Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association

General Meeting Program

Friday 31st March 2017
District Council of Karoonda East Murray Council Offices, Karoonda

PROGRAM

09:00 am  Registration and Morning Tea
09.30 am  Attendances and Apologies (attendance sheet to be circulated)
Opening and President’s Welcome
General Meeting of MRLGA Board
12.30 pm  Meeting close and a light lunch will be provided immediately following the General Meeting.
01.00 pm  MRLGA Regional Transport Strategy Committee Meeting (Delegates Only)

The Meeting is open to the Public.

Advice to the CEO regarding attendances by phone 0411 406799 or email to ceomrlga@outlook.com is requested by Friday 24th March 2017.

Achieving Improvements for the benefit of the Murraylands and Riverland Community
AGENDA FOR THE GENERAL MEETING OF
THE MURRAYLANDS & RIVERLAND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION TO BE
HELD AT
DISTRICT COUNCIL OF KAROONDA EAST MURRAY OFFICES
11 RAILWAY TERRACE, KAROONDA SA
ON FRIDAY 31ST MARCH 2017 COMMENCING AT 9.30AM

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1. **ATTENDEES**

### 1.1. MRLGA DELEGATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Council Name</th>
<th>Delegate Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Berri Barmera Council (BBC)</td>
<td>Mayor Peter Hunt,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Vice President</td>
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<td>Coorong District Council (CDC)</td>
<td>Mayor Neville</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Jaensch</td>
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<tr>
<td>District Council of Karoonda</td>
<td>Mayor Kevin</td>
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<tr>
<td>East Murray (DCKEM)</td>
<td>Burdett</td>
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<td>District Council of Loxton</td>
<td>Mayor Leon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Waikerie (DCLW)</td>
<td>Stasinowsky</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid Murray Council (MMC)</td>
<td>Cr Kelly Kuhn,</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Deputy Mayor (Proxy)</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Rural City of Murray Bridge (RCMB)</td>
<td>Mayor Brenton</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lewis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renmark Paringa Council (RPC)</td>
<td>Cr Peter Hunter,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Deputy Mayor (Proxy)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Southern Mallee District Council (SMDC)</td>
<td>Mayor Andrew</td>
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<td>Grieger</td>
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### 1.2. COUNCIL MEMBERS (Proxy Delegates)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Council Name</th>
<th>Delegate Name</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Berri Barmera Council (BBC)</td>
<td>Cr Andrew Kassebaum,</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Deputy Mayor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coorong District Council (CDC)</td>
<td>Cr Sharon Bland,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Deputy Mayor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District Council of Karoonda</td>
<td>Cr Caroline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Murray (DCKEM)</td>
<td>Phillips, Deputy</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mayor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District Council of Loxton</td>
<td>Cr Michael Vowles,</td>
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<tr>
<td>Waikerie (DCLW)</td>
<td>Deputy Mayor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid Murray Council (MMC)</td>
<td>Cr Kevin Myers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Rural City of Murray Bridge (RCMB)</td>
<td>Cr Tyson Mathews,</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Deputy Mayor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Renmark Paringa Council (RPC)</td>
<td>Cr Peter Hunter,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Deputy Mayor</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
1.3. MRLGA REPRESENTATIVES, GUESTS AND OBSERVERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MRLGA Representatives</th>
<th>Limited to SA Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Murraylands &amp; Riverland LGA (MRLGA)</td>
<td>Mayor David Burgess, President Peter Bond, CEO &amp; Minute Secretary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Government Association of SA</td>
<td>Stephen Smith, Director Policy Lea Bacon, Director Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RDA Murraylands and Riverland</td>
<td>Jo Podoliak, CEO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Member for Barker</td>
<td>Tony Pasin MP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PIRSA Regions SA</td>
<td>Tim Smythe, Coordinator MR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SA MDB NRM Board</td>
<td>Sharon Starick, Presiding Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEWNR</td>
<td>Mike Williams, Regional Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAPOL, Murray Mallee LSA</td>
<td>Superintendent James Blandford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Berri Barmera Council (BBC)</td>
<td>David Beaton, CEO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coorong District Council (CDC)</td>
<td>Vince Cammell, CEO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District Council of Karoonda East Murray (DCKEM)</td>
<td>Peter Smithson, CEO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid Murray Council (MMC)</td>
<td>Russell Peate, CEO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Rural City of Murray Bridge (RCMB)</td>
<td>Andrew Meddle, General Manager Sustainable Communities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renmark Paringa Council (RPC)</td>
<td>Tony Siviour, CEO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Mallee District Council (SMDC)</td>
<td>Mia Dohnt, CEO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. APOLOGIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District Council of Loxton Waikerie (DCLW)</th>
<th>Peter Ackland, CEO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Renmark Paringa Council</td>
<td>Mayor Neil Martinson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Rural City of Murray Bridge (RCMB)</td>
<td>Michael Sedgman, CEO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office of Local Government</td>
<td>Alex Hart, Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office of Anne Ruston</td>
<td>Senator Anne Ruston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member of the Legislative Council</td>
<td>Hon John Dawkins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member for Hammond</td>
<td>Adrian Pederick MP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member for Chaffey</td>
<td>Tim Whetstone MP</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Moved: “That the apologies be accepted”

Seconded:
3. **DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

Any Delegate with a potential conflict of interest is asked to declare it at the start of the meeting and explain what the conflict is and why they will not be participating in any item relating to that issue.

4. **MINUTES OF MEETINGS**

4.1. Confirmation of the Minutes of the MRLGA General Meeting held at Mannum on Friday 13\(^{th}\) January 2017.

Refer **APPENDIX 1 – CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES (click to access)**

Moved: Seconded;

“That the Minutes of the MRLGA General Meeting held at Mannum on Friday 13\(^{th}\) January 2017 be accepted as a true and correct record of the proceedings at that meeting.”

5. **MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES.**

Business arising from the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Friday 13\(^{th}\) January 2017 at Mannum.

5.1. **Federal Mobile Phone Black Spot Program**

*Agenda Report*

In accordance with the resolution at the MRLGA Board meeting in January 2017, this matter has been referred to SAROC.

The LGA's State Budget Submission 2016/17 included a request that the State Government commit further investment for mobile black spots and this issue will be once again raised in the 2017/18 State Budget Submission.

The LGA is in a good position to continue its advocacy to both state and federal governments for greater investment to address mobile phone black spots in South Australia. The LGA already has an endorsed policy position to seek greater state government co-contributions for mobile blackspot funding to deliver regional tourism growth, economic development, and health and education outcomes across all South Australia.

Inadequate mobile phone coverage remains a significant issue for Australians living, working and travelling in regional areas of the country. The 2011/12 Regional Telecommunications Review identified a lack of adequate mobile voice and broadband coverage as the issue of greatest concern to regional communities. While Optus, Telstra and Vodafone Hutchison Australia collectively claim to provide mobile coverage to 99 per cent of the population, this level of coverage reflects Australia's highly urbanised population that equates to only around 25 per cent of the landmass.

The Federal Government's Mobile Black Spot Program is delivering 499 new and upgraded mobile base stations across Australia. In June 2015, the Government committed $100 million through Round 1 of the program, which aims to improve mobile phone coverage and competition in regional and remote Australia.

Investments to be made through Round 2 of the program were announced in Dec 2016. The SA Government has agreed to commit $2 million (with $1 million allocated from the Regional Development Fund). Of the 266 sites to be upgraded across Australia, only 20 are located in South Australia.
The funding announcement has been a source of controversy between the Government of SA and the Coalition Government. The SA Government has written to the Auditor General requesting a full investigation into this programme as the lack of transparency in deciding sites is of significant concern to the South Australian government.

In particular, the SA Government has expressed concern that ‘high-risk’ sites (such as areas impacted during Pinery fires) were not selected for funding by the Federal Government.

The Coalition Government has committed to Round 3 of the Mobile Black Spot Program. The competitive process for Round 3 locations is expected to commence in early 2017.

5.2. **SA Power Network Outages**

*Agenda Report*

In accordance with the resolution at the MRLGA Board meeting in January 2017, this matter has been referred to SAROC.

SAROC have recommended pursuit of concerns in relation to the poor response times by SA Power Network to outages, particularly in regard to the need for remotely based crews to attend and how this may affect those with medical conditions that require power to support their treatment.

While the LGA does not have an endorsed policy position regarding response times to power outages, this recommendation aligns with a series of requests made to the LGA Board from the meeting of the SAROC committee’s held on 16th November 2016 regarding State Power Supplies.

The LGA did express concern that the claims of many reports of hospital buildings and infrastructure failing during extreme weather events in Australia were not substantiated in the Burns Report commissioned by the SA Government. The ‘Burns Review’ examined the impact of the September 2016 blackout on hospitals and concluded that (p22), overall both metropolitan and country hospitals generally stood up well during the event.

However, the Review does note that generators failed at Port Augusta and Cummins Hospitals and that the Flinders Medical Centre had particular well publicised issues, but that apart from these exceptions back-up generation in hospitals worked well (p23).

6. **NOTICE OF MOTIONS**

Nil

7. **COMMITTEES OF THE SUBSIDIARY**

7.1. **MRLGA Regional Public Health Committee**

*Agenda Report*

The Minutes of the MRLGA Regional Public Health Committee meeting held on Friday 10th February 2017 at Cambrai are provided attached.

Refer [APPENDIX 2 - MRLGA REGIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE MINUTES](click to access)

Moved: Seconded;

“That the MRLGA receive the Minutes of the MRLGA Regional Public Health Committee meeting held on Friday 10th February 2017 as presented and request that the group present to the next meeting of the MRLGA Board on their activities and purpose.”
7.2. MRLGA CEO Network Group - February 2017

*Agenda Report*

The notes of the CEO MRLGA Network Group meeting held at Renmark Paringa Council Offices, Renmark on Monday 20th February 2017 are provided attached.

*Refer APPENDIX 3 - MRLGA CEO NETWORK GROUP NOTES (click to access)*

Moved: Seconded;  
“That the notes from the CEO MRLGA Network Group meeting held on Monday 20th February 2017 be received and the actions within be endorsed by the MRLGA Board.”

7.3. Murraylands Transport Advisory Committee - February 2017

*Agenda Report*

The minutes of the Murraylands Transport Advisory Committee meeting held at Tailem Bend on Tuesday 28th February 2017 are provided attached.

*Refer APPENDIX 4 - MURRAYLANDS TAC MINUTES (click to access)*

Moved: Seconded;  
“That the minutes of the Murraylands Transport Advisory Committee meeting held on Tuesday 28th February 2017 be received.”

8. GENERAL REPORTS

8.1. MRLGA President’s Report

Rate capping

The Liberal Party’s motion to introduce rate capping amendments into the Government(Boundary Adjustment) Amendment Bill 2016 currently before Parliament was recently defeated in the Lower House. This follows their attempts to legislate rate capping through the Bill they introduced last year, which was voted down by the Government.

Regardless of these outcomes, they have committed to taking this policy to the 2018 State Election. The LGA will continue to oppose the introduction of rate capping in our State, and run a public awareness campaign in 2017 to protect communities from cuts to Council facilities and services.

2017 Public awareness campaign

The LGA’s 2017 public awareness campaign is part of a three-phase strategy to positively position the local government sector in the lead up to the next State Election, and our ongoing efforts to educate, activate and encourage communities to support the extent and value of services provided by Councils.

While this work will be led by the LGA, it will require a coordinated and collaborative sector-wide effort, and the LGA President has written to all South Australian Councils asking for them to commit to supporting and leveraging our campaign through their own marketing and communications channels.
Transparency and accountability
The LGA President met with the Minister for Local Government on 27th February 2017 to discuss issues of transparency and accountability in our sector. The LGA believe local government is already the most transparent sphere of government, but acknowledge there is further work that can be done to improve the consistency of reporting across the sector in relation to allowances and benefits. The LGA will now undertake to develop guidelines to help clarify items that must be included on salary and allowance and benefits registers, as well as a “model register” which can be adapted or adopted by Councils.

Annual Member Survey
The LGA have written to all elected members and Council chief executives regarding the LGA’s 2017 Annual Member Survey. The LGA are committed to continued improvement, and are seeking feedback from member Councils both on our performance and areas of focus. The feedback received by the LGA through this survey will be incorporated into their business planning for 2017/18, and help the LGA to prioritise what it works upon for the benefit of members.

New Shadow Minister for Local Government
Following a recent front bench re-shuffle, David Pisoni has replaced Steven Griffiths as the new Shadow Minister for Local Government. David also holds the shadow ministries of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure.

The LGA President met with David Pisoni on 21st February to brief him on key issues for our sector, and impress on him on our commitment to working across all levels of government on policies that will benefit our communities. David confirmed with the President that the Liberal Party intends on taking its rate capping policy to the 2018 State Election.

Since the reshuffle Steven Griffiths has announced he will retire from parliament at the 2018 election, and I am sure you will all share with me our best wishes to Steven in his future endeavours.

Liquor Licensing Reforms
The LGA has raised concerns with the Minister for Consumer & Business Services that the Government’s proposed liquor licensing reforms will negatively impact on communities through limiting local government involvement to the planning process. For example, if a development approval does not restrict operating hours, under the Government’s proposed Bill a Council may not be able to seek reduced operating hours to be imposed on a subsequent liquor licence.

The LGA believe that Council members provide the liquor licensing authority with a unique and valued insight into the history of licensed premises within a particular area, and the potential sensitivities surrounding these premises that may not be revealed through a planning process.

457 Visas
Last year the LGA wrote to the Minister for Education, the Hon Susan Close MP, about the Government’s decision to charge 457 visa workers with a household income of $77,000 public schools fees of up to $6,100 per child. Unfortunately, the Minister has recently declined our request to reconsider the introduction of this new fee.

Many regional and rural businesses and industry bodies rely heavily on 457 visa holders to fill key positions in their communities, including doctors, lecturers, graphic designers, meat workers, and accountants, and it does not make sense to put up barriers which will make it harder for communities to attract these workers.
The LGA will continue to call on the Government to work with councils and stakeholders to develop a population policy, encompassing migration, the impacts of an ageing population, labour force and skills, and demands on infrastructure.

**Deputations**
The CEO MRLGA and myself attended deputations with Federal Ministers and senior advisors in Canberra on the 20th and 21st March 2017. Notes from those meetings will be provided by email to all Constituent Councils for the MRLGA Board’s reference.

**CEO MRLGA Performance Review**

**Purpose**
For the MRLGA Board to make a determination on whether to deal with this matter in confidence.

**A. MRLGA BOARD TO MOVE MOTION TO GO INTO CONFIDENCE**

**PRESIDENTS RECOMMENDATION**

Pursuant to Section 90 (2) of the Local Government Act 1999 an order is made that the public be excluded from attendance at the meeting, with the exception of the CEO MRLGA, MRLGA Board delegates and Constituent Council CEO’s.

In order to consider this in-confidence agenda item under Section 90 (3) (a) of the Local Government Act 1999 on the basis that:
(a) information the disclosure of which would involve the unreasonable disclosure of information concerning the personal affairs of any person (living or dead).

This matter is Confidential because the matter contains sensitive information relating to the personal affairs of the CEO MRLGA.

On the basis of this information, the principle that meetings should be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed in this instance; the MRLGA Board consider it necessary to consider this matter in confidence.

*Section B below to be discussed in the confidential section of the agenda once the meeting moves into confidence for each item.*

**B. THE MATTERS IN RELATION TO CEO MRLGA PERFORMANCE REVIEW REPORT**

*Refer APPENDIX 5 - PRESIDENTS REPORT ON MRLGA CEO PERFORMANCE - IN CONFIDENCE (provided separately)*

**C. MRLGA BOARD TO DECIDE HOW LONG ITEM IS TO BE KEPT IN CONFIDENCE**

**Purpose**
To resolve how long this agenda item is to be kept confidential.
PRESIDENTS RECOMMENDATION

Pursuant to Section 90(2) and Section 91(7) of the Local Government Act 1999, the MRLGA Board orders that the following aspects of the Presidents Report in relation to the CEO MRLGA's Performance Review be kept confidential in accordance with MRLGA Board's reasons to deal with this item in confidence pursuant to Section 90 (3) (a) of the Local Government Act 1999:

- Presidents Report for CEO MRLGA's Performance Review
- Attachment(s)
- Discussion
- Decisions from the CEO MRLGA's Performance Review

This order shall operate for 30 days following the MRLGA Boards consideration of the matter, or will be reviewed and determined as part of the annual review by the MRLGA Board in accordance with Section 91(9)(a) of the Local Government Act 1999, whichever comes first.

Moved: Seconded;

“That the MRLGA Board receives and notes the MRLGA Presidents Report.”

8.2. SAROC Meeting

Key Outcomes of SAROC Meeting held on Thursday 16th March 2017 in Adelaide.

Refer APPENDIX 6– KEY OUTCOMES OF SAROC MEETING
(click to access)

Moved: Seconded;

“That the MRLGA receive and note the SAROC Key Outcomes Report for meeting held on Thursday 16th March 2017 in Adelaide.”

8.3. MRLGA Chief Executive Officer’s Report

Refer APPENDIX 7 – MRLGA CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS REPORT (click to access)

Moved: Seconded;

“That the MRLGA CEOs Report be received and noted with the resolutions contained within the report endorsed.”

8.4. Local Government Association of SA

Agenda Report
Stephen Smith and Lea Bacon, Local Government Association of SA will be present and will provide a verbal report in relation to the LGA Topical Report to be distributed at the meeting.

Refer APPENDIX 8 - LGA TOPICAL REPORT
(click to access)

Moved: Seconded;

“That the LGA Topical Report be received and noted.”
8.5. Office of Local Government

Agenda Report
The Manager of the Office of Local Government, Alex Hart will be an apology for this meeting.

8.6. Murray and Mallee Zone Emergency Management Committee (ZEMC)

The Minutes of the Murray and Mallee Zone Emergency Management Committee held on Monday 6th March 2017 in the Council Chambers at the Renmark Paringa Council are provided attached.

Refer APPENDIX 9 - MM ZEMC MINUTES (click to access)

Moved: Seconded;
“That the Minutes of the Murray and Mallee Zone Emergency Management Committee meeting held on Monday 6th March 2017 as presented be noted.”

8.7. Murray Darling Association (MDA) – Activity Update Reports

Agenda Report
The Minutes of the MDA Region 5 meeting held on Monday 6th March 2017 in the Council Chambers at the Renmark Paringa Council are provided attached.

Cr Peter Hunter, Deputy Mayor, RPC will give a brief verbal report to the meeting in relation to;
- Region 5 AGM
- Planning for 2017 Actions
- MDA National AGM in Renmark

Refer APPENDIX 10 - MDA REGION 5 MINUTES (click to access)

Moved: Seconded;
“That the Minutes of the MDA Region 5 meeting held on Monday 6th March 2017 as presented be noted.”

9. OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS AND COMMITTEES

9.1. Regional Development Australia Murraylands and Riverland

Jo Podoliak, Chief Executive, RDA Murraylands and Riverland will be present and will provide a verbal report to the meeting.

9.2. SA MDBNRM Board

Sharon Starick, Presiding Member, SA Murray Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board will be present and will provide a verbal report to the meeting.

9.3. Murray Mallee Local Service Area, SAPOL

Superintendent James Blandford or proxy will be present and will provide a verbal report to the meeting.
9.4. **Regions SA**

Tim Smythe, Regional Coordinator, Regions SA will be present and will provide a verbal report to the meeting.

**Moved:**  
**Seconded:**

“That MRLGA receive and note the reports as presented by RDA MR, SAMDB, NRM, SAPOL and Regions SA and extends its appreciation to the presenters for taking the time and effort to attend and present at the MRLGA meeting.

9.5. **Riverland Local Government Forum (RLGF)**

The notes of the Riverland Local Government Forum held on Wednesday 15th February 2017 at Renmark are provided attached. at the request of the Riverland Councils.

Refer **APPENDIX 11 - RIVERLAND LOCAL GOVERNMENT FORUM NOTES**
(click to access)

**Moved:**  
**Seconded:**

“That the notes from the Riverland Local Government Forum held on Wednesday 15th February 2017 as presented be noted.”

10. **STRATEGIC MATTERS**

10.1. **State/ Local Government Climate Change Partnership**

The current partnership between the LGA and DEWNR expires at the end of June 2017 and both parties have recently entered into negotiations regarding the need for an ongoing LGA (Local Government)/ DEWNR Climate Change coordination role.

To garner the support required to accomplish the successful renewal of the partnership, it is vital that councils/ regions express their support for a continued state/ local government coordination role to the LGA Board and the Minister for Climate Change.

The best way to express that support is to write to the LGA/ Minister for Climate Change stating that your council sees this function as a priority, preferably endorsed by the CEO/ Mayor.

It is not enough for us to have great working relationships, we also need to send a message to our decision makers that the work we are currently collaborating on is vital to the future prosperity of the local government sector.

**Moved:**  
**Seconded:**

“That the MRLGA Board refer this matter to our Constituent Councils to write to the LGA Board and the Minister for Climate Change stating that each Council sees this function as a priority.”

10.2. **LGA Governance Review**

The LGA is continuing to engage with Councils to determine what (if any) changes to the LGA may be recommended for adoption from their Governance Review.

This in part also includes the operation of SAROC. SAROC is the mechanism through which regional matters can be elevated to the LGA Board for consideration.
The Regional LGA Chief Executive Officers have agreed to implement a range of additional procedures to help facilitate an improvement to the decision-making process by SAROC given there is some conjecture as to whether the structure of SAROC is still appropriate or not.

We are aiming at improving the governance around the procedures and processes that enable information to go from SAROC to the LGA Board for consideration. It has been a criticism of the Regional LGA Chief Executives that the preparation of items for discussion is on occasions insufficient to get through the LGA Executive and therefore falls back to the Regions which for the most part are under resourced to manage some matters.

10.3. **Community Passenger Networks**

There remains an unknown funding solution for CPN’s from July 2018 at this stage. There are currently two business models in operation across the State. Firstly, the model operated ostensibly by local Councils and secondly the model operated by Red Cross.

Dr John Stanley, Institute of Transport and Logistics Studies, Business School, University of Sydney and Associate Professor Janet Stanley, Stanley and Co have been engaged to review the operating models across Australia and report in November on their respective findings.

According to the Stanley’s there is a new and quite successful model in Geelong, which for the most part is a consolidation of private and public sector assets and one central administration.

A pilot model is being run in Port Pirie, Mt Gambier and the Riverland which is expected to provide feedback to the Federal Government. An unconfirmed report suggests the Federal Government may continue block funding beyond July 2018.

Legatus (Central Region LGA) have written to Minister Zoe Bettison seeking clarity from her office and also her Federal colleagues.

11. **FINANCIAL REPORTS**

11.1. **Profit and Loss Statement, Balance Sheet, Bank Reconciliation and Operating Budget**

Refer APPENDIX 12 – FINANCIAL REPORTS
(click to access)

Moved, Seconded,

“That the MRLGA Board receives the Profit and Loss Statement, Balance Sheet, Bank Reconciliation and Operating Budget Report as at 28th February 2017.”
12. GENERAL BUSINESS. (including DISCUSSION ITEMS etc.)

12.1. General Business

12.1.1. 2017 Council Best Practice Showcase and Ordinary General Meeting

The 2017 Council Best Practice Showcase and Ordinary General Meeting will be held at the Adelaide Convention Centre on 20th & 21st April, 2017.

After considering feedback from members on previous OGM’s the LGA has decided to change the structure of the showcase that is held on Thursday. Although sessions will still run concurrently and will feature best practice examples from Councils, sessions will be longer so that presenters and attendees can discuss the topic in more detail. The LGA are also planning to showcase best practice examples in the exhibition area.

If you have any questions in relation to the showcase or OGM please contact Rebecca Wake on 8224 2047 or Rebecca.wake@lga.sa.gov.au.

Moved, Seconded,

“That the MRLGA Board endorse the attendance of the President and CEO MRLGA at the 2017 LGA Showcase and Ordinary General Meeting to be held at the Adelaide Convention Centre on 20th & 21st April, 2017, inclusive of registration, accommodation and associated expenses and to be within allocated budget limits. “

12.2. Around the Table

12.3. Opportunity for Members of Parliament to Present on topical issues

13. CORRESPONDENCE

13.1. Correspondence for Information - Inwards and Outwards

Correspondence Register to 15th March 2017.

Many of these correspondence items will have been received directly by member Councils. Should any delegate wish to access any correspondence items listed, but not included with this agenda, they can be made available by contacting the MRLGA Chief Executive Officer.

13.2. Correspondence for MRLGA Board Determination:

I2017-0119 Stephen Smith, Director Policy, LGA. Re LGA MDA Forum -
It has been suggested by the LGA that the MRLGA facilitate/host the next MDA Forum with MDA Region 6. It is understood that the LGA was originally asked to host these meetings to enable the local government representatives to attend. It is worthy of noting however that the meeting has expanded to include non local government representatives.

I2017-0215 Peter Smithson, CEO, District Council of Karoonda East Murray. Re Development Approval for Field Bin and Grain Silos - A recent development approval for permanent silos has highlighted anomalies on how Councils deal with such planning applications. DCKEM have requested that this matter be discussed at the MRLGA Board with possible referral to SAROC.
Russell Peate, CEO, Mid Murray Council. Re Possible Gas Fired Electricity Generator - Providing a copy of correspondence to the Premier seeking discussion on the possibility of a gas-fired electricity generator at Tepko near Mannum. Mid Murray Council wanted this item listed in the MRLGA Agenda for discussion and possible support.

