



Local
Government
Association
of South
Australia

LGA Annual Report 2003–04

President's report

The past 12 months have seen some significant wins for communities in the collective work of Councils in this State.



Cr John Legoe

I was pleased to meet with Prime Minister John Howard in relation to his commitment to an additional \$26.25 million over three years specifically to address, as an interim solution, inequities in local road funding to SA Councils and have expressed our appreciation.

I was also pleased to see the Opposition commitment to match this funding. This resulted from development of the right climate over a long time – including lobbying by Councils, Immediate Past President Cr Max Amber and Past President Mayor Brian Hurn in particular.

It also took some strategic work involving the LGA State Executive Committee and a specific lobbyist engaged for the purpose, following the tabling of the Hawker Inquiry Report "Rates and Taxes: A Fair Share for Responsible Local Government" late in 2003. We regard this as an important first step, or in the Prime Minister's words an "interim response" to the Hawker Inquiry, to achieving justice in SA's share of Commonwealth funding for Local Government.

The extension of the Roads to Recovery Program for a further four years was another win in conjunction with the Australian Local Government Association and our interstate counterparts.

The report and recommendations of the Hawker Inquiry represent an important milestone and opportunity for Local Government nationally. It places our position on the record and provides the opportunity for us to press the case for better funding and negotiated relationships between governments.

Another significant step forward was the signing of the State/Local Government Relations Agreement by Premier Mike Rann and myself. The document establishes our expectations of best practice from State Government and Councils in relationships for the future.

There is some cynicism about intergovernment agreements, but the experience of the LGA has been that governments do not enter into them lightly and that it is important for Premiers to expect a co-ordinated approach to Local Government across agencies.

Equally for State Government it is important for us to make it clear that we wish to co-ordinate our approach on sector-wide issues to State Government through the LGA. This agreement has a more practical focus than previous ones with a specific role for the Minister's Local Government Forum and an annual schedule of priorities.

While these areas represent investments in the future, many of our past investments continued to pay dividends. The bulk electricity contracts delivered a full \$1.3m in savings to ratepayers during the year and the Local Government Finance Authority and Local Super continued to offer Councils exceptional value for money.

Our insurance arrangements both for public liability and workers compensation continued to deliver outstanding results, savings, excellence in risk management and at the coalface, supported Councils to provide safer playgrounds, public spaces and less work accidents.

I was also pleased that we secured an additional 2 years of State funding for the STEDS program and am pleased that we provided strong Local Government input into the establishment of Zero Waste SA.

The annual report outlines in more detail significant work of the LGA in Parliament, and best practice programs for Councils. In the latter weeks of the financial year the impact of volatile annual property valuations on Council Rates emerged even more strongly as a key challenge for us for the future.

I have heard past Presidents of the LGA talk about the outstanding amount of work undertaken by the small staff team we have in the LGA and the great support they provide. I have now experienced this first hand and can attest to the excellence of the support I have received. Given the diversity of what Councils do across the State I am astounded at the breadth of knowledge and capacity of the LGA team to be "on top of" an enormously diverse range of Council issues and aware of State/Federal connections for each.

In this context I believe we will seriously need to look at the level of resources which Councils provide to the LGA and identify ways of improving these. Our current investment in the LGA has a huge payoff in financial and non-financial terms (the LGA Workers Compensation Scheme alone benefits the sector by far more than the total budget of the LGA each year). I believe an additional investment will have similar payoffs. Of course the LGA could not deliver what we do without the strong support of Councils, staff and members, contributing in a variety of ways to everything we do.

In providing leadership to the organisation I must thank my colleagues in the Senior Executive and the State Executive Committees. It is great to see such commitment to the interests of SA communities via collaborative action. Further I must express my appreciation to all the staff in the LGA – Wendy Campana in particular but the professionalism of all LGA staff is outstanding.

Support from South East LGA and my Council deserves a mention as absences on LGA or ALGA business have been ably covered.

Lastly I could not do the job without the support of my wife and family.

Local Government is being challenged as never before to work together, strategically, consistently and responsibly for our communities. I am confident we can meet that challenge.

Councillor John Legoe
President

Executive Director's report



Wendy Campana

This year has certainly been a challenging and exciting one for the LGA. Clearly Councils see great value in working together as a way of achieving efficiencies in delivering services to their communities.

This report in total seeks to provide a comprehensive overview of what the LGA has achieved.

I am pleased to introduce this new CD-Rom format for the report which has allowed us to deliver more information, in a more accessible format and at a lower cost.

Councils are positioned at the lowest end of the government 'food chain'. They must operate within the legislative constraints of other governments and are limited to the taxes, fees and grants allowed by other governments.

Notwithstanding this position, Local Government is usually ranked the highest for performance, value for money and trust, by communities (verified by independent surveys). We are often the last port of call for communities needing government support and we are perhaps less inclined to say 'no' than other governments, or more inclined to find creative solutions.

In South Australia, we have developed competitive advantage through the achievement of very effective communication mechanisms with other governments than in other States. We have a formal agreement with the Premier, an open and respectful relationship with the Minister for State/Local Government Relations and a joint Forum in which we can address priority issues.

Our joint support for libraries has enabled a person to borrow any book in the State with a delivery of 2-3 days – a capacity still not available in other States and we've been doing it for years. The public liability "crisis" has almost been non-existent in SA as a result of our LGA Mutual Liability Scheme and other arrangements which have assisted community groups such as heritage rail operations. Excellent finance and superannuation arrangements remain accessible and our workers compensation record is the envy of most other industries.

As a sector, we are meeting community challenges which in other places and in earlier times would be left for other governments to address.

If one thing has become clear to me since my involvement with Local Government began however, it is that government is like riding a bicycle – if you are not moving forward then you fall off. Each challenge we meet, means the bar is set higher next time.

Minister Rory McEwen has set a particularly high bar for us. His challenge to be responsible for our own future has placed far more

pressure on us than any directive, interventionist or policing approach seen in other States or in other times.

I am pleased to say that the LGA team is relishing the challenge.

There have been many highlights this year some of the key ones being:

- securing a commitment for \$26.25m over three years from the Federal Government in additional local road funding to SA, as an interim solution, and the extension of the Roads to Recovery program for a further 4 years;
- the Hawker inquiry report "Rates and Taxes: A fair share for responsible Local Government" and its recommendations for fair distribution of Federal funds;
- the signing of the State/Local Government Relations Agreement by Premier Rann and President Legoe;
- the passage through Parliament of legislation addressing Zero Waste, Natural Resources Management, Dog Control and Non-feasance;
- agreement to extend funding for the STEDS program for a further two years and progression of infrastructure management reforms;
- the expansion of the LGA's effort in education and training activities for staff and Council Members that has clearly been well received by the membership; and
- the delivery of a broader range of information and services online.

A clear demonstration of the increasing maturity of Local and State government collaboration is the collective ownership being taken for the problems and opportunities presented by stormwater management. The notion of a joint approach is being extended to new levels and may well become a model for application in other areas of Local and State government interest.

Much work has also gone into responding to proposed Planning System reforms. It is clear here that there is a consistent view across State and Local government, the private sector and community that the biggest challenge in planning is to speed-up the processing by State and Local government of Plan Amendment Reports (rezoning) to ensure development plans are up to date.

