Notice of Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the LGA Ordinary General Meeting will be held on

Friday 12 April 2019 at 11.00am

Adelaide Entertainment Centre
98 Port Road, Hindmarsh

Matt Pinnegar
Chief Executive Officer

13 March 2019
Agenda

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Open &amp; Welcome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Apologies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Notice &amp; Arrangements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>President's Address</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Minutes of Previous Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>Minutes of the meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>Resolutions and Actions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>LGA Business</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>Local Government Reform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>LGA Advocacy Update</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>LGASA Commercial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.4</td>
<td>LGA Procurement Transformation Update</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>LGASA Mutual Update</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Recommendation Reports from the SAROC Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.1</td>
<td>State of Climate Change Emergency (Mount Barker)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.2</td>
<td>Local Government Leadership in Climate Risk Management (Southern &amp; Hills LGA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.3</td>
<td>Jetties (Tumby Bay)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.4</td>
<td>Lack of Medical Services to Regional Areas (Eyre Peninsula LGA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Funding for Regional Road Safety (Alexandrina)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.6</td>
<td>Regional Economic Growth and Development (Wattle Range)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.7</td>
<td>Little Corella Management (Alexandrina)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Recommendation Reports from the GAROC Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>Inclusion of Wine Bottles in the Container Deposit Legislation (Unley)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.2</td>
<td>Social Infrastructure that promotes liveable and healthy communities (Adelaide)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>Movement and Transport Planning (Adelaide)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.4</td>
<td>Hardship Policy for council rates (Playford)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
9. **Recommendation Reports from the LGA Board of Directors**
   9.1 Engineering Principles for Development (Campbelltown)

10. **Late Reports** *(to be distributed separately)*
    Nil

11. **Next Meeting**
    The LGA Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday 31 October 2019 at Adelaide Oval, War Memorial Drive, North Adelaide.

12. **Close**
5.1 Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 26 October 2018

Minutes of Previous Meeting
From: Jacqui Kelleher, Office Manager
Meeting Ordinary General Meeting 12 April 2019
ECM: 672734 Attachment: 665862

Recommendation
That the Ordinary General Meeting confirms the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 26 October 2018 as a true and accurate record of the proceedings held.

Discussion
An Annual General Meeting of the membership was held on 26 October 2018. The draft minutes are provided within the agenda papers and confirmation of accuracy is sought from the meeting.
Draft Minutes of the LGA Annual General Meeting held on Friday 26 October 2018 at 11.15am at the Adelaide Entertainment Centre, 98 Port Road, Hindmarsh

1. Open & Welcome

The President opened the meeting at 11:15am and welcomed members and staff.

Present:

President
Cr Sue Clearihan

LGA Secretariat:
Chief Executive Officer
Matt Pinnegar
Executive Director Corporate & Member Services
Kathy Jarrett
Executive Director Public Affairs
Lisa Tebarea
Executive Director Commercial
Steve Nolis
Office Manager (Minutes)
Jacqui Kelleher
Voting Scrutineers
Andrew Wroniak & Ben Swan

Member Councils (voting delegates):
Adelaide City Council
District Council of Copper Coast
Adelaide Hills Council
District Council of Elliston
Adelaide Plains Council
The Flinders Ranges Council
Alexandrina Council
District Council of Franklin Harbour
The Barossa Council
Town of Gawler
Barunga West Council
Goyder Regional Council
Berri Barmera Council
District Council of Grant
City of Burnside
Holdfast Bay City Council
Campbelltown City Council
Kangaroo Island Council
District Council of Ceduna
District Council of Karoonda East Murray
City of Charles Sturt
District Council of Kimba
Clare & Gilbert Valleys Council
Kingston District Council
Coorong District Council
Light Regional Council
District Council of Cleve
District Council of Lower Eyre Peninsula
2. Apologies and Absences

   District Council of Coober Pedy
   Municipal Council of Roxby Downs

   District Council of Yankalilla
   District Council of Robe

3. Notices & Arrangements

   The Executive Director Corporate & Member Services outlined the notices and arrangements for the meeting.

4. President’s Address

   The President provided a verbal report (copy attached).
Moved Port Adelaide Enfield Seconded West Torrens that the Annual General Meeting:

1. notes the verbal report; and
2. extends appreciation to Cr Clearihan for her excellent work and commitment during her term of office as President.

Carried

5. Minutes of Previous Meeting

5.1 Minutes of the General Meetings held on 13 April and 13 July 2018

Moved Berri Barmera Seconded Lower Eyre Peninsula that the Annual General Meeting confirms the minutes of the meetings held on 13 April and 13 July 2018 as true and accurate records of the proceedings held.

Carried

5.2 Resolutions and Actions from Previous Meetings

Moved Mount Barker Seconded Goyder that the Annual General Meeting notes progress with resolutions resulting from the ordinary general meeting of 13 April and special general meeting of 13 July 2018 and outstanding resolutions from earlier general meetings.

Carried

6. Discussion Reports from the LGA Board

6.1 LGA Policy Manual Endorsement

Moved Port Lincoln Seconded Northern Areas that the Annual General Meeting:

1. notes the report on outcomes of the sector-wide consultation on the updated content of the LGA Policy Manual; and
2. endorses the revised LGA Policy Manual to take effect from 26 October 2018.

Carried

6.2 Inclusive Representation in Local Government

Moved Alexandrina Seconded Naracoorte Lucindale that the Annual General Meeting:

1. notes the report;
2. notes the actions undertaken by the Local Government Association to support inclusive representation in local government in South Australia; and
3. encourages all councils in South Australia to implement strategies and actions to increase participation in local government by all members of the community.
6.3 Ancillary Documentation

Moved Gawler Seconded Coorong that the Annual General Meeting adopts the Ancillary Documents (noting the correction to clause 4.3.4 of the SAROC Terms of Reference to change GAROC to SAROC) to the new LGA Constitution:

a. Membership Proposition
b. Terms of reference for the South Australian Regional Organisation of Councils (SAROC)
c. Terms of reference for the Greater Adelaide Regional Organisation of Councils (GAROC)
d. Terms of reference for the Audit & Risk Committee
e. Terms of reference for the CEO Advisory Group
f. Meeting procedure

Carried

6.4 LGA Board Director Remuneration

Procedural motion – Moved Marion that the meeting agree to adjourn item 6.4 LGA Board Director Remuneration, pending a copy of the consultant’s report referenced within the report, being provided to the membership in order for consideration to be given to the full content.

Following advice from the Executive Director Corporate & Member Services the procedural motion was withdrawn by Marion.

Moved Burnside Seconded Ceduna that the Annual General Meeting adopts the following remuneration structure for LGA Board Directors:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Remuneration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LGA President</td>
<td>$47,982 (unchanged from the current allowance)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directors (x 9 including the Immediate Past President)</td>
<td>$4,291 (unchanged from the current allowance paid to Vice Presidents) plus reasonable expenses for directors to attend meetings</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Carried

12.05 pm Unley joined the meeting.

A division was called by Marion.

For: Adelaide, Adelaide Plains, Alexandrina, Barossa, Berri Barmera, Burnside, Ceduna, Charles Sturt, Clare & Gilbert Valleys, Cleve, Coorong, Copper Coast, Elliston, Flinders Ranges, Franklin Harbour, Gawler, Goyder, Grant, Holdfast

Against: Adelaide Hills, Barunga West, Campbelltown, Marion, Mitcham, Northern Areas, Norwood Payneham St Peters, Unley, Wattle Range, West Torrens, Wudinna

Absent: Kangaroo Island, Robe, Roxby Downs, Yankalilla

Abstained: Tumby Bay

The President confirmed the motion was Carried.

6.5 Annual Report 2017/18

Moved Mid Murray Seconded Victor Harbor that the Annual General Meeting receives and adopts the LGA of SA Annual Report for the year 2017/2018.

Carried

6.6 Financial Statements 2017/18

Moved Mount Barker Seconded Mid Murray that the Annual General Meeting receives and adopts the LGA of SA and controlled entities Financial Statements for the year 2017-18.

Carried

7. Information Reports from the LGA Board

7.1 LGA Advocacy Update

Moved Murray Bridge Seconded Naracoorte Lucindale that the Annual General Meeting notes the report on the LGA’s advocacy activities.

Carried

7.2 Local Government Research and Development Scheme

Moved Alexandrina Seconded Victor Harbor that the Annual General Meeting notes the report.

Carried

7.3 Local Government Financial Indicators 2018

Moved Victor Harbor Seconded Port Adelaide Enfield that the Annual General Meeting notes the report.

Carried
7.4 LGA Schemes Review Update
Moved Mid Murray Seconded Northern Areas that the Annual General Meeting notes the report.

Carried

7.5 LGA Schemes Results Financial Year 2018 - LGA Workers Compensation Scheme & LGA Mutual Liability Scheme
Moved Loxton Waikerie Seconded Port Pirie that the Annual General Meeting notes the report.

Carried

7.6 LGA 2018 Value Proposition and Pricing Methodology
Moved Naracoorte Lucindale Seconded Goyder that the Annual General Meeting notes the report.

Carried

8. Council Notices of Motion

8.1 Commonwealth Home Support Program Funding (Marion)
Moved Marion Seconded Adelaide Hills that the Annual General Meeting requests the LGA to lobby the ALGA to continue campaigning for the Commonwealth Government to confirm funding for Local Government to provide services to older people within our local communities post June 2020 when the Commonwealth Home Support Program funding ceases.

Carried

8.2 Affordable Housing ‘Deliberative Development’ (Prospect)
Moved Prospect Seconded Port Adelaide Enfield that the Annual General Meeting requests the LGA investigate whether there is sufficient evidence across Local Government for a model of co-located affordable housing (new housing models including ‘Deliberative development’) which maintains existing streetscapes, including planning implications and funding opportunities.

Carried

8.3 Northern Gateway Maintenance (Adelaide Plains)
Moved Adelaide Plains Seconded Wakefield Regional that the Annual General Meeting requests the LGA to lobby the State Government that the major northern gateway to Adelaide (Port Wakefield Highway) be cleaned up and maintained, and monies be resourced from waste levies.

Carried

8.4 State Wide Asbestos Strategy (Adelaide Plains)
Moved Adelaide Plains Seconded Port Adelaide Enfield that the Annual General Meeting requests the LGA to liaise with the State Government to
commence a state wide asbestos identification, collection and rehabilitation program with particular focus on coastal areas known for the illegal dumping of asbestos materials.

Carried

8.5 Commitment to Managing Recyclable Waste (Prospect)
Moved Prospect Seconded Port Adelaide Enfield that the Annual General Meeting requests the LGA to investigate whether there is sufficient evidence across Local Government for the establishment of a sector wide commitment that by 2025, local government in South Australia will fully participate in a circular economy in respect to waste management and will support waste processing which creates products for use by local government.

Carried

8.6 Increasing Procurement of Recyclable Waste (Prospect)
Moved Prospect Seconded Holdfast Bay that the Annual General Meeting requests the LGA to investigate whether there is sufficient evidence across Local Government to:

(a) significantly increase local governments’ procurement of products made partially or wholly from recycled materials through a review of procurement policies and specifications and development of templates for use across the sector;

(b) establish a sector wide Memorandum of Understanding for endorsement by Councils to commit to purchasing products made partially or wholly from recycled products as a demonstration of commitment and as a foundation for supporting the establishment and development of new industries within the State; and

(c) focus the 2019 LGA Showcase meeting to be held in April on waste management and recycling.

Carried

8.7 Improved Local Government Budget Processes (Adelaide Plains)
Moved Adelaide Plains Seconded Murray Bridge that the Annual General Meeting requests the LGA to continue to advocate on behalf of local government to remove the requirement for councils to collect land levies via council rates in relation to both the existing Natural Resources Management Act 2004 and the proposed Landscapes SA legislation.

Carried

Moved Adelaide Plains Seconded Light Regional that the AGM requests the Secretariat to consult with councils to determine whether the LGA liaises with the Office of the Valuer-General in relation to finalising property valuation data by 31 March of each year to align with Council budget timelines, processes and adoption.
8.8 Citizen Notification Power for By-law Offences (Onkaparinga)

Moved Onkaparinga Seconded Coorong that the Annual General Meeting requests the LGA advocate for an extension of powers under the *Local Government Act 1999* to allow for citizen notification for a breach of by-law offences.

Lost

8.9 Increasing the maximum penalty that can be fixed for a breach of a by-law (section 246 of the *Local Government Act 1999*) (Onkaparinga)

Moved Onkaparinga Seconded Renmark Paringa that the Annual General Meeting requests the LGA to advocate for an amendment to section 246(3)(g) of the *Local Government Act 1999* to increase the maximum penalty that can be fixed for any breach of a by-law and by extension the maximum expiation fee that can be fixed under section 246(5) of the Act.

Carried

8.10 Fee for Lodgement of a Section 270 Complaint (Mitcham)

Moved Mitcham Seconded Port Adelaide Enfield that the Annual General Meeting requests the LGA to request that the Government consider placement of a small “lodgement fee” on all section 270 complaints made to various councils. Should a complaint be upheld then the fee would be refunded in full.

Carried

8.11 Timing of Local Government Elections (Norwood Payneham & St Peters)

Moved Norwood Payneham St Peters Seconded Port Adelaide Enfield that the Annual General Meeting requests the LGA to lobby the State Government to investigate the merits of State Government and Local Government elections being held two (2) years apart from each other, as opposed to the current arrangement of being held in the same year.

Lost

8.12 Suspension of Allowances during State or Federal Elections (Mitcham)

Moved Mitcham Seconded Port Adelaide Enfield that the Annual General Meeting the *Local Government Act 1999*, be amended such that any local government elected member on nomination, endorsement or declaration of candidacy for any position in State or Federal Parliament shall for the duration of the Election cycle have all allowances suspended. This should include provision of motor vehicle and other support. The LGA will liaise with the Minister for Local Government to determine any further detail that makes the intent of this motion acceptable and enforceable.

**Amendment** Moved Prospect Seconded Adelaide that the Annual General Meeting the *Local Government Act 1999*, be amended such that any local government elected member on nomination, endorsement or declaration of
candidacy for any position in State or Federal Parliament shall for the period of suspension to only be from when the nominations are lodged and accepted to the election outcome and that the elected member take leave of absence during this time and have all allowances suspended. This should include provision of motor vehicle and other support. The LGA will liaise with the Minister for Local Government to determine any further detail that makes the intent of this motion acceptable and enforceable.

The Amendment become the motion was Carried

The motion as amended was put and was Carried

8.13 Newstart Allowance (Onkaparinga)

Moved Onkaparinga Seconded Prospect that the Annual General Meeting requests the LGA to endorse motion 64, passed at the 2018 ALGA National General Assembly, and that the LGASA actively lobby, and work with, ALGA and our federal and state parliamentary colleagues to facilitate an increase to the Newstart allowance as a matter of urgency.

Moved Mitcham that the motion be put.

Carried

The motion was put and was Lost

A division was called by Onkaparinga.

For: Adelaide, Adelaide Hills, Alexandrina, Barossa, Berri Barmera, Burnside, Clare & Gilbert Valleys, Coorong, Grant, Lower Eyre Peninsula, Loxton Waikerie, Mount Barker, Mount Gambier, Murray Bridge, Northern Areas, Onkaparinga, Playford, Port Adelaide Enfield, Prospect, Renmark Paringa, Salisbury, Tatiara, Tea Tree Gully, Victor Harbor, Wakefield Regional, Walkerville, Whyalla, Wudinna

Against Adelaide Plains, Barunga West, Campbelltown, Ceduna, Cleve, Copper Coast, Elliston, Flinders Ranges, Gawler, Goyder, Holdfast Bay, Karoonda East Murray, Kimba, Kingston, Light, Marion, Mid Murray, Mitcham, Mount Remarkable, Naracoorte Lucindale, Norwood Payneham St Peters, Orroroo Carrieton, Peterborough, Port Augusta, Port Lincoln, Port Pirie, Southern Mallee, Streaky Bay, Tumby Bay, Unley, Wattle Range, Yorke Peninsula.