Refer APPENDIX 13 – CORRESPONDENCE REGISTER AND ITEMS LISTED FOR DETERMINATION

Moved: Seconded;

“That correspondence as outlined in the Correspondence Register to 15th March 2017 be received and noted by MRLGA Board.”

14. GUEST SPEAKERS

14.1. Neil Andrew AO, Chair, Murray–Darling Basin Authority

The Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association (MRLGA) formally extended an invitation to Neil Andrew AO Chair, Murray–Darling Basin Authority, to present to this meeting of the MRLGA.

The MRLGA requested Neil present on the current matters of interest that sit within his role as Chair of the MDBA as well as have interaction with the Board around the many other areas of joint interest; in particular the principals and opportunities that may be provided with the evolution of a One Murray River Authority.

Brett Ibbotson, Regional Engagement Officer - Murray Bridge, Partnerships & Community Engagement Team, Murray-Darling Basin Authority will also be in attendance in support of the Chair of the MDBA.

14.2. Adam Wilson, Chief Executive Officer, ESCOSA

ESCOSA through Adam Wilson, CEO, are very keen to work more closely with local government – particularly as we share the common goal of protecting South Australians’ long-term interests.

Adam Wilson has been provided the opportunity to present to the MRLGA Board meeting in an effort to build on existing relationships, so that we can all maximise the effectiveness of the economic regulatory regime established under the Water Industry Act.

ESCOSA also keenly aware, through the previous engagement, that while our organisations have worked together well over the past two years to refine and embed the regime, it remains the case that, in some areas, pressure points remain.

That is partly a product of the fact that the regime is relatively new (it only started in 2013) and the issues we are both looking at within the regime are also new – which is the reason why we have initiated a full Inquiry (which covers not only water but also electricity and LPG services) aimed at finding ways to improve and streamline the Commission's regulatory framework, bearing in mind our common goal.

For all of these reasons Adam has requested the opportunity to meet with Mayors and CEOs.
15. **CLOSE AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**

| The next MRLGA General Meeting is to be held on Friday 12th July 2017 at Berri commencing at 9.30am. |
| Acceptances and apologies to MRLGA Chief Executive Officer Peter Bond Phone 0411 406799 or Email ceomrlga@outlook.com |
### MRLGA CALENDAR OF MEETINGS ATTENDED AND FUTURE MEETINGS

Please contact Peter Bond, Chief Executive Officer, MRLGA on 0411 406 799 or email ceomrlga@outlook.com for information on any of the above meetings.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date 2017</th>
<th>MEETING</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13 March</td>
<td>Adelaide Cup Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 March</td>
<td>SAROC Meeting LGA Board Meeting</td>
<td>Adelaide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 - 22 March</td>
<td>Canberra Delegation - MRLGA President and CEO</td>
<td>Canberra</td>
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<tr>
<td>28 March</td>
<td>Murray River Alliance Meeting</td>
<td>Murray Bridge</td>
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<tr>
<td>31 March</td>
<td>MRLGA General Meeting MRLGA RTS Committee Meeting Karoonda Farm Fair</td>
<td>Karoonda</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 April</td>
<td>Riverland LG Forum MRLGA Briefing to BBC (Tentative)</td>
<td>Barmera</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 April</td>
<td>MDA Region Meeting</td>
<td>Waikerie</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 April</td>
<td>MRLGA Briefing to MMC (Tentative)</td>
<td>Mannum</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 April</td>
<td>MRLGA CEO Network Meeting MRLGA CEO Performance Review Meeting</td>
<td>Murray Bridge</td>
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<td>14 - 17 April</td>
<td>Easter</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 - 21 April</td>
<td>2017 Best Practice Showcase &amp; LGA General Meeting</td>
<td>Adelaide</td>
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<tr>
<td>25 April</td>
<td>Anzac Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>26 April</td>
<td>Regional LGA EO Workshop and Meeting</td>
<td>Adelaide</td>
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<td>5 May</td>
<td>MRPHP Committee Meeting</td>
<td>Cambrai</td>
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<td>8 May</td>
<td>MRLGA Briefing to RCMB (Tentative)</td>
<td>Murray Bridge</td>
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<td>9 May</td>
<td>MRLGA Briefing to DCKEM (Tentative)</td>
<td>Karoonda</td>
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<td>16 May</td>
<td>ZEMC</td>
<td>Swan Reach</td>
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<td>17 May</td>
<td>SAROC Meeting</td>
<td>Goolwa</td>
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<td>18 May</td>
<td>LGA Board Meeting</td>
<td>Goolwa</td>
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<tr>
<td>24 May</td>
<td>MRLGA Budget Workshop (Tentative) Special MRLGA Board Meeting</td>
<td>Karoonda</td>
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<td>7 June</td>
<td>Riverland LG Forum</td>
<td>Loxton</td>
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<td>12 June</td>
<td>Queens Birthday</td>
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<td>19 June</td>
<td>MRLGA CEO Network Meeting</td>
<td>Southern Mallee</td>
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<td>27 June</td>
<td>MRLGA Briefing to RPC (Tentative)</td>
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<tr>
<td>28 June</td>
<td>Regional LGA EO Workshop and Meeting</td>
<td>Adelaide</td>
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<td>12 July</td>
<td>MRLGA AGM</td>
<td>Berri</td>
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<td>19 July</td>
<td>SAROC Meeting</td>
<td>Adelaide</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 July</td>
<td>LGA Board Meeting</td>
<td>Adelaide</td>
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<td>30 August</td>
<td>Regional LGA EO Workshop and Meeting</td>
<td>Adelaide</td>
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<tr>
<td>27 - 28 September</td>
<td>SAROC Meeting &amp; LGA Board Meeting</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<td>11 - 13 October</td>
<td>2017 MDA AGM/Conference</td>
<td>Renmark</td>
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<tr>
<td>25 October</td>
<td>MRLGA General Meeting</td>
<td>Renmark</td>
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<tr>
<td>18 - 29 October</td>
<td>Riverland Rose Festival</td>
<td>Renmark</td>
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</table>
MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF
THE MURRAYLANDS & RIVERLAND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
HELD AT
MID MURRAY COUNCIL OFFICES, 49 ADELAIDE ROAD, MANNUM SA
ON FRIDAY 13TH JANUARY 2017 COMMENCING AT 9.00AM

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MRLGA PRESIDENT’S WELCOME – Mayor Dave Burgess, President

1. ATTENDEES

1.1. MRLGA DELEGATES (As notified resolved December 2015)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Council/Board</th>
<th>Delegates/Deputy Mayor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Berri Barmera Council (BBC)</td>
<td>Mayor Peter Hunt, Vice President</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coorong District Council (CDC)</td>
<td>Mayor Neville Jaensch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District Council of Karoonda East Murray (DCKEM)</td>
<td>Mayor Kevin Burdett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District Council of Loxton Waikerie (DCLW)</td>
<td>Mayor Leon Stasinowsky</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid Murray Council (MMC)</td>
<td>Cr Kelly Kuhn, Deputy Mayor (Proxy)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Rural City of Murray Bridge (RCMB)</td>
<td>Cr Tyson Mathews, Deputy Mayor (Proxy)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Renmark Paringa Council (RPC)</td>
<td>Mayor Neil Martinson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Mallee District Council (SMDC)</td>
<td>Mayor Andrew Grieger</td>
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1.2. COUNCIL MEMBERS (Proxy Delegates)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Council/Board</th>
<th>Deputys/Deputy Mayor</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Berri Barmera Council (BBC)</td>
<td>Cr Andrew Kassebaum, Deputy Mayor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coorong District Council (CDC)</td>
<td>Cr Sharon Bland, Deputy Mayor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District Council of Loxton Waikerie (DCLW)</td>
<td>Cr Michael Vowles, Deputy Mayor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renmark Paringa Council (RPC)</td>
<td>Cr Peter Hunter, Deputy Mayor</td>
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</table>

1.3. MRLGA REPRESENTATIVES, GUESTS AND OBSERVERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Delegates/Deputy</th>
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<tr>
<td>Murraylands &amp; Riverland LGA (MRLGA)</td>
<td>Mayor David Burgess, President</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Peter Bond, CEO &amp; Minute Secretary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Local Government Association of SA</td>
<td>Mayor Lorraine Rosenberg, President</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Chris Russell, Strategic Adviser</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Bronwyn Webster and Lea Bacon</td>
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<tr>
<td>RDA Murraylands and Riverland</td>
<td>Jo Podoliak, CEO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SA MDB NRM Board</td>
<td>Sharon Starick, Presiding Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEWNR</td>
<td>Rhona Parker-Benton, Regional Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telstra</td>
<td>Mark Bolton, Area General Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Berri Barmera Council (BBC)</td>
<td>David Beaton, CEO</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coorong District Council (CDC)</td>
<td>Vincent Cammell, CEO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid Murray Council (MMC)</td>
<td>Russell Peate, CEO</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Rural City of Murray Bridge (RCMB)</td>
<td>Michael Sedgman, CEO</td>
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<td>Renmark Paringa Council (RPC)</td>
<td>Tim Vonderwall, Director Corporate</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Community Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Southern Mallee District Council (SMDC)</td>
<td>Mia Dohnt, CEO</td>
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2. **APOLOGIES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Board Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>District Council of Karoonda East Murray</td>
<td>Cr Caroline Phillips, Deputy Mayor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(DCKEM)</td>
<td>Peter Smithson, CEO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District Council of Loxton Waikerie (DCLW)</td>
<td>Peter Ackland, CEO</td>
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<td>Mid Murray Council (MMC)</td>
<td>Cr Kevin Myers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rural City of Murray Bridge</td>
<td>Mayor Brenton Lewis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Renmark Paringa Council (RPC)</td>
<td>Tony Siviour, CEO</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office of Local Government</td>
<td>Alex Hart, Manager</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office of Anne Ruston</td>
<td>Senator Anne Ruston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member for Barker</td>
<td>Tony Pasin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member of the Legislative Council</td>
<td>Hon John Dawkins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member for Hammond</td>
<td>Adrian Pederick MP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member for Chaffey</td>
<td>Tim Whetstone MP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PIRSA Regions SA</td>
<td>Tim Smythe, Coordinator MR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAPOL, Murray Mallee LSA</td>
<td>Superintendent James Blandford</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Moved: DCLW Seconded; CDC*

“*That the apologies be accepted*”

*CARRIED*

3. **DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

Board Members and Staff member will identify their conflict of interests in relation to reports before the Subsidiary in accordance with

- Sections 73-74 – Material conflicts of Interest
- Section 75 – Actual and perceived conflicts of interest

A member of the Board who has an interest in a matter before the Subsidiary must disclose the interest to the MRLGA Board by;

- Describing the nature of the interest, and
- The manner in which the member dealt with the actual or perceived conflict of interest.

This information will be recorded within the minutes of the meeting.

4. **MINUTES OF MEETINGS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item No &amp; Title</th>
<th>None Listed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Board Member Name</td>
<td>Cr Kelly Kuhn, Deputy Mayor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nature of Interest</td>
<td>Community Well-being</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manner in which conflict will be dealt with</td>
<td>Will leave the room if item discussed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4.1. Confirmation of the Minutes of the MRLGA General Meeting held at Murray Bridge on Wednesday 12th October 2016.

Moved: DCKEM Seconded: RPC

“That the Minutes of the MRLGA General Meeting held at Murray Bridge on Wednesday 12th October 2016 be accepted as a true and correct record of the proceedings at that meeting.”

CARRIED

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES.

Business arising from the Minutes of the General Meeting held on Wednesday 12th October 2016 at Murray Bridge.

5.1. Review of the River Murray Water Protection Area (RMWPA)

Agenda Report
At the October 2016 meeting of the Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association it was resolved to form a Working Party to review the River Murray Water Protection Area and Council Development Plan Policies in flood and fringe areas.

The scope of that Working Party was to include representatives from relevant State Government Departments (Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure, Environment Protection Authority, SA Health and the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources); following the development of a position by the River Murray Councils in relation to the River Murray Water Protection Area and Development Plan Policies.

An invitation was also requested for a representative from the Alexandrina Council to be part of the Working Party.

The Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association has commenced and progressed a One River Authority in conjunction with partners the RDAMR and SA MDB NRM Board. As part of this, it was considered that there could be merit in forming a Working Party of River Murray Councils in the Murraylands and Riverland region to review the separate Council Development Plans and the River Murray Water Protection Area.

This would ensure improved consistency, but also enable development in shack areas that do not have a CWMS Scheme and within the 1956 flood level (which in some cases are productive areas), subject to parameters. Once a position has been formed by the River Murray Councils affected, a larger Working Party could be formed incorporating representatives from the relevant State Government Departments (Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure, Environment Protection Authority, SA Health and Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources) to review the RMWPA and changes required to Councils Development Plans.

Whilst there is some urgency in the need for this Working Party, the CEO MRLGA is seeking feedback from the Board and other key stakeholders on how the Working Party may interface with the existing River Murray SA Alliance. It is suggested in the first instance that the RM SA Alliance meet to discuss this matter and report back to the 31st March 2017 March meeting of the MRLGA Board on how the interface may evolve and what the terms of reference may be; given there has already been excellent progress at that level with the One River Murray Authority concept.
Moved: DCLW  Seconded; BBC

“That any need for the MRLGA Board to form a Working Party to review River Murray Water Protection Area issues be referred to the River Murray SA Alliance for discussion and feedback on whether that forum is better placed to represent the MRLGA in this area of need.”

CARRIED

6. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

6.1. Federal Mobile Phone Black Spot Program

Agenda Report
As member Councils are aware, in many areas throughout the Murraylands and Riverland there is poor, marginal or no mobile phone coverage. In the last round of Federal Government funding under the Federal Mobile Phone Black Spot Program, the South Australian Government allocated $2 Million dollars as a co-contribution to assist in the business cases for the funding for the establishment of mobile phone towers throughout South Australia. It is understood that other States co-contributions were significantly more to better ensure Federal funding for mobile phone towers to overcome poor, marginal and no coverage in such States. It is considered that both Local Government and the State Government are being penalised by the Federal Government, whose responsibility it is to fund this program and who have the significant percentage of taxation funds in Australia. Councils and even the State Government find it difficult to contribute to this program, which is essentially a purview of the Federal Government.

The Mid Murray Council undertook a review of all digital services involving mobile phone coverage, broadband/NBN, radio and television. The report indicated a number of areas throughout Council where there continues to be poor, marginal or no mobile phone coverage. In the Eden Valley bushfires for example, some residents did not have any coverage during this event.

It is suggested that the Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association highlight, through the South Australian Regional Organisation of Councils (SAROC), the poor, marginal and no mobile phone coverage in many areas throughout the Murraylands and Riverland and the need for both State and Federal funding for the establishment of phone towers to provide this service.

Moved: MMC  Seconded; DCLW

“That Mid Murray Council requests that the Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association highlight, through the South Australian Regional Organisation of Councils (SAROC), the poor, marginal and no mobile coverage in many areas throughout the Murraylands and Riverland and the need for both State and Federal funding for the establishment of phone towers to provide this service.”

CARRIED
7. COMMITTEES OF THE SUBSIDIARY

7.1. MRLGA Regional Public Health Committee

Agenda Report
The Minutes of the MRLGA Regional Public Health Committee meeting held on Tuesday 15th November 2016 at Cambrai are provided attached.

Moved: MMC Seconded; DCKEM

“That the MRLGA receive and endorse the Minutes of the MRLGA Regional Public Health Committee meeting held on Tuesday 15th November 2016 as presented.”

CARRIED

7.2. MRLGA CEO Network Group - November 2016

Agenda Report
The notes of the CEO MRLGA Network Group meeting held on Friday 7th November 2016 at Karoonda are provided attached.

Moved: DCKEM Seconded; BBC

“That the notes from the CEO MRLGA Network Group meeting held on Friday 7th November 2016 as presented be received and the actions within be endorsed by the MRLGA Board.”

CARRIED

7.3. MRLGA CEO Network Group - December 2016

Agenda Report
The Minutes of the CEO MRLGA Network Group meeting held on Monday 19th December 2016 at Karoonda are provided attached.

Moved: RPC Seconded; SMDC

“That the notes from the CEO MRLGA Network Group meeting held on Monday 19th December 2016 as presented be received and the actions within be endorsed by the MRLGA Board.”

CARRIED

Moved: RPC Seconded; DCLW

“That the MRLGA CEO Network Group be delegated by the MRLGA Board to award projects to successful tenderers as identified in the 2016/17 Annual Business Plan and Work Plan; provided such actions sit within budget parameters.”

CARRIED
8. GENERAL REPORTS

8.1. MRLGA President's Report

State Local Government Infrastructure Partnership
Following discussions with the LGA about opportunities to drive job growth and economic development through investment in infrastructure projects, the State Government recently announced a State Local Government Infrastructure Partnership. This is a ten year, $30 million program which is designed to bring forward infrastructure projects outlined in Councils' long term plans through provision of a 20% State Government grant, and a discounted borrowing rate through the Local Government Finance Authority.

An application process for this program is being finalised, with applications to be assessed by the Treasurer, Minister for Local Government, and LGA. This is a terrific outcome for both councils, and their communities, which is going to generate jobs and provide residents with improved facilities.

Minister Brock recently announced a second round of funding for the Regional Youth Traineeship Program, which the LGA administers on behalf of the State Government. This $2 million program offers $14,500 a year to regional governance bodies across SA towards the cost of providing entry level employment for a trainee for two years. 57 trainees have been employed through the first round of the program, and it is tremendous that the program is going to be extended for a second round, and another group of young people in our regions will get their start in local government.

Boundary reform
A recent study commissioned by the Property Council on the potential benefits of council amalgamations has generated considerable media coverage. This study proposed cutting the number of South Australian councils from 68 to 32.

The LGA's policy position is opposed to forced amalgamations. Based on a number of academic studies, the LGA rejects the assertion that amalgamations will automatically yield economies of scale and lead to savings and better outcomes for communities. However, the LGA supports better processes for shared services and boundary reforms that are driven by Councils in consultation with their communities, and they are working with the Government to establish a clear and independent boundary adjustment process.

Expanded role for local government in emergency events
Recent changes to the State Emergency Management Plan have formally recognised the part councils play in emergency response, with the formation of the Local Government Functional Support Group. The extreme weather experienced across the State during September provided the first opportunity for Councils to play a coordination role under this new structure, with representation inside the SES State Control Centre.

The feedback the LGA received from State emergency agencies was that the LGAs involvement was beneficial and can be built on into the future, to provide an even better and more coordinated service to our communities during emergency events.

Conflict of interest provisions
The Government's new regulations governing the contents of a Council’s informal gatherings policy have been gazetted and commenced on Thursday 24 November 2016. The regulations also contain provisions which are intended to rectify problems Councils have encountered in applying the new conflict of interest provisions which came into effect back in March, particularly in relation to Council subsidiaries and committees. The LGA will now monitor the implementation of these regulations, and wait to hear from Councils as to whether all issues have been addressed.
Proposed Community Wellbeing program
The LGA has commenced discussions with SA Health about the possibility of establishing a co-funded Community Wellbeing program. This program would build on the strengths and successful outcomes of the OPAL program previously run in partnership between state and local government, and expand on it to encompass a whole of community approach including linkages between neighbouring Councils. The LGA are currently working on a proposal for this program which will be presented to the State Government.

Deputations
The CEO MRLGA and myself attended two deputations in December 2016 with Senators Anne Ruston and Nick Xenophon. Notes from those meetings are provided attached for the MRLGA Board’s reference.

Senator Anne Ruston is coordinating a deputation by myself and the CEO MRLGA to Canberra in March 2017 to meet with key Ministers and senior advisers on matters relevant to the region.

Moved: SMDC  Seconded: DCKEM

“That the MRLGA Board;
1. receives and notes the MRLGA Presidents Report,
2. endorses the President and CEO MRLGA to attend deputations with Federal MP’s and Senior Advisors in Canberra on behalf of the MRLGA Board inclusive of all reasonable costs for travel, accommodation and incidentals.”

CARRIED

8.2. SAROC Meeting

Key Outcomes of SAROC Meeting held on Wednesday 16th November 2016 at Mannum.

Moved: DCLW  Seconded: BBC

“That the MRLGA receive and note the SAROC Key Outcomes Report for meeting held on Wednesday 16th November 2016 at Mannum.”

CARRIED

8.3. MRLGA Chief Executive Officer’s Report

Moved: MMC  Seconded: RCMB

“That the MRLGA CEOs Report be received and noted with the resolutions contained within the report endorsed.”

CARRIED
8.4. Local Government Association of SA

*Agenda Report*

Chris Russell, Strategic Advisor, Local Government Association of SA attended and provided a verbal report in relation to the LGA Topical Report distributed at the meeting. In addition to talking to the LGA Topical Report, Chris also promoted the State/LG Infrastructure Partnership advising that three Council’s from within the region had already registered interest in the initiative.

Bronwyn Webster, Consultant and Lea Bacon, Senior Policy Advisor, representing the LGA also attended the meeting and presented on the recent Aged Care Reforms introduced by the Federal Government. Bronwyn is currently managing a project for the LGA based around the aged care reform agenda – which has had and will continue to have significant impact on Councils’ provision of services to older residents.

*Refer APPENDIX 12 - LGA TOPICAL REPORT and LGA AGED CARE REFORM BRIEFING PAPER*

Moved: DCKEM Seconded: RPC

“That the LGA Topical Report be received and noted.”

CARRIED

8.5. Office of Local Government

*Agenda Report*

The Manager of the Office of Local Government, Alex Hart was an apology for the meeting.

8.6. Murray and Mallee Zone Emergency Management Committee (ZEMC)

The Murray and Mallee Zone Emergency Management Committee did not meet during the course of the reporting period.

8.7. Murray Darling Association (MDA) – Activity Update Reports

*Agenda Report*

The Minutes of the MDA Region 5 meeting held on Monday 10th October 2016 at Waikerie were provided for noting.

Moved: BBC Seconded: DCLW

“That the Minutes of the MDA Region 5 meeting held on Monday 10th October 2016 as presented be noted.”

CARRIED
9. OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS AND COMMITTEES

9.1. Regional Development Australia Murraylands and Riverland

Jo Podoliak, Chief Executive, RDA Murraylands and Riverland provided a verbal report to the meeting summarised as follows;

- The Building Stronger Regions Fund (BSRF) has been announced. RDA MR will be running workshops as well as an information session on 23rd January 2017,
- Mobile Black Spot Funding - Our region picked up some of its priorities for funding. Telstra dropped $100 million of investment from the last round. Concern over award of the four funded towers to Telstra and Optus could be overcome with use of dual Sim Cards,
- China - State Government is locked in to 19th May for an out-bound delegation to China.

Refer APPENDIX 13 - RDA CHINA BUSINESS EXPORT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM INFORMATION SHEET

- One River Murray Authority - phone conference on Monday 16th January 2017 with Chairs. Will discuss Senator Anne Ruston’s Federal Model for the River Murray at that meeting.

9.2. SA MDBNRM Board

Sharon Starick, Presiding Member, SA Murray Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board provided a verbal report to the meeting summarised as follows;

- Acknowledged the contribution of Mayor Dave Burgess, as President of the LGA during his term in office and welcomed Mayor Lorraine Rosenberg to the role,
- SA MDBNRM Business Plan - Board has undertaken a review of the Business Plan for 2017-18 and decided not to make any changes,
- Board have visited some Councils to discuss their focus areas and outline the work carried out by the SA MDBNRM Board,
- The Board held a planning day in December 2016 to review their current agenda and priorities,
- The Presiding Member passed on congratulations to the LGA for their involvement in the NRM Investment Strategy for the State,
- Expressed concern over the potential closure of the National Landcare Program in 2018. This will provide a gain in investment opportunities. The Board will provide an information pack to Councils on why it is important to invest in NRM,
- There is currently a review being carried out of the Northern Basin Sustainable Diversion Limits. The LGA were encouraged to provide a submission to ensure that the outcomes of the review do not negatively impact the southern part of the basin. This matter will form part of the RM Alliance agenda and any submissions will work through the Alliance,
- There has been a joint announcement by Minister’s Joyce and Hunter on a program focussed on the Eastern Mount Lofty ranges catchment,
- Rhona Parker-Benton provided a hand out to delegates. Rhona advised that she is departing the role of Regional Director, with the new incumbent being Mike Williams.
9.3. Murray Mallee Local Service Area, SAPOL

Superintendent James Blandford was an apology for this meeting.

9.4. Regions SA

Tim Smythe, Regional Coordinator, Regions SA was an apology for this meeting.

Moved: BBC Seconded; SMDC

“That MRLGA receive and note the reports as presented by RDA MR and SAMDB, NRM and extends its appreciation to the presenters for taking the time and effort to attend and present at the MRLGA meeting.

CARRIED

Meeting broke for Morning Tea at 10.15am and reconvened at 10.40am.

9.5. Riverland Local Government Forum (RLGF)

The notes of the Riverland Local Government Forum held on Wednesday 7th December 2016 at Renmark are provided attached at the request of the Riverland Councils.

Moved: BBC Seconded; CDC

“That the notes from the Riverland Local Government Forum held on Wednesday 7th December 2016 as presented be received.”