Addressing the financial sustainability of Local Government and Council services will be of primary importance as we tackle issues arising from the uneven property valuation increases causing concern to some pockets of our communities. Rates are a primary source of Local Government funding. However, much work needs to occur to ensure that the financial relationship between State and Local government is enhanced so that services to communities can be sufficiently funded and appropriately delivered. Every dollar we get from somewhere else – including fairer distribution of Commonwealth grants – is one which reduces pressure on rates and is available to further improve services.

The move of John Comrie, on secondment to the Office of Local Government, has had an impact in a range of ways that are not always obvious to Councils. We continue to have relationships with Ministers and officers of other agencies, but clearly the advocacy work of the OLG and the Minister for State/Local Government Relations is supporting this work. With this however comes increased accountability and in some instances extra work as more agencies and Ministers recognise the importance of maintaining close relationships with Local Government. The notion that the secondment represents a conflict of roles is an absurd interpretation

which can only be based on a conflict model, rather than one which expects governments to working together for the good of the community.

I appreciate the support which I have had from Councils, in particular from CEOs, from the LGA State Executive Committee members, the President and from the staff team which I have had the pleasure of heading, since taking up this role.

I look forward to the year ahead and to supporting the work of the LGA President and State Executive to ensure that the interests of Councils are well represented in the Parliament, with the Cabinet and other stakeholders.



Wendy Campana
Executive Director

Results

The LGA provides assistance, advice and support to Councils across an increasingly broad range of areas. It is therefore important that the Association prioritises in focus areas to effectively meet the needs of all our members. These priorities are not set in stone. As the needs and priorities of Councils, communities and other governments change the LGA must have the flexibility to respond to this environment.

The focus areas that the Association has identified fit under the following broad headings: representation; leadership; capacity building; finance and resources; participation; LGA enterprises; research and development, and LGA management.

Representation

The Hawker “Fair Share” Inquiry Report

The report of the Hawker Inquiry “Rates and Taxes: A Fair Share for Responsible Local Government” was tabled in the Federal Parliament at the end of 2003. The report was extremely positive for Local Government and set the scene for the extension of the Roads to Recovery Program and the Commonwealth commitment to an additional \$26.25m in identified local road grants for SA. The LGA consulted Councils on a response to the inquiry recommendations and a response was finalised at the March LGA General Meeting.

Local Road Funding

Thanks to the lobbying of South Australian Councils and the tireless work of President John Legoe, Past Presidents Max Amber and Brian Hurn, Wendy Campana and John Comrie, on 15 March 2004 the Prime Minister announced additional funding of \$26.25m for South Australian local roads. The funding is to be provided over three years through Identified Local Road Grants (ILRG) and will be paid to Councils by the South Australian Local Government Grants Commission with Council’s normal allocations.

The additional funding is recognition of the inequity that has existed in the distribution of Commonwealth funding through the Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1993. The LGA ran a heightened campaign from early 2003 involving media promotion, advertising, support for Council lobbying and extensive behind-the-scenes briefing and lobbying of Federal Ministers and Members of Parliament. It was supported by the findings of the Hawker Inquiry Report. The Prime Minister’s media release of 15 March 2004 announcing the additional funding for South Australia states that

“The Government’s formal response to the (Hawker) Committee’s recommendations will provide a longer-term solution to the South Australian local road-funding situation.”

AusLink and Roads to Recovery 2

Late in the financial year, the Commonwealth Government released the much anticipated AusLink White Paper. The paper is a national transport plan with the objective of promoting sustainable regional economic growth, development and connectivity.

The Government stated that it is committed to encouraging the development of strategic regional infrastructure to:

- Support the growth of established and emerging industries;
- Respond to structural changes; and
- Strengthen regional economic and social opportunities.

The AusLink White Paper provides details of the extension of the Roads to Recovery (R2R2) Program which was extended as a result of intense lobbying by Councils, the LGA and the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA). The new program has two funding pools, a ‘core’ funding pool (\$800m over 4 years) and a ‘strategic’ funding pool (\$400m over 4 years). Arrangements under the R2R2 program (2005/06 – 2008/09) involve various sub-elements and the LGA and ALGA are working extremely hard to ensure arrangements meet Local Government’s needs.

Planning and Development Assessment

The draft Sustainable Development Bill 2004 was released by the State Government in February 2004. The LGA commenced consultations with Councils and key interest groups culminating in a forum of all Councils held in May where feedback was received on proposals for inclusion in the LGA submission on the draft Bill.

The LGA’s submission proposed that the State Government and the LGA work together, in the context of the State/Local Relations Agreement and sought agreement on the parameters for reform, which is to include legislative and non-legislative matters.

The LGA also commissioned several papers to look at:

- Interstate analysis of Planning Systems/legislation
- Regional Approaches to Planning – an issues paper
- Community survey regarding the Planning System
- Collection of statistical information regarding the performance of Councils and the State Government (where available)
- Extensive analysis of legislative proposals.

Ministers' Local Government Forum

A State/Local Government Relations Agreement was prepared by the Forum during 2004 and signed by the Premier and LGA President in the presence of the Minister for Local Government. This Agreement guides the work of the Forum. Following Ministerial reshuffles during the year, Minister Trish White has now joined Minister John Hill, Minister Jay Weatherill, and Minister Stephanie Key on the Forum, while Minister Rory McEwen remains the Chairperson. Local Government continues to be well represented by members of the LGA State Executive and the Presidents of the Local Government Managers Australia (LGMA) and Metropolitan CEOs Association. The Key issues on the agenda of the Forum during the year have been; Stormwater and Flood Mitigation; Planning and Development; the Hawker Report; Natural Resource Management; Economic Development and STEDS.

State Strategic Plan

The State Cabinet adopted a Strategic Plan for South Australia in early 2004. The Plan includes a range of targets that have implications for Local Government. This initiative has been well received by Local Government as it will assist Councils to better understand the aspirations of the State Government for the development of South Australia. The Premier has highlighted that the Plan is a "live document" and that the achievements of the targets and goals within it are not just the responsibility of State Government. The Minister's Local Government Forum proposed a workshop to assist Councils to better understand the implications of the Plan and to influence the updating of it. It is anticipated that further work will need to occur to ensure that the Plan reflects the aspirations of local and regional communities and Local Government has a responsibility to ensure that it is across the objectives of the Government and influences outcomes for all communities.

Stormwater Management

Significant progress has been made in relation to stormwater management with the LGA and the Metropolitan Chief Executive Officers' Association playing strong leadership roles. The LGA Stormwater Management Strategy has been endorsed by the State Government and implemented. A partnership approach between State and Local government has seen the Metropolitan Adelaide Stormwater Management Study undertaken. This has provided key information on problems such as flooding risk and opportunities such as the use of stormwater. How to proceed is now the subject of considerable further work through collaboration by Local and State government.

Economic Development Board Recommendations

In July 2003 the SA Cabinet adopted 70 of the 71 final recommendations made by the Economic Development Board. With the exception of one recommendation related to planning and development, the LGA supported the thrust of the report's recommendations and has

commenced a range of activities to support Councils in relation to key recommendations. These include reviews of frameworks for regional development boards and business enterprise centres and work on population policy issues.

LGA Waste Committee

The LGA Waste Committee has continued to be successful in supporting the LGA State Executive Committee and providing leadership to Councils on waste and resource management. Particular successes include securing a number of changes to the Zero Waste SA Bill (see below), providing practical training to Councils on environmental management at country landfills and providing leadership and support to country Councils in progressing waste reforms at the regional level.