Absent: Coober Pedy, Charles Sturt, Franklin Harbor, Kangaroo Island, Robe, Roxby Downs, Yankalilla

Abstained: West Torrens

The President confirmed the motion was Carried.
8.14 Statewide Industrial Relations (Marion)

Moved Marion that the Annual General Meeting requests the LGA to take the lead on managing industrial relations and negotiate 1 statewide agreement within indoor staff ie ASU and 1 statewide agreement with outdoor staff ie AWU.

The Motion lapsed for want of a seconder

9. Late Reports

Nil.

10. Next Meeting

An Ordinary General meeting will be held on Friday 12 April 2019 at the Adelaide Entertainment Centre, 98 Port Road, Hindmarsh.

11. Close

The meeting was declared closed at 1.28 pm.
2018 LGA AGM President’s Speech

This has been a big year for local government, and it’s an honour to provide the President’s Report to the meeting this morning.

It’s been my privilege to hold this position for the past four months.

From today, a new chapter will begin as our next President – Mayor Sam Telfer – begins his tenure.

I would like to begin by thanking former President Mayor Rosenberg for her service during the current term of the Board.

Mayor Rosenberg guided the LGA through an important period with passion and commitment, advocating strongly for our sector.

Under her leadership, we commenced work on a significant reform agenda that will re-shape and strengthen local government for years to come.

I would also like to thank the outgoing Board members for their service.

It’s been a privilege working with you to provide valuable leadership to our sector.

I wish you all the best, and know that you will continue to serve your communities - be it through council, or other worthy organisations.

Giving back to the community is part of our DNA.

Over the past year, we have achieved a lot – including our new Constitution which was endorsed at our OGM in April.

This Constitution supports our priorities of less process and more outcomes, stronger policy engagement and increasing value for members.

Since our OGM, you’ve helped to bring this Constitution to life, taking part in workshops and giving your feedback on the ancillary documents.

Today we will be seeking endorsement of these new documents, enabling them to come into effect at the same time as our new Constitution.

When I look back at the past six months, the most significant challenge we have faced has been rate capping.

Standing united as a sector, we were able to protect our communities from a policy that has hurt communities in NSW and Victoria, and presented a real risk to South Australia.

Labor have announced their own plans for local government reform, and introduced a Bill containing these reforms into Parliament earlier this week.

Their Bill has in-principle support from the Greens and SA-BEST, who have stood beside Labor in opposing rate capping.

Some of these alternative reform proposals are consistent with what the LGA has previously proposed, or are already looking to implement, while other proposals will need careful scrutiny by the LGA and the sector.
The LGA will be examining the proposed legislation carefully, and consulting with members before forming a final position.

However, at the crux of this issue, is the need for local government reform.

This is something that all parties – and the LGA – agree on.

We want to work hand-in-hand with the State Government and the Parliament on this reform. We can’t do it alone.

The Minister for Local Government, Stephan Knoll, has committed to working with our sector on reform, and we look forward to consultation over the coming months.

What we need is change that will support continued improvement in councils.

Reforms like benchmarking for councils, standardising our council auditing procedures, improving our code of conduct and finding ways to diversify our revenue streams will enable us to become more efficient and better serve our communities.

One example of how we are already driving our reform agenda is the recent launch of our new commercial services arm.

Through LGASA Commercial Solutions, there is a significant opportunity to remove duplications across councils, drive down costs and improve the way we operate as a sector.

In mid-September, a new legal services partnership with HWL Ebsworth was announced, which is predicted to save councils more than $2 million a year.

This is money that can be invested back into our communities.

The agreement with HWL includes a free legal hotline, providing councils with access to a network of experienced legal practitioners across Australia.

We’ve also launched a travel partnership with Corporate Traveller, and an energy audits partnership with LGA Queensland.

Another highlight from the past six months has been completing the review and restructure of our Mutual Liability and Workers Compensation Schemes.

This review has not only addressed recommendations made by the Auditor-General, but is also projected to save ratepayers at least $43 million over the next ten years.

This is in addition to the $28 million in savings delivered by the Schemes to councils every year.

Looking to the challenges of the coming year, a key focus will undoubtedly be determining a path forward in the wake of China’s National Sword Policy.

Alongside Green Industries SA, we have been running workshops to examine how councils can become part of the solution.

Ultimately, this new policy also presents also an opportunity to strengthen our recycling industry and develop a circular economy, which will have a positive environmental and economic impact.

Planning will also remain a focus, as the LGA works with both councils and the State Government on the transition to South Australia’s new planning system.
Federally, we know that an election is imminent, and we will work with ALGA to advocate for a better deal for South Australian councils and communities.

This will include pushing for increases to Financial Assistance Grants, and hopefully securing ongoing supplementary road funding for South Australia.

In real terms, the total pool of FAGs funding has fallen from around 1% of taxation in 1996 to 0.55% today.

This is a trend we need to reverse.

Councils collect just 4% of taxation, and we need fair funding to maintain the billions of dollars of assets we provide for communities.

Securing ongoing supplementary road funding for SA is another priority, and I would like to acknowledge the other state LGAs and ALGA for standing behind us on this.

South Australia has 11% of Australia’s local road network, and 7% of its population, but receives just 5.5% of Identified Local Roads Grant funding.

The supplementary road funding we receive to make up for this anomaly will run out at the end of this current financial year, and we’ll be pushing for it to be extended, and ultimately made permanent.

I would like to close with the subject that is most pertinent at the moment – the 2018 council elections.

This year we’ve seen a 20 year high in nominations – including an all-time record in nominations from women – and I couldn’t be prouder of this result.

The LGA has worked closely with councils on a campaign to increase diversity in our sector, and the record number of nominations from women shows the message is getting through.

Ballot papers went out earlier this week, and now it’s up to the South Australian voters to determine the candidates that best represent their views and needs.

It is an incredible privilege to serve as a member of a council, and as a sector we should hold ourselves to the highest standards in how we interact with each other, council staff, and community members.

Communities put more trust and faith in us when we treat each other with respect and work together to achieve great outcomes for South Australia.

We all need to do our part to create an environment where everyone in local government feels safe, included and supported – even when we might disagree with each other.

The LGA has advocated for changes to the Code of Conduct that would better equip councils to deal with serious issues of harassment and bullying when they occur, and working with the Government on these changes remains a priority.

In recent weeks the LGA has held its own elections, to appoint a new President, and new members to SAROC and GAROC.

I would like to congratulate all of you who were appointed to these positions, and in particular our new President, Tumby Bay Mayor Sam Telfer.

This was the first time in a number of years where we had numerous candidates for the position of President, and it is great to see so much interest in this role.

There’s much to be done in local government.
Our sector is the most efficient, and most transparent sphere of government, but we should always be looking for opportunities to get better.

I look forward to handing over the reigns to Mayor Telfer at the end of our meeting today, and have every confidence that Sam – and the new LGA Board – will lead our sector towards an even brighter future.

Thank you.
5.2 Resolutions and Actions from Previous Meetings

Minutes of Previous Meeting
From: Jacqui Kelleher, Office Manager
Meeting Ordinary General Meeting 12 April 2019
ECM: 672081

Recommendation

That the Ordinary General Meeting notes progress with resolutions resulting from the Annual General Meeting of 26 October 2018 and outstanding resolutions from earlier general meetings.

Discussion

The attachment shows progress of resolutions from previous general meetings of the LGA.
### Resolutions from the Annual General Meeting – 26 October 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resolution</th>
<th>Action Taken / Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.1 LGA Policy Manual Endorsement <em>(VB 665500)</em></td>
<td>The revised policy manual has now taken effect and is ready to launch as an online resource for members and stakeholders.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>that the Annual General Meeting:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. notes the report on outcomes of the sector-wide consultation on the updated content of the LGA Policy Manual; and</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. endorses the revised LGA Policy Manual to take effect from 26 October 2018.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.2 Inclusive Representation in Local Government <em>(LT 665522)</em></td>
<td>The proposed strategies and actions endorsed by the AGM have been communicated to councils.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>that the Annual General Meeting:</td>
<td>The strategies used by the sector to promote gender diversity at the 2018 council elections contributed to an increase in participation by women.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. notes the report;</td>
<td>245 women were elected to South Australian councils at the November 2018 council elections. This represented 35% of all members elected, and was an increase from 29% at the last council elections in 2014.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. notes the actions undertaken by the Local Government Association to support inclusive representation in local government in South Australia; and</td>
<td>Within the 245 women elected to council, 26 women were appointed as mayors – a significant increase on the nine female mayors elected in 2014.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. encourages all councils in South Australia to implement strategies and actions to increase participation in local government by all members of the community.</td>
<td>There was also a record number of nominations from female candidates in 2018 – 454 nominations which was a 20% increase on 2014, and the highest on record.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.3 Ancillary Documentation <em>(LT / AJ 665707)</em></td>
<td>The Ancillary Documents have taken effect and new committees and structures have been implemented.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>that the Annual General Meeting adopts the Ancillary Documents (noting the correction to clause 4.3.4 of the SAROC Terms of Reference to change GAROC to SAROC) to the new LGA Constitution:</td>
<td>A report will be presented to the 2019 AGM to provide an update and review of the implementation of new arrangements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Membership Proposition</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
b. Terms of reference for the South Australian Regional Organisation of Councils (SAROC)
c. Terms of reference for the Greater Adelaide Regional Organisation of Councils (GAROC)
d. Terms of reference for the Audit & Risk Committee
e. Terms of reference for the CEO Advisory Group
f. Meeting procedure

6.4 LGA Board Director Remuneration (LT 665749)
that the Annual General Meeting adopts the following remuneration structure for LGA Board Directors:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Remuneration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LGA President</td>
<td>$47,982 (unchanged from the current allowance)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directors (x 9 including the Immediate Past President)</td>
<td>$4,291 (unchanged from the current allowance paid to Vice Presidents) plus reasonable expenses for directors to attend meetings</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Board Director Remuneration has been implemented as per the resolution of the AGM.

6.5 Annual Report 2017/18 (AW / MP 665703)
that the Annual General Meeting receives and adopts the LGA of SA Annual Report for the year 2017/2018.

Annual report adopted and provided to member councils.

6.6 Financial Statements 2017/18 (AW 665700)
that the Annual General Meeting receives and adopts the LGA of SA and controlled entities Financial Statements for the year 2017-18.

Financial statements adopted.

8.1 Commonwealth Home Support Program Funding (Marion) (RM 665553)
The LGA has undertaken a number of actions to advocate on behalf of councils since the introduction of the Commonwealth’s aged care reforms.
that the Annual General Meeting requests the LGA to lobby the ALGA to continue campaigning for the Commonwealth Government to confirm funding for Local Government to provide services to older people within our local communities post June 2020 when the Commonwealth Home Support Program funding ceases.

This has included a workshop, an issues paper, a submission to the Commonwealth’s independent Aged Care Legislated Review and a discussion paper to assist councils to engage in the debate – both within their own council and with future consultation on the national reforms as they continue into the future.

The LGA has continued to engage at the Commonwealth level on this issue and at the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) Board meeting on 20 September 2018, it was agreed that this issue would be included as part of ALGA’s Federal Election agenda and considered as part of the next Federal Budget Submission. The LGA then wrote to the ALGA President to formally request that advocacy on this issue be included as part of their submission.

ALGA’s 2019-20 Federal Budget Submission contains a recommendation to the Commonwealth to continue the CHSP programme beyond 2020 for a further three years at a minimum.

8.2 Affordable Housing ‘Deliberative Development’ (Prospect) (VB 665555)

that the Annual General Meeting requests the LGA investigate whether there is sufficient evidence across Local Government for a model of co-located affordable housing (new housing models including ‘Deliberative development’) which maintains existing streetscapes, including planning implications and funding opportunities.

A discussion paper on affordable housing is currently out for consultation with members. This paper includes a section on deliberative development and forms part of the investigations sought by this resolution.

A report will be presented to the LGA Board of Directors on the outcomes of consultation with members with recommendations how this matter will progress.

8.3 Northern Gateway Maintenance (Adelaide Plains) (EHS 665597)

that the Annual General Meeting requests the LGA to lobby the State Government that the major northern gateway to Adelaide (Port Wakefield Highway) be cleaned up and maintained, and monies be resourced from waste levies.

LGA President Sam Telfer wrote to the Minister for Environment and Water in relation to this issue on 22 January 2019. The LGA has not yet received a response to this letter and the matter will be raised at the next regular meeting with Minister Speirs.

8.4 State Wide Asbestos Strategy (Adelaide Plains) (BC 665598)

that the Annual General Meeting requests the LGA to liaise with the State Government to commence a state wide asbestos identification, collection and

A letter was sent to Minister for Environment and Water on 11 January 2019 and copies sent to the Treasurer, the Minister for Health and Wellbeing and the Minister for Transport, Planning and Local Government. The letter
rehabilitation program with particular focus on coastal areas known for the illegal dumping of asbestos materials.

requested that state government initiate discussions regarding the development of a state-wide asbestos strategy that provides clarity on roles and responsibilities, as well as options moving forward to address both the cost of illegally dumped asbestos and community health and safety in the domestic setting.

The Minister’s response received on 6 March outlines range of initiatives put in place by the State Government to address the issue of asbestos management. This includes investigations that have been commenced by the EPA in collaboration with Safework SA to better understand the generation, movement and disposal (including illegal dumping) of asbestos waste. These investigations will inform future State Government actions. Local government input into this work via the LGA has been welcomed and the LGA will liaise with the EPA to facilitate council input.

8.5 Commitment to Managing Recyclable Waste (Prospect) (EHS 665558)
that the Annual General Meeting requests the LGA to investigate whether there is sufficient evidence across Local Government for the establishment of a sector wide commitment that by 2025, local government in South Australia will fully participate in a circular economy in respect to waste management and will support waste processing which creates products for use by local government.

To enable the local government sector to commit to fully participating in a circular economy for waste management, the LGA is currently undertaking a pilot project with seven councils to trial the adoption of sustainable procurement targets by councils.

The LGA has commenced meeting with these councils to determine a target to be adopted for the 2019-20 financial year. The LGA has also commenced work on developing tools and guiding documents to help councils meet a proposed target.

As proposed through the Waste Pathways Workshop held in June 2018, the outcomes and learnings from this pilot project could be used to inform a sector-wide strategy to enable local government to fully participate in a circular economy.

