

Local Government Transport Advisory Panel

Minutes

Meeting held Friday 4 June 2021 at 10:00am
at the LGA – 148 Frome Street, Adelaide

1. Attendance

Panel Members:

- **Mayor Keith Parkes** (Alexandrina Council) – member of the LGA Board
- **Richard Dodson** (Light Regional Council) – member from a country Council
- **Peter Tsokas** (City of Unley) – member from a metropolitan Council
- **Lea Bacon** (LGA) – delegate of the Local Government Association
- **Peter Ilee** (South Australian Local Government Grants Commission, Attorney General's Department) – nominee of the Minister for Planning and Local Government
- **Andrew Excell** (Department for Infrastructure and Transport) – nominee of the Minister for Transport
 - Proxy for Andrew Excell: Mike Wilde

2. Apologies

- Andrew Excell

3. Review of minutes from previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held 20 January 2021 were accepted as a true and correct record.

4. Governance review

A verbal update was provided by Lea Bacon and implementation considerations were provided with the agenda.

Lea has now had discussions with all of the Regional LGAs and reviewed the possible implementation of the Governance Review recommendations. Key issues raised and discussion points noted are as follows:

- Issues and complications have been raised surrounding integrating Regional Transport Plans into the SLRP. Many of the Regional LGAs have put a lot of years and time and funding into developing their plans and one of the reasons for doing so is to help prioritise and build future SLRP applications but that's not the only reason. Funding, timing and process to change the development of the regional transport plans is quite complicated.
- Go back to the fundamentals and the key issues of the review. We need to avoid heavy level of detail for the Regional Transport Plans – i.e. SLRP essentially needs a list of the road networks that are included and eligible for the funding.

- Change in process to online means that all Councils can submit to their region and communication between regions and Councils will be key. There is room to consider regions having access to SmartyGrants to view their regions applications. There are some concerns regarding how regions are prioritising projects, and that each region seems to have a different process.
- Policies, processes and messages to regional Councils need to be clear in terms of their role and our expectations.
- It is a competitive program, and all Councils are eligible. Councils need to start looking at all of the funding programs they may be eligible for and what program may best suit their road funding.
- Aboriginal communities – conversations still need to be had with the Commonwealth as to participation.
- We need to ensure that each recommendation of the Governance Review is reviewed and reported on. The review report needs to be presented to the Grants Commission for them to be able to respond.
- Currently seeking approval to use the LGFA account for return of unspent funds, however this will form a recommendation in the review and needs to be officially tabled.
- Administrative costs for the program and who should fund it still needs to be considered.
- There is a spatial modelling piece of work – understanding of the national road asset – Mike will seek an update on this work.
- The LGA President, ALGA, State Minister and Commonwealth Minister need to have a broader discussion on local roads.
- Metro assessments – MSRC needs to be put back into the process as the Governance Review recommendations removes the MSRC.

5. 2021-22 applications

A verbal update was provided by Patricia. Thirty-two (32) applications have been completed and will undergo the assessment process.

6. Progress reports

6.1 Underspent funds

Peter Ilee provided a verbal update. Peter has spoken with the LGFA regarding use of the Grants Commission account and there are no foreseeable issues in this regard. Conversations are ongoing with Treasury and Finance. It is not known yet whether a Minute will be required from the Attorney General to the Treasurer or if a simpler process can be applied to resolve this matter. We need to provide a copy of the Governance Review final report with the minute (if its required). It was noted that the Governance Review final report to the LGTAP has yet to be considered by the LGA Board.



6.2 Funding split for the Roads to Recovery Program – 50%?

Peter confirmed that as long as funding is delivered to the Council through our process, the percentage is not an issue. We do however need to include the funding splits expected (Council contribution vs SLRP funding request) in the guidelines and the MoU. Historically it has been a minimum of 1/3 contribution for regional Councils per application and 50/50 for metropolitan Councils.

7. Date of next meeting

22 June 2021

8. Close

The meeting closed at 11:43am.