Zero Waste SA

The establishment of Zero Waste SA as a joint State/Local government initiative in 2003/04 is the result of ongoing discussions and negotiations over a period of several years. With strong Local Government representation secured on the Zero Waste SA Board, the new body is expected to deliver significant benefits to Councils. The LGA, with assistance from the LGA Waste Committee, negotiated with the State Government to increase the levels of funding, independence and accountability for the new body.

Environment Protection Responsibilities

The draft Environment Protection (Miscellaneous) Amendment Bill 2003 was released for public consultation during 2003. The LGA sought that further consultation occur between the LGA and State Government with a view to constructively progressing the issues raised in the submissions. The Bill has been revised and further discussion is intended prior to the Bill being introduced to Parliament in late 2004.

Some of the main proposals in the Bill include the ability for Councils to voluntarily "opt in" to become "administering agencies" responsible for the regulation and enforcement of non-licensed activities which are currently the responsibility of the EPA, and provision for the EPA to regulate licensed sites post-closure (eg a closed landfill).

Local Government Act

With the active support of the Minister for State/Local Relations, the Hon Rory McEwen MP, minor but important changes were able to be made to the Local Government Act 1999 to enable the progression of works by the Gawler River Floodplain Management Authority which has membership of six councils.

Legislation and Parliament

The LGA has actively monitored and contributed to legislative proposals in seeking to ensure that the views of Councils and their communities are made known and taken account of. The LGA has expended considerable resources in assisting Councils to identify implications and in communicating with members of the Parliament. A number of Bills with a wide range of implications for Local Government have been considered by Parliament. The more significant of these are covered separately in this report.

Population Policy

State and Commonwealth governments invited the LGA to participate in a joint working group on migration issues in the lead up to the State's adoption of a Population Policy in April, 2004. The policy called for

liaison with the LGA to identify impacts on Local Government and ways in which Councils can support population objectives. The LGA has called on interested Councils to participate in a project with the Australian Population Association aimed to identify these issues in greater detail.

Regional Passenger Transport

The Minister's Local Government Forum has recognised that regional passenger transport remains a key issue. Considerable work was undertaken by the LGA and the Office of Public Transport in an attempt to resolve a number of longstanding issues. These include funding for regional passenger transport and the implementation of integrated regional passenger transport services, however progress on this matter is slow.

Media Relations

Media interest in Local Government has continued to rise and with it the LGA's exposure in the media, with both the President and Executive Director regularly responding to issues. Particular information campaigns were run in relation to road funding and Council rates. The LGA issued 38 media releases during the year and provided other articles and input to various publications and media.

Leadership

Governance Advisory Committee

The LGA State Executive established an Advisory Committee, with Local and State government and non-government representatives. The Committee's primary function is to advise the LGA State Executive on a program of reform and enhancement of governance practices within Councils. A comprehensive reform program was developed by the Committee and subject to consultation with Councils. The program was modelled on the successful governance checklist developed as a result of funding from the Local Government Research & Development Scheme and piloted during the year. The Committee's work during the ensuing year will be to provide a range of support materials and programs to enhance the governance practices of Councils.

State Local Government Relations Agreement

An agreement which sets high goals for State-Local partnerships was signed by Premier Mike Rann and LGA President John Legoe in March at an historic meeting between the LGA State Executive Committee and State Cabinet. The agreement was the result of detailed work through the Minister's Local Government Forum and with Minister Rory McEwen. The Forum will monitor progress in achieving the objectives set out in the agreement.

The agreement can be distinguished from attempts to regularise State-Local relations under previous governments by the formalisation of the role of the Local Government Minister's Forum and by the appending of an annual schedule of priorities.

Indigenous Issues

The LGA has managed a joint project with the SA Office of Local Government (OLG) and Department of Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation (DAARe) designed to develop a model for agreements between Councils and indigenous communities. The Coober Pedy Council and the Umoona Community Council are working together

as a pilot in this area. LGA has maintained liaison with DAARe on a range of issues including the review of the administration of the Aboriginal Heritage Act.

Arts and Cultural Development

The Creative Communities Kit was formally launched in the second half of 2003, incorporating guidelines and policy and practice story sheets to assist Councils. The kit recognised that Local Government in SA spends more than \$70m on arts and cultural activities, significantly in relation to libraries but strategic planning for this area is lagging. The kit followed the adoption of an arts and cultural policy by the LGA Annual General Meeting in 2002.

Economic Development & Tourism

The 2003 LGA AGM saw Councils adopt a comprehensive policy on Economic and Employment Development which incorporated Tourism issues. In liaison with State Government and Regional Development SA the LGA, through the SAROC Committee jointly supported the Regional Development Framework Review to assist Councils to determine the appropriateness of current board boundaries. A wider review of Business Support Services in Adelaide is also being developed on a joint basis with the LGA, through the Metropolitan Local Government Group. Close liaison was maintained with the SA Tourism Commission with work commencing on a "Local Government Health Check" as a self audit tool for Councils and a successful joint "Working Partnerships in Tourism" conference being held in June, 2004.

Industrial & Employee Relations Service

Support and advice regarding matters of award interpretation, certification of enterprise agreements and employee relations issues such as termination and grievance resolution have been provided to Councils through our experienced consultants Tina Borg, Geoff Hill and lawyer Sathish Dasan.

Enterprise bargaining certifications have been one of the key areas of activity, which over time is becoming more and more complex. The Industrial & Employee Relations Service has assisted Councils with certifications across the sector. The LGA continues to conduct surveys of Councils for gathering data that relates to pay rates, absenteeism and employee turnover trends to assist with benchmarking. The bi-monthly industrial relations briefing sessions for Human Resources professionals and non-professionals continues to be very popular. The sessions have covered a broad range of topics from both a national and local perspective and provide an opportunity for those who are in the midst of enterprise agreement negotiations to network.

There has been quite a focus on the industrial aspects of the service in the last 12 months. Major claims from the Australian Workers Union regarding increasing the casual loading, conversion of casuals to permanent and paid maternity/paternity leave have now been resolved. It is expected that there will be a continued focus on industrial negotiations with several big ticket items being flagged by the unions, including industry bargaining.

Food and Environmental Health Regulation

A review examining the shortage of Environmental Health officers was commenced given existing shortages and the potential further impact of the possible introduction of third party auditing in relation to food safety.

South African Relationship

The LGA maintained its relationship with the South African LGA (Free State) exploring the use of video-conferencing links, assisting in exploration of group insurance arrangements and donating two retired computers.

Capacity Building

Natural Resources Management

A major initiative of the LGA has been to provide input to Natural Resources Management (NRM) reforms. A collaborative approach with the State Government via Minister John Hill culminated in the passage of the NRM Bill. Important changes to the Bill were secured by the LGA for the benefit of Councils, including that every Regional NRM Board must have at least one member who is a member or officer of a Council.

Environmental Management in Country Landfills

Ninety-seven percent of country Councils own and/or operate a landfill. Ensuring Councils have access to the latest information on environmental management of these sites is central to achieving a high level of landfill performance and to meeting legal obligations under the Environment Protection Act 1993. The LGA worked with the EPA and the Waste Management Association of Australia to offer a second sold out two-day training course on environmental management in country landfills in November 2003. Due to the success of this initiative, the Waste Management Association has now undertaken to offer this training on an ongoing basis.

Bulk Purchase of Electricity

The LGA has continued to liaise with the State Government regarding technical contract issues to ensure any impacts on Council rates from electricity costs are minimalised.

Electronic Services Program

The LGA's Electronic Services Program continued to assist Councils to deliver their services on-line with more Councils taking on the Unity™ DCW edition system to manage their website content. As at June 2004 there were 56 SA Councils using the Unity™ system with another 4 Councils intending to move onto Unity™ in the 2005 financial year.