8.6 Increasing Procurement of Recyclable Waste (Prospect) (EHS 665559)
that the Annual General Meeting requests the LGA to investigate whether there is

To enable the local government sector to significantly increase its procurement of recycled products and materials, the LGA is currently undertaking a pilot project to trial the adoption of sustainable procurement
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>sufficient evidence across Local Government to:</th>
<th>targets by councils.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. significantly increase local governments’ procurement of products made partially or wholly from recycled materials through a review of procurement policies and specifications and development of templates for use across the sector;</td>
<td>The LGA has commenced meeting with the seven councils participating in the pilot project for the purpose of determining a target to be adopted for the 2019-20 financial year. The LGA has also commenced work on developing tools and guiding documents to help councils meet a proposed target.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. establish a sector wide Memorandum of Understanding for endorsement by Councils to commit to purchasing products made partially or wholly from recycled products as a demonstration of commitment and as a foundation for supporting the establishment and development of new industries within the State; and</td>
<td>As proposed through the Waste Pathways Workshop in June 2018, the outcomes and learnings from this pilot project could be used to inform a sector-wide strategy or MOU to commit local government to increasing its purchasing of recycled content products and materials.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. focus the 2019 LGA Showcase meeting to be held in April on waste management and recycling.</td>
<td>Separately, the 2019 LGA Showcase meeting will incorporate two streams – a generalist stream and a dedicated waste and recycling stream.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 8.7 Improved Local Government Budget Processes (Adelaide Plains) (SPS and PSS 665596)

that the Annual General Meeting requests the LGA to continue to advocate on behalf of local government to remove the requirement for councils to collect land levies via council rates in relation to both the existing Natural Resources Management Act 2004 and the proposed Landscapes SA legislation.

that the AGM requests the Secretariat to consult with councils to determine whether the LGA liaises with the Office of the Valuer-General in relation to finalising property valuation data by 31 March of each year to align with Council budget timelines, processes and adoption.

The LGA has continued to advocate on behalf of the LG sector regarding the removal of the requirement for councils to collect the NRM Levy. The LGA reinforced the sectors concerns in its submission on the exposure draft of the Landscapes SA Bill.

In relation to valuations, the LGA contacted Revenue Professionals SA (RPSA) and the SA Local Government Financial Management Group (FMG) for feedback.

The FMG Executive Committee advised that there is sufficient flexibility in current arrangements to address the issue underlying the resolution. In particular, individual Councils may engage with the State Valuation Office to achieve timeframes that suit their budget process. Similar advice has been received informally from the Office of the Valuer-General. On the basis of the investigations undertaken, the LGA does not intend to pursue this matter formally with the Office of the Valuer-General.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>8.9</th>
<th>Increasing the maximum penalty that can be fixed for a breach of a by-law (section 246 of the Local Government Act 1999) (Onkaparinga) (AS 665557)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The LGA will consult with members on this proposal during development of its advocacy agenda for legislative change as part of the State Government’s Local Government Reform program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>that the Annual General Meeting requests the LGA to advocate for an amendment to section 246(3)(g) of the Local Government Act 1999 to increase the maximum penalty that can be fixed for any breach of a by-law and by extension the maximum expiation fee that can be fixed under section 246(5) of the Act.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>8.10</th>
<th>Fee for Lodgement of a Section 270 Complaint (Mitcham) (AS 665701)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The LGA will consult with members on this proposal during development of its advocacy agenda for legislative change as part of the State Government’s Local Government Reform program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>that the Annual General Meeting requests the LGA to request that the Government consider placement of a small “lodgement fee” on all section 270 complaints made to various councils. Should a complaint be upheld then the fee would be refunded in full.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>8.12</th>
<th>Suspension of Allowances during State or Federal Elections (Mitcham) (AS 665702)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>This position has been adopted as part of the LGA’s local government reform agenda and will be put forward as a reform proposal as part of the State Government’s legislative review process.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>that the Annual General Meeting the Local Government Act 1999, be amended such that any local government elected member on nomination, endorsement or declaration of candidacy for any position in State or Federal Parliament shall for the period of suspension to only be from when the nominations are lodged and accepted to the election outcome and that the elected member take leave of absence during this time and have all allowances suspended. This should include provision of motor vehicle and other support. The LGA will liaise with the Minister for Local Government to determine any further detail that makes the intent of this motion acceptable and enforceable.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
8.13 Newstart Allowance (Onkaparinga) *(VB 665560)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action Taken / Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A letter has been sent to the Federal Minister (Fletcher) expressing LGA SA support for an increase in NewStart. ALGA has also been informed of LGASA support for this campaign.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The LGA will participate in third party social media campaigns on this issue in the lead up to the Federal Election.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resolutions from the Special General Meeting – 13 July 2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>4.1 Local Government (Rate Oversight) Amendment Bill 2018 (MP 662513)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>That the Special General Meeting:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. notes the report;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. notes the policy position unanimously adopted by LGA Members at the 2016 Ordinary General Meeting that decisions concerning council rates are better informed, and the impacts better understood, when made by the respective councils in consultation with their communities;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. requests that all South Australian councils carefully review the Local Government (Rate Oversight) Amendment Bill 2018 and advise the Local Government Association by Friday 3 August 2018 of the council’s endorsed position based on the following options:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Council supports the Local Government (Rate Oversight) Amendment Bill 2018; or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Council opposes the Local Government (Rate Oversight) Amendment Bill 2018.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. supports the LGA using best endeavours to secure the best possible outcome for local government and the communities they serve and requests that councils provide to the LGA a list of the priority issues, amendments and concessions they would seek to address in the LGA’s discussions with political</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Since the LGA Special General Meeting on 13 July 2018 resolution was passed, the LGA requested all South Australian Councils carefully review the Local Government (Rate Oversight) Amendment Bill 2018 and advise the Local Government Association of their position by Friday 3 August. 56 councils formally voted to oppose the legislation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subsequent to the feedback from councils, the LGA Board held special meeting on 10 August 2018 to consider its endorsed position on the policy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At the 10 August 2018 LGA Special Board meeting the board voted to unanimously oppose the Bill.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Since the 10 August LGA Board meeting, the LGA President and CEO have held various meetings with the local government Minister, Shadow Minister and members of the cross bench to communicate the sector’s strong opposition to the Local Government (Rate Oversight) Amendment Bill 2018 and to discuss alternative reforms.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On 30 August 2018 Labor, SA Best and the Greens announced they would oppose the rate capping bill, whilst supporting a bill with an alternative range of reforms.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The LGA continues to meet regularly with the local government Minister, Shadow Minister and Cross Bench to discuss effective reform measures for local government.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5. notes that the Local Government Association Board will hold a special meeting to consider the endorsed positions of member councils; and

6. notes that the LGA Board will consider the matter on the basis of both a 'one vote, one value' counting method and a weighted voting method (using the same weighting system applied at LGA General Meetings). The Board will also use identified criteria to inform and resolve a position.

---

**Resolutions from the Ordinary General Meeting – 13 April 2018**

**8.1 Little Corella Management (Alexandrina) (LB 659551)**

That the Ordinary General Meeting requests the LGA to vigorously lobby the State Government for the rapid progression of a state-wide strategy and response to the management and population control of Little Corellas, which should then be supported with financial assistance to Local Governments to assist with the implementation of medium and long term management options for this and other abundant bird species. The strategy should utilise recommendations of the Discovery Circle University of South Australia report to guide actions, which should be facilitated and implemented by state government with assistance from local government and other relevant agencies and stakeholders.

A local government reform update report is included in the Agenda of the 2019 OGM.

**Action Taken / Progress**

The LGA is continuing its efforts to advocate to the State Government, and support member councils with the management of little corellas.

On 30 April 2018, the LGA President wrote to the Minister for Environment and Water, David Speirs MP, seeking urgency from the State Government to provide for the state-wide management of little corellas, which should be supported with financial assistance to councils to assist with the implementation of medium and long-term management options for this and other abundant bird species.

The Minister has replied acknowledging the community’s concerns regarding little corellas and confirming that a state-wide strategy is being prepared by the Department for Environment and Water as a priority.

The LGA made a submission to the Parliamentary Inquiry into Overabundant and Pest Species held by the Natural Resources Committee in October 2018 highlighting the impact of managing abundant species on the local government sector.

The LGA also gave evidence to the Inquiry in December 2018 arguing for the urgent need for a state-wide Strategy into management of Little Corellas and
other overabundant species. Other witnesses at the Inquiry included representatives of the Department for Environment and Water (‘the Department’), the District Council of Grant and Mount Barker District Council, as well as Mayor Keith Parkes of Alexandrina Council, who appeared together with Mr Lea Bacon, Director Policy at the LGA.

No outcome from the Inquiry has yet been released and no strategy has been released for consultation by the Department.

The LGA’s 2019-2020 State Budget Submission includes management of abundant species as one of its 12 key priorities. Specifically, in that submission, the LGA calls for a state-wide management strategy as well as funding to implement medium and long-term actions to manage overabundant species.

For the purposes of reporting against this resolution, this matter is considered to be complete. However, the LGA will continue to advocate on behalf of councils on this issue and provide updates to members on progress.

**8.3 New Properties Application for Reticulation (AFR) (Marion) (SPS 659552)**

That the Ordinary General Meeting requests the LGA to advocate for connection to telecommunication infrastructure being mandated in relevant legislation by writing to:

1. the South Australian Minister for Planning seeking that the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016 be amended to include telecommunications as an essential service for the purpose of issuing land division consents; and

2. the Department of Communications to seek more information on the awareness campaign being undertaken by the Department and communicate the information to councils.

The LGA has written to the Minister of Planning regarding this matter (no response received to date) and the Commonwealth Department of Communications and Art.

The LGA will seek opportunities through the development of the Planning and Development Code to have telecommunications infrastructure considered during the land division process.
8.5 Local Heritage Listing Policy and Procedure (Adelaide) (SPS 659576)

That the Ordinary General Meeting requests that the LGA calls upon and works with all South Australian Councils to develop a consistent policy and procedure to identify and protect their historic building stock dating from the 19th and 20th century, to achieve more consistent local heritage and comprehensive historic character protection across all council areas in the State, in order to better meet community expectations.

The LGA has been investigating funding and resourcing options to progress this work as resources are not available within the Secretariat.

The LGA Secretariat submitted an application to the LGR&D Scheme to undertake this project; however the funding request was unsuccessful.

Subsequently the LGA Secretariat submitted a proposal to the MLGG to consider funding the project. The MLGG requested that the LGA Secretariat seek advice from Regional LGAs as to whether the regions would provide in-principle support to undertake the development of local heritage listing policies and procedures in addition to providing a financial contribution towards the project. A report will be provided to the GAROC meeting in May with the outcome of this request.

In the meantime, the LGA has made a written and verbal submission to the Environment, Resources and Development Committee’s Heritage Inquiry calling for greater State Government support for heritage properties and greater clarity and consistency in the listing process.

8.7 Bike Share Scheme Policy and Procedure (Adelaide) (PSS 659578)

That the Ordinary General Meeting requests that the LGA works with all South Australian Councils to develop, where appropriate, a consistent policy and procedure for Bike Share Schemes operating in South Australia.

Funding of $15,000 was made available in 2018-19 from the Local Government Research & Development Scheme.

To carry out the project, the LGA formed a small steering group, comprising policy officers at four metropolitan Councils (including Adelaide City), and an officer from DPTI.

The steering group selected a consultant to carry out this work, and a first draft of the consultant’s report was received in February 2019. The steering group has sought revision of the first draft and it is anticipated that this project will be finalised shortly.
8.8 Developer Contributed Assets (Charles Sturt) *(SPS 659579)*

That the Ordinary General Meeting requests that the LGA to:

1. seek advice from the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI) on the timing of the development of the Design Standards and seek an assurance from DPTI that the Design Standards will be developed in consultation with local government; and

2. commission production of a template agreement for a council to enter with a developer, under which the council would agree to accept an asset constructed by the developer, providing that the asset was constructed to a relevant standard, and providing a mechanism to deal with a situation where the standard of such an asset was in dispute.

The LGA has sought advice from DPTI about the process and timing of Design Standards. This is yet to be confirmed.


The LGA has, on a number of occasions, requested that DPTI use these guidelines as the basis for the Design Standards to be prepared under the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act.

Council adoption and usage of the Infrastructure Guidelines will reduce the need for a template agreement. To the extent that a template agreement might be regarded as advantageous, this would require legal services and advice. The cost of such services has not been anticipated in the current LGA work plan. As the LGA does not currently have the resources to prioritise this work, a Council might choose to apply to the LGR&DS for funding to develop such a template.

8.9 Building Code Standards for Accessible Car Parking (Prospect) *(SPS 659580)*

That the Ordinary General Meeting request the LGA to write to the relevant authority to seek amendments to the Building Code of Australia (or relevant Australian Standards) to establish a revised minimum height clearance standard for car parking including for car parking spaces and access to car parking facilities to enable Access Taxis and/or similar vehicles, designed for people with disability (or minimum distance from the site), to access appropriate parking spaces.

Correspondence has been sent to Building Standards Australia regarding this matter. Building Standards Australia has advised that the CE-001 Parking Facilities technical committee is responsible for the above standards and are currently revising these standards. The ALGA is a member of this committee, and this matter has been forwarded to ALGA.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>8.10 Potential Conflict of Interest (Salisbury) <em>(AS 659604)</em></th>
<th>A similar, but slightly varied, notice of motion was carried at the LGA 2018 AGM. An update on this revised position is provided within this report.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>that the Ordinary General Meeting requests the LGA to lobby the State Government following the March election regarding:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. legislative change that would require any candidate serving on council to take leave of absence with suspension of allowance following the issuing of the writs; and</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. the LGA investigate changes to the legislation that suspends Elected Member allowances for the duration of extended leaves of absence greater than two months.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Resolutions from the Annual General Meeting - 16 November 2017**

8.1 **Community Land Management Plans (Charles Sturt) *(EHS 655308)***

That the Annual General Meeting requests the LGA to undertake a comprehensive review of their Community Land – Classification and Management Plans Guidelines to ensure that these guidelines take into consideration the decision handed down by Justice Malcolm Blue in the Supreme Court.

**Action Taken / Progress**

The LGA has been working with Local Government Risk Services on two projects to respond to the Coast Park decision: a revised Public Consultation Policy - Model Policy document and revised Community Land Management Plan (CLMP) guidelines.

The LGA has prioritised the project related to public consultation. This project is close to completion. Once completed, the LGA will re-commence work on the revised CLMP guidelines.
### 8.2 Material Conflicts of Interest (West Torrens) *(AS 655373)*

That the Annual General Meeting requests the LGA to seek the amendment of section 74 of the Local Government Act 1999 (LG Act) to enable a member of council who has declared a material conflict of interest in a matter to be discussed at a meeting of council, to be able to elect to remain in the meeting, participate in the debate and vote on the matter if the member is able to demonstrate that it is in the public interest for the member to do so particularly when nominating for community membership or conferences and seminars specifically related to local government business i.e. Local Government Association Annual General Meeting, Australian Local Government National Congress etc.

The LGA will consult with members on this proposal during development of its advocacy agenda for legislative change as part of the State Government’s Local Government Reform program.

### 8.3 Rating of Electricity Generators (Wattle Range) *(LB 655481)*

that the Annual General Meeting asks the LGA to investigate, in collaboration with Regional LGAs, the potential benefits of allowing councils to collect rates from electricity generators in the same manner as councils in Victoria as part of a broader review of rating equity for commercial and industrial land uses.

Supported by the LGR&DS, the Legatus Group commissioned a report (completed) to further explore this issue and provide recommendations to assist with removing rating constraints.