CARRIED

Agenda Report
As referred to in the notes from the RLGF meeting, the following items had been referred to the MRLGA Board for discussion and resolution;

Item 6.6  SA Power Network Outages

Mayor Stasinowsky moved Deputy Mayor Peter Hunter seconded
That the Riverland Local Government Forum support the position of the District Council of Loxton Waikerie being that the length of response time by SA Power Network to outages, particularly in regard to the need for remotely based crews to attend and how this may affect those with medical conditions that require power to support their treatment be forwarded to the Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association for consideration and support to pursue this matter on a State Regional basis.
CARRIED
Moved:  DCLW   Seconded:   RPC

“That the Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association support the position of the Riverland Local Government Forum being that the length of response time by SA Power Network to outages, particularly in regard to the need for remotely based crews to attend, and how this may affect those with medical conditions that require power to support their treatment be pursued on a State Regional basis through SAROC.”

CARRIED

Item 6.7 Waikerie & Districts Health Advisory Council

Deputy Mayor Kassebaum moved Mayor Stasinowsky seconded
That the Riverland Local Government Forum support the position of the District Council of Loxton Waikerie that repairs and maintenance funding for regional hospitals, particularly for compliance issues is the responsibility of the State Government and not local communities, with correspondence signed by the Mayors of the Riverland councils to be sent to the Minister for Health and Country Health SA seeking a delegation in relation to this matter. Further that this matter be forwarded to the Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association seeking support on the above position.

CARRIED

Berri Barmera and Renmark Paringa Council to contact HAC’s in their council area to confirm any outstanding or maintenance issues and forward to Peter Ackland.

Moved:  DCLW   Seconded:   BBC

“That the Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association support the position of the District Council of Loxton Waikerie that repairs and maintenance funding for regional hospitals, particularly for compliance issues is the responsibility of the State Government and not local communities, with the President of the MRLGA being part of a delegation to the Minister for Health in relation to this matter, if needed.”

CARRIED

Item 7.1 Agreement for SA Water Allocation

A copy of correspondence sent by Mid Murray Council to the Deputy Prime Minister regarding the Agreement for water allocation as per the Murray Basin Plan is provided attached. That correspondence was tabled at the Riverland Local Government Forum in December 2016 to which the following resolution was supported.

Mayor Stasinowsky moved Deputy Mayor Kassebaum seconded
That the Riverland Local Government Forum,
• Support the implementation of the Murray Darling Basin Plan as adopted
• Support the State Government’s position that the full 450GL of water as per agreement in the Murray Darling Basin Plan must be honoured
• That this matter be listed with the Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association recommending correspondence signed by the Mayors within MDA Regions 5 and 6 be forwarded to the Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull and Deputy Prime Minister Barnaby Joyce supporting the position of the RLGF.

CARRIED
Subsequent to that resolution, both the Berri Barmera Council and the District Council of Loxton Waikerie have endorsed the resolution of the RLGF.

Following the deputation with Senator Anne Ruston, by the President and CEO MRLGA and Deputy Mayor Andrew Kassebaum, BBC; it was thought that the feedback provided by Senator Ruston may well provide for an amendment to the direction proposed by the RLGF in regard to SA Water Allocations under the Murray Darling Basin Plan.

Senator Ruston was of the view that the Liberal Coalition is committed to delivering the outcomes of the MDB Plan in full. She believed the MRLGA and the State Government needed to talk about outcomes, not numbers. If the Basin Plan is compromised in terms of delivering the agreed outcomes, SA will be in all sorts of problems. Based on that feedback the resolution of the MRLGA in relation to the Agreement for SA Water Allocation has been modified slightly.

Moved: RPC Seconded; BBC

“That the Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association support delivery of the outcomes of the Murray Darling Basin Plan in full inclusive of key target dates for delivery of the plan and seek to have supporting correspondence signed by the Mayors within MDA Regions 5 and 6 which will be forwarded to the Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull and Deputy Prime Minister Barnaby Joyce supporting this position.”

CARRIED

10. STRATEGIC MATTERS

Nil

11. FINANCIAL REPORTS

11.1. Profit and Loss Statement, Balance Sheet and Operating Budget

Moved: RCMB Seconded; DCKEM

“That the MRLGA Board receives the Profit and Loss Statement, Balance Sheet and Operating Budget Report as at 31st December 2016.”

CARRIED

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1 The Commonwealth and States are committed to recovering 2750 GL as follows:
- 1500GL of water bought from irrigators (capped buyback)
- 600GL through on-farm water-saving infrastructure upgrades
- 650 GL with environmental ‘offset’ projects, or ‘down water’ (ie regulators to create effective flooding events that achieve similar outcomes to over-bank flooding but with less water).

On top of the 2750 GL, the MDBP also allows for another 450 GL to be secured in the southern Basin for the environment, commonly referred to as ‘up-water’. So the total volume of water recovered would be 3200 GL.
12. GENERAL BUSINESS. (including DISCUSSION ITEMS etc.)

12.1. General Business

12.1.1. Nuclear Debate

The Nuclear Fuel Cycle Royal Commission was established by the South Australian Government on 19 March 2015 to undertake an independent and comprehensive investigation into the potential for increasing South Australia’s participation in the nuclear fuel cycle, specifically in four areas of activity:

- expanded exploration, extraction and milling of minerals containing radioactive materials
- the further processing of minerals and the processing and manufacture of materials containing radioactive and nuclear substances
- the use of nuclear fuels for electricity generation
- the establishment of facilities for the storage and disposal of radioactive and nuclear waste.

In each of these areas, the Commission was required to examine and report by 6 May 2016 on the feasibility, viability, risks and opportunities associated with a potential expansion of the nuclear fuel cycle from the perspectives of the environment, the economy and the community, including regional, remote and Aboriginal communities.

The Commission committed to conducting an independent, evidence-based process that was open and transparent. From the outset, its focus was on understanding facts and not accepting perceptions. The Commission’s process was independent of government, industry and lobby groups. It was conducted by a dedicated group supported by external expertise engaged by the Commission.

At the outset, the Commission produced Issues Papers inviting submissions on the associated risks and opportunities of each of the activities in the cycle.

In response to the Issues Papers, the Commission received as evidence more than 250 submissions from a wide range of individuals and organisations in the private, public and not-for profit sectors. In its public sessions conducted from September 2015, the Commission heard oral evidence from 132 expert witnesses from Australia and overseas, which was streamed live on the internet.

It also conducted its own research, in Australia and overseas. As part of considering the commercial viability and economic impacts of potential nuclear activities specific to South Australia, the Commission engaged organisations with the expertise and experience to undertake detailed assessments.

Internationally, the Commission held meetings and site inspections at nuclear fuel cycle facilities and with experts in Asia, Canada, Europe, the United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, and United States of America. The major elements of this evidence were drawn together in the Commission’s Tentative Findings, which were published on 15 February 2016, with an invitation for responses to better inform this report. About 170 responses that directly addressed the contents of the Tentative Findings were received.
In conducting an open and transparent process, and to encourage participation in its activities as the inquiry proceeded, the Commission engaged widely with the South Australian community, including rounds of community information sessions in regional, remote and Aboriginal communities.

The Commission’s approach has produced a large volume of information, which supports the reasoning and findings in this report. The submissions, public session videos and transcripts, financial assessment reports and Tentative Findings responses are published on the Commission’s website, www.nuclearrc.sa.gov.au

This report represents both an end and a beginning: the culmination of the Commission’s work, but the start of consideration by South Australians as to whether they want to increase the state’s participation in the nuclear fuel cycle.

The nuclear fuel cycle can be summarised into four areas.
1. Mining and milling
2. Enrichment and fuel fabrication
3. Electricity generation
4. Used fuel (high level waste) management and storage

The nuclear fuel cycle royal commission focused on the storage of international used fuel (high level waste) as opposed to the storage of Australian produced low and intermediate level nuclear wastes.

Focus for Citizens Jury
Over four days of deliberation, the jury discussed all stages of the nuclear fuel cycle. Following the initial education and awareness sessions, the jury spent the majority of its time focused on the key recommendation to pursue the opportunity to establish an international high level used fuel storage facility.

The jurors recognise there are potential economic benefits, but there are also substantial risks to consider. There is a degree of uncertainty around both the benefits and risks associated with establishing such a facility.

Significant additional research, economic analysis and public engagement is still required before South Australians will be in a position to make an informed decision if this is in the best interest of the state.

Stages
The decision making process involves many stages. The first stage was the Nuclear Fuel Cycle Royal Commission. Following the Citizens’ Juries and community engagement process which is currently underway the government will make a decision on whether to proceed to the next stage.

There are many things that South Australian still need to discuss. These include:
- What benefit can be made available to SA now and in future generations?
- How can we be sure that the economic analysis completed by the royal commission is robust?
- How will the South Australian ‘brand’ or external reputation be affected and how will this have an effect on tourism and trade?
- What reliance is there on other countries to ‘pre-commit’ to storing high level nuclear waste at a fixed price?
- How will the benefits be realised and how will the wealth be distributed?
• How do we incorporate rapid change in future technologies such as nuclear fuel recycling in the next generation of Nuclear fuel reactors?
• What are the workforce opportunities, skills, training and research?

In closing the question has been asked of the CEO MRLGA as to the position of the MRLGA in relation to this issue. The Riverland Local Government Forum has proposed that this is an issue for individuals, not an issue that a region such as ours might be able to form consensus on. If that is the agreed position of the MRLGA Board, then that is the response we will provide to those seeking a position statement.

Moved, DCLW Seconded, RPC

“That the MRLGA Board not form a policy position at this time in relation to the Nuclear debate, but encourage the State Government and opposition parties to continue to engage broadly with the community with a view to resolving a way forward that is both informed and in the best interests of the communities of South Australia.”

CARRIED

12.1.2 2017 Murray Darling Association AGM/conference

Tim Vonderwall, Director Corporate & Community Services attended the meeting and provided an update of the 2017 Murray Darling Association AGM/conference, which is to be held in the Riverland.

Tim advised that Renmark Paringa Council will be the host Council for the event on behalf of MDA Region 5 and highlighted the following points;
• The conference will likely be over a three day period, tentatively on the 11th, 12th and 13th October 2017,
• The theme of the conference will be based around ‘One River - One Community”
• The RPC Visitor Information Centre will coordinate accommodation needs,
• The conference will conflict with the dates for the October meeting of the MRLGA Board. CEO MRLGA will move the date of the Board meeting to avoid conflict,
• RPC is looking for day tour options and a possible partners social stream.


The Ombudsman has released a report of an audit he undertook in relation to 12 Councils and has made a number of recommendations. A copy of the report is available in the following link.


Local government Councils in South Australia are required by the Act to provide a process for the internal review of Council decisions. The obligation is part of the broader set of requirements to have in place policies, practices and procedures for responding to complaints about the actions of the Council, employees of the Council, or other persons acting on behalf of the Council.
The section 270 internal review of decision process is an important mechanism for the resolution of disputes and complaints about decisions made by Councils. As such, the review process is an essential complaint handling tool for local government and for the management of complaints made to the Ombudsman's Office.

A previous Ombudsman SA audit on complaint handling in SA Councils identified that there was a low take-up rate by the public of the section 270 internal review of Council decisions option. On the evidence from this audit, that take-up rate is now increasing significantly.

The report examines some of the key issues for Councils in delivering a fair internal review of decision process. It also explores how Councils can use internal reviews to drive their administrative improvement and service excellence.

The Ombudsman's report focused in part on the independent conduct of an internal review of decision making and in doing so concluded that many South Australian Councils have developed internal review practices that seek to manage situations where an original decision-maker (often the CEO) may have a conflict of interest. Whilst internal senior delegation of responsibility is a preferred option, many Councils are willing to involve independent reviewers where possible and when available.

The Ombudsman recommended that all Councils, through the auspices of regional Local Government Associations, consider and report to the Ombudsman by 31 March 2017 on the option of developing regional panels of independent reviewers who can assist Councils with complex review matters.

The MRLGA Board may determine through its Constituent Councils that where a review was required for decisions made by the CEO and/or Managers of a Council; then perhaps a regional panel might be the best option. How that panel might be composed should be a point of discussion at the Board level.

There appears to be more and more requests lodged under S270, so this has the ability to see more and more regional panels being used – plus some Councils may see this as an easy option for the simpler of requests – particularly the smaller Councils who certainly struggle for the expertise.

The LGA CEO and Director Legislation met with the Ombudsman to discuss the report, seek clarification of some issues and discuss ways of supporting Councils to take the recommendations forward through co-operative arrangements. The LGA has undertaken to review and revise its model policy and procedure for internal review of Council decisions in light of the report. The Ombudsman has agreed to provide feedback on the draft policy. The LGA will consult with the Ombudsman on issues of detail arising from some of the recommendations.

One of the issues discussed in the meeting was the scope of internal review under section 270 of the Local Government Act. The LGA is looking to clarify policy wording to address uncertainty about the appropriate application of merits review versus process review. In addition, the LGA will seek to provide more certainty around the scope of the internal reviews to decisions made under other statutes where appeal or review procedures already exist. The LGA is proposing to work with the Ombudsman on these matters of detail during the course of revising the model procedures.
In addition, one of the Ombudsman’s recommendations raised the possibility of regional LGAs establishing panel arrangements to assist member Councils to manage internal review applications. The LGA will be communicating further with the regional LGAs on this matter to discuss approaches to implementing this recommendation.

There may be a need or opportunity to establish a pilot region with independent assistance to improve the processes and to put some definitions around the types of reviews that should be directed outside individual Councils.

12.2. Around the Table

**Mayor Peter Hunt, BBC**
Mayor Peter Hunt advised the meeting that the new sporting stadium will be opening in Berri in July 2017 and asked the MRLGA Board if they could hold their AGM in Berri at that time to coincide with the facilities opening. There was consensus at the Board meeting for this to occur and as such the CEO MRLGA will proceed to facilitate the MRLGA AGM at Berri on Wednesday 12th July 2017.

**Cr Andrew Kassebaum, Deputy Mayor, BBC**
Cr Andrew Kassebaum offered support to the incoming President of the LGA, Mayor Lorraine Rosenberg in relation to advocacy around using the Green Waste Levy for educating the community in effective waste practices.

**Mayor Kevin Burdett, DCKEM**
Mayor Kevin Burdett spoke on opening of the refurbished swimming pool at the Karoonda Area School in November 2017. The State Government put in $300,000 out of a total cost of $1.4 million. The Karoonda community provided significant in-kind support to the project which was commendable.

**Cr Tyson Mathews, Deputy Mayor, RCMB**
Cr Tyson Mathews spoke on the benefits of tourism to local businesses, He emphasised the economic benefits of major events such as Mannum’s “Sounds on the River” to businesses in Mannum and on a broader scale in Murray Bridge.

**Michael Sedgman, CEO, RCMB**
Michael Sedgman advised that the Rural City of Murray Bridge had been successful in their bid for the 2018 SA Masters Games. The event will be held from the 18th to 22nd April 2018.

Michael also advised of of the recent Federal Government's 'Local Drug Action Team' initiative. The Local Drug Action Teams (LDATs) are part of the Coalition Government's National Ice Action Strategy which includes $298 million investment over four years to reduce the impact drugs and alcohol are having on our communities.

Our local Federal Member for Barker, Tony Pasin MP, is encouraging Councils to apply for funding through the grants program. First round applications close on 8th February 2017.

The CEO MRLGA is to discuss with Superintendent James Blandford, Murray Mallee Local Service Area, SAPOL, where he sees the priorities for the region in terms of funding programs.
Moved: DCKEM  Seconded: RPC

“That the MRLGA Board approach Superintendent James Blandford, Murray Mallee Local Service Area, SAPOL, to discuss how Councils can get the best outcome out of the Federal Government’s National Ice Action Strategy and funding initiative.”

CARRIED

Mayor Lorraine Rosenberg, President, LGA
Mayor Rosenberg spoke on two key issues including;

• Rate Capping
  - Outlined that we need to explore the process the LGA has put together with regard to the rate capping issue,
  - Hope the Liberal Party will drop their rate capping policy,
  - In the event the Liberal’s don’t drop their policy, the LGA proposes to initiate a staged campaign against rate capping,
  - The process as outlined will be taken to the next LGA Board meeting for endorsement.
  - the LGA will also continue discussion with NXT on this matter.

• Rural Speed Limits
  - Tony Piccolo when Minister for Road Safety had a desire to cap rural speed limits at 100 kph. In response, the LGA along with the RAA and Regional LGA’s advocated for an alternate approach based on fit for purpose road assessment criteria.
  - Whilst the current Road Safety Minister is sceptical about this model, he is happy to hear from the LGA on Terms of Reference for the review of rural road speed limits based around eligibility of roads for retention of speed limits.
  - The LGA will approach the Limestone Coast LGA with a view to their involvement in a pilot program related to these TOR.
  - The Minister for Road Safety was surprised by the community backlash that came from regional South Australia in relation to the reduction in speed limits and is therefore willing to review all aspects of the Piccolo Plan with local government.

12.3. Opportunity for Members of Parliament to Present on topical issues

Nil

13. CORRESPONDENCE

13.1. Correspondence for Information - Inwards and Outwards

Correspondence Register to 31st December 2016.

Moved: RPC  Seconded: BBC

“That correspondence as outlined in the Correspondence Register to 31st December 2016 be received and noted by MRLGA Board.”

CARRIED
14. GUEST SPEAKERS

14.1. Mark Bolton, Telstra

Mark Bolton, Area General Manager, Telstra made himself available to present at the meeting. Mark’s presentation was primarily based around Mobile Roaming and the Co-location requirements for Telco’s. Mark’s presentation is summarised as follows;

- The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission has commenced an inquiry into whether or not to declare a wholesale domestic mobile roaming service. Access to a roaming service would enable mobile service providers to provide coverage for their customers in areas where they do not have their own network. The ACCC’s inquiry is focused on a number of key issues, including:
  - how consumer demands for mobile services are evolving, and whether there are differences in regional areas to urban areas,
  - the likely investment plans of each of the mobile network operators to extend coverage and upgrade technology,
  - absent a declaration,
  - whether there are any significant barriers to expanding the reach of mobile networks, and
  - any lessons from similar experience with domestic mobile roaming in other countries.

- If regulation is imposed, Telstra believes it will negatively impact investment into region Australia by companies such as Telstra and Optus. Telstra must have the ability to make a differentiation over its competitors and does this through speed and coverage. Data use will double every 12-months and therefore investment from Telco’s is critical for regional Australia. Why would companies like Telstra invest without differentiation?

- The ACCC inquiry is about using existing infrastructure rather than adding new infrastructure. Differentiation is more about capacity and the need to build capacity into regional areas. If the ACCC rules in favour of regulation, there will likely be reduced investment by Telco’s in improving capacity which will disadvantage regional Australia.

- The ACCC decision on mobile roaming will be passed down in late February 2017.

- Co-location Legislation - Optus and Vodaphone can currently access Telstra towers to install their infrastructure. Telstra currently have around 2000 requests from other providers to place infrastructure on their towers. Most mobile phone towers in regional areas are high enough for co-location provided they are in the right location.

- Telstra has an ability to deliver high speed connections because of the consistency of spacings of towers. Telstra’s CEO is committed to around $200 million of investment for co-location and is keen to explore opportunities with others that will benefit our regional communities.
15. CLOSE AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The President thanked all those who attended the meeting and the Mid Murray Council for the provision of meeting facilities and declared the meeting closed at 12.32 pm.

Minutes taken as read and confirmed this day of March, 2017

............................................. ..............................................................
PRESIDENT                         CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The next MRLGA Annual General Meeting is to be held on Friday 31st March 2017 at Karoonda commencing at 9.30am.

Acceptances and apologies to MRLGA Chief Executive Officer Peter Bond
Phone 0411 406799 or Email ceomrlga@outlook.com
Please contact Peter Bond, Chief Executive Officer, MRLGA on 0411 406 799 or email ceomrlga@outlook.com for information on any of the above meetings.

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<td>MRLGA General Meeting</td>
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<td>14 January</td>
<td>Sounds by the River Music Festival</td>
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<td>16 January</td>
<td>MR Alliance SA Meeting (Chairs Only)</td>
<td>Phone Conference</td>
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<td>25 January</td>
<td>SAROC and LGA Board Meeting (tentative) Induction and Information Session for LGA Board Members</td>
<td>Adelaide</td>
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<td>3 February</td>
<td>Loxton Research Centre Expansion Opening (tentative)</td>
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<td>15 February</td>
<td>Riverland LG Forum MRLGA Briefing to RPC (Tentative)</td>
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<td>20 February</td>
<td>MRLGA CEO Network Meeting MRLGA Briefing to BBC (Tentative)</td>
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<td>22 February</td>
<td>Regional LGA EO Workshop and Meeting</td>
<td>Adelaide</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 March</td>
<td>MRLGA RTS Committee Meeting MRLGA Briefing to CDC (Tentative)</td>
<td>Tailem Bend</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 March</td>
<td>SAROC Meeting</td>
<td>Adelaide</td>
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<td>16 March</td>
<td>LGA Board Meeting</td>
<td>Adelaide</td>
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<td>20 - 22 March</td>
<td>Canberra Delegation - President and CEO MRLGA</td>
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<td>31 March</td>
<td>MRLGA General Meeting Karoonda Farm Fair</td>
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<td>5 April</td>
<td>Riverland LG Forum MRLGA Briefing to DCLW (Tentative)</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<td>11 April</td>
<td>MRLGA Briefing to MMC (Tentative)</td>
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<td>17 April</td>
<td>MRLGA CEO Network Meeting MRLGA Briefing to RCMB (Tentative)</td>
<td>Murray Bridge</td>
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<td>21 April</td>
<td>2017 LGA Ordinary General Meeting</td>
<td>Adelaide</td>
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<td>26 April</td>
<td>Regional LGA EO Workshop and Meeting</td>
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<td>9 May</td>
<td>MRLGA Briefing to DCKEM (Tentative)</td>
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<td>10 May</td>
<td>MRLGA Budget Workshop</td>
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<td>17 May</td>
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<td>18 May</td>
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<td>7 June</td>
<td>Riverland LG Forum</td>
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<td>19 June</td>
<td>MRLGA CEO Network Meeting MRLGA Briefing to SMDC (Tentative)</td>
<td>Lameroo</td>
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<td>12 July</td>
<td>MRLGA AGM</td>
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# LGA Topical Report

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>LGA representative</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>January 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Purpose</td>
<td>The Topical report is provided as an information update for LGA meetings and is current at the time it is supplied.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recommendation</td>
<td>That the item be noted</td>
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1. **Public Lighting** (Key Initiative 3: Best Practice & Continuous Improvement)

   - With the support of the Metropolitan Local Government Group (MLGG) – The LGA has been working on a business case for an alternative public lighting service model for the local government sector, which would deliver greater efficiencies for councils and communities.
   - This business case has now been completed, and recommends ownership by the sector, with outsourced operation of assets as the most efficient model.
   - The LGA has previously urged councils to wait on the completion of the business case before signing up to new public lighting agreements with SA Power Networks (SAPN), to ensure their ratepayers receive the best possible value.
   - What we now know is that through owning and running our street lighting as a sector, councils could achieve savings of around 30-35% over a twenty year period, as opposed to councils signing individual agreements with SAPN.
   - Consultation on the business case is currently underway and councils are asked to provide feedback by 20 January.
   - Feedback provided to date has been positive about the proposal to establish a local government public lighting entity and the LGA is taking the next steps with the development of a business plan for bringing this proposal to life.
   - For further information contact lisa.teburea@lga.sa.gov.au

2. **State Local Government Infrastructure Partnership** (Key Initiative 2: Capacity Building & Sustainability)

   - Councils are reminded that applications for SLGIP funding will close at the end of February.
   - Guidelines and support materials have been provided at the LGA webpage below.
   - Around $25m in grant funding is available as 20% funding for projects which meet guidelines.