The team also conducted a successful trial of Unity™ in Tasmania, as a result 26 Councils have taken on the Unity™ product. This is a major endorsement of the LGA's approach with sustainability of the system now assured.

During the year the ESP team conducted a number of training sessions in the use of Unity™ with over 120 people being trained from 42 Councils at 8 sessions across the state. There has also been over 40 onsite visits promoting Unity and providing training to 27 Councils.

Online Tenders

After signing an agreement with the Department for Administrative and Information Services (DAIS) in October 2003, Councils have progressively taken on the SA Tenders & Contracts system to streamline their tendering processes.

In a little over 6 months in excess of 250 tenders have been advertised on-line and been placed in the LGA's weekly composite tender advertisement in The Advertiser. This initiative has increased

efficiencies in Councils and saved them thousands of dollars in advertising costs.

Online Payments

A large proportion of Councils continued to utilise the State Government's BizGate system to process on-line transactions with a growing number implementing a remote payment option to streamline their reconciliation process. In the 2003/2004 financial year the total number of Local Government transactions was 126,989 which represented a total value of \$26,765,707.09 taken in online payments via the BizGate system alone.

Broadband Steering Committee

The LGA Metropolitan Local Government Group established a broadband steering committee to address the needs for the whole of Local Government. The LGA State Executive Committee supported the issuing of a discussion paper which, in particular, sought to identify Local Government's policy views in this area. Consultations on the paper are planned.

Infrastructure

The Asset Management Advisory Committee have been progressing recommendations of the A "Wealth of Opportunities – A study into infrastructure asset conditions in South Australia", with implementation of the Step by Step Mentoring Program for Asset Management. Twenty-six Councils are participating in the three year program which includes in depth asset management studies within the Councils and a mentored visitation program to develop considered asset management plans and strategies.

Coastal Management

In consultation with Councils, through regional associations and existing committees, the LGA is now preparing action plans to enable Local Government to be proactive and effectively contribute to, and participate in, decision making towards the achievement of integrated coastal management. The plan is to realign Local Government decision making structures to ensure all Councils with a coastal responsibility are active in the development of coastal strategy. This will provide a more effective basis for Local Government input to major legislative and policy proposals. Issues such as responsibilities, resources and representation will be addressed. Involvement with the Coast Protection Board continues to be important to this role.

Council Member Allowances

The LGA State Executive resolved to form an independent group to report to the President and the Minister for State/Local Government Relations on the parameters for an independent tribunal to set Council Member allowances. The group was also to provide advice on the level of allowances to adequately reflect the workload and resource requirements of Council Members. It is envisaged that this matter will be taken up in the forthcoming elections and representation review.

Dog and Cat Management

Amendments to the Dog & Cat Management Act and Regulations came into operation on 1 July 2004. The changes reinforce the community's desire to achieve enhanced responsible dog ownership. The LGA and the Dog & Cat Management Board have provided information to support and assist Councils with the new arrangements, together with the development of a community education strategy.

Education and Training

During the year 1,600 Council Members and staff participated in 60 programs organised by the LGA's Education and Training Service. Two highly successful residential seminars for Council Members were held; one for new Council Members (in consequence of the May 2003 elections) and one for returning Council Members. Both seminars attracted around 60 participants each.

For the first time the LGA offered a series of Vocation Education and Training (VET) units designed to provide Councils with para-professional support in the development assessment area. Over 100 staff attended the five training sessions with participants given the choice of completing work based assignments after the sessions to gain national accreditation for these units as part of a Certificate IV of the Local Government Training Package.

A comprehensive review of Local Government education and training issues and the LGA Education and Training Service was undertaken this year. The key recommendations included:

- establishing a Local Government Education and Training Reference Group
- developing a Local Government Education and Training Strategic Plan
- preparing a report on the financial and funding implications of the enhanced LGA Education and Training Service.

European Wasp Equalisation Fund

The equalisation fund, of which the original agreement between the State and Local government expired in 2001/02, was initially not extended for the 2003/04 season. However in early January 2004, the Minister responsible agreed to a last minute extension and the LGA again administered the fund on behalf of Councils. The LGA has been in discussion with the State Government to ensure that unless ongoing funding can be secured then annual extension decisions should be made well in advance of Council budget processes.

Government Youth Traineeship Program

Last year the LGA negotiated a 3 year Memorandum of Understanding with the State Government to formalise Local Government's access and involvement in the State's Youth Traineeship Program. This year 16 Councils took advantage of the program and a total of 25 trainees were hired in Local Government under the arrangement. The MOU has one more year to run, subject to State budget constraints.

Native Title

The LGA continued to seek to provide leadership to SA Councils in relation to native title. As the Narrunga negotiations (Yorke Peninsula, Barunga West, Copper Coast and Wakefield Regional Councils) moved closer to agreement the State-wide Indigenous Land Use Agreement Negotiations prepared to develop a template from their work. Such a model or models is aimed at assisting Councils for whichever strategy they adopt in relation to native title. Our objective has been to support as rapid resolution as is possible, with minimum Court involvement and costs, embracing solutions which assist to build communities for the future.

Finance and Resources

Rating Improvements & Rating Information

The LGA has been working with the Office of Local Government on a Council rates strategy aimed at significantly improving both the awareness and understanding in the community of the Council rating process. A new regional support program Gearing up for the 2004/05 Rating Year Strategy was initiated in early March 2004 with the "Managing Social Aspects of Rating Decisions" regional workshops. The strategy also included reformatting of four LGA fact sheets outlining Council services, funding Council services, Council rates and valuation of property. The fact sheets have now been distributed to over three hundred stakeholders, including State and SA Federal Members of Parliament.

Comparative Performance Measurement

Following release of the Comparative Performance Measurement Reports to all Councils in October 2003, regional workshops were undertaken to disseminate and discuss regional analysis of the data. The Comparative Performance Measurement Program continues to provide a foundation for continuous improvement in South Australian Local Government and is assisting Councils to measure and analyse their performance over time. The program will continue in 2004.

State Budget

Consistent with the State/Local Government Relations Agreement, Minister Rory McEwen arranged for the State Government to provide a briefing and comprehensive support material to the LGA on the impact on Local Government of the 2004/05 State Budget.

Generally speaking programs and funding levels for payments to Local Government for major funding programs such as libraries, STEDS and stormwater are continuing as expected.

New initiatives include \$700,000 to contribute to a new tri-partite program with Commonwealth and Local Governments to fund natural disaster mitigation projects.

Funding for local roads decreased and is considered to be the major area of disappointment for Local Government with the State Budget.

Blackspot Road Funding

The LGA has expressed its disappointment to the Minister for Transport and Urban Planning regarding the inadequate funding for the State's Blackspot program in the 2004/05 State Budget. The LGA will continue to work with the State Government for an increase in State Government funding for local roads.

The Commonwealth Blackspot Program was detailed in the AusLink White paper. Although the paper is not clear about the continuation of the Program, reassurances for its continuation have been received from both the Federal Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads and the Shadow Minister for Transport.

STEDS Reform

An interim funding agreement has been reached with the Minister for State/Local Government Relations, which guarantees funding for 2004/05 – 2005/06. During this time new Septic Tank Effluent Drainage Scheme (STEDS) will be constructed using a revised funding model which incorporates whole of life cost modelling and pricing parity with equivalent SA Water services. To be eligible

for funding, Councils will have to demonstrate that they have or are progressing towards sustainable STEDS asset management of existing or proposed schemes.

