Australian Mariners' Welfare Society
ABN 86 000 008 122
Founded as Sydney Sailors Home – 1863

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Committed to the welfare of seafarers

Council Action Plan 2025

1) Our vision

To ensure all seafarers and their dependents, irrespective of nationality, gender or beliefs, are treated with dignity, respect and compassion.

2) Identified challenges

Councillors have identified a number of priority challenges facing AMWS in the next 10 years:

Direction	That the goals and objectives of AMWS remain relevant in a changing environment.
Offering	That the functions and services offered are most relevant to seafarers in the future.
Constitution	That the future direction is one that can be supported within the existing constitution.
Councillors	That future Councillors be appointed consistent with the governance, industry skills and personal attributes adopted by Council.

3) Our channels

The following channels of communications have been identified:

We currently reach our members and stakeholders via:	☒ email ☒ newsletter ☒ website/online.
Additionally, we want to reach our members and stakeholders via:	☒ port representatives ☒ conferences ☒ social media.

4) Our next steps

The following next steps have been identified to support the identified challenges above:

Action No 1	**Expanded membership.**
Narrative	Council's priority is to allocate available funds directly to the benefit of seafarers, rather than administration. An expanded membership base increases the size of available volunteers that can be engaged in support of the delivery of functions and services.

Actions	• Targeted member recruitment drive amongst:
	  ○ Existing stakeholders
	  ○ Referrals from existing members
	  ○ Port committees
	  ○ Fishing sector
	  ○ Pilot service
	  ○ AMC and TAFEs
	• Develop a "one page" recruitment flyer for distribution.

Timeframe	By September 2025.
Action No 2	**Volunteer base.**
Narrative	Member volunteers represent an "untapped" resource, able to be engaged at the local level, to better deliver services and inform Council on the offering.

Actions	• Survey of members re available skills and opportunity to volunteer
	• Each member to nominate "home port" within membership
	• "Home port" committees to support:
	  ○ Nomination of a "port" champion
	  ○ Coordinate regular social events for members
	  ○ Liaison with local Port Welfare Committees
	  ○ Liaison with local industry stakeholders
	  ○ Make recommendations to Councils re future grants, services, scholarships.

Timeframe	By March 2026.
Action 3	**Communications**

Narrative	Improved communications channels with members and stakeholders will raise the profile of AMWS and contribute to an improved offering.
Actions	• Create an expanded "communications team" from volunteer base • Engage with AMC / TAFE for student participation (as part of course programs) in developing an AMWS Communication Plan.
Timeframe	By June 2026.
Action 4	**Port Welfare Committees**
Narrative	Respective Port Welfare Committees have their "finger on the pulse" of local seafarer welfare issues. Ongoing representation by AMWS volunteers in major ports will ensure input at the local level and provide a conduit to AMWS's decision making regarding offerings.
Actions	• Establish respective "home port" committees • Nominate representative to Port Welfare Committee.
Timeframe	• By December 2026