3. **Regional Youth Traineeship Program** (Key Initiative 2: Capacity Building & Sustainability)

   - Minister Brock announced at the AGM that the State Government will fund a second round of its highly successful Regional Youth Traineeship Program.
• The $2 million program will continue to offer $14,500 a year towards the cost of providing entry level employment for a trainee for two years to regional governance bodies across SA.
• We strongly encourage councils that haven’t participated so far to take on a trainee.
• The program is a great example of state and local government working together to drive jobs and economic activity in the regions.
• Round 2 Registrations to participate were emailed to all regional CEOs on 21 November, and closed at COB 2 December 2016. All 57 Certificate III traineeship positions in round 2 are to be employed by 28 April 2017.
• A short timeframe for registrations was required in order to seek subsidised training places with DSD to assist with minimising cost of training delivery for our regional members, where possible.
• While the registration date has passed, councils interested in this program are encouraged to contact Lora Smith, Program Coordinator at Lora.Smith@lga.sa.gov.au

4. **Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act (Key Initiative 3: Best Practice & Continuous Improvement & Key Initiative 2: Capacity Building & Sustainability)**

• There have been a number of recent circulars containing information relevant to the Act. Please visit them here: 31.2, 28.6, 28.13, 22.1, 21.1, 52.4, 50.2, 29.10. Circular 28.6 in particular provides a general update and information sheet.
• Training on the litter provisions of the new legislation was held in November/December 2016, with 56 councils attending sessions across the state. Further training on nuisance provisions and for senior managers/CEOs will occur in 2017 in the lead up to 1 July commencement of nuisance provisions.
• Draft regulations under the Act have been consulted on with councils with an LGA submission provided in early December. Information sessions were run in conjunction with consultation. This consultation will lead to the final changes of legislation before commencement of parts (litter) of the Act on 1 February 2017.
• A website with information and resources for councils has been launched and is available via www.lga.sa.gov.au/litterandnuisance.
• For further information contact simon.thompson@lga.sa.gov.au

5. **Dogs and Cats Online (DACO) (Key Initiative 3: Best Practice & Continuous Improvement)**

• Amendments to the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995 were passed in July 2016. The Dog and Cat Management Board (D&CMB) put out draft regulations to operationalise the changes for public consultation and a submission containing council feedback was approved in December.
• Changes to the legislation include mandatory microchipping and desexing, registration of breeders, provision of information to buyers of dogs and cats, and increased enforcement powers for councils. There will be a need for changed administrative and IT solutions. Training on the amendments for councils was delivered in late 2016.
• This is an opportunity to introduce a state wide 'Dogs and Cats Online' database ('DACO'), that will deliver greater functionality, make it easier for owners to register their dogs each year online, and save councils money.
• The LGA sought feedback from councils on the DACO Business Case via a simple survey. Responses were positive and the LGA Board agreed at its November meeting to convey its support for the development of the database subject to the D&CMB funding the project, assuming all risks and keeping councils and the LGA involved as the project progresses.
• For further information contact gwyn.rimmington@lga.sa.gov.au

6. Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016 (Key Initiative 1: Leadership & Advocacy)

• The LGA has engaged a consultant to prepare a costing report on the implementation of planning reforms for local government. The Cities of Port Lincoln, West Torren and Onkaparinga and Coorong District Councils are supporting the LGA in piloting the methodology.
• The LGA is continuing to liaise with DPTI on the implementation of the new system and is providing regular updates to councils.
• A Bill to transition between the Development Act 1993 and the Planning, Development & Infrastructure Act needs to pass the Legislative Council before the new system can be enacted. It is estimated that the first change implemented will be the establishment of a state planning commission in April 2017.
• The SA planning portal- www.saplaningportal.sa.gov.au is a good source of information related to the reforms.
• For further information contact Stephen Smith at stephen.smith@lga.sa.gov.au

7. LGA Membership (Key Initiative 1: Leadership & Advocacy)

• The "Value Proposition from Membership of the LGA of SA" document produced in 2016 is being updated for 2017.
• It will incorporate new roles assumed by the LGA under amendments to the Emergency Management Act 2004.
• For further information contact chris.russell@lga.sa.gov.au

8. LGA Reviews (Key Initiative 3: Best Practice & Continuous Improvement)

• In October 2015, the LGA Board resolved to review the provision of insurance and risk products and services and in so doing, address the recommendations of the Auditor General following his examination of the Schemes. Since then, several steps in the review process have been completed, and the following are some key highlights:
• The LGA appointed Finity and Rosey Batt & Associates to undertake a broad-ranging review of the insurance and indemnity arrangements provided to Councils through LGA. The review was commissioned by LGA under the guidance of its Audit Committee and also involved a reference group of local government chief executive officers.
• The review has now been completed and the LGA Board has received the final report. We are very pleased to confirm that this independent review has confirmed:
  • a. the current structure of pooling risk in a mutual, buying reinsurance to protect the pool and using expert providers for management is an effective model for local government superior to alternative options;
• b. the products and services currently provided to Councils are appropriate and do not need radical change; and
• c. notwithstanding the above, the current legal, contractual and governance arrangements are to be modernised to ensure the Schemes are contemporary, transparent and delivering value for money.

These findings are consistent with previous reviews of the Schemes by KPMG in December 2013 and the Auditor General in 2015. They demonstrate that the current insurance and indemnity arrangements continue to provide good value for money for SA Councils.

The findings of the review will be presented at a forum being held on 10 February. Further details about this event and registration details will be circulated to councils shortly. A written summary of this report will also be provided at this meeting.

For further information contact kathy.jarrett@lga.sa.gov.au

9. **New LGA Board** (Key Initiative 3: Best Practice & Continuous Improvement)

The membership of the LGA’s Board has now been finalised for the coming term, and includes the following members:

- President – Lorraine Rosenberg, City of Onkaparinga
- Immediate Past President - Mayor Dave Burgess, Mid Murray Council

**Board Members**

- Mayor Robert Bria, City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters
- Mayor Gillian Aldridge, City of Salisbury
- Mayor David Parkin, City of Burnside
- Mayor David O’Loughlin, City of Prospect
- Mayor Kevin Knight, City of Tea Tree Gully
- Mayor Karen Redman, Town of Gawler
- Mayor Glenn Spear, City of Mitcham
- Cr Sue Clearihan, Adelaide City Council
- Mayor Bruce Green, City of Port Lincoln
- Mayor Erika Vickery, Naracoorte Lucindale Council
- Mayor Keith Parkes, Alexandrina Council
- Mayor Peter Hunt, Berri Barmera Council
- Mayor Neville Jaensch, Coorong District Council
- Mayor Sam Johnson, Port Augusta City Council
- Mayor Peter Mattey, Goyder Regional Council
- Mayor Denis Clark, Northern Areas Council

**Deputy Board Members**

- Mayor Bill Spragg, Adelaide Hills Council
- Mayor Angela Evans, City of Charles Sturt
- Cr Arthur Mangos, City of West Torrens
- Cr Rosalina (Mikki) Bouchee, City of Holdfast Bay
- Mayor Brenton Lewis, Rural City of Murray Bridge
- Cr Michael (Bim) Lange, The Barossa Council
- Mayor John Rohde, Port Pirie Regional Council
- Mayor Glen Rowlands, District Council of Yankalilla
- Mayor Richard Sage, District Council of Grant
- Mayor Sam Telfer, District Council of Tumby Bay
• The new LGA Board will take their Oaths of Office at the LGA Board on 25 January 2017 following the final declaration. The four vice presidents – who along with the President and Immediate Past President will comprise the LGA Executive Committee – will be elected during the first meeting of the Board on 25 January 2017
• As well as welcoming new faces, the above outcomes mean that we have said goodbye to a number of Board Members (some of them long standing) including Mayor Ray Agnew, Mayor Ann Ferguson, Councillor Jill Whittaker, Mayor Lachlan Clyne, Cr Peter Jamieson and Mayor Leon Stasinowsky.
• For further information contact kathy.jarrett@lga.sa.gov.au

10. Legislative Issues
• The LGA is currently consulting on a proposal by Hon Tung Ngo MLC to amend the Local Government Act to require council members to take leave to contest a state election. The amendment would also require councils to give a council member leave in those circumstances. Feedback is due by 24 February 2017 and more information is available in circular 50.1 (http://www.lga.sa.gov.au/page.aspx?c=74655)

11. Waste to Resources Fund and Levy (Key Initiative 1: Leadership & Advocacy)
• The LGA has undertaken a significant amount of lobbying on the increases to the waste levy included in the 2016/17 State Budget and continues to apply pressure on the government and opposition to address the concerns of the sector.
• Grants for food waste collections run by councils are now open for applications. Further information is available in LGA Circular 51.12.
• For further information contact simon.thompson@lga.sa.gov.au

12. Rate Capping (Key Initiative 1: Leadership & Advocacy)
• The LGA provided a Board endorsed submission to the Minister for Local Government on the final report recommendations of the Economic and Finance Committee’s Inquiry into Local Government Rate Capping Policies.
• The Minister has subsequently provided a response to the Committee and indicated that further investigation is required into the recommendation that sought councils be subject to a thorough auditing process under the auspices of the Auditor-General and be required to publish these audits.
• A consultation process is currently underway on options for local government audit reform, with submission sought from councils by 2 March 2017. Please refer to Circular 51.8
• The LGA has developed a rate capping campaign to run in the lead up to the state election and will work with council administrations on implementation.
• For further information contact bethany.loates@lga.sa.gov.au
13. **Community Wellbeing Proposal (Key Initiative 2: Capacity Building & Sustainability)**

- Leading up to the cessation of State Government funding for OPAL in June 2017, President Burgess, working with the LGA secretariat and recognising the strengths of OPAL, has developed a proposal to work with State Government (and other possible partners) to identify a suitable funding mechanism for the establishment of a Community Wellbeing program embedded in the regional and metropolitan LGA structures.
- This program would consider health promotion from a whole-of-community perspective and align with regional public health planning. This proposal was discussed at a meeting (2 December 2016) between President Burgess, the Chief Public Health Officer and Director of Public Health Services, SA Health to discuss this proposal. This topic was included as an agenda item for the Premiers State / Local Government Forum in mid-December 2016.
- Further information will be provided as it becomes available. For any questions, please contact rachel.earl@lga.sa.gov.au

14. **Commonwealth funding of aged care (including community passenger transport services)**

- As identified in the LGA Ageing Strategy 2016-2021, the LGA has established an Aged Care Reform Working Group (comprising 14 member councils) to develop a coordinated plan to prepare councils for the possible loss of block funding for home aged care services as a result of Commonwealth reforms.
- The working group will engage with regional LGAs in early 2017 to provide member councils another opportunity for input to this project.
- Related to these reforms, the Commonwealth’s aged care home support program includes funding (60%) to councils as direct providers of community transport for passengers over 65 years through to 2018. The LGA Secretariat is aware from Council CEO and officer level engagement of some uncertainty regarding State Government funding (40%) for community transport services for passengers under 65 years and people with a disability in 2017-18.
- The LGA Secretariat would appreciate information from regional LGAs on how uncertainty around the funding arrangement for community transport is affecting services provided by regional councils.
- For further information contact lea.bacon@lga.sa.gov.au

15. **The Australian Climate Knowledge and Innovation Community (Climate-KIC Australia) Program**

- The Australian Climate Knowledge and Innovation Community (Climate-KIC Australia) Program will soon be rolled out by the Department of Premier and Cabinet. The State Government contribution to the development of the business case was allocated from the waste to resource fund.
- The LGA is negotiating a strong local government focus for the program and anticipates that an investigation into sustainable funding mechanisms for climate adaptation activities will be one of the foundation projects of the program.
- More detailed information on local government opportunities in relation to Climate-KIC Australia will be made available early next year. For a copy of the business case or for any questions on the program, please contact Victoria Brown: Victoria.brown@lga.sa.gov.au / 08 8224 2053.
16. LGA Climate Adaptation Activities

- With an increase in the frequency of extreme weather events, it is becoming increasingly important that councils incorporate climate risk data into their strategic and operational management processes. To support this activity, the LGA Secretariat is about to commence several key initiatives that will assist councils in improving their climate risk management practices.
- These activities include updating guidelines, critiquing State Government planning policy, providing function specific risk assessment and decision making advice to councils (documents and training) and hosting Elected Member Climate Risk Management Briefings.
- For further information on the activities, contact Victoria Brown: victoria.brown@lga.sa.gov.au / 08 8224 2053.

17. LGA Climate Mitigation Activities

- A high level ‘stocktake’ of all council energy efficiency activities/projects is currently underway so that the LGA can provide advice to all councils regarding the most cost effective energy efficiency measures that they can implement moving forward. The LGA will also analyse currently available grant and investment sources, to identify the most cost effective means of councils obtaining the upfront capital to undertake new energy efficiency activities.
- The LGA has recently commenced a project that will develop a value proposition and decision making tool that will allow councils to understand the benefits of ‘opting in’ to the Building Upgrade Finance (BUF) scheme. In addition, the draft Regulations and Building Upgrade Agreement have also been released for consultation.
- For further information on the activities, contact Victoria Brown: victoria.brown@lga.sa.gov.au / 08 8224 2053.
**Key Initiative: 1**
leadership and advocacy

Achieving greater influence for local government in matters affecting councils and communities.

**Strategies:**
- A. Listen to, and represent members.
- B. Contribute to state-wide and local policy.
- C. Lead reform.
- D. Increase the profile of local government.
- E. Build and maintain effective partnerships and stakeholder relations.

**Key Initiative: 2**
capacity building and sustainability

Working with member councils to build capacity and increase sustainability. An integrated and coordinated local government.

**Strategies:**
- A. Support local government through training and resources.
- B. Lead, initiate and promote working together.
- C. Equip councils for the future.
- D. Help councils build communities.
- E. Assist local government drive economic development.

**Key Initiative: 3**
best practice & continuous improvement

Facilitating continuous improvement in councils and the LGA.

**Strategies:**
- A. Lead by example.
- B. Benchmark, innovate and research.
- C. Improve LGA governance and operations with a focus on people, finances and our members.
- D. Develop, review and improve LGA commercial enterprises.
Aged Care Reform
The Commonwealth Government’s Living Longer Living Better reforms to aged care were announced in the 2015-16 Budget. Of particular relevance to Local Government is the Increasing Choice in Home Care measure that aims to improve the way home care services are delivered by giving people greater choice and flexibility in the services they receive. These reforms lead to the establishment of the Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP), replacing the Home and Community Care (HACC) program.

Key features of these reforms include a centralised entry point for access to services – “My Aged Care” – and centralised assessment through the Regional Assessment Service – RAS.

Importance of local government involvement in aged care
Recent research by UTS Centre for Local Government “Why Local Government Matters in South Australia” showed that over 90% of respondents believe that local government’s role in aged care was moderately, very or extremely important.

Role of Volunteers
A brief survey across 11 Councils including 2 rural councils gave the following statistics for volunteer involvement in aged care services during 2016:
903 volunteers provided 187,158 hours of service. The Productivity Commission calculates the value of volunteer service at $23.42 per hour, so this equates to $5.2m of unpaid service in those local communities.

Impending changes
In stage one of the next round of reforms, from 27 February 2017, funding for a home care package will follow the consumer as they change providers or location. This replaces the direct allocation of places to providers based on location through the Aged Care Approvals Round (ACAR).

In the second stage, intended to be implemented from July 2018, the Home Care Packages Programme will be integrated with the Commonwealth Home Support Programme into a single home care program. Funding arrangements will change as block funding traditionally implemented by Local Government Home and Community Care (HACC) programs is likely to diminish.

These changes will mean that the majority of funding will be allocated to the consumer, with the funds to be managed by an approved service provider. This is a fundamental change in the way home care services are provided.

It is unclear what the extent or nature of block funding will be. Most likely it will continue for transport services – very important for rural communities. It is hoped there will also be some block funding for social programs to enable older citizens to develop and maintain social connection with their local community.

LGA role to support and represent member councils
The LGA Ageing Strategy 2016-2021 outlines a specific action to ‘Develop a coordinated plan to prepare Councils for the possible loss of block funding as a result of Commonwealth reforms, and to position them to provide continued services and support to their older residents’.

To help councils navigate the changes and develop appropriate responses, the LGA has established a working group of officers from 18 metropolitan and rural councils.

Next Steps
LGA Working Group is preparing a discussion paper that will consider the implications of these reforms and provide some guidance for Councils about options for future involvement in the provision of services to older residents. This paper will be circulated for comment in the coming weeks.

Project Manager Bronwyn Webster can be contacted on 0409 789 770 or Bronwyn.webster@lga.sa.gov.au for further information.
YOU ARE INVITED TO....

BUSINESS EXPORT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM: CHINA

The Business Export Development Program is a tailored market & business driven program developed by Norman Waterhouse Lawyers in collaboration with Regional Development Australia Murraylands and Riverland to assist local businesses.

We know the gaps that exist for our businesses in this often complex area and the help that they need to get them on a successful export development path which delivers results, whilst minimising the risks. This program has been tailor made to achieve this, and in a regional context.

While the focus is China, the program will also give you the skills to apply your export development program to other Asian markets with growing demand for premium food, beverage & experiences.

This multi-day program is for you and your business if want to:
- Learn how to get your pitch right and present to Chinese potential buyers and investors;
- Obtain high level business, legal and commercial structuring advice for your own business in respect to engaging in trade and investment opportunities;
- Understand Chinese culture and business etiquette to hone your acumen for doing business in China;
- Develop an integrated China export strategy for your business including product logistics & marketing;
- Network with other like-minded regional business who are on the same path; and
- Want to see your business grow successfully into the future with an eye to maximising your returns.

During the program you will also hear the very latest thinking and market trends for South Australian businesses engaging in trade and investment with China and build on these insights.

This program is a great opportunity to receive tailored advice and assistance in preparing your business for expansion into China and other Asian markets.

THE PROGRAM
The program consists of a series of workshops and one-on-one advice spread over 5 sessions in Adelaide, the region and in your business. It includes:
- One-on-one training at your business premises – 9th or 10th February, 2017.
- Marketing and Communications half day workshop – 21st February, 2017 in Murraylands/Riverland.
- Banquetes and Business Etiquette Training Dinner - Adelaide - Date to be advised.
Cost: $685 per business (you can bring more than one person along to share the experience).

KEY DATES
- Program Launch: 2nd February
- One on One Business Training: 9th / 10th February
- Marketing and Communications workshop: 21st February
- Business Event and Dinner: Date to be advised
- Program Wrap up: 27th February

Norman Waterhouse
Regional Development Australia
COURSE OUTLINE

Program Launch—Full day workshop in Adelaide
- Overview of market trends and trade and investment opportunities;
- Chinese culture and business etiquette training;
- How to develop commercial terms and getting your pitch right;
- How to run a successful business meeting and work with translators;
- Commercial and legal issues for exporting/attracting investment;
- SAOS Connect, Chinese delegations and other market touch points;
- Business migration and what this looks like for South Australian businesses;
- Understanding CHFTA and the opportunities that open up for your business.

Banquettes and Business Etiquette Training
- Attendance at dinner with training on how to host Chinese delegations and business partners.

One on one training delivered at your business
- Business health check in dealing with China;
- Analysis of export/investment readiness including your IP and commercial trading terms;
- Logistics overview and recommendations on getting your product to market;
- High level assistance in developing your business export plan, and
- Receive a report with specific tangible next steps for your consideration.

Marketing and Communications workshop—half day in the Murraylands/Riverland Region
- Marketing and Communications Materials development

Program wrap up—in Adelaide
- Opportunity to present your business plan export/investment attraction in small forums;
- Share for peer feedback and opportunities to leverage each other; and
- An overview of the opportunities and activities scheduled for 2017.

TO REGISTER
Please register your interest by Friday 20th January 2017.
Business numbers are limited to maximise the experience for participants so that they can achieve successful outcomes from the program.
For further information, please contact RDAMR on (08) 8580 8500.

One of our team will contact you to finalise event details, once you have registered.
Natural Resources SAMDB update for Murraylands and Riverland LGA

January 2017

SA Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board update

Wetland and Environmental Watering Program

The South Australian Murray Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board (SAMDBNRM Board) have an established Partnership Agreement with the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder (CEWH) to deliver environmental water to a number of wetlands/floodplains in the South Australian Murray region – based upon an approved Annual Watering Schedule.

The 2016-17 Watering Schedule identified 26 target wetland complexes for environmental watering this year.

- At the commencement of the 2016 watering season it has assumed/planned that the remaining wetlands would be watered through pumping operations - generally between September 2016 and January 2017.
- With the 'unregulated' flow conditions than have been evolving over the past few months (peak at 95,000 ML/day in early December) all of these wetlands received environmental water via natural high flows.
- The monitoring programs across the suite of managed wetlands are currently being implemented in response to the flow/mundation conditions.
- Most of these wetlands will return partial volumes to the River as water levels recede.
- Based on the forecast flow conditions it is likely that pumping operations will now be downscaled to limited summer/autumn evaporative top-up volumes only (for a subset of these wetlands) – of potentially be terminated altogether.

Business plan 17/18 levy proposal

The Board considered their Business Plan 2016-2019 and decided no changes were required to the plan. Extensive consultation was undertaken during the development of the Business Plan 2016-2019 prior the Minister's approval. Resources will continue to be directed to building a framework to support investment decisions using the Regional Action Plan which will, in time, be highly influential on the Board's Business Plan.
Hail storms
There has been significant recovery efforts by state agencies to assist landholders affected by hail storms in November 2016. Natural Resources SA Murray-Darling Basin has been working closely with PIRSA to support Riverland growers. Opportunity exists to undertake a state wide review of response to recent fire, flood and hail events to capture learnings and improve the speed and efficiency of our response to people in need. This is necessary as the impacts of climate change make these extreme weather events more likely in the future.

Water levy
The Board has recommended that water licensees with zero allocation or entitlement will not be required to pay the minimum water levy of $200 for 2015-16 if they choose to surrender their licence in 2016-17. From 17/18 onwards, any un-surrendered licenses with zero allocation or entitlement will be required to pay the $200 minimum water levy.

SA Natural Resources Management Investment Strategy
The South Australian Natural Resources Management Investment Strategy is now finalised and available for distribution. The strategy has been developed to build on the fantastic achievements that many organisations and government agencies have collectively made by managing natural resources collaboratively and it seeks encourage co-investment to continue managing the states resources wisely and sustainably. The investment strategy has been developed in partnership between DEWNR, the NRM Board, the Conservation Council of SA, the Landcare Association of SA, Primary Producers SA and PIRSA. A copy of this document can be obtained from http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/managing-natural-resources

Closer connections with the Murray-Darling Basin Authority
Brett Ibbotson has recently been appointed as the Murray Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) Regional Engagement Officer (REO) for the lower Murray, South Australia. The REOs are part of a pilot program to improve the connection of the MDBA with the regional communities of the Murray-Darling Basin. As key stakeholders in the area, Brett is keen to work with Local Government to provide Basin Plan information and facilitate a two way connection between Councils and the MDBA. Mayors and CEOs are encouraged to contact Brett for more information by calling 8391 7500 or emailing brett.ibbotson@sa.gov.au
Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources updates

(DEWNR) Water resources management

South Australia is committed to implementing the Basin Plan. To do this, amendments are being made to the existing water planning framework in the state. The SA Government will create a roadmap of our water planning process. This roadmap is called a Water Resource Plan.

A Water Resource Plan is a package of policy and plan documents that manage water resources in the state. These documents include NRM Plans, Water Allocation Plans, Long-Term Environmental Watering Plans, as well as numerous other policies, procedures and reports.

The first of three Water Resource Plans to be development is for the SA Murray Region which includes the groundwater, surface water and watercourses across the SA Murray-Darling Basin (not including the River Murray watercourse of Eastern Mount Lofty Ranges water resources).

The following changes are being proposed for the inclusion in the SA Murray Region Water Resource Plan, currently being developed in preparation for submission to the Murray-Darling Basin Authority.

- **Surface water management** - Water Affecting Activities policies have been included in the Regional NRM Plans that set a limit for the take of surface water resources across the region. Current dam development across the whole SA Murray region is 21.2 GL. With the proposed changes, the new dam capacity limit will be 50.2 GL. This means there is still scope for dam development across the region, subject to other rules in the NRM plan such as sub-catchment and property scale limits.

- **Noora Groundwater Management area** – The Minister has given notice to revoke the prescription of the Noora Prescribed Wells Area, in favour of proposed new Water Affecting Activity policies which can re-iterate the limits set by the Border Groundwater Agreement Review Committee (a South Australian-Victorian agreement).

- **Mallee Water Allocation Plan** – There are no changes to the volume of water currently available for use from the Murray Group Limestone aquifer in the Mallee Prescribed Wells Area or existing water licenses and their allocations. The change to the Mallee Water Allocation Plan is simply to apply a Permissible Annual Volume, or water taking limit, to the Renmark Group Confined aquifer to be consistent with the Basin Plan.

- **Indigenous Values** - It is important to have regard to Indigenous social, spiritual and customary values in water planning.

DEWNR staff are currently informing councils, irrigators, water users and other stakeholders about the development of the SA Murray Region Water Resource Plan, which is due for completion by December 2017.

Aboriginal engagement in water resources management

As mentioned in the water resources management update, South Australia will develop three Water Resource Plans (WRPs) under the Basin Plan that need to identify the objectives and outcomes of Aboriginal people in relation to managing water resources of the WRP areas and have regard to their cultural values and uses of water.

The Department is supporting the Aboriginal Nations within the SA Murray-Darling Basin to meet individually as well as jointly to support the development of the WRPs. This support includes funding
for two part-time Aboriginal water project officers. It also aims to develop a joint plan between Nations that will support ongoing engagement between the Aboriginal Nations, government, non-government and potentially industry organisations in water resource management.

DEWNR Green Globe Awards

On 14 December, DEWNR held the inaugural Green Globe Awards to celebrate the achievements across the state and shine a light on how we live the public sector values every day. With over 120 nominations received, 20 were selected as finalists including some in the SAMDB region:

- Proclamation of two new conservation parks on Crown land at Mount Arrowsmith.
- The Swamp Savers Education Project, shifting attitudes and awareness of the nationally endangered Fleurieu swamps.
- The team that developed and delivered the June 2016 Reconciliation through Water Planning event to discuss opportunities to improve Aboriginal engagement and better recognise Aboriginal interests in water planning and management.
- Completed in late 2015, the long-term environmental watering plan (LTWP) for the SA River Murray Water Resource Plan Area is the first to be developed in accordance with the Basin Plan (2012) demonstrating SA’s leadership and commitment to implementing the Basin Plan on time and in full.

South Australian Climate Leaders Awards

Pippa Cattanach, Team Leader, NRMA Education SA Murray-Darling Basin was selected as a finalist in the Inaugural South Australian Climate Leaders Awards.