The LGA has continued its support and dedication of resources towards implementing reforms to the South Australian STEDS Sector. Through its key involvement with the STEDS Advisory Committee, and working closely with the Office of Local Government, significant further investigation has been undertaken into sustainability requirements for STEDS infrastructure, including pricing and operational issues. A number of reports and legal papers are being prepared to assist Councils with assessing their own STEDS income versus costs needs.

Participation

Local Government Elections & Representation Review

The Minister for State/Local Government Relations and the LGA agreed that the LGA would lead a two staged review of Local Government election and representation matters during 2004.

Stage 1 of the review deals with the time of year for periodic elections from 2006, and a number of technical/minor matters raised by the State Electoral Commissioner following the May 2003 Local Government elections. By July 2004, the majority of stage 1 had been completed with an overwhelming majority of Councils supporting Local Government periodic elections being moved to Spring from 2006. Those Councils also supported the necessary transitional extension of existing Council Members' terms in 2006. There was also general support for the majority of the State Electoral Commissioner's recommendations.

Stage 2 of the review deals with more significant election, representation and governance issues that have been identified from time to time by Councils and other stakeholders as warranting further consideration. Issues in this stage of the review are inter-related and the combined effect of various options will need to be considered during the review. Issues to be considered in Stage 2 of the review are:

- term of office (including from the perspective of the relationship between the timing of Local Government and State elections after 2006);
- electoral franchise (entitlement to vote) and voters roll compilation;
- options for representative structure;
- voting obligation and voter turnout; voting and counting systems;
- candidacy;
- filling of casual vacancies;
- election campaigning;
- process for determination of allowances and reimbursements for Council Members.

Stage 2 will be launched with communication and consultation with Local Government and the wider community into 2004.

It is envisaged that a Bill will be introduced to Parliament in the first half of 2005.

LGA Public Website / LGA.net

Daily updates have ensured that the LGA website continues to be a vital resource for Councils and the wider community. The predominantly public website contains policy and practical information for Council Members and staff with links to other important Local Government resources. These links combined with LGA media releases and general Local Government facts make it a natural starting point for the general public looking for Council information.

State Library Exhibition Bay

The LGA undertook a major 10 year sponsorship commencing in 2003/04. The State Library of South Australia has been extensively renovated and as part of these changes has incorporated permanent exhibitions in the refurbished Mortlock Wing. The LGA has sponsored "A Rich Tapestry", one of the exhibits, which celebrates the position and contribution of local communities across the State.

LGA Enterprises

Shared Services

The Steering Committee established by the LGA last year continued to work through issues related to potential sharing of services. A business case template was developed to assist Councils to assess the benefits of sharing services and surveys were conducted to ascertain the areas where Councils sought to work more collaboratively. The work of the Committee has been reported to Councils and it is likely that in the New Year the LGA will take on new directions and broaden its consultation processes in areas where sharing of resources can be enhanced.

Local Government Corporate Entities

A governance review of the LGA's Workers Compensation and Mutual Liability schemes was initiated during this annual reporting period. The review was conducted by KPMG and a number of recommendations were made to the LGA State Executive and the boards of the schemes to enhance governance performance. The recommendations will be implemented over the coming year.

The performance of the LGA's Workers Compensation Scheme continues to yield savings for Councils through Local Government managing its own work cover licence. This year the savings for Councils reached \$8.6m. Workers compensation claims reduced by 13% reflecting the emphasis being placed on risk management in Councils and the support provided by the highly professional staff engaged by the Scheme.

The LGA Mutual Liability Scheme also experienced a 13% reduction in claims with Councils stepping up their approach to risk management. The LGA worked with the Parliament to support civil liability reforms that should see a reduction in the claims made for trips and falls on roads and footpaths, a continual high risk area for Councils. Despite the continued large increases in liability insurance costs generally, Local Government only experienced a 6% increase in contributions.

The LGFA celebrated 20 years of operation with another strong performance delivering competitive interest rates and bonuses

back to Councils. The Local Government Corporate Services (eCouncils) continued to support Local Government and a review was undertaken to ensure it works more closely with Councils in the future.

LGA nominees continued to represent Councils on the board of Local Super to ensure effective arrangements for Council staff.

Research and Development

LGA Research Activities – Council Surveys

It is vital for the LGA to gather information from Councils to represent their interests effectively. Over the reporting year the LGA conducted 25 Council surveys including ones on Council Rates Setting; Proposals for Dog Registration Fees; comments on the levy provisions under the Natural Resources Management Bill 2003 and on the Local Road Funding Campaign.

Market Research

During the year the LGA repeated surveys making a comparison between the three spheres of government in Australia. Once again those surveyed ranked Local Government significantly higher than State or Commonwealth governments on 'trust in politicians', 'value for money' and 'performance'. Following the 2003 Council elections, the LGA surveyed the public on their participation and awareness of the elections. An omnibus survey around Planning and Development was also conducted. In addition to these public surveys, Professor Dean Jaensch was commissioned to undertake the most comprehensive survey of Council Members to date to build on a 1997 survey and assist in understanding of Local Government's key leadership resource.

Local Government Research & Development Scheme

The Scheme continues to be a primary source of funding for research in the Local Government sector. It is managed by an Advisory Committee that comprises representatives of the LGA State Executive Committee, the Office of Local Government, the LGA Secretariat, Local Government Managers Australia, the Metropolitan CEO's Association, relevant Trade Unions and SA Universities.

Since its inception the Scheme has invested in 214 projects, paid out \$8,888,939 in Scheme funds and attracted matching funds and in-kind support from other sources.

Key projects funded during this year include:

- Regional Capacity Building funding allocations of \$25,000 to all Regional LGAs and the Metropolitan Group
- Planning System Reform Research and Consultation (LGA)
- Local Government Rates Strategy (LGA)
- Long Term Financial Planning for Local Government (SA LG Financial Managers Group)
- Natural Resources Management Bill 2003 Support for Councils (LGA)
- Evaluate Production of Marketable Compost from STEDS Waste (Adelaide Hills Council)
- Local Government Elections Review (LGA)

LGA Management

Financial (LGA)

The LGA is in a sound financial position based on the system of Councils subscribing to fund the major part of services and work undertaken by the Association. We are able to fund our liabilities, upgrade equipment and respond to urgent requirements.

Issues such as the financial sustainability of Local Government and planning reforms are stretching resources and Councils will need to consider growing demands on the LGA and how they will be resourced in the future. This year again saw income exceed expenditure largely due to conservative spending coupled with slight increases in some areas of income.

LGA Strategic Plan

After consultation with Councils, the State Executive undertook a comprehensive review of its strategic plan refining the various focus areas and strategies to reflect the new challenges in State/Local relations provided through the State/Local Relations Agreement and matters raised in the Hawker "Fair Share" Report. Greater emphasis was placed on financial and legislative reforms, governance and community engagement. The State Executive keeps its plan under review at each of its meetings where reports from officers must make reference to the various strategies within the Plan.

LGA Metropolitan Local Government Group

The Metropolitan Local Government Group (comprising the Mayor and CEOs of all metropolitan Councils) continues to meet on a bi-monthly basis to discuss matters of a collective interest in order to reach satisfactory decisions for metropolitan Local Government. The Metropolitan CEOs' Association has provided valuable assistance to progress these decisions within the allotted timeframes. Guest speakers from various State Government Departments have also attended on a regular basis.