At its meeting on 13 September 2018, the LGA Board adopted recommendations that:

- noted the Rating Equity for Commercial and/or Industrial Land Uses Outside Towns in South Australia report’s key findings as;
  - significant rating constraints presently impede SA Councils from equitably allocating the rate burden across their communities from selected major developments; and
  - compared with other mainland states, ratepayers are forced to cross subsidise electricity generated for use outside of Council’s boundaries, high intensity land uses, and the provision of community housing.
- endorsed LGA advocacy to the State Government to ensure rating equity by removing the constraints that South Australian councils face in rating electricity generators and resource sector (mining) properties through changes to legislation:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>8.5 Essential Services Property Reinstatement Policy (Prospect) (LB 655433)</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| that the Annual General Meeting requests the Local Government Association to liaise with essential service providers to establish an agreed policy on reinstating public infrastructure to the satisfaction of councils after completion of works and remediation improvements. | a. to allow SA Councils to recover appropriate payments in lieu of rates directly from electricity generators – rather than landowners – under a regulated formula subject to indexation.  
 b. to enable additional flexibility in the categorisation of different land uses for differential rating purposes to provide Councils with greater capacity to levy appropriate rates based on intensity of land use (e.g. mining/resources, feedlots). 
 • noted that member councils may consider the potential interim action for adoption of occupancy / tenancy-based valuations of wind turbines and solar panel installations.  
 On 22 October 2018, the LGA President wrote to the Minister for Local Government in these terms. While no formal response has been received, the LGA Secretariat is aware that the Minister is open to considering this issue in line with future considerations of its local government reform agenda. The LGA will highlight this research and continue to raise rating equity issues through the legislative review process.  
 In 2018-19, the Metropolitan Local Government Group agreed to fund a project led by the LGA to progress this issue. The LGA has sought responses from councils and essential service providers via a survey. The LGA has met with the City of Adelaide to discuss a project they are undertaking on a similar issue, and is currently in the process of reviewing the relevant legislation and is likely to establish a working group to process ideas from stakeholder. Further recommendations will go to the GAROC committee as this work progresses. |
### 8.6 Establishing Local Government common data formats (Prospect) (AJ/MP 655434)

That the Annual General Meeting requests the LGA to seek interest from the Local Government sector in:

- establishing common formats for collecting data;
- the LGA collating and sharing such data; and
- ensuring the data is available to the public in a user friendly format.

UHY Haines Norton were engaged to source a number of existing databases and data to compile a report based on Council classifications. This report, together with an interactive dashboard which will allow users to review and analyse this data will be presented to a benchmarking forum to be held by the LGA in the coming months.

Sector-wide benchmarking is a key proposal in the LGA’s local government reform agenda and has strong support across councils. Developing a suite of comparable performance measures is the next step in progressing this proposal, and the LGA is preparing a project plan for how to progress this significant body of work in consultation with councils.

### 8.9 Use of independent experts for assessment of Regulated or Significant trees (Unley) (SPS 655435)

That the Annual General Meeting requests the LGA to:

1. investigate with councils and the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure the development of a Planning Circular which outlines the ‘special circumstances’ which should apply to request an expert or technical report relating to a tree; and
2. advocate for arborists involved in the assessment of Significant and Regulated Trees to be included in the Accredited Professionals scheme and Code of Practice to be established under the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act.

This matter was raised in the LGA Submission on the Accredited Professionals Scheme.

The recently released Accredited Professionals Scheme regulations did not address this issue. The LGA will continue to work with DPTI on other options including consideration of a Practice Direction from the State Planning Commission.
### 9.2 Administering the Construction Industry Training Fund Levy (Barossa) (SH 656134)

that the Annual General Meeting requests the LGA to seek consideration by the State Government to change legislation to enact a simpler and efficient calculation or council allocation of the Construction Industry Training Fund Levy, based on either:
1. an annual fee based on council’s ratepayer base;
2. an annual fee based on capital expenditure; or
3. explore other options for a simpler formula and/or method.

This issue was referred to the joint State-Local Government Red Tape Reduction taskforce. Members of the State Government’s Simpler Regulation Unit worked with The Barossa Council and the CITB to formulate a simpler and more efficient system for councils to consider using instead of the current system.

The CITB communicated via letter to all councils the new arrangements in late 2018.

### Resolutions from the Ordinary General Meeting – 21 April 2017

#### 8.10 Innovation and Investment in Commercial Activities (Adelaide) (LB 647971)

that the Ordinary General Meeting requests the LGA to explore local, national and international business models used by the local government sector to manage commercial operations and explore any current legislative barriers or opportunities that would enable greater innovation and investment in commercial activities, in order to offset the cost of council services for our community.

The MLGG/GAROC has agreed to fund a project led by the LGA. A draft Discussion Paper has been prepared and feedback from councils has been sought.

A final paper will be prepared incorporating the feedback received from councils, and will be presented to a future meeting of GAROC.

Any legislative reform that is required to support councils to pursue innovative activities can be raised with the State Government during the current legislative review process.

#### 8.15 National Centre for Local Government (Adelaide) (LT 647970)

that the Ordinary General Meeting requests the LGA to work with the Australian Local Government Association, the Federal and State governments and local universities to establish a National Centre for Local Government innovation, research and development in Adelaide.

The Australian Centre of Excellence for Local Government (ACELG) formally concluded operations at the end of 2015 because there wasn't an appetite to fund such a body.

As there has not been support from other bodies for progressing this proposal, the LGA is not proposing to undertake further work on this matter at this time.
### Resolutions from the Annual General Meeting - 15 April 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resolution</th>
<th>Action Taken / Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 6.3. **Community Housing Update** *(LB 635995)*  
that the Ordinary General Meeting:  
1. notes the report; and  
2. supports the continued lobbying of the State Government to ensure councils do not incur any loss of rateable income in rebates to Community Housing Providers including the transfer of public housing stock. | The LGA has continued to advocate on this issue on a number of occasions.  
The LGA President has previously written to the Government, Opposition, all South Australian cross-bench MPs and the Federal Treasurer highlighting the ongoing impacts that the escalating number of management transfers of SA Housing Trust (SAHT) properties to Community Housing Providers (CHPs) will have on councils and their communities.  
This issue was included in the LGA State Budget Submissions in 2017/18 and 2018/19, and in the LGA’s 2018 State Election Agenda. This issue is again included in the LGA’s 2019/20 State Budget submission.  
Community Housing formed part of the LGA’s public campaign on cost shifting during the state election period. More details are available on the LGA website here: [https://www.lga.sa.gov.au/community-housing](https://www.lga.sa.gov.au/community-housing)  
The LGA will continue to advocate on this issue and will work collaboratively with the State Government and Community Housing Providers to seek a solution. |
| 8.9. **LED Street Lighting** *(SN 635689)*  
that the Ordinary General Meeting requests the LGA to undertake further negotiations with SA Power Networks and appropriate electricity regulators to produce a fair pricing agreement including a standard process, terms of agreement and fair and transparent cost structure for councils to have existing street lights converted to LED. | The LGA Executive Director Commercial is leading a Public Lighting Working Group (PLWG) including Council representatives (metropolitan, peri-urban and regional councils), DPTI, AER and SAPN to oversee the proposed transition to an Alternative Control Service (ACS) model from 1 July 2020 regarding future tariff pricing, infrastructure/maintenance costs and service agreements for Public Lighting. Under the new model, the AER will determine the tariff over a 5 year period. This will provide councils with some certainty in relation to their projected public lighting costs.  
The PLWG is meeting regularly in order to work to timelines set by the AER. SAPN have lodged their first draft submission to the AER and this document is now publically available. A sub-committee of the PLWG has been established together with an appointed professional consultancy group, to |

---

The voice of local government.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>0 = Completed/No further action required</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Review the submission in detail and develop a response document for consideration by the PLWG. This will allow Councils to establish a position and submit to the AER for their consideration.

- After considering both proposals (from SAPN and Councils), the AER will release a draft decision in September 2019. The PLWG will then review the decision and look to work collaboratively with SAPN in finalising a joint revised proposal for the consideration of the AER by December 2019.
6.1 **Local Government Reform**

**LGA Business**

From: Lisa Teburea, Executive Director Public Affairs  
Key Initiative: K.I 1 Leadership and advocacy  
Strategy: 1C Lead reform  
Meeting: Ordinary General Meeting  
ECM: 672891  
Attachment: 672902

---

**Recommendation**

That the Ordinary General Meeting:

1. notes the report; and
2. commits to working with the Parliament of South Australia to deliver sensible and effective reforms that will drive downward pressure on council rates, improve the financial sustainability of councils, and deliver lasting benefits to South Australian communities.

**Discussion**

Achieving sensible and effective local government reform is a priority for the Local Government Association of South Australia. This priority was reflected in the LGA’s 2018 State Election platform, which included a plan for sensible change developed and adopted by the LGA following consultation with member councils in 2017.

The Briefing Paper attached to this report summarises the key reform positions that have been adopted by the LGA in consultation with members, as a proactive step towards achieving meaningful reform and in response to legislative proposals being considered by the South Australian Parliament.

Achieving local government reform and driving downward pressure on council rates is a shared responsibility between councils, the LGA and the Parliament.

The LGA Ordinary General Meeting provides an opportunity for the LGA membership to confirm its commitment to working with the Parliament of South Australia to deliver sensible and effective reforms that will drive downward pressure on council rates, improve the financial sustainability of councils, and deliver lasting benefits to South Australian communities.

**State Government Local Government Reform Program 2019**

The Local Government Association of South Australia has welcomed the State Government’s process to consult broadly on local government reform ideas and progress a staged legislative reform program. The four key areas of focus for the State Government are:

- Stronger council member capacity and better conduct
- Efficient and transparent local government representation
- Lower costs and enhanced financial accountability
- Simpler regulation
The State Government has invited input from councils and the LGA by 26 April 2019 to inform the development of four Discussion Papers that will be released for further engagement with councils and communities in mid-2019. The feedback received through this process will inform a Local Government Reform Bill that the Government intends to introduce in the Parliament in 2020. The Government may consider the introduction of an earlier Bill in 2019 to address any matters of urgency.

The Local Government Association has requested that a framework for managing behaviour and conduct, including the Code of Conduct, needs to be improved as a matter of priority. Based on work previously undertaken by the LGA in consultation with councils, reforms should include:

- limiting the escalation of minor behavioural matters to a statutory oversight body;
- stronger penalties and sanctions for misconduct;
- powers for an appropriate oversight body to dismiss individual council members following an investigation;
- deterring vexatious or frivolous complaints; and
- providing powers to presiding members to manage disruptive conduct at meetings (with associated accountability measures for how those powers are used).

Other areas of reform that have previously been supported by LGA members include:

- conflict of interest;
- informal gatherings;
- local government elections;
- representation reviews;
- rating equity for industrial land uses (windfarms, solar farms, mining etc.);
- food truck location rules;
- a more contemporary public consultation framework; and
- benchmarking.

The LGA looks forward to strong engagement with member councils over the coming months to further develop and refine a sector-driven local government reform program that can be delivered in partnership with the South Australian Parliament.

**Financial and Resource Implications**

Strong engagement with members and active participation in the Government’s reform process will be a resource intensive priority for the Local Government Association. Staff resources and funding to enable expert assistance and advice will require significant resources, including funds that have been allocated through the Local Government Research and Development Scheme to progress sector reform.

As this is a significant opportunity and strategic priority for the sector, it will be important that the Secretariat is focused on this program of work. It will be necessary to reprioritise policy and advocacy work plans. Other matters of less strategic importance to the sector may need to be deferred or scaled back. These matters will be considered by the LGA Board of Directors as part of the LGA’s 2019/20 Annual Business Plan.
Local Government Reform

Briefing Paper
March 2019
Local Government Reform

March 2019

Background

This briefing paper provides an overview of the positions that have been adopted by the local government sector through the Local Government Association (LGA), and the actions the State Government can take to help councils drive downward pressure on council rates.

Local Government Reform Proposals

In November 2017 the LGA released a Discussion Paper on reform ideas for local government and sought the views of member councils on reform options that would deliver long lasting benefits to communities.

After receiving feedback and high levels of support from member councils for change within the sector, the LGA Board endorsed a local government reform package, which was released in February 2018 ahead of the State Election. A copy of the LGA’s local government reform agenda can be found at www.lga.sa.gov.au/localgovernmentreform

The key elements of the local government reform agenda are summarised below.

Code of Conduct

- Local government has acknowledged that the code of conduct for council members is not working as it should. The LGA has worked with councils to develop a proposal for an enhanced scheme with stronger powers to protect council members and employees against isolated examples of persistent and serious misconduct – including bullying and harassment.

- Reforms should include:
  - stronger penalties and sanctions for misconduct;
  - powers for an appropriate oversight body to dismiss individual council members following an investigation;
  - deterring vexatious or frivolous complaints; and
  - providing powers to presiding members to manage disruptive conduct at meetings (with associated accountability measures for how those powers are used).

- In conjunction with the Code of Conduct, the rules associated with conflicts of interest must also be reviewed and amended to ensure they are clear and practical.

Benchmarking

- Local government is willing to partner with the State Government to develop a sophisticated online platform for councils to share and compare meaningful data about their performance, and enhance the transparency and accessibility of council data for the community.
• Having access to up to date, consistent and reliable data from across the sector will enable local government to monitor trends, identify future challenges and make evidence-based decisions about reform and practice improvement.

**Consistent service reviews**

• A sophisticated benchmarking program will assist councils to understand how their costs compare to other councils. A program of consistent and regular service reviews will go one step further and help councils to understand how their service levels compare to other councils and to identify further opportunities for efficiencies and savings.

• Most councils already undertake a regular program of service reviews. A consistent methodology will help to save councils time and money, and embed a best practice approach across the sector.

**Introducing a revenue policy**

• Councils consult their community each year on the services and projects they need and want. Councils also have strategic management plans, long term financial plans and asset management plans, which forecast how the needs of the community will be met into the future. This sophisticated long term planning is the backbone of financial sustainability in local government.

• A revenue policy would integrate with this existing suite of plans, and assist communities to understand how the services they need and want will be paid for. The policy would identify which services are fully or partially subsidised by rates, those for which there is a user fee or external grant, and those which are offered on a commercial (revenue generating) basis.

**Diversifying local government revenue**

• Introducing a revenue policy will not address the limitations that councils face in raising alternative revenue to rates.

• Fees and charges that councils can raise to deliver services under statute (such as planning, building and food inspection etc.) must be reviewed to more accurately reflect the cost of delivering those services.

• All mandatory rate rebates and exemptions must be reviewed to ensure rating equity between land uses.

• Legislative barriers to commercial operations within local government (particularly regional subsidiaries/shared services) need to be reviewed and addressed.

**Best practice audits and audit committees**

• Councils are required by law to have an audit committee and to present their financials to an external auditor each year. These requirements can be strengthened by requiring audit committees to have a majority of independent members and expanding their role to include greater oversight of strategic management plans, rating/revenue policies, service reviews and benchmarking.

• There may also be a role for the auditor general to play in handing down binding interpretations of accounting standards that must be adhered to by private auditors when engaged by councils.
Industrial Relations

- The LGA has convened a working group of councils to discuss the potential to streamline industrial relations processes across the sector and explore the opportunities to move toward a sector-wide industrial relations framework.

Council elections

- Councils would like to further explore options for electronic enrolment, nominations and voting in council elections to make it easier for everyone who is eligible to participate in council elections.

- Other reforms being sought by councils include:
  - creating a ‘level playing field’ for disclosure of information by candidates. In other words, where an existing council member is required to disclose information publicly, all candidates should be required to disclose the same information when they nominate;
  - providing all candidates access to an electronic copy of the voters roll; and
  - including a ‘tick box’ on the nomination form about whether a candidate resides in the council they are nominating for.

- In relation to council members standing for election to State or Federal Government, councils have called for reform that would require the member to take a leave of absence, and have their allowance suspended, for the time their nomination is lodged and accepted until the conclusion of the election.

- The LGA will be consulting councils shortly on further local government election reform ideas based on recent experiences with the 2018 council elections.

Local Government (Rate Oversight) Amendment Bill 2018

Following a special general meeting of LGA members, and receiving a formal position from 60 councils, the LGA Board met on 10 August to consider and form a final position on the Local Government (Rate Oversight) Amendment Bill 2018.