The award recognised her work educating young people about sustainability and developing the State’s future environmental leaders and for influencing South Australia’s agencies in the ‘greening’ of government operations.

Left: Individual finalists, Wayne Meyer, Cassie Woodford and Pippa Cattanach with Minister Ian Hunter.

High flows

An exceptionally wet winter/spring has resulted in significant rainfall across the entire River Murray catchment with substantial flows through the system.

The peak flows were on 30 November 2016 at 95GL/day which is the highest flow since 1993. Water levels are decreasing quickly along SA’s River Murray which could impact riverbank stability and bank moorings. Water levels are expected to return below 60GL/day by early January 2017.
DEWNR and SA Water are working closely to manage the Lower Lake water levels by operating the barrages to release significant volumes of water to the Coorong. The aim is to achieve a water level in the Lower Lakes of 0.85 m AHD by the end of December.

Due to the high flows, a **blackwater event** arrived in SA’s River Murray in mid-November 2016. Blackwater occurs naturally when high levels of decomposing organic matter cause a drop in the dissolved oxygen level in the water.

PIRSA have received a number of fish kill reports and will continue to monitor as the blackwater event moves downstream. Report to Fishwatch hotline - 1800 065 522.

The water quality challenges presented by blackwater continue to be effectively treated via SA Water’s treatment processes and therefore do not pose a drinking water quality issue.

Blackwater in the River Murray poses no direct public health risk. In a small number of people blackwater may cause a skin irritation due to sensitivity to natural organic matter in the water. It is recommended not to drink water from the River Murray at any time unless it is treated.

There has been various communication channels about the high flows including:

- DEWNR has issued weekly-fortnightly news releases on the high flow event – resulting high media coverage.
- The weekly River Murray flow Report, River Murray SA Facebook page & DEWNR Twitter feed provide regular update on the high flows, water levels, water quality and imagery.
- DEWNR River Murray Operations staff are directly responding to public queries about the high flows and blackwater via email and phone.
- Inter-government agency communication between DPC, SATC, SES, SA Water, PIRSA, EPA, DPI to share information about the event (including consistency on terminology such as ‘high flows’) as well as distribute the information to the tourism industry.

Relevant links:
- Link to [DEWNR news releases](#) on the DEWNR website
- Link to [blackwater info](#) on the DEWNR website
- Link to [SES warning info](#) on the SES website
- Link to [River Murray Flow Report](#) on the WaterConnect website

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**Ngaut Ngaut Conservation Park**

Ngaut Ngaut Conservation Park is an area of 49 hectares situated adjacent to the River Murray, just south of Mildura. The park helps to protect a large Aboriginal cultural site comprised of extensive engravings within the limestone cliff. It is of profound spiritual significance to the traditional custodians – the Nganguraku people.

Ngaut Ngaut Conservation Park is managed through a Co Management arrangement. At Ngaut Ngaut this consists of a Co Management Board that replaces the role of the director national parks

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[Government of South Australia Natural Resources SA Murray-Darling Basin]
and reports direct the minister. The Co Management Board is made up DEWNR representatives and members of the Mannum Aboriginal Community Association Incorporated (MACAI) representing the Nganguraku people. The Co Management board takes over decision making responsibility for the day to day running of the reserve as well as the strategic direction setting.

The Nganguraku people aspire to maintain Ngaut Ngaut as a conservation park and continue sharing it with the community, while also achieving greater autonomy over their Country. To this end, the South Australian Government is working alongside MACAI towards the future constitution of the park as an Aboriginal-owned, co-managed park.

To help progress to an Aboriginal owned co-managed park and provide strategic direction on the management of the park a new draft park management plan has been prepared, this is envisaged to be ready for public consultation mid-January 2017.

*Above: MACAI running successful tours for the major river boats (Murray Princess and Proud Mary)*
1: **PRESENT:**
Katina Nikas  Renmark Paringa Council (Chairperson)
Rebecca Burton  Berri Barmera Council (Secretary)
Caroline Thomas  Mid Murray Council
Reg Budarick  Rural City of Murray Bridge
Jeremy Byrnes  Rural City of Murray Bridge
Geoff Parsons  Rural City of Murray Bridge
Myles Somers  Berri Barmera Council
Julie Saville  Mid Murray Council/ Rural City of Murray Bridge
Tom McKellar  Mid Murray Council

IN ATTENDANCE:
Dr Rachel Earl – Project Coordinator Public Health Planning Project Implementation Officer, LGA
Stephanie Coughlin, Community Development Officer, Renmark Paringa Council
Brenton Chappell Regional Manager - South & East Country SA Public Health Network

2: **COMMENCEMENT AND WELCOME**
Meeting opened at 10.30am by Katina Nikas. Committee members and guests welcomed

3: **APOLOGIES**
Peter Bond  Murraylands & Riverland LGA
Jim Quinn  Coorong District Council
Phil Eckert  Rural City of Murray Bridge

4 **GUEST SPEAKERS & PRESENTATIONS**
Nil

5: **CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**
MOTION:
That the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 15 November 2016 be accepted as a true and correct record.

Jeremy/Caroline CARRIED

6: INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE
6.1 Email from Peter Bond - keen to hear more about the proposed regional project with Country Arts SA. There may be some way the region can assist with this project when I have more detail to hand

7: OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE
Nil

8: BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES
8.1 Dr Rachel Earl – Proposed regional project. Country Arts SA, Public Health Week 2017
Update on project

The project will be a strong partnership with Country Arts SA. There is a strong common theme – ‘hope’, a link to mental health and wellbeing. Previously pitching for April to coincide with Public Health Week, but May is a more realistic timeframe.

Rachel is discussing with SA Health – how the theme can link to work SA Health is doing in our communities.

SA Health are developing introductory package for professionals – learning about suicide prevention. This project could be aligned with the associated training for this package, which would add in kind value to the project as no cost to Councils for the training.

Murray Bridge have suggested using the Cultural Impact Framework to show the value of arts in health and the value of this project to health. The document is available on the LGA website.

Monitoring and evaluation of the project is important.

The LGA OGM is scheduled for April. The theme is community wellbeing. Rachel is looking at having the artists involved in this project doing live demonstrations at the OGM to showcase the type of work happening in this region.

Rachel is still to discuss this project proposal with Loxton Waikerie, Southern Mallee, Karoonda East Murray and Coorong.

Reg and Katina advised the project has received support from their Councils. Caroline advised Mid Murray received approval for the project this morning. Myles advised that Berri Barmera has not been able to commit to the project due to the advancing of the dementia friendly plan. The budget for the next financial year has not been committed yet. He would rather the project be decided on prior to setting the budget, not during the financial year. He will keep the group informed.

Action – Rebecca will forward Rachel’s email with the project details to Peter.

Action – Rachel will forward information re the Cultural Impact Framework to the committee members.

8.2 Proposed infomercial – mosquito control on private land

Reg advised the contact he was going to approach for assistance has left the position, therefore not progressed.

9: OTHER BUSINESS

9.1 Updated contact details (email list)

Rebecca requested names and email addresses be provided for anyone who wishes to receive the correspondence from these meetings.

9.2 Mosquito tutorial video
Caroline advised Mid Murray have been using videos from WA Fight the Bite Facebook page

9.3 OPAL

Murray Bridge – Council has decided not to continue OPAL after funding ended. There is now a push from elected members to have a similar program
Mid Murray – have continued OPAL program with own funding
Rachel – SA Health and LGA are developing a new program. A 'modest' whole of community program with staffing to sit at regional LGA level. The program will continue to apply and use OPAL principals
Reg advised that the OPAL platform was likely to be shut down end of June 2017.
Katina asked if we should voice our concern over the closure of the OPAL platform as we were all under the impression we could access the resources into the future.

Motion – send letter to the Chief Public Health Officer expressing the concerns of the region regarding the closure of the OPAL platform and request that the OPAL database be built into the work plan of the proposed new alliance and also express our support for the proposed alliance.
Action – Rebecca will draft the letter with Rachel’s assistance

Geoff/Stephanie CARRIED

9.4 Mosquito issues

Rebecca proposed a meeting with Councils & Uni SA to determine a list of issues and solutions to put to SA Health to resolve some outstanding issues including the funding subsidy review – protecting the funding, particularly important as this is the last year of the three year agreement with Uni SA

Action – Rebecca to organise meeting with EHOs and Uni SA

9.5 LGA OGM 21 – 22 April

Councils can do presentations, have a booth etc. to showcase achievements. Attended by mayors, elected members.
Action - Rachel will send circular to committee members

9.6 Brenton Chappell Regional Manager - South & East Country SA Public Health Network

Brenton is interested in knowing more about suicide prevention networks, where they exist. Rachel said they are initiated by SA Health

PHN is funding the HEAL program for RDGP in the Riverland. He is back in the Riverland Tuesday 13th Feb

PHN have launched Alcohol & Other Drugs program in the South East. RDGP has the contract to roll out the program
10:  **NEXT MEETING**

Friday 5th May at 10.30am at the Cambrai Council Office

11:  **CLOSURE**

Meeting closed at 11.30
MRLGA CEO NETWORK GROUP

Notes of the meeting held at the Renmark Paringa Council Offices, Renmark on Monday 20th February 2017 commencing at 1:00 pm

1. **Present**

   Peter Ackland, CEO, District Council of Loxton Waikerie
   Mayor Dave Burgess, President MRLGA
   Peter Bond, CEO, MRLGA (Note Taker)
   Vincent Cammell, CEO, Coorong District Council
   Mia Dohnt, CEO, Southern Mallee District Council
   Russell Peate, CEO, Mid Murray District Council
   Michael Sedgman, CEO, Rural City of Murray Bridge
   Tony Siviour, CEO, Renmark Paringa Council

2. **Apologies**

   David Beaton, CEO, Berri Barmera Council
   Peter Smithson, CEO, District Council of Karoonda East Murray

3. **Business Arising from Last Meeting**

   3.1. **Regional Sport and Recreation Facilities Needs Review**

   The CEO MRLGA has redrafted the project brief to take account of feedback provided by Gabriella Vikor, Senior Project Officer, Office of Recreation and Sport.

   Gabriella's comments included:
   - Page 3 – The Brief - suggested making it clearer from the start what the project is about. The reference to social infrastructure is a very broad term to use as it could reference to schools, hospitals, community housing etc... Is this what you are after, or just a study in relation to sport and recreation social infrastructure?
   - Throughout the project brief the title is sometimes referred to as a 'social infrastructure and services study' or 'social infrastructure needs assessment'. Perhaps keep the reference to the document consistent throughout the project brief. On the front page it states that the purpose of the project is to **prepare a regional sport and recreation facilities needs review**.
   - Page 3 – Background - Is there an easily accessible map that you can include here to show the study area?
   - We might want to request as part of the project brief, bound hard copies to be provided at completion of the study, and the number of hard copies required.

• You may want to be more specific in terms of who “as a minimum” you want the consultant to consult with.

• Might be a good idea for the consultant to develop a decision making framework as part of the project - to assist in prioritising projects.

ORS believe the project would definitely be a suitable initiative to seek funding support through the Community Recreation and Sport Facilities Program (CRSFP). The ORS funds regional plans under Category 1 of the CRSFP. The next round opens on 11 February 2017.

In applying for a grant like this, where it has a regional focus and will impact other council areas, there would be an expectation that there would be some kind of buy-in/contribution from the other Councils toward the project. This may be through in-kind or financial support.

### ACTION;

CEO MRLGA to proceed to select tender for the Regional Sport and Recreation Plan Facilities Needs Review project brief taking account of the need for the tender brief to include a facilities standards review. Once tenders have been received, CEOs will approve by email.

### 3.2 Regional Waste Management Strategy

Jeff Tate Consulting has submitted a fee proposal for this work. They propose that a discussion paper be prepared by the consultants covering:

- Details of member Councils' waste management policy settings and objectives, services and how provided (including key dates for existing contracts and other service arrangements), costs and income, and future plans. This would be obtained through a survey of the member Councils.
- An overview of waste facilities and services within, surrounding or accessible to the region.
- A short synopsis of the policy and operational context for waste management in South Australia and the region.

**Identification of opportunities for collaboration**

Potential opportunities for collaboration would be identified through a workshop with the CEOs and relevant staff of member Councils. We also propose that Vaughan Levitzke, CE of Green Industries SA be invited to participate in the workshop. Vaughan has indicated that he would attend if he was available on the day. The discussion paper on assessment of the current situation would be provided to workshop attendees in advance and would be an important input to a holistic consideration of potential opportunities.

Regional economic opportunities associated with waste management would be a topic for discussion at the workshop and would be considered further through the BCA process. It is intended that the outcomes of this aspect of the project would serve as high level signposts for further work that could occur through MRLGA, the RDA Murraylands and Riverland Inc or SA Government.
As an adjunct to the workshop the member Council CEOs would be asked to finalise membership and roles of the two project groups proposed at 3.1 above. It is likely that additional work may be required to finalise the list of potential areas of collaboration after the workshop. The intention is that the consultants would undertake this work and present it to MRLGA for sign-off (either by the PGG or MRLGA CEO) before commencing the BCA process.

**Development and submission of BCA**

The BCA template is reasonably well developed from the Murraylands Regional Collaboration project and will be a sound basis for developing a BCA. Experiences with this project may, of course, lead to improvements and fine-tuning of the template.

While this proposal refers to a single BCA it may be that separate BCAs are required for different aspects of waste management. Whether there is to be a single BCA or multiple BCAs will become evident after the potential areas of collaboration have been identified.

**ACTION:** MRLGA CEO to proceed with the engagement of Jeff Tate Consulting to undertake the development of Business Case Analysis for waste management opportunities for the Murraylands and Riverland LGA at a total all-inclusive fee for the project of $17,500 (excluding GST).

### 3.3. Regional Roads Freight Movement Study

On 31st January 2017, the CEO MRLGA sent out the following email to all Constituent Council CEO’s

“At the MRLGA Board meeting held on Friday 13th January 2017 at Mannum, the Board resolved to delegate to the MRLGA CEO Network Group the authority to award projects to successful tenderers as identified in the 2016/17 Annual Business Plan and Work Plan; provided such actions sit within budget parameters.

The MRLGA received three tenders for the MRLGA Regional Roads Freight Movement Study, namely from Tonkin Consulting, WSP Parsons Brinkerhoff and SMEC. A breakdown of those tenders was provided to the CEO Network Group for consideration.

It was anticipated that the expended budget for the Regional Roads Freight Movement Study would be in the range of $60k to $80k including allowance for Part D (the HVRAs). When including the detailed HVRAs for the four routes identified below, the Tonkin price (for full HVRAs suitable to support a grant funding business case) is $42,900 (excl GST) for Part D and their overall price would be $82,750 (excl GST) for the full project (Parts A to D and final report).

Part D of the tender was called as a provisional item, the advantage of which being we can finalise its scope later, once we know which routes need to be targeted and have finalised a strategy for pursuing state/federal grant funds.
Given that the next meeting of the MRLGA CEO Network Group was not scheduled until Monday 20th February 2017, both John Olson and the CEO MRLGA believed it important enough to commence the MRLGA Regional Roads Freight Movement Study no later than the first week in February 2017 to achieve delivery within this financial year.

In terms of budget, the MRLGA has available to it $232,777 (excl GST) from Rubble Royalties receipts for this financial year. Other than this project, it is anticipated that the MRLGA Network Level HVRA of Commodity Routes will also be funded from the Rubble Royalties allocation for the eight Councils with expenditure forecast at $70,000 to $80,000. There is therefore scope within the budget to fund the MRLGA Regional Roads Freight Movement Study.

The MRLGA CEO Network endorse by email response the tender recommendation that Tonkin Consulting be appointed to carry out the MRLGA Regional Roads Freight Movement Study at a fee of $82,750 plus an upper level of cost escalation for Part C $6,900 (excl GST) for the full project (Parts A to D and final report). This would take the overall approval for the tender to $89,650 (excl GST).

As such Tonkin Consulting have now been engaged to carry out the project based on the attached brief.

3.4. Update of the Strategic ICT Project.

Riverland G3 Group provided a verbal progress report on the Riverland Strategic ICT project. The G3 Group have now received the draft report as well as being provided with a presentation on the strategy opportunities by the consultants. Riverland CEO’s will now review the report and meet over the next two to three weeks to move the project along.

The project did touch on opportunities for video conferencing in their 2nd level of recommendations.

Murraylands CEO’s were interested whether there was something they could prioritise from the report, particularly at a regional level in areas such as data storage.

The report did point to the fact that few Councils are investing enough on IT within their budgets. The accepted industry standard is 2% to 2.5%. Council are generally more like 1% of budget for IT.

3.5. Regional Training Needs Analysis

The CEO MRLGA reported that he had not progressed this project at this stage due to other priority commitments. It is proposed that this project form part of the 2017-18 ABP priority project listings.

**ACTION:** Regional TNA project to be deferred to the 2017-18 financial year.
3.6. MRLGA Website Upgrade

The CEO MRLGA has received commitments from a number of Councils in relation to the provision of photographs that can be used on the MRLGA website and other publications. The range of photographs is however still not representative of the region.

Unfortunately due to timing restraints, the CEO MRLGA will now have to proceed to use what is available to ensure delivery of the website upgrade within this financial year.

**ACTION;** CEO MRLGA to proceed with the MRLGA Website upgrade using LGA's IT Department as facilitator.

3.7. Executive Services Resourcing Strategy

The CEO MRLGA provided the Group with an update of progress with the outsourcing of some of the Executive Services duties. The CEO is currently in negotiation with RDA MR with the intent to seek their assistance with financial management, records keeping and tendering needs of the Subsidiary.

The CEO MRLGA will meet with the CEO RDA MR on 28th February 2017 to continue the process of formalising arrangements for a transfer of some executive services.

3.8. Murraylands Regional Collaboration Project

There is an outstanding action that the Coorong District Council CEO was to facilitate an Asset Management workshop in December 2016 designed to assess the opportunities for regional collaboration based around asset management.

The CEO MRLGA discussed the timing of the initial Asset Management workshop with the CEO Network Group and it was agreed that Coorong District Council would facilitate a start up workshop in March 2017.

**ACTION;** Coorong District Council CEO to facilitate an Asset Management workshop in March 2017 designed to assess the opportunities for regional collaboration based around asset management. In the event a need is established, a Business Case Analysis will be undertaken under the auspice of the MRLGA.
4. **Other Business**

4.1. **Agenda Items for 31st March 2017 MRLGA Board Meeting**

4.1.1. Riverland LG Forum Minutes and Actions to be tabled

4.1.2. MDBA Presentation by Neil Andrew

4.1.3. NOM from DCLW re Elected Member Codes of Conduct - concern over cost and time impact

4.1.4. Regional Planning Boards - Initiative from Riverland G3

4.1.5. State/ Local Government Climate Change Partnership

   The current partnership between the LGA and DEWNR expires at the end of June 2017 and both parties have recently entered into negotiations regarding the need for an ongoing LGA (Local Government)/ DEWNR Climate Change coordination role.

   To garner the support required to accomplish the successful renewal of the partnership, it is vital that Councils/ regions express their support for a continued state/ local government coordination role to the LGA Board and the Minister for Climate Change.

   The best way to express our support is to write to the LGA/ Minister for Climate Change stating that your council sees this function as a priority, preferably endorsed by the CEO/ Mayor.

4.1.6. LG Functional Support Group

4.1.7. ESCOSA Presentation - later in afternoon

4.1.8. SAROC Committee Meeting Minutes

4.1.9. Minutes - MRLGA Regional Public Health Planning Committee

4.1.10. Minutes - Region 5 MDA Committee

4.2. **Special Local Roads Program/Roads Database**

   The 2017/18 funding round for the Special Local Roads Program (SLRP) is now open. Applications from metropolitan and regional Councils are required to be provided to the CEO MRLGA for review and forwarding to the Local Government Transport Advisory Panel for consideration by 30th April 2017.

   In relation to the Roads Database that supports the priority listings for the SLRP applications, we will be undertaking a 2017 update to the 2030 Regional Transport Plan Roads Database.

   Please see the attached quotation for a proposed scope of services and fees from HDS Australia. At $13,600 (excl. GST), the estimated fee is virtually the same as the equivalent activity undertaken two years ago in developing the 2015 Roads Database (i.e. $13,500 at that time). However, the tasks vary slightly, in that this time we need to undertake an initial discussion with each Council’s RTS Committee representative to refresh their knowledge of the road action plan and roads database process.

   This is offset, though, by the expectation we should only receive an average of two new submissions per Council, giving us at least 30 on the updated database when coupled with some proposals that will remain from the current database.
Due to the urgent nature of this project I have asked HDS to proceed with initial discussions with some Councils. HDS have already had a Skype meeting with Greg Perry and Harry Du from Berri Barmera Council and also met with David Mosel from Coorong District Council.

The MRLGA has levied a 1% surcharge on all successful SLRP applications out of the previous years allocation. Approved SLRP grants for the region were $1,979,000. Therefore a surcharge will be invoiced at $19,790 instead of $22,000 initially budgeted to successful Councils. SMDC - $8,660, CDC - $3,710, MMC - $6,620 and RPC - $800.

**Recommendation**

‘That the MRLGA CEO Network Group endorse the engagement of HDS Australia Pty Ltd to undertake a 2017 update to the 2030 Regional Transport Plan Roads Database at a fee of $13,600 (excl GST).”

**ACTION;** MRLGA CEO to proceed with the engagement of HDS Australia Pty Ltd to undertake a 2017 update to the 2030 Regional Transport Plan Roads Database at a fee of $13,600 (excl. GST)

5. **Next Meeting:**

   Wednesday 12th April 2017 commencing at 1.00pm at the Rural City of Murray Bridge.

6. **Closure:**

   The meeting closed at 2.25pm

   Advice regarding these meeting notes can be directed to the CEO MRLGA by phone 0411 406799 or email to ceomrlga@outlook.com.
# APPENDIX 1 - MRLGA CALENDAR OF MEETINGS ATTENDED AND FUTURE MEETINGS

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<td>MRLGA CEO Network Meeting, MRLGA CEO Performance Review Meeting</td>
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<td>21 February</td>
<td>ZEMC</td>
<td>Swan Reach</td>
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<td>22 February</td>
<td>Workshop: Developing Climate Change Action Plans Regional LGA EO Workshop and Meeting</td>
<td>Adelaide</td>
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<td>6 March</td>
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<td>13 March</td>
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<td>16 March</td>
<td>LGA Board Meeting</td>
<td>Adelaide</td>
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<td>20 - 22 March</td>
<td>Canberra Delegation - President and CEO MRLGA</td>
<td>Canberra</td>
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<td>28 March</td>
<td>Murray River Alliance Meeting</td>
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<td>31 March</td>
<td>MRLGA General Meeting, MRLGA RTS Committee Meeting, Karoorda Farm Fair</td>
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<td>5 April</td>
<td>Riverland LG Forum, MRLGA Briefing to BBC (Tentative)</td>
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<td>11 April</td>
<td>MRLGA Briefing to RCMB (Tentative)</td>
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<td>MRLGA Briefing to DCKEM (Tentative)</td>
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<td>10 May</td>
<td>MRLGA Budget Workshop (Tentative), Special MRLGA Board Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>27 June</td>
<td>MRLGA Briefing to RPC (Tentative)</td>
<td>Renmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 June</td>
<td>Regional LGA EO Workshop and Meeting</td>
<td>Adelaide</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 July</td>
<td>MRLGA AGM</td>
<td>Berri</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 July</td>
<td>SAROC Meeting</td>
<td>Adelaide</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 July</td>
<td>LGA Board Meeting</td>
<td>Adelaide</td>
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<tr>
<td>30 August</td>
<td>Regional LGA EO Workshop and Meeting</td>
<td>Adelaide</td>
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<tr>
<td>27 – 28 September</td>
<td>SAROC Meeting &amp; LGA Board Meeting</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 - 13 October</td>
<td>2017 MDA AGM/Conference</td>
<td>Renmark</td>
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<tr>
<td>25 October</td>
<td>MRLGA General Meeting</td>
<td>Renmark</td>
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<tr>
<td>18 - 29 October</td>
<td>Riverland Rose Festival</td>
<td>Renmark</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Minutes of Murray Lands Transport Advisory Committee
meeting held Tuesday 28th February 2017, Coorong Council, Tolmer Room, Tailem Bend

Meeting opened at 10.07 am.

1. Chairperson, Peter Smithson welcomed members present.
   Present – Peter Smithson (District Council Karoonda East Murray), Cr. Peter Wright (Coorong District Council), Mark Dunlop (KeolisDowner), Cr. Adriaan Sakko (Mid Murray District Council) Julie Wilhelm (Murray Mallee Ageing Taskforce), Cr. Neville Pfeiffer (Southern Mallee District Council) & Jo Podoliak (RDA Murraylands and Riverland) – via telephone link

   In Attendance – Helen Luke (MMCTS)

2. Apologies – Natalie Davies (MTC)

3. Confirmation of minutes dated 26th May 2016
   3.1 - Moved Cr. Wright moved “that the minutes dated 24th November 2015 were a true and correct record”
   Second Mark Dunlop
   CARRIED

4. Business Arising
   4.1 – Jo Podoliak spoke about the Black Spot funding and present ongoing discussion 2 Optus and @ Telstra towers.
   Peter Smithson mentioned that Karoonda Highway had acquired towers at Mindarie and Wynarka
   4.2 - Helen said that funding for CPN’s was to June 2018 and that the block funding that was already currently being delivered could possibly be packaged differently beyond this date.
   4.3 – Julie reported that WA had just signed up with Commonwealth until 2019.