SAROC Committee

The SAROC Committee met on 6 occasions during the year and continued to develop its capacity to advise the LGA effectively on country issues. The Committee completed its scoping exercise on regional electricity infrastructure issues "Power to the People of Regional SA" and put together an annual business plan for endorsement by the LGA.

LGA Annual General Meeting

An excellent attendance from Council representatives contributed to a highly successful LGA Annual General Meeting in October 2003. The Hon Rory McEwen MP (then Minister for Local Government) was the guest speaker. The investiture of new LGA President, Cr John Legoe was a highlight.

LGA Elections

Councils elected/appointed a new LGA State Executive Committee which included a number of new faces. The term of office for the Committee is three years with the exception of the position of President. The entire Committee was presented to the membership at the LGA AGM.

Council Showcase

Following the success of the inaugural Local Government showcase in 2001, the LGA again held a 1 & ½ day event celebrating Council innovation and leading practice. Over 250 delegates from across the State had the opportunity to listen, share and learn from a choice of 35 presentations on a wide range of relevant topics. This event is held with the Annual General Meeting and in alternative years to the major LGA Conference.

LGA Secretariat

Led by the Executive Director, Wendy Campana, the LGA Secretariat consists of a small number of employees who provide support to the LGA State Executive Committee and carry out activities determined collectively by Councils at LGA General Meetings. The Secretariat maintains close contact with Councils and consults with Council Members and officers and professional organisations for advice on specific issues. The activities of the Secretariat are many and varied and include:

- lobbying and liaising with government agencies on behalf of Councils;
- ensuring appropriate representation in a wide range of forums;
- responding to legislative change which affects Local Government;
- proactively liaising with the media to convey a positive image of Local Government;
- providing support for Local Government enterprises;
- undertaking research to assist in policy setting and decision making;
- initiating the development of various codes and guidelines to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of Council operations;
- disseminating information to Councils;
- providing Councils with education and training support;
- offering an industrial advisory service; and
- assisting with general enquiries from Councils.

To achieve maximum efficiency and responsiveness to Councils, the LGA Secretariat consists of a number of teams and they are as follows (as at 30 June 2004):

Corporate Services

Wendy Campana, Executive Director

Team members:

Jacqui Kelleher, Dianne Rawlins, Renee Carey, Patricia Connor, Shelley Morgan

Planning & Infrastructure

Andrew Gear, Director

Team members:

Marlene Molnar, Victoria Gailit and George Inglis

Legislation and Environment

Brian Clancey, Director

Team members:

Beverley Barber, David Hitchcock, Jamie Roodenrys, Brian Harvey, Fiona Jenkins and Janet Kent

Policy and Public Affairs

Chris Russell, Director

Team members:

Jane Hyatt, John Mundy, Michelle Bockman, Sarah Wrzeszczynski, Shandelle Gameau, Sandy Semmens, Karol Oxtan and Kaylene Morrison

LGA State Executive

To best serve the needs of its members, the Association is managed by a democratically structured State Executive Committee. The eighteen member committee consists of Council Members who have either been elected or appointed to represent their geographic region. Committee members, other than the President, serve for a three-year period. The President's term is one year.

The role of this Committee is to manage the activities of the Association between General Meetings in accordance with policy and other decisions taken at General Meetings. Agendas and Minutes of the State Executive Committee's bi-monthly meetings are available on LGA.net.

Members serving on the State Executive Committee as at 30 June 2004 are listed and pictured elsewhere in this report.

General Activities

The President and the Executive Director maintained a program of Council visits and a combination of the President or Vice-President and/or a senior LGA staff member attended all regional LGA meetings during the year. An average of more than 30 circulars a month were issued by the LGA with most Councils now opting to access them electronically rather than on paper. The monthly "LGA News" was distributed to all Councils for Members and Senior staff, as well as to Members of Parliament and media.

Serving our Members

The Local Government Association of South Australia is a membership organisation which provides quality services and leadership relevant to the needs of member Councils.

Membership of the Association is voluntary and every Council in the State along with Anangu Pitjantjatjara are members. In addition, to Councils, a number of other organisations have also chosen to join as Associate Members including the Outback Areas Community Development Trust; the Nepabunna Community Council; the Gerard Community Council; West Beach Trust and a number of Animal and Plant Control Boards.

The Local Government Association is recognised as the peak representative body for Local Government in this State and prides itself on being the voice of Local Government. Councils receive many direct and indirect benefits as a result of being a member of the Association, many of which are outlined in this Report.

The LGA is federated nationally with interstate associations in the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA).

Our Mission and Goals

The mission of the LGA is to provide leadership to Councils for the benefit of the South Australian community.

To effectively achieve this mission the Association has set itself four key areas of activity which relate to:

- strengthening relationships with all spheres of government;
- enhancing the financial capacity of Local Government;
- facilitating the continued development of Local Government; and
- promoting a positive image of, and participation in Local Government.

Decision Making

The Association's ultimate decision making and policy setting body is its biannual General Meetings. The purpose of these meetings is to collectively determine the policy direction of the Association. The 2003 Annual General Meeting took place on Friday 3 October at the Adelaide Convention Centre and the 2004 General Meeting was conducted at the Festival Centre on Friday 26 March.

Key Documents

The LGA works to three key documents – the Constitution, the Policy Manual and the Strategic Plan. The Constitution sets out the structure and operation of the Association. The Policy Manual is a compilation of the policies which are determined and amended by members at the General Meetings. These three documents are available on LGA.net.

State Executive Members as at 30 June 2004

President	Cr John Legoe (Statewide)
Vice Presidents	Mayor Joy Baluch (Country) Cr Jeff Burgess (Country) Mayor Tony Zappia (Metro) Mayor John Rich (Metro)
Immediate Past President	Cr Max Amber (Statewide)
Committee Members	Mayor Allan Arbon (River Murray) Mayor Marilyn Baker (Metro) Mayor Kristina Barnett (Metro) Mayor Ivan Brooks (Metro) Lord Mayor Michael Harbison (Metro) Mayor Felicity-ann Lewis (Metro) Mayor James Maitland (Central) Mayor Kym McHugh (Southern & Hills) Mayor Don Pegler (South East) Mayor Lesley Purdom (Metro) Mayor Rod Thomas (River Murray) Cr Brian Treloar (Eyre Peninsula)
Proxy Committee Members	Cr Jeff Cook (Central) Mayor Peter Davis (Spencer Gulf Cities) Cr Trevor Fletcher (Metro) Mayor Tony Wales (Southern & Hills) Cr Judith Jackson (Eyre Peninsula) Mayor Ian Mann (River Murray) Cr Allison Miller (Metro) Cr Diana Penniment AM (South East) Mayor Ken Rollond (Metro) Mayor John Trainer (Metro)

In addition to Committee Members and proxies, representatives with observer status are appointed by Local Government Managers Australia (Tim Jackson) and the Metropolitan Chief Executive Officers Association (Peter Vlatko).

A component of the LGA State Executive Committee, is the Senior Executive, which comprises the President, Immediate Past President, Vice Presidents and the Executive Director.

The role of the Senior Executive is to carry out tasks assigned to it by the State Executive Committee and consider issues as necessary between State Executive meetings.

Senior Executive Committee

as at 30 June 2004



CR JOHN LEGOE

President



CR MAX AMBER

Immediate Past President



MAYOR JOY BALUCH

Vice President



MAYOR TONY ZAPPIA

Vice President



CR JEFF BURGESS

Vice President



MAYOR JOHN RICH

Vice President

State Executive Committee

as at 30 June 2004

The State Executive Committee as at 30 June 2004 is listed on page 12 of this report.