A clear majority of councils (around 84%) did not support the Bill, therefore the LGA Board resolved to oppose the State Government’s proposed rate capping legislation. The LGA Board also considered these other factors in arriving at their decision:

- there is no factual evidence that this legislation will improve the efficiency and effectiveness of local government or deliver long-term benefits to South Australian communities;
- there is strong evidence that similar rate capping frameworks interstate have impacted negatively on local services and infrastructure and the financial sustainability of councils;
- the Local Government Act currently contains numerous oversight and accountability provisions to ensure that all councils continue to meet their public service obligations to communities;
- there is no evidence that the potential impacts of this legislation have been measured against the relative merits of alternative local government reform proposals; and
- the council election held every 4 years provide the opportunity for all eligible South Australians to participate in local democracy.
In opposing a legislated rate capping scheme, the LGA acknowledged that every year, councils have the power to cap their own rates. Setting a responsible budget that balances the needs of the community with their capacity pay is one of the most important responsibilities of a council, and every council is accountable to their community for the rating decisions they make.

LGA Board also reaffirmed its commitment to working with the State Government and Members of Parliament to deliver reform in local government and drive downward pressure on council rates.

**Local Government (Ratepayer Protection and Related Measures) Amendment Bill 2018**

The SA Labor Party, with support from SA BEST and Green SA, introduced a Bill in the Legislative Council in October 2018 as an alternative to the Government’s rate capping legislation. This Bill proposes a broad range of additional reporting, disclosure and oversight requirements for councils.

Following consultation with councils, the LGA Board endorsed a submission on the Bill in January 2019, which identifies a number of policy and practical issues with many of the proposed reforms. The key points from the LGA’s submission are summarised below:

- Some of the reform proposals in the Bill are consistent with the themes of the LGA’s local government reform agenda, and also consistent with contemporary governance and reporting practices that have been voluntarily adopted by some councils.
- However, some of the proposed reforms create inequitable levels of scrutiny on local government compared to State and Federal Government.
- The costs to councils, and ratepayers, in complying with the proposed additional reporting requirements need to be carefully considered and weighed up against any benefits to the community.
- In particular, there has been too little regard for smaller councils who are already stretched to meet the requirements of the existing legislation, and the costs of implementing these new requirements will have a direct impact on the rates in those communities.
- While discussion about local government reform is welcomed, a more comprehensive review process is required to develop evidence-based reform proposals that create a more efficient, sustainable and integrated system of local government.

Achieving sensible local government reform will require the support of the South Australian Parliament and the LGA’s aspiration is a local government reform package that is developed in collaboration with councils and receives bipartisan support.

The LGA will continue working with all political parties to progress reforms that will benefit communities and to maintain opposition to poor public policy, such as rate capping and forced amalgamations.
Driving downward pressure on council rates

Councils nationally collect only 4% of the total taxes paid by Australians, and South Australian councils receive the lowest per capita revenue of any state of territory - $1,329 compared to the national average of $1,662.

Councils also face escalating costs such as electricity, fuel, State Government levies and responsibilities that are shifted to local government through decisions of the Parliament.

Despite these cost pressures, councils have been working hard in recent years to find savings and efficiencies that have achieved lower average residential rate rises.

There are many opportunities for the State Government, and the Parliament, to work with local government to drive downward pressure on council rates.

**Solid Waste Levy**

- The Solid Waste Levy will cost councils approximately $34 million this financial year.
- The Levy jumped up by 15% in 2018/19 and has increased by more than 1400% since it was introduced in 2003/04.
- There is currently around $120 million accumulated in the Green Industries Fund.
- Research commissioned by the LGA shows that councils face additional costs of $8.8 million per year as a result of the China National Sword Policy.
- The State Government can relieve significant pressure on council rates by reducing the Solid Waste Levy, and supporting councils with waste and recycling services with funds from the Green Industries Fund.

**Mandatory rate rebates and exemptions**

- Under the Local Government Act, certain prescribed properties are entitled to a full or partial rate exemption or rebate.
- Councils provide rate rebates worth more than $33 million every year. The cost of providing these rebates is often borne by other ratepayers – including families and pensioners.
- The costs of providing mandatory rebates are increasing – largely due to the transfer of the State Government’s public housing stock to Community Housing Providers (CHPs).
- While the State pays full council rates, CHPs are eligible for a 75% rate rebate. The cost to impacted councils of the State’s policy to transfer public housing stock has so far been more than $4 million per year.
- While many rebates and exemptions are appropriate and support public good, the scheme should be reviewed to ensure that it is equitable and that profit generating land uses are paying a fair share.

**Statutory fees and charges**

- South Australian councils raise $354 per capita annually in fees and charges – compared to $913 in NSW and $658 in Victoria.
- Research undertaken by the LGA has revealed that in many cases the fees councils are permitted to charge for regulatory functions such as planning assessments, building inspections and food inspections only meet between 20-30% of the costs of providing the service.
- This means that all ratepayers are subsiding between 70-80% of the costs of providing these regulatory services.
• The LGA has long been advocating for a review of statutory fees and charges based on the same cost recovery model that the State Government applies to the fees that it is entitled to charge for services performed.

**NRM Levy collection**

• Councils are required to collect the State Government’s NRM Levy from landowners through council rate notices.
• Information provided by councils shows that the administration fee that councils receive from the State do not fully cover the costs that councils incur in collecting the levy.
• Councils are required to pass on the full amount requested by the NRM Board, regardless of whether it has been collected or not. This means that councils become responsible for any outstanding NRM debts.
• In 2017, councils reported more than $600,000 in outstanding State Government NRM levies owed to them from land owners.
• The State Government can remove this cost burden by collecting their NRM levy in conjunction with the Emergency Services Levy, increasing the administration fee provided to councils or only requiring councils to pass on the levies paid.

**Grant funding**

• While local government is grateful for the funding partnerships that exist with the State Government such as libraries, CWMS and stormwater; councils in South Australia typically receive the lowest per capita State Government grants in Australia.
• The LGA would like to see State Government grants to councils in South Australia increased to at least the national average.
• The LGA has used successive State Budget submissions to highlight the economic and social benefits of State and local government working in partnership to deliver programs and infrastructure in areas such as:
  o community infrastructure (sports facilities, playgrounds, bike paths, swimming pools etc)
  o energy
  o stormwater
  o coastal management
  o smart cities
  o public health
  o climate change

**Federal advocacy**

• The State Government can assist local government by becoming vocal and active supporters of the LGA’s federal election priority to secure ongoing Supplementary Road Funding for South Australia.
• South Australia has 11% of the nation’s local roads, 7% of the population, but receives only 5.5% of federal local roads funding.
• ALGA and the LGA are advocating for supplementary road funding of $20 million a year to be made permanent to address South Australia’s road funding anomaly.
6.2 LGA Advocacy Update

LGA Business

From: Lisa Teburea, Executive Director Public Affairs
Key Initiative: K.I 1 Leadership and advocacy
Strategy: 1B Contribute to state-wide and local policy
Meeting Ordinary General Meeting 12 April 2019
ECM: 672424 Attachment: 672943

Recommendation

That the Ordinary General Meeting notes the report on the LGA’s advocacy activities.

Discussion

This report provides an update on the LGA’s advocacy activities since the Annual General Meeting in October 2018. Details of the LGA’s positions and activities relating to legislative proposals and driving downward pressure on council rates are provided in a separate local government reform item within this agenda.

Fair road funding for South Australia

The LGA has continued its efforts to secure a fair share of the Federal funding for local roads by advocating for South Australia’s supplementary road funding to be extended and made permanent.

Fixing South Australia’s road funding anomaly has been included in the Australian Local Government Association’s (ALGA) federal election platform, and in the their 2019-20 Budget submission.

The LGA has also commenced a Fair Federal Funding for SA’s Local Roads campaign to build on and support ALGA’s advocacy.

Actions undertaken by the LGA include meetings with key federal members in Canberra (undertaken in February 2019), engagement with SA-based candidates, and supporting South Australian councils to promote and localise the campaign. The LGA President has also written to Premier Steven Marshall, the Hon Stephan Knoll, Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Peter Malinauskas MP, Leader of the Opposition, and the Hon Tom Koutsantonis MP, Shadow Minister for Transport & Infrastructure seeking their support in sending a strong message to their federal colleagues about how important a fair share of road funding is for South Australian communities.

The LGA is also engaging with other industry bodies and groups that have an interest in improving South Australian roads to build support for fair road funding. The community will be engaged through social and digital media advertising in the lead up to the Federal Budget and Federal Election.

Waste and recycling

The LGA has continued its work program responding to the implementation of the China National Sword Policy. This includes participation in the State Government’s China Import Bans Working Group and the two subcommittees on Green Procurement and Recycling Education.
The LGA has also continued its advocacy work around seeking further funding from the Green Industry Fund for waste and recycling initiatives, including in response to the recent instability in the sector. This issue featured strongly in the LGA’s 2019/20 State Budget Submission and has been the focal point of recent media in relation to the escalating costs councils will face as a result of the China National Sword Policy.

There has been a strong response from the sector to the EPA’s proposed cost recovery measures (flowing from the EPA requirement to make savings in the 2018-19 State Budget). The EPA undertook a consultation process in relation to proposed licence fee increases for resource recovery facilities towards the end of 2018. LGA staff met with officers from the EPA to discuss the issue in November 2018 and made a submission to the consultation process in December 2018.

The LGA submission emphasised that the proposed increases are being seen as further cost shifting by the State Government onto local government bodies and that, in the context of the increased costs for waste management that councils are already facing, the proposed increases demonstrate an inconsistent approach by the State Government.

The LGA continued to receive representations from member councils opposing the proposed fee increases into 2019. In response to these continuing representations, the Minister for Environment and Water was informed of the sector’s position and the LGA CEO Matt Pinnegar met with EPA Chief Executive Tony Circelli in March 2019 to discuss the sector’s concerns about the fee increases. Member councils will be kept informed of the outcomes of these actions.

The LGA has also undertaken significant work to represent the sector in the two State Government waste reviews on single-use plastics and the Container Deposit Scheme. The LGA held an information session on the reviews in February 2019 to assist council staff with their submissions and also to discuss the position of the sector as a whole. The LGA provided a submission to the reviews on 22 February 2019.

In relation to single-use plastics, the LGA submission supported action to restrict the availability of single-use plastics as this will help to establish a circular economy by both encouraging the production of circular-use products and discouraging the further production of linear-use products. In relation to the Container Deposit Scheme (CDS), the LGA submission noted that the CDS has been highly successful at improving resource recovery rates and reducing litter and supports the continuation and possible expansion of the scheme. The LGA submission argued that it is the CDS’s role as a resource recovery mechanism for glass where there is the strongest case for expansion of the scheme (possibly through the inclusion of wine bottles).

Separately, the LGA has continued to advocate for action by the State Government to support councils in their role in addressing illegal dumping in their communities. The LGA wrote to the Hon David Speirs MP, Minister for Environment and Water, on this issue on 22 January 2019. The letter responded to a Notice of Motion supported by the 2018 AGM in relation to the need for State Government support to clean up illegal dumping along the Port Wakefield Highway. Members will be kept informed of the Minister’s response.

**Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act**

The LGA has maintained the position that councils and communities should play a stronger role in planning and are best placed to make the planning policy and assessment decisions that impact on the local area. This position was reflected in the public ‘Keep Planning Local’ campaign the LGA ran on behalf of the sector when the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act was being debated in Parliament, and has been the consistent message that has been communicated to all political parties at each stage of the planning reform process.
While the LGA was able to negotiate a number of amendments to the legislation during the parliamentary process, including the retention of one elected member on Council Assessment Panels rather than elected members being completely excluded, the direction of the reforms under the Act are supported by both major parties.

Given the limited opportunity to achieve changes to the Act, the LGA has continued to work closely with the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI) to support councils during the implementation of the new planning system. Over the past six months, the LGA, in conjunction with DPTI, has held regular staff information sessions on a range of Discussion Papers and policy documents prepared by DPTI. These sessions have been livestreamed to enable greater participation. The LGA, through the submissions it has provided to DPTI and the State Planning Commission, has continued to advocate on behalf of the local government sector on the reforms taking place. These submissions have continued to emphasise the following key points:

- Councils and communities should play a stronger role in planning and are best placed to make the planning policy and assessment decisions that impact on the local area.
- Councils and the community need to be kept well informed of the reform process and have genuine opportunities to influence outcomes through robust consultation processes.
- Reforms need to materially improve design outcomes and address the cumulative impacts of infill development.
- There should be no loss or dilution of local heritage places, heritage zones and contributory items.
- Costs to councils and ratepayers of complying with new requirements need to be carefully considered, particularly for regional councils that face difficulties in attracting accredited professionals.
- Fees need to be set at a level that reflects the true cost of providing planning and building services.

The LGA has two representatives on the Minister’s Liaison Group where issues of concern can be raised directly with the Minister on key reform elements as they are developed.

Heritage

The LGA made a submission to the Parliament’s Environment, Resources and Development Committee Inquiry into Heritage in September 2018 and had the opportunity to appear before the Committee in November to provide further evidence. The key points emphasised in the LGA’s submission are summarised below:

- A “direct” mechanism for listing and delisting local heritage places consistent with the current State heritage process would enable the protection of local heritage to be more efficient, responsive and effective.
- There needs to be closer alignment of the State and local heritage listing processes, with clear criteria for each level of listing.
- It is important to ensure that local values are incorporated into the listing process for local heritage places.
- Councils should be primarily responsible for instigating and conducting investigations to identify and nominate potential local heritage places.
- There should be no restrictions on who can nominate a place, with the cost of investigations to support the nomination borne by the person nominating.
Anyone should be able to be heard in relation to nominated listings; including owners, neighbours and any interested person or organisation.

Councils should have a voice at all stages of the local heritage management process.

Local Government opposes using the review of local heritage listings as a means to reduce local heritage places or diminish heritage protections.

Local government recognises the need to protect heritage while at the same time ensuring growth and economic development for communities.

Local Government supports the continuation of heritage conservation zones and additional protections for contributory items.

Heritage process need to be well resourced and supported by the State Government

**Overabundant Species (Little Corellas)**

The LGA OGM held on 13 April 2018 called for vigorous lobbying from the LGA to request the State Government progress a state-wide strategy in response to the Little Corellas issue, to be supported by funding for implementation.

The LGA is continuing its efforts to advocate to the State Government, and support member councils with the management of Little Corellas. On 30 April 2018, the LGA President wrote to the Minister for Environment and Water, Hon David Speirs MP, seeking urgency from the State Government to provide for the state-wide management of Little Corellas, which should be supported with financial assistance to councils to assist with the implementation of medium and long-term management options for this and other abundant bird species.

The Minister has replied acknowledging the community’s concerns regarding Little Corellas and confirming that a state-wide strategy is being prepared by the Department for Environment and Water as a priority.

The LGA made a submission to the Parliamentary Inquiry into Overabundant and Pest Species held by the Natural Resources Committee in October 2018 highlighting the impact of managing abundant species on the local government sector.

The LGA also gave evidence to the Inquiry in December 2018 calling for urgent progress on a state-wide Strategy into management of Little Corellas and other overabundant species.

No outcome from the Inquiry has yet been released and no strategy has been released for consultation by the Department.

Progressing this issue through ongoing advocacy remains a focus for the LGA. The LGA’s 2019-2020 State Budget Submission includes management of abundant species as one of its 12 key priorities.

The LGA will continue to lobby the Department, by seeking a meeting to pursue urgent release of a draft State-wide strategy on overabundant species, together with State Government funding to implement the strategy, ahead of the outcomes of the Inquiry.