5. Correspondence
   5.1 – none received

6. Representative Reports
   6.1 – Mark Dunlop
      o Presently a review underway of all regional services
      o Moving forward
      - discussions around the viability of concession cards
      - some patronage services are on the rise - Murrayville and Mannum are both growing
      - Barossa Valley increasing
      - dial a ride – flexible routes are going well
      - Swan Reach is doing exceptionally well, presently do not have wheelchair access but are looking at options
   6.2 – Peter Wright
      o Asked about how to get transport for a couple who live at Wellington East.
      o After brief discussion on actual need Helen suggested that they contact My Aged Care (MAC) as it appeared that they would need a higher level of care.
   6.3 – Adriaan Sakko
      Nil
   6.4 - Peter Smithson
      Nil
   6.5 – Julie Wilhelm
      o Julie spoke about her role and providing support to service providers - funded to June 2018
      o Consumer Directed Care (CDC) packages – Commonwealth implemented - some resistance but the biggest issue was that older people were struggling to understand the packages and other information that was currently around
6.6 – Jo Podoliak
  o Spoke about the Transport efficiency survey - perhaps when the next survey is released people could distribute to their networks so that as much data for the region can be captured – next survey possible April 2017
  o There is potential demand for long term unemployment into jobs within the area
  o Lack of public transport at specific times – perhaps a pilot program at community level and workplace level
  o Strategic – NDIS roll-out is significant investment
  o Barriers– low number of clients / km
    - Families driving own vehicle
    - Not able to access services locally

6.7 – Neville Pfeiffer
  Nil

7. General Business
   Operations of the Committee
   7.1 - Considerable discussion was held into the operations of the committee and its purpose within the region.
   Summary of some of the discussion:
   - does it have the same function as when it was first established?
   - keep collaborating as once a group is lost it will not be started up again
   - Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association – is there an option for a transport forum? To bring everything together under one space/umbrella
   - larger projects happening that will need to be affiliated as far as transport is concerned
   - Riverland structure
   - possible merger or collaboration

   7.2 – Helen to enquire about the structure of the Transport Advisory within the Riverland and report back to this group.

   7.3 – Peter Smithson will have a conversation with Peter Bond and report back to this group.

8. Meeting Close
   8.1 – meeting closed at 11.30 am. Next meeting 25th July 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>By Whom</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conversation with Riverland Transport Advisory</td>
<td>Helen Luke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conversation with Peter Bond</td>
<td>Peter Smithson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SA Regional Organisation of Councils Committee Meeting – Key Outcomes Summary – 16 March 2017

Guest Speaker – Study Adelaide

Ms Karyn Kent, Chief Executive Officer, Study Adelaide addressed the SA Regional Organisation of Councils (SAROC) Committee regarding Temporary Graduate Visas (Subclass 458) and the Employer Portal.

Regional Election Strategy

Members agreed to support the ‘Making Regions Matter’ 2018 election strategy concept; and to encourage all regional LGA’s to participate.

SAROC Noted

The following were noted by the Committee:

- The LGA President’s report
- A report on Summary on Energy Forum
- Community Passenger Networks report
- progress in the campaign to remove rubble royalty payment requirements
- An update on the LGA Governance Review

SA Power Networks

SAROC agreed to pursue concerns in relation to the poor response times by SA Power Network to outages, particularly in regard to the need for remotely based crews to attend and how this may affect those with medical conditions that require power to support their treatment.

Recommendations to the LGA Board

Council Contributions to E-Planning Portal

That the LGA Board recommend the Minister for Planning:

1. be advised that local government does not support the proposed contribution basis proposed for the establishment and maintaining of the new SA Planning Portal,

2. requests the Department for Planning Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI) to discuss with the LGA Secretariat a more equitable approach to establishing and maintaining the planning portal, and

3. not implement the contribution requirement by councils for the SA Planning portal in 2017/18 in recognition that many councils have already commenced budget setting processes for 2017/18.
SAROC also asked the Secretariat, given the opposition’s “rate capping policy” and their push for greater efficiencies in Local Government, to confirm with the Liberal Opposition should they be in Government that they take back responsibility for the funding and maintenance for the Government’s E-Planning portal.

**Future Towns Future Cities Economic Development**

That the Board endorse “Future Towns, Future Cities” as the communication theme for the Economic Development activities of the LGA in 2017.

SAROC discussed that regional LGAs will provide the LGA Secretariat with ideas for further “Future Towns, Future Cities” events during 2017.

**Federal Mobile Phone Black Spot Program**

That the LGA Board advocate for a higher level of funding commitment from both State and Federal Governments for the establishment of more mobile phone towers to resolve the poor, marginal and no mobile coverage in many areas throughout regional South Australia.

**Council DPTI Jetty Agreements**

That the LGA Board requests:

1. the LGA Secretariat to investigate the current status of all Council jetties/ marine facilities agreements and further seeks the individual Councils position in relation to future negotiations; and

2. given the opposition’s “rate capping policy” and their push for greater efficiencies in Local Government, the LGA Secretariat confirms with the Liberal Opposition should they be in Government that they take back responsibility for the funding and maintenance for Jetties should Councils decide to relinquish control of these assets.
CEO MRLGA’S REPORT

To: MRLGA Board  From: Chief Executive Officer
Subject: MRLGA Board March 2017  Date: Friday 31st March 2017

1. Key Project Status Update

1.1. Chief Executive Officer’s Work Plan
As part of this year’s performance KPI’s for the Chief Executive Officer a work plan was required to be provided to each MRLGA Board meeting as an outline of the progress of projects against set timelines.

A copy of that work plan is provided attached.

The Work Plan will be updated for each CEO Network Group and MRLGA Board meeting.

Refer Attachment - MRLGA Work Plan

Moved: Seconded;
“That the MRLGA receive and endorse the MRLGA Work Plan for 2016-2017 as presented.”

2. Administration Matters

2.1. Draft Guidelines for Rubble Pits
Following on from discussion in relation to the draft Guidelines for Rubble Pits, DSD have drafted a revised guide for quarry and borrow pit rehabilitation taking account of the feedback provided from Councils.

The LGA will continue to negotiate with DSD and the Treasurer on a suitable outcome for Councils that will hopefully see the removal of the Royalties on Rubble.

2.2. COAG Meeting held on 9th December 2016

The President MRLGA thought the Board may be interested in key extracts from the recent COAG meeting held in Canberra on 9th December 2016. Keys points of interest extracted from the COAG Communique from that meeting include;

Competition and productivity-enhancing reforms
Leaders agreed the importance of ambitious reforms to raise Australia’s economic growth potential. The Commonwealth, New South Wales, Western Australia, Tasmania, the Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory signed the Intergovernmental Agreement on Competition and Productivity-Enhancing Reforms to build future productivity, growth and jobs.
This important agreement lays the foundations for governments to work together to build a more productive and well-functioning economy, recognising that flexible approaches are required to ensure Australians in regional and remote areas share the benefits of increased competition. This will see efforts to remove unnecessary regulatory barriers to competition; to boost innovation to deliver high quality, effective human services; and, to promote efficient investment and usage of infrastructure for road transport, water and energy.

All Leaders stressed the vital importance of investment for growth and Australia’s productive capacity and agreed to look at options to accelerate the infrastructure investment pipeline. Leaders asked that advice be provided to the next COAG meeting on opportunities to increase investment in economic infrastructure above current projections.

National Energy Market
Dr Alan Finkel AO, Australia’s Chief Scientist, spoke on his independent review to develop a blueprint to maintain energy security and reliability in the National Electricity Market.

COAG agreed that governments must prioritise energy security, reliability and affordability as the electricity sector transitions to low emissions technologies. As the electricity sector accounts for 35 per cent of Australia’s carbon emissions, Leaders agreed it has an important role to play in meeting Australia’s commitments under the Paris Agreement.

Leaders noted the technical challenges to be overcome to successfully manage this transition and asked the COAG Energy Council to make it easier to expedite changes to frameworks, technical standards and rules that will assist in managing this transition and to accelerate proof of concept projects in relation to new technologies and infrastructure enhancements. Leaders committed to urgently progress work on broader solutions to provide certainty to industry, drawing on the outcomes of Dr Finkel’s final review.

Housing and homelessness
Leaders agreed that improving housing affordability and addressing homelessness are key pillars of improving social and economic outcomes.

COAG noted a report from housing ministers on initiatives within jurisdictions to improve housing and homelessness outcomes. Housing ministers and Treasurers are continuing to discuss potential reforms in this critical area, including efforts to improve housing supply and provide sustainable funding for homelessness services. Leaders agreed all governments are facing a number of shared challenges and that COAG will consider housing and homelessness further in 2017.

The Commonwealth confirmed it would extend homelessness funding for a further 12 months, to support front-line services, while future arrangements to reduce the rise in homelessness were explored.

Health and hospitals funding
As a further step in collaborative efforts to ensure the sustainability of the Australian health system, COAG agreed additional details on the funding approach under the interim Heads of Agreement on Public Hospital Funding signed at its last meeting. Leaders also noted the good progress being made on other elements of this agreement intended to improve the quality of care in hospitals and reduce avoidable hospitalisations, with final arrangements to be agreed by early 2017. Consideration of longer term hospitals funding arrangements will begin in 2017 and will be agreed by COAG in 2018.
National Disability Insurance Scheme
Leaders reiterated their commitment to the success of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) and ensuring that it delivers better outcomes for Australians living with disability. Leaders reaffirmed the foundational principles of the NDIS and the importance of working collaboratively to manage the transition to full scheme. All jurisdictions have now agreed a new national quality and safeguards framework to protect NDIS participants with disability, commencing from full scheme.

Youth detention and child protection

COAG noted the Royal Commission into Child Protection and Youth Detention Systems of the Northern Territory, and the imperative for swift action following its report in March 2017. Leaders discussed the critical importance of early intervention efforts to reduce the flow of children into the system as well as the benefits of better information sharing and identifying opportunities to reduce the over-representation of Indigenous children. They noted that work is underway in all jurisdictions to coordinate efforts across health, education and housing systems to improve outcomes for children.

Murray-Darling Basin
The Murray-Darling Basin is of vital economic and environmental significance to a large part of Australia and it is critical that the Basin Plan is implemented on time and in full. Murray-Darling Basin issues will be dealt with through a regular COAG side meeting of First Ministers of Basin jurisdictions. Leaders asked that the Murray-Darling Basin Ministerial Council provide a plan to COAG by April 2017 that provides a credible and balanced pathway to implement the Basin Plan package agreed in 2012, including:

• supply measures to offset the Basin Plan water recovery target of 2,750 GL by 2019, using the SDL Adjustment Mechanism;
• constraints measures to address impediments to delivering environmental water; and
• efficiency measures to recover an additional 450 GL by 2024, consistent with the Basin Plan legal requirement to achieve neutral or improved socio-economic outcomes.

2.3 Executive Services Outsourcing
As an update to progress on the outsourcing part of responsibility for Executive Services to free up time for the CEO MRLGA, I am pleased to advise that transiting of some of the services will commence with the RDA MR on 1 April 2017.

At the stage those services will be in areas of records management and financial reporting, but will expand to other services as we progress through the end of financial year.

The CEO MRLGA will continue to keep the President and the MRLGA CEO Network Group up to date of progress with this outsourcing opportunity and provide a summary report to the MRLGA Board in July 2017.

Peter Bond
Chief Executive Officer
Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association
# Murray and Mallee ZONE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

## MINUTES

Tuesday, February 21st, 2017
10:30 – 13:00
Swan Reach Medical Centre

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee Attending:</th>
<th>Chair</th>
<th>Zone Coordinator</th>
<th>Executive Officer</th>
<th>Recovery Planner</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kevin Myers (Mid Murray)</td>
<td>Bryce Wood (SAPOL) proxy for James Blandford (SAPOL)</td>
<td>Danny Wood (SES)</td>
<td>Nic Smith (DCSI - SRO)</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>LG Rep:</strong></td>
<td><strong>LG Rep:</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Heather Cuadle (Mid Murray)</td>
<td>Veronica Rothe (Berri Barmera)</td>
<td>Michael Vivian (Coorong)</td>
<td>Vicki Mayfield (Coorong)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ros Kruger (Rural City Murray Bridge)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>ZEMPO</td>
<td>Pippa Pech (SES)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guests/Observers:</td>
<td>Liz Connell (SES), Richard Coombe (CFS), Bryce Wood (SAPOL), Roy Yates (DTF), Ed Pikusa (DEWNR)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apologies:</td>
<td>Craig Eckermann (DPTI), Neville Gasmier (Southern Mallee), Peter Ackland (Loxton Waikerie), Peter Bond, Peter Smithson (Karooona East Murray), Timothy Tol (Loxton Wiakerie), Rebecca Muller (Renmark Parinaga), James Blandford (SAPOL), David Beaton (Berri Barmera), Jim Quinn (Coorong), Michael Sedgman (Rural City Murray Bridge)</td>
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## 1. Opening

1.1 *Welcome*

Kevin welcomed all attending and declared the meeting open.

## 2. Minutes of previous meeting

2.1 *Confirmation of previous minutes* (July 19th, 2016, Cambrai)

*Moved: Nic Smith
Second: Heather Cuadle
Carried*
3. Outstanding Action Items from Previous Meetings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Actions</th>
<th>Responsibility</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.1 Letter to Murray Mallee Zone councils requesting confirmation and assurance of effective and up to date Business Continuity Plans, including last review date. Survey to date, see Attachment ‘D’</td>
<td>Danny Wood on behalf of the Chair</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Correspondence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4.1 Email from Neville Gasmier (Southern Mallee) tabled re BCP. See ZEMPO report for update on CFS Plan.</th>
<th>For noting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Motion to accept correspondence. Moved: Veronica Rothe Second: Richard Coombe Carried</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

5. National / State Emergency Management update

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>5.1 Zone Emergency Management Program Officer See Attachment ‘A’</th>
<th>Pippa Pech</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Action: Pippa to arrange a Work Plan Review session</td>
<td>Pippa Pech</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.2 National Emergency Management Update See Attachment ‘B’</td>
<td>For noting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action: Danny to send link to new SEMP Included in report ‘Attachment B’ – Complete</td>
<td>Danny Wood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action: Liz to distribute the link to the ‘Burns Report’</td>
<td>Liz Connell</td>
</tr>
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</table>

6. Reports from Members (by exception)

| 6.1 Chairperson: Symposium was great. No fires has been good. | Kevin Myers |
| 6.2 Zone Coordinator: River Murray event worked quite well. Training re Ex-Maters, app for ZEST activations. Russell Dippy (SAPOL) re resources for remote ZEST support. | Proxy, Bryce Wood (SAPOL) |
| 6.3 Recovery Planner: See Attachment ‘C’ | Nic Smith (DCSI – SRO) |
| 6.4 SA Country Fire Service: Some minor fires but not of significant magnitude. Mainly due to local support from local arrangements restricting the events potentials. BMP under development with a view of going to MM Bushfire management committee this year then to state. Last Resort Refuge location signage planned with a project officer working on implementation. | Richard Coombe (SACFS) |
6.5 Other Members:  
Nil tabled

7. Programmed presentations / discussion topics

7.1 Mr. Ed Pukusa, DEWNR  
Presentation provided re Flood Reports

**Action:** Danny to request from Ed Pikusa a standing rep from DEWNR on the MMZEMC

*Report noted with exception to the 7 ‘requires further analysis’*

*Moved:* Nic Smith  
*Second:* Ros Kruger  
*Carried*

7.2 Mr. Roy Yates, Treasury and Finance

Presentation provided re Local Government Disaster Assistance Guidelines.

Much discussion re what is claimable and what is not.

8. General Business

8.1 Veronica Rothe (Berri Barmera):

High River Mosquito issues, council working on future plans with DEWNR. Also working on Natural Fish Kills arrangements. Working on Rough Sleeper arrangements and pursuing a plan. Severe Weather Event on 11th Nov with significant damage with clean-up still underway.

Changes to the G3 structure for Riverland. Now have focus groups:
- Renmark Paringa have ‘Corporate and Community’
- Loxton Waikerie have ‘Infrastructure and Environmental Services’
- Berri Barmera have ‘Work Health Safety, Emergency Management and Risk’

9. Recommendations from Committees / Working Groups

9.1 Riverbank Collapse Working Party.

Included in ‘Attachment A’ report. Ros Kruger (Rural City Murray Bridge) to provide additional information next MM ZEMC meeting.

10. Training / Review of recent exercises / debriefs

10.1 River Murray High Flow / Flood Event

Report and discussion presented to group for information and noting. Copy of SASES Riverland IMT Debrief made available for review.

Intention to call a Stakeholder Post Event Review meeting.

10.2 Next training session

Discussion
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Work Plan meeting being scheduled as additional session external to routine MM ZEMC meetings.</th>
<th>For noting</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NERAG is available online.</td>
<td>For noting</td>
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</table>

**11. Next Meeting & Close**

May 16<sup>th</sup> 2017, Murray Bridge Council Office
1. There have been ongoing discussions between SAFECOM (now SES) and DEWNR about the flood risk management reports for all zones. In September I sent out the Murray and Mallee Flood Risk Management Report as provided by DEWNR (based on work done in 2012 and 2013). I have conducted a review of the Report. The document is lengthy and the delay in DEWNR producing the amended report has led to a level of fatigue from stakeholders and Committee members. I would like to raise to the Committee’s attention the following points for consideration:

- My main concern with the report is that it was suggested in the report that the confidence could be increased across 7 of the 14 “intolerable” and “ALARP 2” risks, and the result of these changes were presented in the Executive Summary as the findings (e.g. here are the 7 risks to be considered). This gives the impression that these risks represent the outcomes of the Committee’s work, which they do not.
- While the report proposes an increase in confidence, doing so would result in a significant reduction of the number of “priority risks” across the sources of floods identified. A reduction of priority risks could be viewed as a reduction of overall risk. While further amendments to the confidence and other workings with the findings are not opposed, the lack of a transparent consultation is concerning. Once identified as a risk which could have the confidence increased and therefore tolerability increased, the risk is not mentioned further. There does not appear to be a strategy in place to actually increase the confidence of these 7 risks, other than “further analysis”.
- DEWNR have agreed to meet with the committee today and discuss some of the following:
  o Changes to the prioritisation of risks, so that they are now prioritised by ‘confidence’ and not via tolerability (as they are with every other hazard in every other zone). This reduces the ability for the end user to compare across hazards and across zones (one of the purposes of NERAG). Would DEWNR be willing to work with stakeholders to assist in queries relating to comparability across hazards, as the flood report is now not comparable.
  o Further analysis. What strategies are/will be put in place to conduct further analysis of the remaining 7 risks, to ensure their confidence can be increased.
- Finally, there are some improvements to the report in several areas, including new maps and some new data (which may not have been available at the time of the risk assessments).

2. Workplan – The workplan is due to be updated. I suggest we hold a workplan meeting. Other Zones have combined this with a Recovery Plan workshop or alternatively we could invite a presenter for one of the outstanding hazards.

3. Control Improvements and Treatments
A list of all control improvements for all hazards across all zones was collated and prioritised early last year. These have been reviewed and those that have already been addressed have been crossed off. Work has commenced on a number of them, including NDRP applications. A report will be provided to the next ZEMC meeting as to the progress on these.

4. MM Rural Fire Risk Management Report – previous meeting discussed reviewing in light of Pinery. The Hazard Leader (CFS) has agreed to insert a statement saying the risk assessment needs reviewing based on recent experiences and then signing off the existing report. The reason for this is that the Pinery reports wont be out for quite some time and the risk assessment was done some time ago. Report is with HL awaiting sign off.
5. The riverbank collapse report was signed by DEWNR in March 2015 and the ZEMC committee opted not to sign the report as noted due to a number of issues. It was hoped that these issues would be addressed through meetings between the affected councils, LGA and DEWNR. The issues have not been resolved yet. Should we report this to SMAG?

6. To do
   a. Presentations – animal and plant disease, urban fire, earthquake and terrorism
   b. Council roadshow
   c. Recovery Plan
   d. Sturt Hwy Detour Plan
   e. Arbo Virus presentation
   f. Training program

I am now working Mon-Thurs
National Issues – Nov 2016

A Capability Roadmap: Building emergency management in Australia 2016, it identifies 19 national capabilities and 11 principles necessary for dealing with catastrophic events.

Seasonal Briefing- An average level of Fire activity predicted with a later start and later finish. Mark Crosweller Director General of Emergency Management Australia said All Hazards natural, cyber and security are all trending up. He also commented that capabilities are mostly stretched at the severe level and begin to fall away at the Extreme and Catastrophic level.

State -Snippets from State Mitigation Advisory Group Hazard Leader Reports

Red Cross

Red Cross hosted Judi Frank, the Disaster Management Psychosocial Advisor with Canadian Red Cross. Judi discussed the experience of evacuating 88,000 people as a result of the 2016 Fort McMurray wildfires. An evacuation order was in place for 30 days. 43 thousand returned over 10 days in a staggered return program.

Red Cross Building Resilience in CALD Communities Project:

- Nineteen CALD Community Educators have been trained to deliver resilience education within their communities. 15 people are from metro Adelaide and four people in Mount Gambier.
- CALD Community Educators have now started delivering sessions within the community. Two sessions have been completed with 77 people in attendance. Further sessions are scheduled.

DEWNR – Flood Hazard Leader

The CE of DEWNR has endorsed the 9 Flood Risk Reports for the 9 Zones that identified flood as a priority hazard.

The documents have been substantially edited and reviewed. The edits have included:

- Additional analysis for risks assessed with low confidence in accordance with Version 1 of the National Emergency Risk Assessment Guidelines
- Insertion of caveats on DEWNR responsibility and appropriate end-uses
- Additional discussion on limitations of the process which has affected the confidence of outputs
- Insertion of flood risk information relevant to the zone, including sources that were relied upon during the risk assessment
- Improvements to structure, content and language.

DEWNR participated in the risk assessment process, and examination of the confidence associated with the resulting ‘priority risks’, has classified the resulting risks in terms of:

- risks to be considered for treatment (35 of the 419 priority risks);
- risks to be considered for further analysis (376 of the 419 priority risks); and
- risks to be monitored and reviewed (8 of the 419 priority risks).

DEWNR – Bushfire Mitigation

The DEWNR Fire program has received increased funding of $16.2m over 4 years for:

- Burning on private lands,
- increased mapping support capabilities,
- emergency services map book review, and
- additional seasonal firefighter crew that will improve DEWNR’s capacity to support the CFS in bushfire suppression activities

- 80 burns are planned across spring and autumn, covering about 13,000 hectares of land

For the first time, some prescribed burning on private land is being undertaken as a pilot program. If successful, it is hope that the private component of prescribed burning will increase
LGA Local Government Association

- I-Responda modules especially bushfire related will be rolled out in the months leading up to the bushfire season (approx. 2000 council staff have attended training sessions since the inception of the program)
- Planning for the LG EM Exercise “Communications” to be conducted in November 2016 is progressing
- An agreement between SRO and LGA to collaboratively develop a council recovery toolkit has been finalised with work on the project expected to commence in September 2016
- Developing an emergency splash page for council web sites at user acceptance testing

SES
A business case is in its final stages of development by URPS (consultants) to scope requirements for mitigation strategies for extreme weather risks identified in the Zone Risk Assessments.

State
National Partnership Agreement /NDRP

Implementation Plan has been approved by the Minister Emergency Services and is now with Commonwealth Minister for Justice for their signature. Expect to open 1st week in November, with a promotional email sent to key stakeholders.

SEMP Review
Implementation Schedule includes session for ZEMC during October, 18 October Information session at Police Academy. LGA hosting Metro info sessions 16 Nov & 18 Nov 2-4pm Location LGA HQ

Zone Emergency Risk Management Program
- All 11 ZEMC’s now have the first iteration of their ZEMP and they have progressed through the approval process as outlined in the SEMP.

Work is underway to develop some of the all hazard mitigation treatments into projects that can be implemented through the NDRP program.

National Issues – Feb 2017
Review of Natural Disaster Funding Arrangements
ANZEMC and LCCSC have noted that work is continuing on the new arrangements for reconstruction of essential public assets. The new arrangements will include that the Commonwealth will provide funds based on upfront damage assessment rather than the current reimbursement model. It has finally been accepted by the Commonwealth that pre-determined pricing will not be mandatory which will allow SA to continue to conduct a tender process post event.

State
New SEMP Issued on 16 Dec 2016

Independent review of Extreme Weather 28 September to 5 October 2015
Also known as the Burns Review; was released on 23 Jan 2017 and is now available publically. It is a comprehensive report with several attachments including Flinders Medical Centre report, Port Augusta Generator failure investigation, BOM Report and the Schar & Mulroney submission on the changes to the SEMP. There are 62 recommendations, some relating to ZEMC, ZEC/ZEST and local government. The Government is expected to make a response to the report by mid March 2017. Here’s the link; [http://extremeweathereventreview.com.au/](http://extremeweathereventreview.com.au/)

Zone Emergency Risk Management Program
• Reviewed the Recovery Guide for Councils
• Updating the ZEMC Induction Manual to align with the new SEMP
• All 11 ZEMC’s now have the first iteration of their ZEMP
• Work is continuing on developing mitigation strategies into projects; resilience proposal will likely proceed to consideration in Feb. BCP’s for Local Govt; meeting with MLS to consider the development of a template. Continue to scope the Infrastructure Vulnerability project with the relevant stakeholders, it’s a far more complex project to develop and will take longer.
• Developing a program of reporting back to ZEMC on Control Improvements and Treatments that have strengthened or implemented.