Not shown in photos are:

Committee Members – Mayor Joy Baluch; Mayor Tony Zappia; Mayor John Rich; and Mayor Ivan Brooks.

Proxy Members – Mayor Peter Davis; Cr Judith Jackson; Mayor Ian Mann; Cr Allison Miller; Cr Diana Penniment; and Mayor Ken Rollond.



LORD MAYOR MICHAEL HARBISON, MAYOR DON PEGLER AND CR MAX AMBER



MAYOR MARILYN BAKER, CR JOHN LEGOE AND CR JEFF COOK



MAYOR JOHN TRAINER, MAYOR LESLEY PURDOM AND MAYOR TONY WALES



MAYOR KYM MCHUGH, MAYOR KRISTINA BARNETT AND CR TREVOR FLETCHER



MAYOR JAMES MAITLAND, CR JEFF BURGESS, MAYOR FELICITY-ANN LEWIS AND CR BRIAN TRELOAR



MAYOR ROD THOMAS AND MAYOR ALLAN ARBON

Our people

LGA staff as at 30 June 2004

Corporate Services



WENDY CAMPANA

Executive Director



JACQUI KELLEHER

Executive Assistant



DIANNE RAWLINS

Corporate Services Officer



RENEE CAREY

Accounts Officer



PATRICIA CONNOR

Administration Officer



SHELLEY MORGAN

Customer Services Officer

Our people

LGA staff as at 30 June 2004

Planning & Infrastructure



ANDREW GREAR

Director, Planning & Infrastructure



MARLENE MOLNAR

Personal Assistant



VICTORIA GAILIT

Senior Policy Officer



GEORGE INGLIS

Policy Officer

Our people

LGA staff as at 30 June 2004

Legislation and Environment



BRIAN CLANCEY

Director – Legislation & Environment



BEVERLEY BARBER

Senior Policy Officer – Roads and Transport



DAVID HITCHCOCK

Senior Policy Officer



JAMIE ROODENRYS

STEDS Program Manager



FIONA JENKINS

Senior Policy Officer – Waste & Resource Management



JANET KENT

Personal Assistant

Our people

LGA staff as at 30 June 2004

Policy and Public Affairs



CHRIS RUSSELL

Director – Policy & Public Affairs



JOHN MUNDY

Electronic Services Program
(ESP) Manager



MICHELLE CHAPLIN

ESP Project Officer



SARAH WRZESZCZYŃSKI

ESP Project Officer



JANE HYATT

Communications &
Marketing Officer



SANDY SEMMENS

E&T Coordinator and LG Research
& Development Scheme Manager



KAROL OXTON

Administration Officer –
Education & Training, LG Research
& Development Scheme



SHANELLE GAMEAU

Personal Assistant

Our Valued Members

Members

- City of Adelaide
- Adelaide Hills Council
- Alexandrina Council
- Anangu Pitjantjatjara
- Barossa Council
- District Council of Barunga West
- Berri Barmera Council
- City of Burnside
- Campbelltown City Council
- District Council of Ceduna
- City of Charles Sturt
- Clare & Gilbert Valleys Council
- District Council of Cleve
- District Council of Coober Pedy
- Coorong District Council
- District Council of Copper Coast
- District Council of Elliston
- Flinders Ranges Council
- District Council of Franklin Harbour
- Town of Gawler
- Regional Council of Goyder
- District Council of Grant
- City of Holdfast Bay
- Kangaroo Island Council
- District Council of Karoonda East Murray
- District Council of Kimba
- Kingston Regional Council
- District Council of Le Hunte
- Light Regional Council
- District Council of Lower Eyre Peninsula
- District Council of Loxton Waikerie
- District Council of Mallala
- City of Marion
- Mid Murray Council
- City of Mitcham
- District Council of Mt Barker
- City of Mt Gambier
- District Council of Mt Remarkable
- Rural City of Murray Bridge
- Naracoorte Lucindale Council
- Northern Areas Council
- City of Norwood, Payneham & St Peters
- City of Onkaparinga
- District Council of Ororoo Carrieton
- District Council of Peterborough
- City of Playford
- City of Pt Adelaide Enfield
- City of Pt Augusta
- City of Pt Lincoln
- Pt Pirie Regional Council
- City of Prospect
- Renmark Paringa Council
- District Council of Robe
- Municipal Council of Roxby Downs
- City of Salisbury
- Southern Mallee District Council
- District Council of Streaky Bay
- Tatiara District Council
- City of Tea Tree Gully
- District Council of Tumby Bay
- City of Unley
- City of Victor Harbor
- Wakefield Regional Council
- Corporation of the Town of Walkerville
- Wattle Range Council
- City of West Torrens
- Corporation of the City of Whyalla
- District Council of Yankalilla
- District Council of Yorke Peninsula

Associate Members

- Nepabunna Community
- Outback Areas Community Development Trust
- West Beach Trust
- Eastern Eyre Animal & Plant Control Board
- Goyder Animal & Plant Control Board
- Northern Animal & Plant Control Board
- Riverland Animal & Plant Control Board
- Western Animal & Plant Control Board
- Yorke Peninsula Animal & Plant Control Board
- Barossa Ranges Animal & Plant Control Board
- Southern Mallee Animal & Plant Control Board
- Fleurieu Animal & Plant Control Board
- Lower Flinders Animal & Plant Control Board
- Barossa Light Development Incorporated
- Flinders Mobile Library
- Murraylands Regional Development Board
- Maxima Group Incorporated
- Centennial Park Cemetery Authority
- Northern Adelaide Waste Management Authority

Representatives on Local Government and outside bodies

The Association has numerous representatives on various working parties, boards and committees including many State Government bodies. The majority of representatives are Members and officers of Councils.

Through our representatives the Association is kept abreast of and helps influence changes in plans, programs, projects and initiatives. At the same time Local Government views in relation to policy and proposals for amendments to legislation are also represented.

The LGA thanks all of those who have given of their time, in most cases without reward, and for their contributions to these bodies in the interests of Local Government. Key bodies pursuant to Acts of Parliament and representatives (excluding LGA staff) as at 30 June 2004 include:

Adelaide Cemeteries Authority

Representative: Mr Frank Stock,
formerly City of Prospect

Animal & Plant Control Commission

Representatives: Ms Christine Johnson,
formerly Naracoorte Lucindale Council
Mr Bill Watkins,
formerly DC of Lower Eyre Peninsula
Proxies: Mr Ross Dawkins,
formerly Light Regional Council
Cr Allan Woolford,
Northern Areas Council

Aquaculture Advisory Committee

Representative: Mr Fred Pedler,
Southern & Hills LGA

Boundary Adjustment Facilitation Panel

Representatives: Cr Ann Irving,
City of Salisbury
Cr John Legoe,
Kingston District Council

Coast Protection Board

Representative: Mr Wally Iasiello,
City of Port Adelaide Enfield

Consumer Advisory Committee – Electricity

Representative: Cr Trevor Owen,
City of West Torrens

Country Arts SA Board

Representative: Mr David Lane,
formerly DC of Streaky Bay

Country Fire Service Board

Representatives: Mr Russell Peate,
DC of Grant
Cr Brian Treloar,
DC of Lower Eyre Peninsula

Development Assessment Commission

Representative: Cr Trevor Owen,
City of West Torrens

Dog & Cat Management Board

Representatives: Cr Jeff Cook,
DC of Yorke Peninsula
Cr Ken Coventry,
Rural City of Murray Bridge
Mr Bill Watkins,
formerly DC Lower Eyre Peninsula

