNSW State Operations Centre (SurfCom - who will then notify the Sydney Rescue Coordinator and DOL) • Lifeguard Team Leader.

5. RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

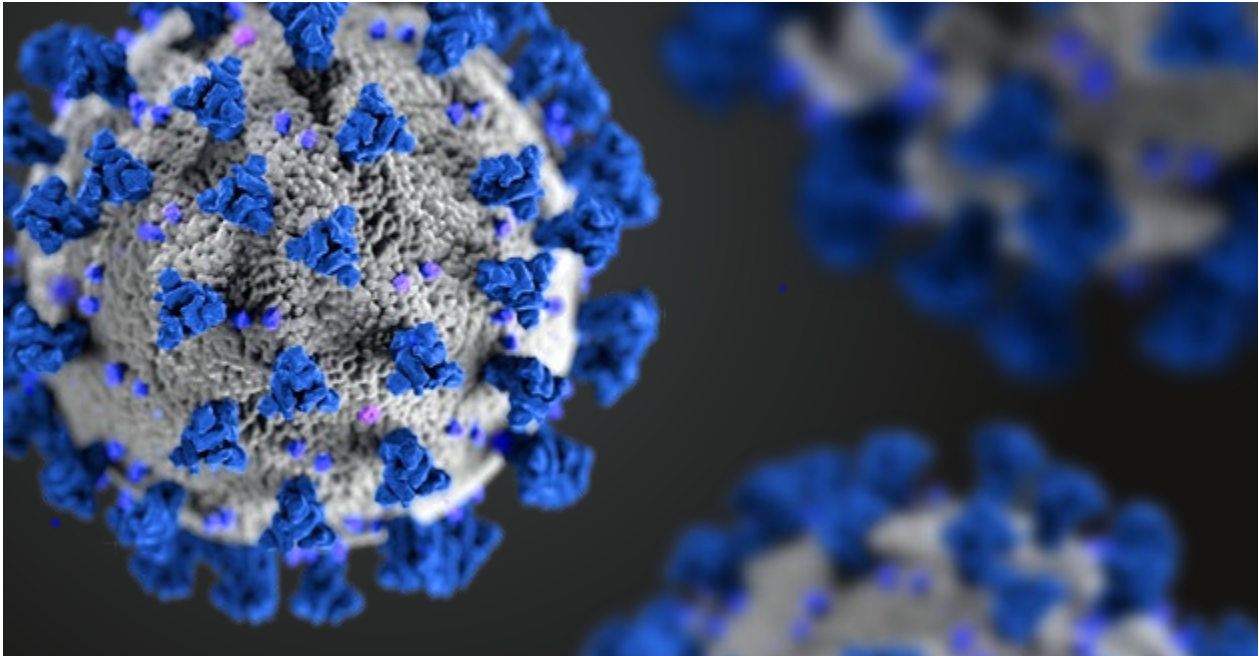
STAGE 4: PERMANENT BEACH CLOSURE

Councils provide varying mechanisms and qualifications for Permanent Beach Closures, when beach patronage numbers exceed the maximum allowable under the Public Health Order.

OPERATIONS / RESPONSE	NOTES
<p>Club Operations: Clubs should consider beach patronage and conditions before making any changes to their patrolling strength. Clubs may reduce their patrolling numbers in line with their Lifesaving Service Agreement. This equates to a maximum of five (5) Bronze Medallion members for each patrol. This number must include: Patrol Captain, IRB Driver and Crew and an ARTC award holder.</p> <p>Clubs should remove their patrol from the beach and take up a surveillance position off the beach. (e.g. in a club house or similar)</p> <p>Clubs must also maintain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Rescue Ready” Equipment: First aid equipment, spinal equipment, rescue boards and tubes, • A “Rescue Ready” IRB - maintained on the beach, ready to be launched if required. <p>Clubs may also conduct surveillance of their Secondary Patrolling areas using an IRB or ATV.</p> <p>Support Operations: Support Operations Services may be tasked or directed to increase patrols in the area by the SLSS Rescue Coordinator. This may include increased assets such as UAV’s, RWC’s etc being stood up and tasked to the area to assist with water safety in black spot areas in the event that members of the public are dispersed from beaches to coastal rock areas or unpatrolled locations. UAV surveillance may also be requested by the Local Government Authority via the Rescue Coordinator for assistance in monitoring patronage numbers.</p> <p>Sydney Branch will activate an Incident Management Team to work alongside SLSNSW, LG & NSWPF, comprising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SLSS DOL • SLSS President • SLSS Lifesaving Manager • SLSS SOG Manager • Relevant SLSS Area Lifesaving Officer. 	<p>The Local Government Authority should advise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SLSNSW State Operations Centre, • SLSS Rescue Coordinator, • SLSS Director of Lifesaving, • SLSS President (Via DOL/RCO) • SLSNSW On-Call Media Officer (Via DOL/RCO) • SLSS Media Officer (Via DOL/RCO) • SLSS Emergency Management Coordinator (Via DOL/RCO) • Relevant Club Captain (Via the DOL/RCO) • Relevant Club President (Via DOL/RCO) <p>Should a Club decide to make changes to their strength (e.g. reduce to minimum numbers, the club should notify:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SLSNSW State Operations Centre (SurfCom - who will then notify the Sydney Rescue Coordinator and DOL) • Lifeguard Team Leader

