

## **ADDITIONAL ITEM**

**Item No:** 1.6  
**Title:** Administrator's Minute - Managing the Channel  
**Department:** Administrator

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23 March 2021 Ordinary Council Meeting

Reference: F2020/00039 - D14553816

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s of Monday morning, it is clear this major storm event will repeat the flooding of many of the homes damaged last year. This will be heartbreaking for so many people who are barely over what happened only 13 months ago.

In terms of The Entrance channel, our acting CEO, Rik Hart, has been directing operations. Two Directors, Mr Cox and Mr Bolgoff, along with expert council staff, have been on the ground since last Thursday. Machinery has been in place and used as necessary. I continue to receive regular updates.

I have been impressed with the commitment and expertise of Council staff. I have no doubt they know what they are doing, and that everything was and is being done to minimise the impact of the weather.

Given the importance of this issue to so many people I have decided it is worth spending a small amount to engage an international expert to review our policy and approach to managing the channel.

Understandably public confidence in Council has been damaged with the events of the last few years.

An independent expert review by Mr Angus Gordon, Australia's leading coastal engineer, former head of Manly Hydraulics, former General Manager of Pittwater Council, will restore some of that confidence.

It is anticipated the review will result in either an endorsement or recommendation for change and will be available next week.

***I formally move:***

- 1 That Council engage Mr Angus Gordon, Australia's leading coastal engineering expert to undertake a peer review of Council's policy and approach in managing floods, particularly looking at the February 2020 flood event and flooding experienced in the past 4 days.***
- 2 That Council note this review will be undertaken immediately and a report will be released publicly when it arrives.***