## Ministerial Surfing Roundtable Thursday 14 September 2023 Gold Coast COMMUNIQUE

On 14 September 2023, the Department of Tourism, Innovation and Sport chaired the fourth Ministerial Surfing Roundtable at the Gold Coast Recreation Precinct where a draft Protection Policy for World Surfing Reserves was discussed with members.

The draft Protection Policy, which was developed for consultation purposes and is not approved Government policy, was developed by an Interdepartmental Working Group which comprises representatives from the Department of Tourism Innovation and Sport, the Department of Environment and Science and the Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning. Other relevant agencies attend where required.

The Interdepartmental Working Group guided Roundtable members at the meeting through the objectives and elements of the draft Protection Policy and proposed implementation approach, inviting members to engage with their stakeholders and provide feedback on the draft during a two-month consultation period from 14 September to 10 November 2023.

The Roundtable welcomed and committed to providing feedback on the draft Protection Policy, with members noting the importance of the initiative to enhance existing protections for Queensland's iconic World Surfing Reserves.

The Working Group will review stakeholder feedback and progress a finalised World Surfing Reserves Protection Policy for Government approval in due course.