**Emergency Management**

The LGA continues its active role in advocacy around emergency management. An annual operations forum is usually held in Adelaide, but this year it was expanded out to suburban and regional locations and included policy and advocacy as well as information around the LGA’s Council Ready project. The forums were held in Murray Bridge, Munno Para, Noarlunga, Naracoorte, Wudinna and Port Pirie.
The LGA Emergency Management Services Unit (EMSU) includes staff from policy, operations and the Council Ready project. The role of the policy officer in the EMSU is to advocate for local government at a state and national strategic level.

Recent activities of the EMSU include:

- Representing sector on the following committees:
  - State Emergency Management Committee
  - State Mitigation Advisory Group
  - Fire Prevention Strategic Alliance Committee

- Providing input and feedback into state and national polices and industry strategies including:
  - SA Emergency Management Assurance program: 2018 Baseline
  - SA’s draft Disaster Resilience Strategy 2019-2024
  - National Emergency Management Arrangements – Handbook 9 (Cth)
  - National Disaster Risk Reduction Framework (NDRRF) (Cth)

- Advising on proposed amendments to the Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005

### Strategic Population Policy

The LGA has provided advocacy on a number of issues relating to South Australia’s population including providing representation to the Commonwealth Government’s population roundtable, a written submission and verbal evidence to the Parliament of South Australia’s Economic and Finance Committee (Committee) Inquiry into the economic contribution of migration to South Australia, input into ALGA’s submission to the COAG Treasurer’s Forum on Population and representation on the Committee for Adelaide’s Population and Migration Action Group.

The LGA has also continued to advocate to the South Australian Government to work with councils to ensure that population growth is supported by adequate infrastructure, effective public services (especially health, education and training), and sustainable economic development initiatives.

The LGA has welcomed the State Government’s decision to waive regional public school fees for 457 and 482 visa holders, which is great news for regions that are struggling to attract and retain skilled migrants. This issue was initially raised through SAROC and was included on the LGA’s advocacy agenda.

### Drought

Drought in regional South Australia is an increasing issue with 17 councils located within drought declared areas.

The Federal Government has offered grants of up to $1 million to eligible councils to deliver benefits in the 17 drought affected areas. A major caveat is that the funds need to be spent by 30 June 2019.

The LGA has represented Local Government on the State Government’s Dry Condition Working Group established by the Minister for Primary Industries, and has offered assistance to the impacted councils.

### Road Safety

Member councils have consistently stated that road safety is an important issue to their communities and they support LGA advocacy to achieve change.
In response to local government concerns about road fatalities, the SAROC committee requested, through the LGA Board, that the LGA work with all member councils to develop a Local Government Road Safety Strategy & Action Plan. Preparation of the draft Strategy & Action Plan is underway and is proposed for endorsement by the LGA Board in June 2019.

A request that the State Government increase funds for the maintenance and upgrade of South Australia’s main roads is included as one of the 12 priorities in the LGA’s 2019-2020 State Budget Submission. The submission highlights the lack of funding to maintain safe, high quality roads and notes that South Australian councils and communities continue to be concerned about the poor condition of State Government owned main roads in both metropolitan and country areas.

Libraries

The LGA’s 10-year funding agreement with the State Government for public libraries is due to expire in 2021 and work has commenced to ensure that the LGA is well prepared to enter negotiations of a new funding agreement. This preparation includes research, data collection and the development of a value proposition that demonstrates how the services delivered through public libraries support the State Government’s objectives. Councils and library networks will be engaged in this work as it progresses.

This is an emerging advocacy issue for the LGA and councils, and libraries will feature strongly in the LGA’s community awareness campaigns throughout 2019.

Submissions

The following submissions have been made by the LGA between October 2018 and March 2019:

- Accredited Professionals Scheme and draft Regulations- Submission to the State Planning Commission,
- Assessment Pathways – submission to DPTI
- Performance Indicators – submission to the State Planning Commission
- Natural Resources and Environment Discussion Paper - submission to DPTI
- Integrated Movement Discussion Paper - submission to DPTI
- Productive Economy Discussion paper - submission to DPTI
- Planning and Design Code Technical Paper - submission to DPTI
- Managing our Landscapes - submission to Minister for Environment and Water
- Repeal of Section 67 (4) and (5) of the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act relating to local heritage - Submission to the Minister for Planning
- Planning, Development and Infrastructure (General) (Development Assessment), Variation Regulations - submission to DPTI
- Draft Accredited Professionals Code of Conduct - submission to DPTI
- Social Development Committee’s Review of the South Australian Public Health Act 2011
- State Government Public Health Plan 2019 – 2024
- SA Parliament’s Environment, Resources and Development Committee Inquiry into the operation of the heritage system in South Australia
- SA Parliament Natural Resources Committee’s Inquiry into Overabundant and Pest Species
- SA Parliament’s Economic and Finance Committee Inquiry into the Economic Contribution of Migration to South Australia
- National Waste Policy: Less waste, more resources
- Environment Protection Authority cost recovery measures
- State Government waste reviews – single-use plastics and the Container Deposit Scheme
- Joint Committee on the Valuation Policies and Charges on Retirement Villages
Forums

The LGA has hosted or facilitated forums and workshops for members and stakeholders on the following advocacy issues over the past 6 months:

- Planning and Landscapes
- Assessment Pathway
- Planning and Design Code
- Community Engagement Charter
- State Planning Commission - Reform Agenda
- State Government Waste Reviews – Single-use plastics and the Container Deposit Scheme
- Cost Effective Innovation in Footpaths, in partnership with the Heart Foundation
- Review of the Public Health Act and Regulations
- Submission to the State Public Health Plan
- Local Government Reform
- Emergency Management

Media Summary

A summary of LGA’s media activities between October 2018 and March 2019 is attached for members’ information.

Key issues the LGA has commented on publicly include waste (with an emphasis in building community awareness of the cost pressure created by the Solid Waste Levy), council elections and local government reform opportunities.

Financial and Resource Implications

The LGA currently has a broad advocacy agenda that include a high volume of issues that have been raised through SAROC, the MLGG (now GAROC) and by members at Ordinary General Meetings.

It is important that these issues are prioritised in order for resources to be directed to the matters of greatest strategic importance and benefit to councils and communities. This is a responsibility of the LGA Board of Directors. Responsible reforms and policy changes that will drive downward pressure on council rates are considered to be a high priority. This is emphasised in the LGA’s 2019/20 State Budget Submission.

The resourcing requirements of new advocacy issues need to be considered by SAROC, GAROC and the LGA Board of Directors on a case-by-case basis as capacity for additional work is limited. Developing the evidence base and third party support needed to successfully pursue legislative, policy or funding changes requires a significant investment of time and resources in data collection and analysis, policy research, consultation with members, stakeholder engagement, policy development and positioning through an advocacy strategy.
LGA Advocacy Initiatives

The LGA advocates for councils on a wide range of issues, and in the past six months this has included planning, council elections, amalgamations, abundant species, immigration, infrastructure funding, governance, and waste and recycling.

Press/online coverage

Below are links to online press articles the LGA has initiated or contributed to on behalf of the sector.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Advertiser/Messenger</th>
<th>Links</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Radio/TV coverage

Since October 2018 LGA representatives have participated in 16 radio and television interviews. The breakdown of these appearances is outlined below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Media outlet</th>
<th>Number of appearances</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ABC Regional Radio</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5AA</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radio 891</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Channel 7</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.3  **LGASA Commercial**

**LGA Business**

From: Steve Nolis, Executive Director Commercial  
Key Initiative: K.I 3 Best practice and continuous improvement  
Strategy: 3D Develop, review and improve LGA commercial enterprises  
Meeting: Ordinary General Meeting 12 April 2019  
ECM: 672577

---

**Recommendation**

That the Ordinary General Meeting notes the report on LGASA Commercial activities.

**Discussion**

Since LGASA Commercial commenced operations in September 2018, the following brands/business units have been launched:

- **LGASA Legal Connect** (Commenced September 2018)  
  LGASA Legal Connect: In partnership with HWL Ebsworth  
  To date, HWL Ebsworth Lawyers have opened files for 37 council entities. They have recorded hotline enquiries from 44 council entities (average 20 minutes) and have provided over 200 hours of free legal advice to the sector.

- **LGASA Energy** (Commenced October 2018)  
  LGASA Energy: In partnership with Peak Services  
  To date, 10 councils have engaged LGASA Energy to undertake energy consumption reviews and energy audits of 27 key assets – with a comprehensive summary report recommending the “best fit” energy solution returned to councils.

- **LGASA Travel** (Commenced November 2018)  
  LGASA Travel: In partnership with Corporate Traveller SA  
  To date, 6 councils have integrated the Serko booking portal. There is no cost to council for this service which offers greater efficiencies in booking travel on one consolidated site, preferred pricing, cost savings, complimentary upgrades, 24/7 support and a reporting module to track all council spends.

- **LGASA Recruitment** (Pilot Program commenced December 2018)  
- **LGASA Commercial – Media** (Commenced February 2019)
**LGASA Recruitment: In-house service**

Due to high demand, the LGASA Recruitment brand was created and is currently being trialled as a pilot program – commencing in December 2018. To date, LGASA Recruitment has lodged successful proposals to undertake the following roles:

- CEO – District Council of Robe
- Manager, Infrastructure and Engineering Services – District Council of Ceduna
- Director, Children’s Services – District Council of Robe
- Executive Manager – Institute of Public Works Engineering Australia (IPWEA)

**LGASA Commercial – Media: In partnership with McGuinness Media**

Following a media presentation by Georgina McGuinness at a CEO Forum in late 2018, there has been significant interest for Georgina McGuinness to deliver media training to councils for Mayors, Elected Members and CEOs. This is being co-ordinated by LGASA Commercial in partnership with McGuinness Media. To date, agreements have been signed to deliver training to 20 councils.

**Future Opportunities**

Immediate future opportunities currently being investigated include:

- CEO Performance Review Service (In-house)
- HR/IR Library and Advice Line (In-house subscription service)

**Public Lighting**

The Executive Director Commercial has taken ownership of assisting Councils with their future Public Lighting needs through:

- Developing the Public Lighting Working Group (PLWG) consisting of LGA, council representatives from regional and metropolitan councils, DPTI, Australian Energy Regulator (AER), industry consultants and SAPN.
- Chairing and leading the Public Lighting Working Group (PLWG) in working through the mechanics of transferring from the current Negotiated Distribution Service (NDS) model to the Alternative Control Service (ACS) model on 1 July 2020.
- Providing advice and assistance to councils seeking to transition to LED lighting.
- Assisting Regional Councils with SAPN’s proposed LED rollouts – proposed under the SAPN regional maintenance program.

A great deal of goodwill has been developed by bringing all stakeholders together. This will result in significant efficiencies and savings for the sector. The introduction of the ACS model on 1 July 2020 will reduce risk and enable councils to confidently forecast their long-term financial plans in relation to future public lighting costs.
6.4 LGA Procurement Transformation Update

**LGA Business**

From: Andrew Haste, Chief Executive Officer, LGA Procurement  
Key Initiative: K.I 3 Best practice and continuous improvement  
Strategy: 3D Develop, review and improve LGA commercial enterprises  
Meeting: Ordinary General Meeting  
ECM: 672918

**Recommendation**

That the Ordinary General Meeting notes the report on the transformation of LGA Procurement services to the sector.

**Background**

LGA Procurement is a commercial entity wholly owned by the LGA that assists South Australian councils undertake best practice procurement and deliver value for money to their communities.

LGA Procurement identifies, develops and delivers value-added products and generates economies of scale through bulk purchasing, contract administration and e-commerce arrangements. It is able to do this on a national scale in many instances through the National Procurement Network made up of all LGA’s representing around 537 councils nationally.

Income is generated through supplier rebates, direct consultancy and training activities and in 2018/19 returned a dividend payment for the first time to the LGA to support ongoing operations and greater sector capacity building.

LGA Procurement also provides leading practice procurement documentation that has been adopted by the majority of SA councils, training and leadership to the sector and is proud to be able to offer these services free of charge or on a heavily subsidised fee-or-service arrangement.

**Discussion**

**Financial Status**

The transformation of LGA Procurement in late 2016 resulted in a quick turnaround of financial outlook from a large budgeted loss to a small profit.

EOFY16/17 results reflected stabilization of the business with profit being realised through applying pro-active income and cost containment strategies. Growth in retained earnings also improved by 30% during this period compared to 2015/16.

For FY17/18 the LGA Procurement Board endorsed an aggressive growth strategy and a deficit budget making use of accumulated retained earnings. The year-end figure was brought back to very nearly balanced, demonstrating the effectiveness of the strategic and business planning process. This result did not negatively impact on retained earnings as forecast.

Table 1 (below) demonstrates the recent consolidated income and expenditure figures for LGA Procurement showing the net effects of cost containment and stabilisation and increased income growth and sustainability.
Financial Results – January YTD 2019

LGA Procurement is on track to deliver a budgeted profit in FY 18/19 that is inclusive of operational and staffing costs.

The LGA Board also resolved to pay a total dividend of $200,000 to the LGA for FY18/19.

LGA Procurement Staffing

LGA Procurement staffing has grown to its planned full complement of 8 staff members (7.5 FTE) with 0.4 contracted financial support provided by the LGA.

The LGA Procurement CEO and Contracts Officer also undertake CWMS program management which is funded through that program.
Growth of Services

LGA Procurement has diversified its income stream from 100% reliance on contract rebates to now showing up to 25-30% of its total income through consultancy services.

The entity now supports two councils (in-house) with all procurement requirements proving to be a very economical and expert lead solution with great feedback and results and a number of other councils considering this model. This is in addition to providing a range of complex procurement advice and solutions to councils large and small.

Interest in this shared service solution is growing with a further five councils considering procurement management options. The service has also underlined the growing capabilities of LGA Procurement and has served as a focal point for improved reputation.

Recent client feedback includes:

“In 2017/18 the District Council of Yankalilla made the strategic decision to engage LGA Procurement instead of employing our own in-house staff member. This greater level of expertise has produced immediate results with tenders going out earlier, greater responses to the tenders released, better contracts that have assisted in later variance negotiations and value for money returned to the Council. This service has easily paid for itself and I highly recommend.”

NIGEL MORRIS | Chief Executive | District Council of Yankalilla

“For the past 18 months Kingston District Council has been working closely with LGA Procurement and finds the professional support and guidance of their highly skilled team invaluable. Being a medium size regional council, in-house resources are often very tight and dedicating sufficient time to ensure a robust and precise procurement process is sometimes challenging. LGA Procurement has not only helped Kingston District Council achieve best practice but also the best price, which has more than off-set the modest support fee charged by LGA Procurement.”

ANDREW MacDONALD | Chief Executive | Kingston District Council

Additional annual income streams include the sale of the LGA Directory and a range of face to face and online training options for the sector.

Reputational Recovery

The reputation of the entity has made a remarkable recovery with a marked improvement in engagement and willingness for councils and suppliers to become engaged and seek information on how they may benefit through partnering with LGA Procurement.

LGA Procurement is implementing strong relationship building processes through distinct supplier engagement and business development strategies.

The business development strategy is on track to achieve 100% of all councils and related entities visited this financial year. This is in addition to over 116 of 340 suppliers also being directly engaged with YTD.

LGA Procurement is well on the way to being seen as the first point of call for procurement documentation, professional advice, leading practice and best value contracts across the sector.