Environment Protection Authority

Representative: Mr Stephen Hains,
City of Salisbury

Gas Technical Advisory Committee

Representative: Cr Gillian Aldridge,
City of Salisbury

Libraries Board of SA

Representatives: Ms Rosemary Craddock,
formerly Town of Walkerville
Mayor Tony Zappia,
City of Salisbury
Ms Janice Nitschke,
Wattle Range Council

Local Government Finance Authority

Representatives: Mr John Keough,
formerly Town of Thebarton
Mr Peter Fairlie-Jones,
City of Salisbury

Local Government Association Mutual Liability Scheme

Representatives: Cr John Ross,
DC of Tatiara
Cr Max Amber,
City of Campbelltown
Mr Greg Perkin,
City of Tea Tree Gully
Mr Paul Sutton,
City of Salisbury
Mr John Coombe,
Alexandrina Council

Local Government Association Workers Compensation Scheme

Representatives: Cr John Ross,
DC of Tatiara
Mr Paul Perry,
City of Charles Sturt
Mr George Hallwood,
formerly City of Campbelltown
Mr John Coombe,
Alexandrina Council

Local Super

Representative: Mayor Brian Hurn,
Barossa Council
Mayor John Rich,
Town of Walkerville

Major Developments Panel

Representative: Cr David Lykke,
Barossa Council
Proxy: Mayor Tony Zappia,
City of Salisbury

Native Vegetation Council

Representative: Mr Graham Smith,
formerly Kangaroo Island Council
Proxy: Mr Bill Murray,
formerly Wattle Range Council

Public & Environment Health Council

Representatives: Mr John Coombe,
Alexandrina Council
Mayor Felicity-ann Lewis,
City of Marion
Proxies: Cr Ann Irving,
City of Salisbury
Mr David Rowe,
formerly City of Mitcham

SA Bushfire Prevention Advisory Committee

Representatives: Mayor Ivan Brooks,
City of Mitcham
Cr Trevor Roocke,
DC of Mt Remarkable
Proxies: Cr Ian Bailey,
Adelaide Hills Council
(Proxy for Mayor Brooks)
Cr Simon Cox,
Wattle Range Council
(Proxy for Cr Trevor Roocke)

SA LG Disaster Fund

Representative: Mr Malcolm Germein,
formerly DC of Central Yorke Peninsula

SA LG Grants Commission

Representatives: Mr Keith Adams,
formerly City of Unley
Mr Malcolm Germein,
formerly DC of Central Yorke Peninsula

SA Meat Hygiene Advisory Committee

Representative: Dr Bob Netherton,
Naracoorte Lucindale Council
Proxy: Ms Ann Campbell,
City of Tea Tree Gully

SA Water Resources Council

Representative: Mr Ray Williams,
formerly City of Payneham

South East Water Conservation & Drainage Board

Representative: Cr Keith McBride,
Kingston District Council

State Disaster Committee

Representative: Cr Shiralee Reardon,
City of Salisbury
Proxy: Mayor John Trainer,
City of West Torrens

State Heritage Authority

Representative: Mr Anthony Presgrave,
formerly Alexandrina Council
Proxy: Cr Cathryn Hart,
City of Mitcham

State Records Council

Representative: Cr Judith Black,
Campbelltown City Council

Supported Residential Facilities Advisory Committee

Representatives: Ms Alison Creaser,
City of Pt Adelaide Enfield
Cr Keith Moorman,
City of Marion
Ms Kerry Symons,
City of Unley
Cr Peter Smith,
Mid Murray Council

Financial Report

Abridged Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2004

	2004 \$	2003 \$
Current assets		
Cash assets	1,334,361	1,184,183
Receivables	968,252	781,046
Project funds held	12,214,052	8,815,042
Other assets	21,077	57,034
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	14,537,742	10,837,305
Non-current assets		
Other financial assets	3	3
Property, plant and equipment	482,354	562,922
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	482,357	562,925
TOTAL ASSETS	15,020,099	11,400,230
Current Liabilities		
Payables	296,321	391,843
Unexpended project funds	12,214,052	8,815,042
Provisions	469,950	386,903
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	12,980,323	9,593,788
TOTAL LIABILITIES	12,980,323	9,593,788
NET ASSETS	2,039,776	1,806,442
Association funds		
Reserves	1,014,239	827,715
Accumulated funds	1,025,537	978,727
TOTAL ASSOCIATION FUNDS	2,039,776	1,806,442

The above statement of financial position has been extracted from the audited financial report which is available at the Annual General Meeting and from the Local Government Association

Abridged Income and Expenditure Statement for the year ended 30 June 2004

	2004 \$	2003 \$
Income		
Administration charges	1,006,051	937,062
Interest received	187,923	144,330
Local government conferences	95,561	170,899
Recoupment of costs incurred on projects	105,493	144,907
Publications sold	9,171	24,201
Seminars and conferences	17,609	5,059
Subscriptions	1,457,268	1,415,094
Sundry income	47,589	50,747
	2,926,665	2,892,299
Expenditure		
Audit fees	12,181	7,175
Annual general meeting expenses	12,103	11,593
Annual Report	11,331	10,273
ALGA subscriptions	159,175	139,329
Allowances	34,921	29,664
Bank charges	1,878	1,430
Cleaning	17,024	14,892
Computer licenses, equipment, maintenance and rental	27,849	24,513
Consultants fees	156,556	230,928
Depreciation	130,321	128,101
Electricity, light and power	30,695	30,218
Equipment rental & maintenance	11,473	13,362
Fringe benefits & goods and services tax and stamp duties	32,827	33,420
General meeting expenses	26,792	23,735
Insurance	14,291	15,352
Legal expenses	102,642	137,389
LGAnet review	-	25,358
Library and parliamentary bills	12,569	1,248
Local government conference	109,134	141,588
Local government elections	-	13,965
Long service leave	53,461	28,301
Maintenance	10,902	11,336
Motor vehicle expenses	17,633	16,588
Office expenses	24,444	24,865
Payroll tax	34,986	30,448
Postage and messengers	25,517	28,603

Abridged Income and Expenditure Statement for the year ended 30 June 2004

	2004 \$	2003 \$
Expenditure (continued)		
President's Dinner/Forum	9,751	7,049
Printing and stationery	25,536	22,046
Promotions & public relations	50,857	66,155
Rates and taxes	27,643	22,818
Recruitment costs	4,994	9,947
Rent	184,300	184,300
Salaries	1,072,079	1,013,921
Security Costs	252	480
Sponsorship	25,000	25,000
Staff development	9,205	12,990
Subscriptions & Seminars	16,880	12,397
Superannuation	97,735	94,681
Telecommunications	54,310	51,485
Travelling and accommodation	41,250	48,515
Workers compensation	2,834	2,473
	2,693,331	2,747,931
Surplus/(deficit) of income over expenditure for year	233,334	144,368
Association funds at the beginning of the financial year	978,727	919,092
Transfer to reserves		
– employee entitlements reserve	(86,345)	962
– asset replacement reserve	(100,179)	(85,695)
	(186,524)	(84,733)
Accumulated funds at the end of the financial year	1,025,537	978,727
Reserves	1,014,239	827,715
Total Association funds at the end of the financial year	2,039,776	1,806,442

The above income and expenditure statement has been extracted from the audited financial report which is available at the Annual General Meeting and from the Local Government Association