6. LOCALISED OUTBREAK OF COVID19 AFFECTING LIFESAVING OPERATIONS

- In the event that a Club or Service is affected by a localised outbreak of COVID19, either in the community or the club, the club should follow its own COVID Safety Plan.
- Should it be necessary for Clubs to close or withdraw services due to a closure of a Club or localised COVID outbreak, the Club should take steps to notify Local Government and SLSS immediately.
- In the event of this occurrence, SLSS will liaise with the Club, Local Government and SLSNSW to ensure Continuity of Operations and Patrolling Services at that location.



7. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

A. SURF LIFE SAVING SYDNEY BRANCH

Surf Life Saving Sydney is responsible for operational continuity and the provision of Surf Life Saving operations along the Sydney Branch Coastline (South Head to Burning Palms).

- Surf Life Saving Sydney will act as a conduit between Local Government, Surf Life Saving NSW, NSWPF and Surf Life Saving Sydney Clubs and Services.
- Surf Life Saving Sydney will be responsible for the provision of Support Operations Services.
- Surf Life Saving Sydney will be responsible for the provision of an Incident Management Team in the event of emergency escalation to provide management and support for all stake holders for Surf Life Saving related issues & the provision of water safety services in line with Lifesaving Service Agreements.

B. SURF LIFE SYDNEY CLUBS

- Surf Life Saving Sydney Clubs will be responsible for the provision of normal lifesaving services in line with their Lifesaving Service Agreement.
- Club Patrols should also liaise with the relevant Lifeguard Team Leader at their beach in relation to day to day management of their beach.

C. SURF LIFE SAVING NSW

- SLSNSW will be responsible for providing support to SLSS & SLSS Clubs through the State Operations Centre (SOC).

D. AUSTRALIAN UAV SERVICE

- The AUAVS will be responsible for the provision of UAV Operations through both the Westpac Lifesaver Rescue Drone Program, and the permanent DPI UAV's currently in place at Maroubra and Wanda.

E. LOCAL GOVERNMENT

- Each council is responsible for business continuity plans to ensure appropriate planning is undertaken to address any potential disruption to operations and the provision of services to the community.
- Each council is ultimately responsible for determining their beach capacity, and monitoring numbers to ensure compliance with the Health Orders.
- Councils should take a precautionary approach in line with the principles of prevention and preparation as outlined in the State Emergency Management Plan regarding the COVID-19 outbreak, working collaboratively with NSW Health to implement strategies to minimise COVID-19's transmission.
- Councils should continue to closely monitor issues reported or identified within their LGA, and actively engage with NSW Health Liaison Officers within their relevant Local Emergency Management Committees.
- In the event of a change of beach status, Council should take steps to notify Surf Life Saving through the relevant local channels, and via the SLSS Rescue Coordinator or Director of Lifesaving.