Regional groups are actively seeking to align procurement strategies and approaches utilising the LGA Procurement panels and contracts, realising the benefits of working collaboratively and leveraging the pre-existing arrangements. A number of custom aggregation approaches are currently being explored with groupings of councils across the state.
Recent Operational Highlights

The transformation of LGA Procurement is captured in the following recent highlights:

New and Updated Panels and Contracts 2019 Calendar Year

- Office Wear and PPE Corporate & Workwear and PPE
- Telecommunications
- Bitumen and Minor Civil Works
- Trucks
- Heavy Plant & Equipment
- Electricity
- Energy Generation Storage and Installation Services
- Office Stationery and Supplies
- Fleet Management

Strategic Alliances

LGA Procurement has current Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) with Council Solutions and Local Government Information Technology SA.

Both MOUs describe a cooperative outlook and information sharing as well as a commercial arrangement for work that is shared. To date the MOUs have proven beneficial in terms of market position, confirmation of the strengths of LGA Procurement panels and contracts, shared
responsibilities in promotion and uptake of the options available and access to a pool of expertise that assists with future tendering and evaluation activities.

LGA Procurement is a member of the National Procurement Network (NPN). NPN membership includes all state based LGA procurement entities. The NPN is a collaborative and empowering group that works on a range of national contracts and shared opportunities.

**Value of LGA Procurement to SA Councils**

In April 2018, the LGA published a Value of Membership document that described the full range of benefits brought to councils through their membership of the LGA.

This document was independently verified by UHY Haynes Norton.

The scope of the document is extensive and includes a quantified value of the services offered by LGA Procurement, and indeed the complete value of LGA membership. The 2018 version includes savings realised through tendering/consultancy cost avoidance associated with the procurement of electricity supply procurements undertaken by LGA Procurement.

The Value of Membership document shows that a realistic value (in 2018) of the LGA Procurement service can be calculated at over $400,000 average per council. An excerpt from the 2018 document is included below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Services and Estimated Benefits per Council</th>
<th>Key Initiatives</th>
<th>Estimated average value per Council per year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Service Areas</td>
<td>7. Leadership and Advocacy</td>
<td>Note that an average means some Councils will achieve higher or lower benefits than the average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8. Capacity Building &amp; Sustainability</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9. Best Practice &amp; Continuous Improvement</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. Diesel Fuel Rebate</td>
<td>$5,882</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LGA Procurement</td>
<td>2. LGA Directory</td>
<td>One Stop source of information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. Professional development and Tools</td>
<td>Competent staff and procurement processes and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4. Tendering – General tender costs</td>
<td>$56,912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5. Tendering – General contract savings</td>
<td>$198,529</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6. Tendering – Electricity</td>
<td>$142,187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7. Tendering – Fee for Service</td>
<td>Robust tendering process in line with public sector procurement principles</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Conclusion**

LGA Procurement is now a financially sustainable entity that has established its relevance and value to all SA councils. It has a clear strategic direction that is supported by a skilled Board of Directors and has adopted achievable long term financial plans that demonstrate on-going financial viability.

The entity has diversified its service offerings and remains focused on delivering expert assistance and value for money solutions to all LGA members. It has achieved a balance between its commercial imperatives and the desire to provide very high levels of customer service. It is also now providing leadership and influence in the strategic sourcing of goods and services at all levels and to all councils.

The entity is now three times bigger than it was three years ago correlating to a similar increase in service to all SA councils. Panels and contracts are now sharper and more attuned to the needs of the sector and more aligned to support councils desire to support local businesses.

The sector has welcomed the transformation of LGA Procurement and is now readily engaging and seeking out its assistance, though it is clear that every SA council and entity can increase their engagement with LGA Procurement; either through direct panel and contract participation, training services or direct procurement consultancies.

LGA Procurement is now positioned to be the preferred shared procurement methodology adopted by councils and in doing so is able to offer significant savings that have been demonstrated through its full service arrangements.
Financial and Resource Implications

This activity has been anticipated in the LGA’s work program and resources are available to progress this work.
6.5  LGASA Mutual Update

LGA Business

From: Matt Pinnegar, Chief Executive Officer
Key Initiative: K.I 3 Best practice and continuous improvement
Strategy: 3C Improve LGA governance and operations with a focus on people, finances and our members
Meeting: Ordinary General Meeting 12 April 2019
ECM: 672416

Recommendation

That the Ordinary General Meeting notes the report.

Background

In October 2015, the LGA Board resolved to undertake a comprehensive review of 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.

In response to the Auditor General's Report, the LGA Board engaged Finity / Rosey Batt to undertake a more detailed examination into these risk, insurance and indemnity arrangements.

The Finity / Batt review found that:

- 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; and
- the products and services currently provided to Councils are appropriate and do not need radical change.

The review also found that 100% membership of the Schemes is a significant strength as all councils can benefit from economies of scale.

The review recommended that:

- the LGA should insure more appropriate contemporary performance based contact with the service provider;
- contractual arrangements should ensure that the fees payable are transparent;
- contractual arrangements should contain meaningful performance measures to allow for proper contract management; and
- the LGA should establish structures or an entity to be solely responsible for the conduct and management of the schemes.

In implementing these recommendations, the LGA has set up a wholly owned subsidiary, LGASA Mutual Pty Ltd which will conduct the Workers Compensation Scheme and the Mutual Liability Scheme. LGASA Mutual has engaged JLT to carry out the day to day operations of the scheme under a Master Services Agreement.
Discussion

A report presented to Members at the October 2018 Annual General Meeting highlighted the key achievements to date in restructuring the Schemes. These included:

- setting up a whole owned subsidiary, LGASA Mutual Pty Ltd, to manage the schemes (replacing the previous individual scheme boards)
- LGAWCS delivering a member contribution rate in 2018/19 that is 7% lower than last year. This delivers a $2.6M saving to the sector
- for the third consecutive year, the LGAMLS net contribution remaining unchanged in the 2018/19 period. This contribution rate is lower than it was 10 years ago
- JLT agreeing to a revised fee structure applicable from 1 July 2018
- day to day service delivery continuing unchanged
- the LGA Board endorsing new Scheme Rules which improve the operations and transparency of the Schemes and provide for the new governance arrangements
- adopting a Constitution for LGASA Mutual Pty Ltd which provides for greater oversight by the LGA Board
- appointing a CEO to LGASA Mutual Pty Ltd (Dr Andrew Johnson)
- appointing two independent directors to LGASA Mutual Pty Ltd (Chair David Holston and Dascia Bennett), who together with a state government appointed representative and the LGA CEO form the new Board

The above measures have addressed all the recommendations made by the Auditor General and in the Finity / Rosey Batt Report while maintaining the integrity of the Schemes.

Now that the new Governance arrangements have been put in place, the LGASA Mutual Board has set the following as its immediate priorities:

- communicating the new governance arrangements to members and the benefits they provide;
- preparing a new Strategic Plan and a three year Business Plan with clear performance outcomes;
- reviewing Strategic Policies for reinsurance, investments, accumulated surplus and contributions/dividends/bonus/penalties in consultation with Members;
- reviewing the future governance arrangements of the Asset Mutual Fund and the Income Protection Fund which are not currently managed by the sector; and
- seeking feedback and input from Members on the following:
  - the operations of the Schemes and their future direction;
  - how the Board can work with the sector and JLT to improve services and the overall value the Schemes provides Members; and
  - how the Board can work with councils to reduce the cost of compliance while still maintaining the integrity of the Schemes and meeting the sector’s responsibilities of RTWSA licence, reinsurers, Treasurers indemnity and maintaining councils statutory immunities.
**Conclusion**

The LGA is now well advanced with the implementation of the new scheme arrangements for the LGA Mutual Liability Scheme and the LGA Workers Compensation Scheme.

The implementation of the Schemes restructure has addressed the Key Recommendations of the Auditor General’s Report and in the Finity / Rosey Batt Report, by the LGA establishing LGASA Mutual Pty Ltd to operate the Schemes, providing greater transparency and improved governance for the schemes, a revised fee model for LGA and JLT and an initial reduction in member contributions while maintaining the cover and benefits to members.

Finity has confirmed that after the Schemes restructure the integrity and financial security of the schemes will remain.

The LGA is confident that the new arrangements will continue to provide the stability and value the Schemes have provided local government for over 30 years.

**Financial and Resource Implications**

This activity has been anticipated in the LGA’s work program and resources are available to progress this work.
7.1 State of Climate Change Emergency (Mount Barker)

Recommendation Reports from the SAROC Committee

Submitted by: Mount Barker District Council
Approved by: SAROC Committee
Meeting: Ordinary General Meeting 12 April 2019
ECM: 670626 Attachment: 670606

Recommendation

That the Ordinary General Meeting requests the LGA to investigate opportunities for giving a higher priority to lobbying state and federal governments on climate change, as well as facilitating appropriate responses from member councils, due to the escalating environmental, economic, social and risk related issues faced by the local government sector.

SAROC Committee's Comments

SAROC at its meeting on 6 March supported this item of business being placed on the agenda for the OGM recognising its strategic importance to the local government sector as a whole and the scope of the motion being to investigate opportunities for further action rather than committing the LGA and councils to a particular outcome.

The recommendation in this report includes SAROC's amendments to the proposed item of business that reflect the large amount of research underpinning the escalation of climate risks, and to include the word 'social', recognising the impacts of climate risks on communities.

LGA Officer's Comments

(Officer: Victoria Brown, Senior Policy Advisor)

Communities across the state are facing increasing challenges as extreme weather becomes more prevalent.

While there is a significant amount of work being undertaken by South Australian councils in this area, the local government sector does not have the funds, capacity or regulatory responsibilities to tackle this issue alone. The proposed recommendation reflects the need for all tiers of government to take appropriate action to address the issues associated with climate change.

To build the capacity of the local government sector to respond to climate change, the LGA had a strong focus on climate risk activities between 2013-2015 through a climate change project that was jointly funded by the State Government and the LGA.

A range of resources developed through this project are available from the LGA, and are being used across the sector to inform local or regional planning and decision making.

Program funding from the State Government concluded in 2016 and the LGA has been actively lobbying for the reinstatement of climate change program funding to continue a partnership approach between State and local government. The LGA has also reinforced the efforts of the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) in seeking support from the Federal Government.
Despite continued lobbying through Federal/State budget and election campaigns, and engagement with relevant ministers, there has been no commitment to funding a joint program with the LGA focussed on climate risk activities.

Without funding support, the LGA has no capacity to continue with a dedicated climate change program, but has continued to use existing resources to support councils through involvement with the Climate Knowledge, Innovation, Communities (Climate KIC) program\(^1\) and through recently developing a series of climate risk management guidance notes\(^2\) for councils.

The LGA is also championing positive climate change planning, building and design outcomes through a significant body of work that is already on-going as part of LGA advocacy on the implementation of the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016.

The LGA will continue to stress the importance of considering climate impacts in all aspects of development and growth of communities.

With regard to the LGA Policy Manual, this motion accords with the policies outlined in Theme 4, Statement 4: ‘Managing the Risks of Climate Change’.

Financial and Resource Implications

Undertaking an investigation of opportunities for providing further support for councils in this area can be achieved within existing resources.

It is proposed that this investigation be undertaken, including further engagement with member councils, and that a report be presented to the LGA Board of Directors with recommendations for appropriate future roles for the LGA.

This investigation will also consider how giving greater priority to climate change activities will impact on other priority areas of LGA activity that have been identified and supported by member councils.

---

\(^1\) [https://climate-kic.org.au/](https://climate-kic.org.au/)

LGA General Meeting – Proposed Item of Business

The purpose of this form is to request consideration by SAROC, GAROC or the Board of Directors of an item of business to be included on the agenda of an LGA General Meeting.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Council Name</th>
<th>Mount Barker District Council</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The body the item is being referred to</td>
<td>SAROC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposals may only be submitted to the ROC of which council is a member, or the Board of Directors.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject of the proposed item of business</td>
<td>State of Climate Change Emergency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposed motion for the General Meeting</td>
<td>That the Ordinary General Meeting requests the LGA gives a higher priority to lobbying state and federal governments on climate change, as well as facilitating appropriate responses from member councils, due to the escalating environmental, economic and risk related issues faced by the local government sector.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting information</td>
<td>Council recognises that we are in a state of climate emergency that requires urgent action by all levels of government, including local government. Failure to adequately address accelerating climate change/global warming will place an unacceptable burden on our communities and cause further biodiversity loss.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LGA Policy Manual</td>
<td>Yes – introduction of an emphasis on mitigation as well as adaptation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does this item require a change to the LGA Policy Manual (new policy or amendment to existing policy)?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LGA Strategic Plan reference</td>
<td>Leadership and Advocacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council Contact Officer submitting form</td>
<td>Lead Reform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name: Ros McDougall</td>
<td>Date submitted: 7 February 2019 &amp; amended 14/2/2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council Meeting minute reference and date of meeting</td>
<td>OM20190204.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 February 2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To be considered for inclusion on the agenda for the 2019 Ordinary General Meeting, please return Word version of completed form to lgasa@lga.sa.gov.au by COB Friday 22 February 2019
Recommendation Reports from the SAROC Committee

Submitted by: Southern & Hills LGA
Approved by: SAROC Committee
Meeting Ordinary General Meeting 12 April 2019
ECM: 671681 Attachment: 671679

Recommendation

That the Ordinary General Meeting agrees to enhance Local Government leadership in climate risk management, by:

1. advocating that the South Australian Government (including the Department of Energy, Transport and Infrastructure and the Department for Environment and Water) establishes and manages a centrally coordinated climate hazard mapping framework to inform decision-making in collaboration with Councils;

2. advocating to ensure Local Government priorities on climate risk management are considered in the State Government’s new cross-agency Climate Change Strategy; and

3. investigating opportunities for the LGASA to increase its support to councils to accurately assess the climate risk exposure of Council plans and projects.

SAROC Committee’s Comments

SAROC at its meeting on 6 March supported the intent of the item of business brought forward by the Southern and Hills LGA and its of strategic importance to the local government sector as a whole, and the proposed actions are achievable and do not commit the LGA and councils to actions with unknown resource implications.

During the SAROC meeting it was clarified that the intent of part 1 of the item of business was not to undertake further mapping, but to coordinate all of the disparate pieces of mapping that has/is being undertaken across the State.

Background

The recommendation from the SAROC committee has been modified from the original received from the Southern and Hills LGA, which had 4 parts.

Part 1 of the original proposal refers to developing a standard climate risk management training module for elected members. As this resource has already been developed by the LGA, this part of the proposal has been removed. The remaining parts of the original proposals have been amended to provide greater clarity and to allow the LGA to further investigate how the intent of the item of business can best be achieved.
Local Government Association of South Australia

LGA Officer's Comments

(Officer: Victoria Brown, Senior Policy Advisor)

It is acknowledged that increased instances of flooding, storm damage, droughts, heatwaves and fires are causing financial and liability issues for councils.

In response to the increasing risk to councils of worsening climate impacts, the recommendation in this report identifies three specific activities that have been highlighted by the Southern & Hills LGA as being of particular importance to councils.

**Part 1** relates to the establishment of a centrally coordinated climate hazard mapping framework to inform decision-making in collaboration with councils. It places the emphasis on State Government to lead and fund this work.

The LGA appreciates the significant planning and climate risk management benefits of creating a framework that collates the large body of climate hazard mapping data that has already been collected, and agrees that such a framework would result in better decision making.

The LGA can advocate for the State Government to implement this proposal through its regular advocacy activities.

**Part 2** of the recommendation relates to the State Government’s cross-agency Climate Change Strategy. This is an internal initiative for State Government activities, and there are currently no plans for the State Government to formally consult with external stakeholders, including the LGA or councils.

However, the LGA could take the opportunity to consult with member councils and informally contribute ideas and suggestions to influence the State Government.

**Part 3** of the SAROC recommendation relates to the LGA investigating opportunities to increase its support to councils with regard to climate risk management activities. This recommendation shares a similar intent to the item of business submitted by the District Council of Mount Barker.