NDRP funding
• NDRP application closed on the 13 January
• Record number of applications received, including from Local government, far exceeds the funding available
• Assessment process begins

SES
A business case on an Extreme Weather mitigation program has been completed; it contains recommendation for mitigation strategies for extreme weather risks identified in the Zone Risk Assessments. Edits from SMAG Report
• Considerable operational activity in flood and severe weather events this year
• Total number of Incident for last financial year was 7233, this year since 4 Oct, 7667 = 106% of last financial year already
• DEWNR and SES flood teams had a workshop to work through various flood planning requirements including hazard and control agency plans
• The River Murray Flood Hazard plan was updated in preparation for the flood, that operation has now finished as levels recede

LGA Local Government Association (Taken from SMAG report)
• Continuing development of Local Government Functional Support Group Plan.
• Participation on reference group to develop Functional Support Group Plan Template.
• Commenced I-Responda bushfire awareness modules refresher courses for councils for the coming bushfire season.
• LG EM Exercise “Communications” completed and ready for 25 November 2016
• Collaborative development of a Recovery Guide for Councils with State Recovery Office
• Collated damage impacts to councils by the September storms
• Debriefs with councils of the response to the September storms

Review of Extreme Heat Guide for Local Government
STATE RECOVERY OFFICE UPDATE
February 2017

Recovery support to the Pinery fire
The Local Recovery Coordinator and Local Recovery Committee are implementing the Pinery Fire Strategic Recovery Plan.

Local Recovery Coordinator Alex Zimmermann negotiated with councils affected by Pinery fire and tree fellers to facilitate the felling of dangerous trees at advantageous prices for landowners. Under the proposed arrangement, landowners would be responsible for the fees incurred on their properties but billing would be undertaken via councils, to meet the requirements of the tree fellers who are offering their services. Two of the four councils affected chose to participate.

Take up was very low (three properties) but this approach could be used to address problem trees on private property after future events. Earlier availability of the solution would have increased take up.

Numerous events are being held to support recovery across the affected communities, including a series of events that commemorated the one year anniversary of the fire.

Recovery support for the September/October extreme weather event
Significant damage occurred in the Northern Adelaide Plains area, together with widespread damage in other areas across the state.

Alex Zimmermann was appointed interim Local Recovery Coordinator for the Northern Adelaide Plains area. The role is being performed in conjunction with Alex’s Pinery fire role.

The Local Recovery Coordinator has established a Local Recovery Committee and has been working with leaders of the Vietnamese and Cambodian communities in the Virginia market garden area to assist with the distribution of information. A recovery centre is operating at the Virginia Horticulture Centre. The recovery newsletter and some agencies’ fact sheets have been translated into Vietnamese and Khmer, as many members of the target audience have limited English language.

A website and hotline are operating to disseminate information and assistance. Primary producer grants are available. A power outage grant was offered for the event. SRO is working with volunteer organisations to support clean-up of private properties.

The electronic real-time damage impact assessment tool developed by DCSI was deployed for the first time in this event. The system is easy for assessors to use and assessments can be seen on line immediately that they are logged.

11 November 2016 Riverland Storm
On Friday 11 November, areas within the Riverland region were impacted by a storm cell that produced a band of large hail, winds in excess of 80km/hr and rainfall of 35 mm. The storm travelled northerly from the coast, missing the Adelaide Hills but causing considerable damage in the Riverland region from Cadell through Barmera, Berri and Monash to Yamba.

Agricultural damage/crop loss was identified on 269 Riverland business enterprises with an estimated value of $68 million. A local Recovery Committee has been established with Dr Don Plowman appointed as the Local Recovery Coordinator.

PIRSA established a local control centre at the Loxton Research Centre to administer the NDRRA recovery grants, manage the Family and Business Mentor Scouts program and provide technical advice to growers with storm damage and to link primary producers with available services.
Other recovery support includes: access to a “Virtual Recovery Centre” based out of the Northern Adelaide Plains Recovery Centre at Virginia, clean up support provided by the Cadell Training Centre, health and welfare support (Disaster Recovery Ministries) and financial counselling assistance (Rural Financial Counselling Service).

**Local Government Disaster Recovery Toolkit**

The State Recovery Office and the LGA have partnered to develop a Local Government Disaster Recovery Toolkit. The guide will help councils plan for recovery and put appropriate arrangements in place for their organisations, communities and zones. A draft was made available to councils for comment. The guide is now being finalised and will be completed by the end of February. It will be available online via the LGA website.
**Murray and Mallee Zone Emergency Management Committee**

**Business Continuity Plans Survey**
**February 2017**

### Context
Councils have been specifically requested to provide information about their BCPs as this was recognised as a required control improvement in almost every risk assessment that was conducted in the MM zone. The MM ZEMC has specifically requested from councils confirmation and an assurance that said BCP’s are in place and are reviewed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Council</th>
<th>In Place?</th>
<th>Last Reviewed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coorong</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Review completed and being implemented March 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Murray</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loxton Waikerie</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Last 2016.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid Murray</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Review due 2017.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Minutes

Region 5 – Annual General Meeting

Renmark Paringa Council Offices
61 18th Street, Renmark

Monday 6 March 2017 commencing at 10.00am

1. ATTENDANCE

1.1 Present

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Russell Peate (Chairperson)</td>
<td>Mid Murray Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cr Mark Ward</td>
<td>District Council of Loxton Waikerie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cr Allan Maddocks</td>
<td>Renmark Paringa Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cr Peter Raison</td>
<td>Mid Murray Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cr Adriaan Sakko</td>
<td>Mid Murray Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ian Mann</td>
<td>Mid Murray Private Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cr Peter Hunter</td>
<td>Renmark Paringa Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cr Andrew Kassebaum</td>
<td>Berri Barmera Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naomi Prunckun</td>
<td>Renmark Paringa Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emma Bradbury (via Skype)</td>
<td>Murray Darling Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kelvin Goldstone (Secretary)</td>
<td>Mid Murray Council</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1.2 Apologies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tony Pasin MP</td>
<td>Member for Barker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephan Knoll MP</td>
<td>Member for Schubert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cr Jack Gibb</td>
<td>Renmark Paringa Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter R Smith OAM</td>
<td>Mid Murray Private Member</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. WELCOME

Russell Peate, Chief Executive Officer, Mid Murray Council welcomed everyone to the meeting.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS REGION 5 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Cr Andrew Kassebaum moved that the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 16 July 2014 be taken as read and confirmed. Seconded Cr Mark Ward.

CARRIED.
4. REPORTS

4.1 Chief Executive Officer’s Report

A copy of the Chief Executive Officer’s report had been forwarded to all members.

Emma Bradbury discussed the contents of the report and invited questions from members.

5. STRATEGIC PLANNING

5.1 Regional Issues and Priorities

Emma Bradbury spoke on MDA strategic planning issues:

- Member Councils encouraged to communicate relevant issues in their Regions.
- Regional Engagement Officer Terms of Referene and role. Terms of Reference to be forwarded to all Region 5 members and the Engagement Officer to be invited to the next meeting.

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

6.1 Combined MDA Regions Meeting

Notes from meeting held on 5 October 2016 had been forwarded to all members.

6.2 MDA Position Statement – Amendments to the Basin Plan

A copy of the Position Statement had been forwarded to all members.

6.3 Information Sessions – Murray Darling Basin Plan

A copy of a press release had been forwarded to all members.

6.4 MDA Meeting with Deputy Prime Minister the Hon Barnaby Joyce – Outcome Report

A copy of the Outcome Report had been forwarded to all members.

6.5 Hon Ian Hunter MLC, Minister for Water and the River Murray

A copy of letter received had been forwarded to all members.

6.6 Mid Murray Council – Submission on the Proposed Amendment to the Basin Plan

A copy of Mid Murray Council’s submission had been forwarded to all members.

6.7 2017 Murray Darling Association Conference – Dates

Date confirmed as 11, 12 & 13 October 2017.

6.8 Renmark Paringa Council – National Conference and AGM

A copy of correspondence received had been forwarded to all members.
6. GENERAL BUSINESS CONT’D

6.9 Cr Peter Raison – Mid Murray Council

Apology re comments at Region 5 meeting held at Waikerie on 10 October 2016. A copy had been forwarded to all members.

Resolved that all General Business Items be received and noted.

7. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON AND SECRETARY

Resolution from Previous Meeting held on 10 October 2016
Cr Mark Ward moved that the positions of Chairperson and Secretary (including secretarial support) be filled by Berri Barmera and Renmark Paringa Councils in accordance with Region 5 rotation policy.
Seconded Peter Smith.

CARRIED.

7.1 Appointment of Chairperson

Cr Andrew Kassebaum moved that Renmark Paringa Council be appointed Chair of Region 5 for a period of twelve months and resolution from Renmark Paringa Council endorsing Cr Peter Hunter as Chairperson be accepted.
Seconded Cr Mark Ward.

CARRIED.

7.2 Appointment of Secretary

Deferred to next Region 5 meeting.

8. NEXT MEETING

To be held at the Loxton Waikerie Council, Strangman Road, Waikerie on Monday, 10 April 2017, commencing at 10.00am.

9. CLOSE

11.02 AM The Chairperson declared the meeting closed.

................................................................................

CHAIRPERSON

................................................................................

DATE

The Murray Darling Association acknowledges and thanks the Renmark Paringa Council for hosting this meeting of Region 5
Riverland Local Government Forum
Notes of the meeting held in the Renmark Paringa Council Chamber, Renmark on Wednesday 15 February 2017 commencing at 12.36pm

1. **Present:**
   - Mayor Neil Martinson, Renmark Paringa Council (Chair)
   - Deputy Mayor Peter Hunter, Renmark Paringa Council
   - Tony Siviour, CEO, Renmark Paringa Council
   - Julie Gregurec, EA, Renmark Paringa Council (notetaker)

   Mayor Leon Stasinowsky, District Council Loxton Waikerie

   Mayor Peter Hunt, Berri Barmera Council

   Deputy Mayor Andrew Kassebaum, Berri Barmera Council

   David Beaton, CEO, Berri Barmera Council

   Bruce Mellett, Regional Development Manager, Regional Development Australia Murraylands & Riverland Inc.

   Sue Whitbourne, Project Manager Training & Employment, Regional Development Australia, Murraylands & Riverland Inc.

   Caroline Phillips, General Manager, Destination Riverland (from 12.41pm)

   Tim Smythe, Regional Manager Murraylands & Riverland, Agribusiness & Regions PIRSA

   Mayor Dave Burgess, President, Murraylands & Riverland Local Government Association

2. **Apologies:**
   - Peter Ackland, CEO, District Council Loxton Waikerie
   - Deputy Mayor Michael Vowles, District Council Loxton Waikerie
   - Peter Bond, Chief Executive Officer, Murraylands & Riverland Local Government Association
   - Jo Podoliak, CEO, Regional Development Australia, Murraylands & Riverland Inc.

3. **Confirmation of Notes from Previous Meeting:**
   Moved Deputy Mayor Hunter
   That the notes of the Riverland Local Government Forum meeting held 7 December 2016 be received.
   Seconded Mayor Stasinowsky
   CARRIED

4. **Business arising from the notes:** Nil
5. **Deputations:**

5.1 **Orana Incorporated expansion in the Riverland**

Mayor Martinson welcomed Ms Marguerite Dissinger, Accommodation Services Project Manager and Raechel Barber, Accommodation Services Business Manager from Orana Incorporated to the meeting at 12.38pm. To present and explore service expansion opportunities for Orana in the Riverland in the lead up to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

**Points noted**
- An Orana map was distributed to Members (see attached)
- National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) rollout
- Individuals with disabilities to receive their own funding to manage
- Their ability to live more independently with greater dignity and freedom
- Seeking Riverland Council’s support in the lead up and during the rollout of the NDIS via participation at Orana’s meetings or through promoting and advocating for the scheme by consultation with our communities, providing connections of Council’s community groups and assist in identifying any gaps
- NDIS Planner to be stationed in Murray Bridge for the Riverland
- No NDIS Planner to be based in the Riverland region, therefore the majority of communication will be conducted via phone

Orana CEO, Nicholas Miharlaras entered the meeting at 1.04pm.

- NDIS only available up to the age of 65, thereafter participants are transitioned into My Aged Care.
- Requires regional strategic planning
- NDIS planned roadshows (consultation sessions)
- Seeking to work collaboratively with the 3 Riverland Councils

Mayor Martinson thanked Orana representatives for their deputation and attendance. Orana representatives left the meeting at 1.19pm.

6. **General Business:**

Mayor Martinson officially congratulated Mr Bruce Mellett on his medal (OAM) of the Order of Australia in the General Division for service to the broadcast media and to the community of Renmark.

6.1 **RDAMR update**

Mayor Martinson invited Mr Bruce Mellett to provide an update to the Members.
Points noted

- Career Development Centre providing support to potential employees with the 2017 vintage
- Storm recovery update provided
- Building Better Regions Fund (BBRF)
  - Infrastructure steam application submissions ends on the 28/2/17
  - Community steam application submissions ends on the 31/3/17
  - 20/22 applications for this region
  - Satellite office located at the Loxton Research Centre
- Game changer – Youth Leadership pilot program
  - Football/Netball for the first year, if successful potential to expand to Soccer/Basketball in subsequent years
  - Targeting 18 to 24 year olds
  - Intake of 28 in the first year
  - Funding available through TAFESA, heavily subsided
  - Participants nominated by their club
  - Eventually current participants will act as mentors
  - Attending the Karoonda Field Days to be held on the 31/3–1/4/17
- International Export Development Program 27/2/17, further components to be rolled out in future if it generates enough interest

6.2 PIRSA update

Mayor Martinson invited Mr Tim Smythe to provide an update to the Members.

Points noted

- Opening of the Loxton Research Development Centre 3/2/17
- PIRSA Executive pleased with the Opening and feedback from stallholders and public has been positive
- At the Opening, the Premier announced that a site had been purchased for experimental almond orchard – consistent with the agreement to establish an Almond Centre of Excellence in the region. The site will be the focus of collaborative research between the Almond Board of Australia and PIRSA (SARDI)
- Storm Recovery
  - Local Recovery Coordinator appointed, Don Plowman
  - Recovery grants announced 23/12/16
- SA Wine Industry Development Schemes (2 cellar door sales grants approved and 1 regional wine industry association grant awarded in the region)
- Functional and Luxury Foods Project – working with RDA to develop a program for a workshop to be run in the region. Work commissioned by PIRSA has identified a number of market opportunities across South East Asia in the Luxury and Functional Food segments
- SA Energy Productivity program announced by State Govt. on 20/12/16
$31 million to assist large energy using businesses (160MWh per annum) in SA to manage their electricity costs
- 2 components
- Energy Productivity Audit Grant Program
- Energy Productivity Implementation Program (split into 2 streams – one for large projects with grants up to $2.5 million and one for small projects with grants up to $75,000 available)

6.3 Destination Riverland update

Mayor Martinson invited Ms Caroline Phillips to provide an update to the Members.

Points noted
- Mainly dealing with the negative media surrounding the high river event during the last 2 months for the Riverland/Murraylands/Coorong
- Engaged a Public Relations company to assist in turning the high river into positive outcomes
- Survey’s currently with tourism operators to gather information on any impact their experienced during the high river event
- Regional Tourism Summit to be held in the Riverland on May 16-18/5/17 targeting VIC operators and Local Government
- Participating in Tasting Australia
- Each region has been allocated a day to attend, ours being 7/5/17
- Winter Campaign will be promoted this year
- Utilising the creative tools as last year (short winter film) with a stronger focus on distribution via Regional TV and Cinemas
- Applying for a Building Better Regions Fund grant for the Ambassadors program
- Attended the AFTA holiday expo in Adelaide, received good genuine interest from the attending public
- Attending the Cellar Door Fest 24-26/2/17 in Adelaide

6.4 Riverland G3 Alliance update

Tony Siviour chair for the Riverland G3 Alliance for 2017 provided an update to members from the meeting held prior to the RLGF meeting.

Points noted
- Change in the decision making structure endorsed by the G3 Alliance Panel
- Individual Councils will lead one panel, initiatives that each Council will be working on in 2017

Berri Barmera Council
- Tourism Summit
- Joint Development & Planning Board
- Stationery Procurement
• WHS & Risk Implementation
• Football Federation SA Regional Round District Council Loxton Waikerie
• Regional Roads Freight Movement Study
• Regional Waste Business Case
• Regional Sport & Rec Strategy
• Regional Roads Commodity Route Assessment Study Renmark Paringa Council
• ICT Strategy Implementation
• ICT Support Contract
• Destination Riverland Brochures
• Take your rubbish with you
• Cod restocking grant application

7. **Other Business:**

7.1 **Riverland Disability Partnership brief**
Ms Ruth Firstbrook from Firstbrook Training & Advisory Services is scheduled to present to the Forum at the April meeting.

7.2 **National Disability Insurance Scheme Regional Planning Officer (RPC)**
Moved Deputy Mayor Hunter
That the three(3) Riverland Council's write to the National Disability Insurance Scheme expressing their concerns of the non-existence of a Planning Officer based in the Riverland and highlight the challenges in regards to suitable housing to accommodate disabled people, appropriate level of rehabilitation services and the availability of suitable qualified carers. Seconded D Beaton
CARRIED

8. **Next Meeting:** First Wednesday of every 2\textsuperscript{nd} month
5 April 2017 (TBC) Berri Barmera Council

9. **Closure** – 2.10pm.
LEARNING AND LIFESTYLE OPPORTUNITIES THROUGHOUT LIFE

EARLY CHILDHOOD
- Vacation Care
- Respite
- In Home Support

Transition Planning

LIFE EXPERIENCES & GROWTH

AGE  CAPABILITIES  CULTURE  BELIEFS  VALUES  INDEPENDENCE

0-4  5-17  18-25  26-45  46-64  65-75  76+

HEALTHY & ACTIVE AGEING

NDIS
My Aged Care

Assessments and Individualised Life Goal Plans
- Assistance with Daily Living
- Respite
- In Home Support
- Capacity Building
- Community and Social Participation

Supported Employment
Supported Skill Development

Ageing in Place – social networks and community
- Respite
- In Home Support
- Lifelong Learning
- Community and Social Participation

Open Employment - Volunteering
Open Education

Case Management
Community Housing
# Balance Sheet

## Murraylands & Riverland Local Government Association
### As at 28 February 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>28 Feb 2017</th>
<th>29 Feb 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheque Account</td>
<td>439,743</td>
<td>142,606</td>
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<td>LGFA Investment Accnt</td>
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<td>147,105</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Bank</strong></td>
<td><strong>589,671</strong></td>
<td><strong>289,711</strong></td>
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<td>Current Assets</td>
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<tr>
<td>Petty Cash</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Current Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>589,771</strong></td>
<td><strong>289,811</strong></td>
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<table>
<thead>
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<th>29 Feb 2016</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Liabilities</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Current Liabilities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accounts Payable</td>
<td>1,268</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accruals</td>
<td>11,591</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annual Priorities Project</td>
<td>1,300</td>
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<tr>
<td>GST</td>
<td>10,864</td>
<td>(1,882)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Murraylands Resource Sharing Project</td>
<td>16,154</td>
<td>16,154</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Public Health Plan</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Review of Regional Transport Strategy Plan Project</td>
<td>4,540</td>
<td>4,540</td>
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<tr>
<td>Riverland Resource Sharing Project</td>
<td>13,500</td>
<td>13,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Succession Planning Consultancy Project</td>
<td>13,790</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transport Strategy Project</td>
<td>(8,427)</td>
<td>(4,225)</td>
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<td><strong>Total Current Liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>65,080</strong></td>
<td><strong>43,676</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>65,080</strong></td>
<td><strong>43,676</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

|                  |             |             |
| **Net Assets**   | **524,691** | **246,135** |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>28 Feb 2017</th>
<th>29 Feb 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Equity</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Accumulated Surplus</td>
<td>(54,504)</td>
<td>(54,504)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Current Year Earnings</td>
<td>367,403</td>
<td>148,097</td>
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<tr>
<td>Retained Earnings</td>
<td>211,791</td>
<td>152,542</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Equity</strong></td>
<td><strong>524,691</strong></td>
<td><strong>246,135</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Profit & Loss

## Murraylands & Riverland Local Government Association

### 1 July 2016 to 28 February 2017

### Income

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<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>28 Feb 17</th>
<th>28 Feb 16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Berri Barmera Council</td>
<td>20,451</td>
<td>20,149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coorong District Council</td>
<td>13,545</td>
<td>13,345</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DC of Karoonda East Murray</td>
<td>7,172</td>
<td>7,065</td>
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<tr>
<td>DC of Loxton Waikerie</td>
<td>21,506</td>
<td>21,325</td>
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<tr>
<td>DC of Renmark Paringa</td>
<td>18,194</td>
<td>17,925</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investment LGFA Interest</td>
<td>1,403</td>
<td>1,476</td>
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<tr>
<td>Local Government Association of SA</td>
<td>274,185</td>
<td>38,726</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid Murray Council</td>
<td>16,201</td>
<td>15,962</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outreach Program Income</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>50,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rural City of Murray Bridge</td>
<td>27,091</td>
<td>26,690</td>
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<tr>
<td>Southern Mallee DC</td>
<td>8,501</td>
<td>8,375</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td>458,248</td>
<td>221,040</td>
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### Gross Profit

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>28 Feb 17</th>
<th>28 Feb 16</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gross Profit</strong></td>
<td>458,248</td>
<td>221,040</td>
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</table>

### Less Operating Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expense</th>
<th>28 Feb 17</th>
<th>28 Feb 16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Association Meeting Expenses</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,635</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audit and Accounting Fees</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank and Govt Fees</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consultancy and Contractors</td>
<td>697</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exec Officer Contract Services</td>
<td>72,727</td>
<td>63,638</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fees and Charges</td>
<td>364</td>
<td>364</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>5,697</td>
<td>5,602</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LGA Capacity Building Grant</td>
<td>2,395</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Murraylands Regional Collaboration Project</td>
<td>3,240</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President's Allowances</td>
<td>1,300</td>
<td>670</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Record Sentencing/Archiving</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAROC Regional Meeting Costs</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>503</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundry Expenses</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website Maintenance</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>276</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working Parties Meeting Expenses</td>
<td>1,118</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Operating Expenses</strong></td>
<td>90,845</td>
<td>72,943</td>
</tr>
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### Net Profit

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>28 Feb 17</th>
<th>28 Feb 16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Profit</strong></td>
<td>367,403</td>
<td>148,097</td>
</tr>
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## INCOME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACCOUNT NUMBER</th>
<th>APPROVED BUDGET 2016-17</th>
<th>ADJUSTED BUDGET 2016-17</th>
<th>YTD ACTUAL</th>
<th>VARIANCE TO APPROVED BUDGET</th>
<th>COMMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Subscriptions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>203 to 210</td>
<td>$132,800</td>
<td>$132,661</td>
<td>$139</td>
<td>Constituent Councils Subscriptions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Grants</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Murrayslands Regional Collaboration Pilot</td>
<td>831</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LGA Outreach Services Project</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>$75,000</td>
<td>$75,000</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>LGA Outreach Services will include a $50,000 allocation for 2016-17 and a $25,000 carryover from 2015-16 that was underspent due to project start up delays.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Capacity Building Allocation</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>$39,300</td>
<td>$38,997</td>
<td>$303</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Capacity Building Allocation &quot;Top Up&quot; - Rubble Royalties</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$211,206</td>
<td>$235,186</td>
<td>($23,981)</td>
<td>Revisited tonnages fro 2nd half payment up to July 2016 up to $127,174 from estimate of $103,194.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLRP Surcharge @ 1%</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$22,000</td>
<td>$19,970</td>
<td>$22,000</td>
<td>Approved SLRP for region is $1,979,000. Surcharge will be invoiced at $19,790 instead of $22,000 to successful Councils. MDCC - $8,660, CDC - $3,710, MMC - $4,620 and RPC - $600.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest Received</td>
<td>200/202</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
<td>$1,097</td>
<td>LGFA Interest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL INCOME</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>$482,806</td>
<td>$504,315</td>
<td>$458,248</td>
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## EXPENDITURE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACCOUNT NUMBER</th>
<th>APPROVED BUDGET 2016-17</th>
<th>ADJUSTED BUDGET 2016-17</th>
<th>YTD ACTUAL</th>
<th>VARIANCE TO APPROVED BUDGET</th>
<th>COMMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Operating Expenses</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audit Fees</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
<td>$0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bank and Government Fees</td>
<td>405</td>
<td>$150</td>
<td>$150</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>$130</td>
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<tr>
<td>Executive Officer Services</td>
<td>415</td>
<td>$109,091</td>
<td>$109,091</td>
<td>$72,727</td>
<td>$36,364</td>
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<td>Consultancies and Contractors</td>
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<td>$16,000</td>
<td>$16,000</td>
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<td>$17,303</td>
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<td>Fees and Charges</td>
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<td>$600</td>
<td>$600</td>
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<td>$236</td>
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<td>Insurance</td>
<td>420</td>
<td>$5,800</td>
<td>$5,697</td>
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<td>Association Meeting Expenses</td>
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<td>$2,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Working Party Meeting Expenses</td>
<td>430</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$1,118</td>
<td>($118)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SAROC Meeting Expenses</td>
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<td>$2,000</td>
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<td>$2,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Allowances</td>
<td>440</td>
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<td>$2,600</td>
<td>$1,300</td>
<td>$1,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundry Expenses</td>
<td>445</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>$82</td>
<td>$418</td>
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<td>Record Sentencing and Archiving</td>
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<td>$1,000</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>$156</td>
<td>$844</td>
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<td>Website Maintenance - Include $1400 for LGA input</td>
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<td>$2,500</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
<td>$2,450</td>
<td>$2,450</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Project Expenses</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Murrayslands Regional Collaboration Pilot</td>
<td>426</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$2240</td>
<td>$3,240</td>
<td>($3,240)</td>
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<td>SLRP Priorities Review</td>
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<td>$4,225</td>
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<td>Discretionary Projects - As determined by MRLGA Board (814)</td>
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<td>$5,000</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legal Charter Review</td>
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<td>$0</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
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<td>LGA Outreach Project</td>
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<td>$75,000</td>
<td>$75,000</td>
<td>$75,000</td>
<td>$25,000 carry over from last financial year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Capacity - Rubble Royalties Projects</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>$211,206</td>
<td>$235,186</td>
<td>$4,202</td>
<td>$207,004</td>
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<td>Transfer to Reserve</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
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<td>$511,423</td>
<td>$390,653</td>
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</table>
# Bank Reconciliation Summary