8. CLUB PATROLS

PATROL TIMES FOR SURF LIFE SAVING SYDNEY CLUBS AND SERVICES FOR SEASON 2020/2021

MAJOR METROPOLITAN CLUBS (NORTH BONDI, BONDI, COOGEE, MAROUBRA)		
Date	Saturdays	Sunday + Public Holidays
26/9/2020 to 18/10/2020	9am to 4pm	9am to 4pm
24/10/2020 to 3/4/2021	9am to 6pm	8am to 6pm
4/4/2021 to 25/4/2021	9am to 4pm	9am to 4pm

METROPOLITAN CLUBS: (TAMARAMA, BRONTE, SOUTH MAROUBRA, WANDA, ELOUERA, NORTH CRONULLA, CRONULLA)		
Date	Saturdays	Sunday + Public Holidays
26/9/2020 to 3/10/2020	10am to 4pm	10am to 4pm
4/10/2020 to 18/10/2020	9am to 4pm	9am to 4pm
24/10/2020 to 3/4/2021	9am to 6pm	9am to 6pm
4/4/2021 to 25/4/2021	10am to 4pm	10am 4pm

ROYAL NATIONAL PARK: (BURNING PALMS)		
Date	Saturdays	Sunday + Public Holidays
26/9/2020 to 29/11/2020	No Patrols	11am to 3pm
5/12/2020 to 31/1/2021	12pm to 3pm	10am to 4pm
6/2/2021 to 25/4/2021	No Patrols	11am to 3pm

ROYAL NATIONAL PARK: (ERA)		
Date	Saturdays	Sunday + Public Holidays
26/9/2020 to 20/12/2020	No Patrols	10am to 3pm
24/12/2020 to 31/1/2021	10am to 1pm	10am to 4pm
6/2/2021 to 4/4/2021	No Patrols	10am to 3pm
5/4/2021 to 25/4/2021	10am to 1pm	10am to 3pm

ROYAL NATIONAL PARK: (GARIE)		
Date	Saturdays	Sunday + Public Holidays
26/9/2020 to 18/10/2020	10am to 3pm	10am to 3pm
24/10/2020 to 29/11/2020	10am to 4pm	10am to 4pm
5/12/2020 to 31/1/2021	10am to 5pm	10am to 5pm
6/2/2021 to 5/4/2021	10am to 4pm	10am to 4pm
10/4/2021 to 25/4/2021	10am to 3pm	10am to 3pm

9. SUPPORT OPERATIONS SERVICES

DUTY OFFICERS & RESCUE COORDINATOR FOR SEASON 2020/2021

CALLOUT VIA 13SURF OR SLSS RESCUE COORDINATOR

Operational Time 24/7/365

ACTIVE ROVING PATROLS - EASTERN BEACHES & SUTHERLAND

Operational Time	Saturdays	Sunday
26/09/2020 - 25/04/2021	0700 - 1900	0700 - 1900

SURF RESCUE 30

Date	Saturdays	Sunday + Public Holidays
26/9/2020 to 18/10/2020	9am to 4pm	9am to 4pm
24/10/2020 to 3/4/2021	9am to 6pm	8am to 6pm
4/4/2021 to 25/4/2021	9am to 4pm	9am to 4pm

RWC - SUPPORT SKI 3 (MAROUBRA) & 4 (NORTH BONDI):

Date	Saturdays	Sunday + Public Holidays
26/9/2020 to 18/10/2020	9am to 4pm	9am to 4pm
24/10/2020 to 3/4/2021	9am to 6pm	8am to 6pm
4/4/2021 to 25/4/2021	9am to 4pm	9am to 4pm

RWC - SUPPORT SKI 1 (SUTHERLAND) & 2 (SUTHERLAND)

Date	Saturdays	Sunday + Public Holidays
26/9/2020 to 3/10/2020	10am to 4pm	10am to 4pm
4/10/2020 to 18/10/2020	9am to 4pm	9am to 4pm
24/10/2020 to 3/4/2021	9am to 6pm	9am to 6pm
4/4/2021 to 25/4/2021	10am to 4pm	10am 4pm

10. UAV OPERATIONS

WESTPAC DRONE PROGRAM - MOBILE CALLOUT

Operational Time	Saturdays	Sunday + Public Holidays
Sunrise to Sunset 365 Days	CALLOUT	CALLOUT

PERMANENT DPI UAV'S: MAROUBRA BEACH

LGA	Dates of Service	Days of Service
Randwick Council	Spring 26/09/20 - 11/10/20	7 Days
	Summer 19/12/20 - 27/01/21	7 Days
	Autumn 02/04/21 - 25/04/21	7 Days

PERMANENT DPI UAV'S: WANDA BEACH

LGA	Dates of Service	Days of Service
Sutherland Shire Council	Spring 26/09/20 - 11/10/20	7 Days
	Summer 19/12/20 - 27/01/21	7 Days
	Autumn 02/04/21 - 25/04/21	7 Days



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