Cheque Account
Murraylands & Riverland Local Government Association
As at 28 February 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Reference</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>28 Feb 2017</td>
<td>Balance in Xero</td>
<td></td>
<td>439,742.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 Feb 2017</td>
<td>Statement Balance</td>
<td></td>
<td>439,742.96</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Cheque Account

Murraylands & Riverland Local Government Association

From 1 January 2017 to 28 February 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Date imported into Xero</th>
<th>Reference</th>
<th>Reconciled</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Balance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Jan 2017</td>
<td>Opening Balance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>337,514.81</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 Jan 2017</td>
<td>INTERNET WITHDRAWAL Allowance Jan to April 000000000000</td>
<td>9 Jan 2017</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Bank Feed</td>
<td>(650.00)</td>
<td></td>
<td>336,864.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Jan 2017</td>
<td>INTERNET WITHDRAWAL Exec Serv. Inv. 1 of 2 000000000000</td>
<td>9 Jan 2017</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Bank Feed</td>
<td>(5,000.00)</td>
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<td>331,864.81</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 Jan 2017</td>
<td>INTERNET WITHDRAWAL Exec Serv Inv. 2 of 2 000000000000</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
<td>Bank Feed</td>
<td>(5,000.00)</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 Jan 2017</td>
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<td>(22.10)</td>
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<td>326,842.71</td>
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<tr>
<td>23 Jan 2017</td>
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<td>23 Jan 2017</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>(12,437.00)</td>
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<tr>
<td>25 Jan 2017</td>
<td>BENDIGO BANK XERO 000000000000</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
<td>Bank Feed</td>
<td>(50.00)</td>
<td></td>
<td>314,355.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Feb 2017</td>
<td>INTERNET WITHDRAWAL Exec Serv 1of2 000000000000</td>
<td>2 Feb 2017</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Bank Feed</td>
<td>(5,000.00)</td>
<td></td>
<td>309,355.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Feb 2017</td>
<td>TFR WDL BPAY INTERNET 0000264721 Crowe Horwath Aust 000000000000</td>
<td>3 Feb 2017</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Bank Feed</td>
<td>(231.00)</td>
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<td>309,124.71</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Feb 2017</td>
<td>INTERNET WITHDRAWAL Inv. 16-196 000000000000</td>
<td>3 Feb 2017</td>
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<td>Bank Feed</td>
<td>(4,202.00)</td>
<td></td>
<td>304,922.71</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Feb 2017</td>
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<td>3 Feb 2017</td>
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<td>Bank Feed</td>
<td>(5,000.00)</td>
<td></td>
<td>299,922.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Feb 2017</td>
<td>BENDIGO BANK XERO 000000000000</td>
<td>13 Feb 2017</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Bank Feed</td>
<td>(50.00)</td>
<td></td>
<td>299,872.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Date imported into Xero</td>
<td>Reference</td>
<td>Reconciled</td>
<td>Source</td>
<td>Amount</td>
<td>Balance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>-------------------------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 Feb 2017</td>
<td>17 Feb 2017</td>
<td>LGSA LGA of SA 000000000000</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Bank Feed</td>
<td>139,892.35</td>
<td>439,765.06</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 Feb 2017</td>
<td>25 Feb 2017</td>
<td>TFR WDL BPAY INTERNET 11304876912 RECALL INFO MGMT 000000000000</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Bank Feed</td>
<td>(22.10)</td>
<td>439,742.96</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Closing Balance | 439,742.96
Statement Exceptions

Cheque Account
Murraylands & Riverland Local Government Association
From 1 January 2017 to 28 February 2017
## CORRESPONDENCE REGISTER

1\textsuperscript{st} January 2017 to 15\textsuperscript{th} March 2017

### INWARD (Formal correspondence and important emails in)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reference</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I2017-0102</td>
<td><strong>LGFA Re MRLGA Account</strong> - Interest Statement from 01/10/2016 to 31/12/2016.</td>
<td><em>To be reconciled in Financial Reports to MRLGA.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I2017-0105</td>
<td>Andrea Malone, Director Legislation LGA Re Ombudsman's Audit Report on s270</td>
<td><em>MRLGA Board indicated no action in relation to the Ombudsman's...</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Internal Review Procedures - Followup on email from previous year adding</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>context to the Ombudsman Audit Report.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I2017-0109</td>
<td><strong>BankSA Re MRLGA Freedom Business Account</strong> - Account Statement for period</td>
<td><em>To be reconciled in Financial Reports to MRLGA.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>01/12/2016 to 31/12/2016.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I2017-0124</td>
<td>Rachel Kelly Rural Solutions SA, PIRSA. Re Loxton Research Centre Redevelopment Opening - Providing an invitation to the official opening of the Loxton Research Centre Redevelopment.</td>
<td><em>President and CEO MRLGA attended opening.</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Action:** To be reconciled in Financial Reports to MRLGA.

I2017-0206  Mike Williams, Regional Director, SA Murray Darling Basin NRM. Re Northern Basin Review - Providing information to assist in the preparation of a submission to the MDBA regarding the Northern Basin Review.

**Action:** Submission forwarded on behalf of MRLGA Board.


**Action:** For information.

I2017-0119  Stephen Smith, Director Policy, LGA. Re Attendance at Regional LGA Meetings - Advising of changes to the LGA representation structure for LGA Secretariat Executives to share meeting attendances across the state.

**Action:** CEO MRLGA to provide advice to LGA on meeting times.

I2017-0123  Lisa Teburea, Executive Director Public Affairs, LGA. Re Regionalisation Pilot Projects - Seeking an update on MRLGA Regional Collaboration Pilot Project for funding acquittal report.

**Action:** CEO MRLGA to provide update to LGA.

I2017-0119  Stephen Smith, Director Policy, LGA. Re LGA MDA Forum - Suggesting the Regional LGA facilitate the next meeting of the LGA MDA Forum.

**Action:** For MRLGA Board determination.
I2017-0206  Diana Babich, Senior Consultant Strategy and Engagement, CDM Smith. Re Joint Engagement Opportunities - Offering assistance in the delivery of MRLGA projects.  

**Action: For information.**

I2017-0213  Stephen Smith, Director Policy, LGA. Re Regional Airport Funding - Forwarding a copy of correspondence from the Australian Airports Association in relation to a submission they provided the Federal Government on the Commonwealth Budget 2017-18.  

**Action: President and CEO MRLGA to raise funding needs for regional airports whilst in Canberra.**

I2017-0215  Peter Smithson, CEO, District Council of Karoonda East Murray. Re Petroleum Resource Rent Tax - Referring correspondence onto the MRLA from Senator Barry O’Sullivan seeking support for a review into the Petroleum Resource Rent Tax.  

**Action: President and CEO MRLGA to raise funding needs for regional airports whilst in Canberra.**

I2017-0215  Peter Smithson, CEO, District Council of Karoonda East Murray. Re Development Approval for Field Bin and Grain Silo’s - A recent development approval for permanent silos has highlighted anomalies on how Councils deal with such planning applications. DCKEM have requested that this matter be discussed at the MRLGA Board with possible referral to SAROC.  

**Action: For MRLGA Board determination**

I2017-0216  Mark Preece, Business Development Manager, PNH Insights. Re Joint Consultancy Opportunities - Offering assistance to Constitute Council CEOs in managing the execution of their planning needs.  

**Action: For information.**
I2017-0224  Ben Page, Public Policy and Government Relations Manager, Cricket Australia. Re National Cricket Facilities Audit - Responding to email from MRLGA offering to incorporate their audit needs into the MRLGA Sport and Recreation Facilities Review.

Action: For information.


Action: To be reconciled in Financial Reports to MRLGA.

I2017-0308  Lora Smith Regional Youth Traineeship Coordinator, LGA Re Regional Youth Traineeship Program Round 2 - Reminder that there are 7-weeks to go for Councils to take up trainees in round 2 of the RYTP.

Action: For information

I2017-0309  Cr Peter Hunter, Deputy Mayor, Renmark Paringa Council. Re Regional Youth Traineeship Program Round 2 - Providing information on behalf of MDA Region 5 advising that Renmark PAringa Council has been appointed lead council for the next twelve months for MDA Region 5. Also seeking agenda items for the AGM. Reminder that there are 7-weeks to go for Councils to take up trainees in round 2 of the RYTP.

Action: For information

I2017-0310  Lea Bacon, Director Policy, LGA. Re LGA Road Crash Facts - Forwarding an email from DPTI regarding road crash fact sheets and requesting Regional LGA CEOs to test data with their Councils.

Action: CEO MRLGA to include as agenda item for next RTS Committee meeting


Action: For information
I2017-0215  Russell Peate, CEO, Mid Murray Council. Re Possible Gas Fired Electricity Generator - Providing a copy of correspondence to the Premier seeking discussion on the possibility of a gas-fired electricity generator at Tepko near Mannum.

**Action: For MRLGA Board determination.**

---

**OUTWARD (Formal correspondence and important emails out)**

O2017-0103  Liz Connell, Zone Emergency Risk Management Project Manager, SAFECOM. Re Invitation to Present to MRLGA Board - Providing an invitation to attend the meeting of the MRLGA Board on Friday 31st March 2017 or a later date if that doesn't suit.

**Action: For information.**

---

O2017-0106  Andrea Logos, Diary Manager, Office of Anne Ruston. Re Meeting with Senator Anne Ruston - Providing meeting notes from meeting between MRLGA President, CEO and Senator Ruston on Monday 19th December 2016.

**Action: For information.**

---

O2017-0106  Ellen McDonald, Diary Manager, Office of Nick Xenophon. Re Meeting with Nick Xenophon - Providing meeting notes from meeting between MRLGA President and Senator Nick Xenophon on Thursday 22nd December 2016.

**Action: For information**

---

O2017-0106  Bernadette Abraham, Senator Anne Ruston’s Office. Re Deputations to Canberra - Providing details in relation to deputation by the President and CEO MRLGA to Canberra to meet federal MP’s and senior advisers.

**Action: For information.**
O2017-0118  John Mundy, LGA. Re MRLGA Website Upgrade - Providing information necessary for LGA to proceed with update of website.

**Action: For information.**

O2017-0118  MRLGA Constituent Council CEO’s. Re LG Professional SA Leadership Awards - Promoting event to member Councils at the request of LG Professionals.

**Action: For information.**

O2017-0120  Russell Peate, CEO, Mid Murray Council. Re Northern Basin Review - Providing feedback on possible impacts of the Northern Basin Review.

**Action: For information.**

O2017-0123  Andy Burnside, SMEC. Re Regional Road Freight Movement Study - Advising of receipt of bid Regional Road Freight Study.

**Action: For information.**

O2017-0123  Ivana Dawe, WSP Parsons Brinckerhoff. Re Regional Road Freight Movement Study - Advising of receipt of bid Regional Road Freight Study.

**Action: For information.**

O2017-0123  Rob Bremert, Tonkin Consulting. Re Regional Road Freight Movement Study - Advising of receipt of bid Regional Road Freight Study.

**Action: For information.**

O2017-0124  Jeff Tate, Jeff Tate Consulting. Re Regional Waste Management BCA - Providing information in relation to ACCC ruling on jointly procured waste management services.

**Action: For information.**
O2017-0127  Lora Smith Regional Youth Traineeship Coordinator, LGA  Re Regional Youth Traineeship Program Round 2 - Advising that MRLGA is not in a position to take on a youth trainee at this stage.

**Action: For information**

O2017-0127  Vincent Cammell, CEO, Coorong District Council. Re Roads Assessment and Funding - Providing an update on the status of the Network Level Heavy Route Assessment and Risk Assessment project.

**Action: For information.**

O2017-0130  Vincent Cammell, CEO, Coorong District Council. Re Roads Assessment and Funding - Providing an outline of the funding model to be provided by MRLGA in relation to the Network Level Heavy Route Assessment and Risk Assessment project.

**Action: For information.**

O2017-0130  Evan Knapp, SA Freight Council. Re Regional Transport Strategy - Providing him a copy of the Murraylands and Riverland 2030 Regional Transport Plan as well as feedback on the North South Freight Corridor.

**Action: For information.**

O2017-0130  Andrew Short, Minter Ellison. Re HR Advice - Seeking a proposal from Minter Ellison in relation to assessment of Contractor v Employee status of CEO.

**Action: For information.**

O2017-0131  MRLGA Council CEO’s. Re Roads Assessment and Funding - Providing an outline of the funding model to be provided by MRLGA in relation to the Network Level Heavy Route Assessment and Risk Assessment project.

**Action: For information.**
O2017-0131  Neil Andrew AO, Chair, MDB Authority. Re Invitation to Present to MRLGA Board - Providing an invitation to attend the next meeting of the MRLGA Board on Friday 31st March 2017 to present on matters of interest that sit with his role as Chair of the MDBA.

Action: For information

O2017-0202  John Olson, Managing Director, HDS Australia Pty Ltd. Re MRLGA Network Level HVRA of Commodity Routes - Providing feedback on project methodology.

Action: For information.

O2017-0206  MRLGA Constituent Council CEO’s. Re Rubble Royalties - Providing a copy of revised guidelines for Quarry and Rubble Pit Rehabilitation for comment.

Action: For information.

O2017-0208  MRLGA Constituent Council RTS Committee Members. Re Special Local Roads Program 2017-18 - Providing an update on the timing for the next round of the Special Local Roads Program.

Action: For information.


Action: President and CEO MRLGA to raise funding needs for regional airports whilst in Canberra.

O2017-0221  Jeff Tate, Jeff Tate Consulting. Re Regional Waste Management BCA - Advising that the MRLGA CEO Network Group has endorsed Jeff Tate Consulting to undertake the Business Case Analysis for the Regional Waste Management BCA.

Action: For information.
| O2017-0221 | John Olson, Managing Director, HDS Australia Pty Ltd. Re MRLGA Network Level HVRA of Commodity Routes | Advising that the MRLGA CEO Network Group has endorsed HDS Australia Pty Ltd to undertake the 2017 Update of the Roads Database. | Action: For information. |
| O2017-0222 | Kristine Peters, KPPM Strategy. Re Regional TNA | Advising that the MRLGA Regional Training Needs Analysis consultancy will be deferred until the 2017-18 budget year. | Action: For review as part of the 2017-18 Budget Workshop. |
| O2017-0224 | MRLGA Constituent Council CEO’s. Re LG Forum on Vegetation Management | Providing copy of invitation from SA Power Networks and the LGA to attend an annual forum on vegetation management. | Action: CEO feedback to be provided to LGA. |
| O2017-0224 | MRLGA President. Re Northern Basin Submission | Advising the President MRLGA that the submission had been lodged with the MDBA. | Action: For information. |
| O2017-0228 | MRLGA Constituent Council Mayors. Re South Australian Water Allocation Letter to Deputy Prime Minister | Providing copy of letter to Barnaby Joyce for signature of the eight Councils within Region 5 and 6 MDA. | Action: For information. |
| O2017-0301 | David Beaton, CEO, Berri Barmera Council. Re Regional Planning Boards | Providing feedback on ow Riverland G3 and the MRLGA may agree on a Regional Planning Board Pilot. | Action: For inclusion in MRLGA Agenda for 31st March meeting. |
O2017-0301 MRLGA Council CEO’s. Re MRLGA Network Level HVRA of Commodity Routes - Providing an revised outline of the funding model to be provided by MRLGA in relation to the Network Level Heavy Route Assessment and Risk Assessment project.

**Action:** No negative response received, so will proceed to apply this criteria.

O2017-0301 Andy Burnside, SMEC. Re Regional Road Freight Movement Study - Advising that they were unsuccessful in their bid for the Regional Road Freight Study.

**Action:** For information.

O2017-0301 Ivana Dawe, WSP Parsons Brinckerhoff. Re Regional Road Freight Movement Study - Advising that they were unsuccessful in their bid for the Regional Road Freight Study.

**Action:** For information.

O2017-0302 Jo Podoliak, CEO, RDA MR. Re Regional Planning Board - Seeking feedback on how to merge the needs of the Riverland Regional Planning Board Pilot and the One River Murray brief as proposed by RDA MR.

**Action:** For information.

O2017-0302 Dr Rachel Earl, Project Coordinator Public Health Planning, LGA. Re Update on Regional Public Health Projects - Responding proactively to the mural concept as a means of reinvigorating local communities.

**Action:** For information.

I2017-0303 Recall. Re MRLGA Records Archive - Requesting closure of our account with Recall and seeking transfer of all records to RDA MR for future storage.

**Action:** For information.
O2017-0303  MRLGA President. Re Waikerie & Districts Health Advisory Council - Advising the President MRLGA of resolution of MRLAG Board on this matter and that he may be called on to support the District Council of Loxton Waikerie on this matter of repairs and maintenance costs for regional hospitals.

**Action: For information.**

O2017-0307  Julian Breheny, Policy Officer, Freight and Ports Policy, Surface Transport Policy, Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development. Re Regional Freight Data - Seeking an audience with Julian whilst in Canberra to discuss Regional Freight Study opportunities.

**Action: For information.**

O2016-0308  LGFA Re MRLGA Account Investment Options - Advice to LGFA requisition transfer of MRLGA into 90 day interest bearing account.

**Action: For information.**

O2016-0310  Neil Tredwell, Managing Partner, Tredwell Management Services Re Preparation of a Regional Sport and Recreation Facilities Needs Review for the Murraylands and Riverland Region - Providing an invitation to submit a tender to undertake the preparation of a Regional Sport and Recreation Facilities Needs Review for the Murraylands and Riverland Region.

**Action: For information.**

O2016-0310  Phillip Gray, SGL Group. Re Preparation of a Regional Sport and Recreation Facilities Needs Review for the Murraylands and Riverland Region - Providing an invitation to submit a tender to undertake the preparation of a Regional Sport and Recreation Facilities Needs Review for the Murraylands and Riverland Region.

**Action: For information.**
O2016-0310  Sue Suter, Suter Planners. Re Preparation of a Regional Sport and Recreation Facilities Needs Review for the Murraylands and Riverland Region - Providing an invitation to submit a tender to undertake the preparation of a Regional Sport and Recreation Facilities Needs Review for the Murraylands and Riverland Region.

Action: For information.

O2016-0310  IESLP Re Preparation of a Regional Sport and Recreation Facilities Needs Review for the Murraylands and Riverland Region - Providing an invitation to submit a tender to undertake the preparation of a Regional Sport and Recreation Facilities Needs Review for the Murraylands and Riverland Region.

Action: For information.
The Chief Executive Officer
The Murraylands & Riverland LGA
PO Box 238
Victor Harbour, SA 5211

15 February 2017

Dear Peter,

Development Approval – Field Bins & Grain Silos

A recent development application for permanent silos has highlighted anomalies as to how Councils within the region deal with the silos compared to mobile bins (field bins).

Advice received is such that grain silos which are not mobile do require development approval regardless the size.

Throughout the rural areas there is a proliferation of grain silos and over time the dimensions of the silos have increased. Yet in many if not most instances without development approval which has associated implications.

It was resolved by Council on 14 February 2017 that this matter be referred to the M&R LGA for discussion. If endorsed then be referred to the Local Government Association to determine how this can be addressed across the State.

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]

Peter Smithson
Chief Executive Officer
15 March 2017

Peter Bond
Chief Executive Officer
The Murraylands and Riverland
Local Government Association
PO Box 236
VICTOR HARBOR SA 5211

Dear Peter

Mid Murray Council – Possible Gas-Fired Electricity Generator

Please find attached a copy of the letter sent to the Premier, Treasurer and Minister for Mineral Resources and Energy for your information. Please include this on the Agenda for the next meeting of Murraylands & Riverland Local Government Association.

Yours faithfully

Russell Peate
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

enc
15 March 2017

Hon J W Weatherill MP
Premier of South Australia
GPO Box 2343
ADELAIDE SA 5001

Dear Premier

State Government Energy Plan – Consideration of a New Gas-Fired Electricity Generator at Tepko near Mannum (Previously With Approval From The State Government As The Cherokee Power Station)

The Mid Murray Council has noted the State Government Energy Plan to ensure energy security and provision for South Australians. Part of the Plan is the construction of a new gas-fired electricity generator. The generator will make South Australian electricity supplies more secure and stabilise local supplies.

In November 2010, the then State Government approved the construction of the Cherokee Power Station at Tepko. It is understood that Tepko was chosen as the preferred site, so that the power could be fed into the Tungkillo sub-station and the existing Tungkillo-Tailem Bend electricity transmission line. The project was to be constructed in stages, with the first stage of the project to create 250MW of generating capacity with a maximum generating capacity of 1000MW at completion.

At the time, the then Investment Company, Investec Bank indicated the following:-

“We have undertaken extensive consultation and negotiation with landholders surrounding the proposed development site. We are confident the local community is right behind the power project”

A copy of the media release with comments from the then Industry and Trade Minister Tom Koutsantonis and Energy Minister Patrick Conlon dated 26 November 2010 is attached.

It is understood that the Tepko site is ideal due to not only the electricity transmission line and sub-station but also the existing gas pipelines (including Seagas pipeline), which would have capacity to provide gas for the gas-fired generator. A map showing the infrastructure (gas pipelines in proximity to Tepko) is attached.
The Mid Murray Council has previously been supportive of this project, not only for the benefit of the State but also employment creation. The Mid Murray Council has previously had discussions with the Rural City of Murray Bridge Council in relation to the area surrounding the power station at Tepko being an industrial hub.

As you appreciate, Murray Bridge is a thriving regional centre which would benefit from this project and the associated development. The proposed power station at Tepko is located ideally to benefit from the electricity transmission line and gas pipelines and is in close proximity to Adelaide.

The Mid Murray Council would appreciate the opportunity to further discuss the proposal for a gas-fired electricity generator at Tepko near Mannum.

Yours faithfully

Dave Burgess
MAYOR

enc
A GAS-FIRED electricity power station will be built near Mannum to help meet peak demand over summer months.

The State Government today will approve construction of the Cherokee Power Station at Tepko.

The $750 million project would create 400 jobs, Industry and Trade Minister Tom Koutsantonis said.

"This is a major infrastructure project with enormous benefit not just for the Mid Murray, but for the whole state," he said yesterday.

"South Australia’s electrical loads are increasing in line with the state’s economic growth and prosperity.

"Cherokee Power Station will deliver a cleaner source of power to cater for the increased demands this will place on the electricity grid, which is currently reliant on coal."

The power station will be built by the Tungkillo Power Company, a wholly owned subsidiary of asset management company Investec Bank.

Tepko was chosen as the site so power could be fed into the Tungkillo sub-station and the existing Tungkillo-Tailem Bend electricity transmission line.

Energy Minister Patrick Conlon said the power station would reach a maximum generating capacity of 1000 megawatts by 2021.

"Cherokee Power Station will be a peaking station - which means it will kick in at times of peak demand," he said.
"On the completion of its final stage, the facility will be capable of meeting up to 25 per cent of the state’s peak demand

"The first stage of the project will create 250MW of generating capacity at an estimated cost of $200 million and is scheduled to come on line in 2013."

Investec's head of project and infrastructure investment Mark Schneider said the company had found South Australia "an ideal place in which to invest."

"We have undertaken extensive consultation and negotiation with landholders surrounding the proposed development site," Mr Schneider said yesterday.

"We are confident the local community is right behind the (power) project."
15 March 2017

Hon A Koutsantonis MP
Treasurer
Minister for Mineral Resources and Energy
GPO Box 2264
ADELAIDE SA 5001

Dear Mr Koutsantonis

State Government Energy Plan – Consideration of a New Gas-Fired Electricity Generator at Tepko near Mannum (Previously With Approval From The State Government As The Cherokee Power Station)

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Dave Burgess
MAYOR

enc