The LGA Secretariat did previously employ a full-time climate risk advisor (between 2013 and 2015) which was jointly funded by the State Government and the LGA through the ‘Science to Solutions Program’ funding agreement. The LGA’s contribution was also supported by a one-off Federal Government grant.

Program funding from the State Government concluded in 2016 and the LGA has been actively lobbying for the reinstatement of climate change program funding to continue a partnership approach between State and local government. Without this funding, the LGA has been unable to maintain its previous level of support to councils.

Without a source of additional funding, the LGA does not have the resources available to support a dedicated climate risk advisor. The modified recommendation endorsed by the SAROC committee commits the LGA to investigating how support might be increased to support councils in this area.

The LGA does currently provide some support to councils in this area through its involvement with the Climate Knowledge, Innovation, Communities (Climate KIC) program¹ and through recently developing a series of climate risk management guidance notes² for councils.

The three parts of this recommendation accord with the policies in the LGA Policy Manual outlined in Theme 4, Statement 4: ‘Managing the Risks of Climate Change’.

---

¹ [https://climate-kic.org.au/](https://climate-kic.org.au/)
Financial and Resource Implications

Part 1 and part 2 of the item of business can be undertaken within existing resources as part of the LGA’s regular advocacy activities.

With regard to part 3; undertaking an initial investigation of resourcing opportunities for the LGA to provide greater support in this area can be achieved with existing resources.

It is proposed that this investigation be undertaken, including further engagement with member councils, and that a report be presented to the LGA Board of Directors with recommendations for appropriate future roles for the LGA.

This investigation will also consider how giving greater priority to climate change activities would impact on other priority areas of LGA activity that have been identified and supported by member councils.
LGA General Meeting – Proposed Item of Business

The purpose of this form is to request consideration by SAROC, GAROC or the Board of Directors of an item of business to be included on the agenda of an LGA General Meeting.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Council Name</th>
<th>Southern &amp; Hills LGA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The body the item is being referred to</td>
<td>SAROC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject of the proposed item of business</td>
<td>Local Government Leadership in Climate Risk Management</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Proposed motion for the General Meeting | That the Ordinary General Meeting agree to enhance Local Government leadership in climate risk management, by:  
  1. Developing standardised climate risk training for Elected Members.  
  2. Advocating to the South Australian Government (including DPTI and DEW) to establish a centrally coordinated and jointly resourced climate hazard mapping framework to inform decision-making.  
  3. Advocating to ensure Local Government priorities on climate risk management are considered in the State Government's new cross-agency Climate Change Strategy.  
  4. Investigating provision of a dedicated ‘climate risk advisor’ role within LGASA to support accurate assessment of the climate risk exposure of Council plans and projects. |

Supporting information

Provide a summary of the issue(s), relevant background information, description of the impact on the sector and evidence that this is an item of strategic importance to local government.

Councils now face immediate and material legal and financial risks if they do not disclose and mitigate climate risks. This has been recognised in mainstream corporate law since 2016.

Councils who fail to mitigate, manage and disclose climate risks in their governance and decision-making will expose themselves to legal liabilities.

With climate risks now occupying the minds of mainstream investors, those not addressing climate risks will increasingly struggle to access affordable finance and insurance.

Councils are, and will increasingly be, at the coalface of climate risk management. Councils plan for and approve land use changes, construct infrastructure, manage built and natural assets, manage waste, ensure community wellbeing, respond to emergencies, support business development, and are directly accountable to their ratepayers and Elected Members to service community demands in a fiscally responsible manner. Each of these functions requires climate risks to be managed.

Under the Local Government Act 1999, each Council has a statutory responsibility to protect its area from natural hazards.
and to mitigate the effects of such hazards. Climate change is already escalating the hazard exposure of Councils and their communities in South Australia and beyond.

Any decision that Councils make now that does not factor in whole-of-life climate risk opens the door to legal challenge and to Council becoming the ‘insurer of last resort’.

To minimise risks to Councils and communities, a number of changes to Council business are needed now, and are common to Councils across South Australia. These include embedding climate risk management in Corporate Risk Registers, Elected Member inductions, Strategic Plans, Long-Term Financial Plans, Asset Management Plans and Development Plans, as well as procurement and other policies and processes.

Some Councils are already taking the lead, but a coordinated approach will avoid duplication and inefficiency while encouraging best practice.

Southern & Hills LGA has raised this motion because we see an opportunity and a need for Local Government to take strong steps to enhance its leadership in climate risk management. Taking a state-wide leadership approach will enable individual Councils to confidently make the required changes.

The motion and its proposed actions were identified as part of a ‘Climate Risk for Councils’ workshop held in McLaren Vale on 16 October 2018. The event was jointly hosted by Resilient Hills and Resilient South partner Councils.

Seventy-two representatives from ten partner Councils, state agencies and the LGASA took part in that event, demonstrating strong working relationships and a commitment to climate risk management within the region.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LGA Policy Manual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The motion supports implementation of existing policies, specifically:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Promoting the Interests of Local Government</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1.7 State-Wide Strategies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Building Local Economies</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1.6 Local Infrastructure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Public Safety</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2.1 Emergency Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>The Natural Environment</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1.1 Research and Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Managing the Risks of Climate Change</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.4.1 Partnerships</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.4.3 Embedding Climate Considerations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Topic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.4.5 Decision Making</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roads</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.1.6 Risk Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Assets (Management)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.2.2 Stormwater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.2.5 Building/Asset Maintenance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Planning System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.1.2 Implementing the New Planning System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning Processes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.2.6 Principles of Good Design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.2.7 Hazards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Sustainability &amp; Governance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.1.1 Strategic Planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.1.2 Borrowings &amp; Investments</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LGA Strategic Plan reference</th>
<th>1. Leadership &amp; advocacy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B. Contribute to state-wide and local policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C. Lead reform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Capacity building &amp; sustainability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A. Support local government through training and resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C. Equip councils for the future</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. Best practice &amp; continuous improvement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A. Lead by example</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Council Contact Officer submitting form</th>
<th>Name: Graeme Martin</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Date submitted: 19 February 2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Council Meeting minute reference and date of meeting</th>
<th>Moved: Mayor Jan-Claire Wisdom</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8 February 2019 6.1/08022019</td>
<td>Seconded: CEO Andrew Stuart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CARRIED</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To be considered for inclusion on the agenda for the 2019 Ordinary General Meeting, please return Word version of completed form to lgasa@lga.sa.gov.au by COB Friday 22 February 2019.
7.3 Jetties (Tumby Bay)

Recommendation Reports from the SAROC Committee

Submitted by: District Council of Tumby Bay
Approved by: SAROC Committee
Meeting: Ordinary General Meeting 12 April 2019
ECM: 670924 Attachment: 670901

Recommendation

That the Ordinary General Meeting requests that the LGA immediately begin negotiations with the current State Government to draft a lease or other agreement with local government collectively to safeguard the future of jetties in South Australia without creating a financial burden on ratepayers, especially in rural and regional areas.

SAROC Committee’s Comments

In their discussions supporting this recommendation, SAROC recognised that jetties and wharves are important to many local economies and are integral to the Australian beach and coastal lifestyle.

SAROC noted that it will be strategically important for the local government sector to speak with one voice as new lease and funding agreements are negotiated with the State Government.

LGA Officer’s Comments

(Officer: Lea Bacon, Director Policy)

Many councils maintain and repair jetties for the benefit of the broader South Australian community. Between 2005 and 2015, South Australian councils collectively spent more than $6.6 million on both state and council owned jetties. This expenditure puts pressure on the rates of the impacted councils.

In South Australia, there are over 70 State Government jetties and wharves that are currently under the care and control of regional and metropolitan councils through a lease arrangement with the State Government. The circumstances regarding the current lease arrangements are outlined in the supporting information provided by the District Council of Tumby Bay.

The recommendation appropriately recognises the lead role the LGA could take on coordinating negotiations with the State Government on the lease and funding arrangements for State owned jetties and wharves.

There is also alignment with the LGA’s advocacy efforts to ensure that the State Government shares the responsibility with councils to drive downward pressure on council rates by honouring its pre-election commitment to stop cost shifting to local government.

Financial and Resource Implications

This activity is not currently anticipated in the LGA’s work program, but support can be provided to impacted councils to coordinate a negotiation process within existing LGA resources.
LGA General Meeting – Proposed Item of Business

The purpose of this form is to request consideration by SAROC, GAROC or the Board of Directors of an item of business to be included on the agenda of an LGA General Meeting.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Council Name</th>
<th>District Council of Tumby Bay</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The body the item is being referred to</td>
<td>SAROC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject of the proposed item of business</td>
<td>Jetties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposed motion for the General Meeting</td>
<td>That the Ordinary General Meeting direct the LGA CEO to immediately begin negotiations with the current State Government to draft a lease or other agreement with local government collectively to safeguard the future of jetties in South Australia without creating a financial burden on ratepayers, especially in rural and regional areas.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Supporting information

Provide a summary of the issue(s), relevant background information, description of the impact on the sector and evidence that this is an item of strategic importance to local government.

History of LGA Action

LGA Board (25.01.18) received information from 18 Councils that was collated and presented to SAROC.

SAROC (24.01.18) considered the matter in relation to rate capping. Noted that leases generally were not ending until the mid-2020’s. Did not appear to have any urgency.

Requested the State Government, Opposition and Cross Bench to provide a position on sustainable funding for jetty and wharf management.

SAROC (21.03.18) Status Report – Complete. No Further Action Required.

Reality

The Tumby Bay and Port Neill jetties are currently under the control of the District Council of Tumby Bay with Council having entered into 25 year lease agreements with the State Government. These leases are due to expire in the mid-2020s.

Our Council is in the same position as the majority of regional Councils across South Australia in being solely responsible for the maintenance of State owned jetties.. At the time these leases were entered into Councils were picked off individually and therefore had little or no collective bargaining power and signed the leases under the threat of having jetties removed or downgraded by the State.

In the ensuing years the State has occasionally assisted with materials for required works however this assistance seems to have dried up.

With many other rural and regional jetty leases expiring in 5 to 7 years...
years time it is proposed that the LGA ensures that the next round of leases or maintenance agreements are negotiated collectively with the State to provide a fair result for rural and regional Councils. It should be noted that metropolitan jetties are still maintained by the State, presumably having some regard to the combined voting power of the metropolitan population.

Giving the matter some financial perspective an unofficial DPTI estimate to return the Tumby Bay jetty to a long term sustainable condition was in the order of $2.5 million. Obviously the jetty isn’t going to fall over tomorrow but a long term financial commitment like that is considerable given the Council’s total annual income from general rates is currently about $3.8 million.

Even with assistance from local community groups these figures are obviously well beyond the ability of smaller rural and regional Councils so the role of the LGA will be vital in securing a fair deal for all Councils and communities.

| LGA Policy Manual | Policy Statement Number 2.2
| State and Federal Government Investment |
| 1.2.4 Infrastructure: Local government recognises the significant responsibilities of federal/ state government to invest in infrastructure that supports economic development and that current investment levels are not adequate. Councils and the LGA will continue to lobby governments for an increase in funding to meet local economic objectives. |

| LGA Strategic Plan reference |
| Key Initiative No. 1 – Leadership and Advocacy – Build and maintain effective partnerships and stakeholder relations. |

| Council Contact Officer submitting form |
| Name: Trevor Smith |
| Date submitted: 13 February 2019 |

| Council Meeting minute reference and date of meeting |

To be considered for inclusion on the agenda for the 2019 Ordinary General Meeting, please return Word version of completed form to lgasa@lga.sa.gov.au by COB Friday 22 February 2019
7.4 Lack of Medical Services to Regional Areas (Eyre Peninsula LGA)

Recommendation Reports from the SAROC Committee

Submitted by:         Eyre Peninsula LGA
Approved by:         SAROC Committee
Meeting              Ordinary General Meeting 12 April 2019
ECM:                 671925              Attachment: 671828

Recommendation

That the Ordinary General Meeting requests the LGA to lobby the State and Commonwealth governments for the provision of improved health services in regional and rural Australia.

SAROC Committee’s Comments

The SAROC Committee supported this item of business being included on the agenda for the OGM as it is a matter of strategic importance to regional councils, is accompanied by detailed supporting information, and aligns with the LGA’s existing advocacy priorities related to community wellbeing.

LGA Officer’s Comments

(Officer: Lea Bacon, Director Policy)

Australia is experiencing an ongoing workforce shortage across a number of health professions, which is more pronounced in regional and remote communities. While already significant, the shortage of General Practitioners, nurses and allied health professionals in regional Australia is likely to worsen as an ageing workforce begins to retire.

The information provided by the Eyre Peninsula LGA highlights the detrimental impact this is having on the physical and mental wellbeing of residents, and the long-term sustainability of regional communities.

Some regional areas have very limited access to even basic primary care services, which results in the disruption to employment, education and family life when regular travel or extended stays away from home are required. Similarly, the negative impact on economic growth and regional development resulting from the lack of essential medical services cannot be overstated.

The availability of quality health care is an important consideration for those relocating to regional areas. Yet, for health care professionals, factors such as wage incentives, infrastructure and lifestyle, are a consideration.

As the LGA’s Policy Manual states, ‘local government recognises federal and state governments have a responsibility to provide quality health care’. The ongoing lack of medical services in regional areas means that councils are forced to take urgent action by providing the front line medical services at the cost to ratepayers. This also deters and distracts from councils’ efforts to provide and maximise the benefits of community preventative health activities.
When considering this item, the SAROC committee acknowledged the State Government’s commitment of $20 million over 4 years for the development of a Rural Health Workforce Strategy. However, as the information provided by the Eyre Peninsula LGA highlights, much more needs to be done through a long-term partnership at the local, state and federal levels of government.

The LGA Secretariat appreciates that in addition to a well-resourced Rural Health Workforce Strategy, an integrated strategic plan is needed to address the prevention, treatment and management of priority health and wellbeing issues in regional South Australia. All three spheres of government must be engaged in a strong collaborative partnership to achieve such an integrated strategic plan.

If this recommendation is supported by the Ordinary General Meeting, the LGA Secretariat will consult with regional members to understand more broadly the specific issues and gaps that need to be addressed and develop an advocacy plan for consideration by SAROC and the LGA Board of Directors.

**Financial and Resource Implications**

This activity is not currently anticipated in the LGA’s work program and development and implementation of an advocacy campaign would require re-prioritisation of the LGA’s work program.
LGA General Meeting – Proposed Item of Business

The purpose of this form is to request consideration by SAROC, GAROC or the Board of Directors of an item of business to be included on the agenda of an LGA General Meeting. (refer Clause 16.3.1 of the LGA Constitution [https://www.lga.sa.gov.au/page.aspx?u=6840])

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Council Name</th>
<th>Eyre Peninsula Local Government Association</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The body the item is being referred to</td>
<td>SAROC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposals may only be submitted to the ROC of which council is a member, or to the LGA Board of Directors.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject of the proposed item of business</td>
<td>Lack of Medical Services to Regional Areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposed motion for the General Meeting</td>
<td>That the Ordinary General Meeting requests the LGA to lobby the State and Commonwealth governments for the provision of improved health services in regional and rural Australia.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting information</td>
<td>Background</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide a summary of the issue(s), relevant background information, description of the impact on the sector and evidence that this is an item of strategic importance to local government.</td>
<td>The Eyre Peninsula region has experienced difficulties in attracting the medical workforce and then in retaining those who have relocated, at least for a reasonable period. Research indicates that it is the total personal and professional experience including non-remunerative benefits and not salary alone that impacts on recruitment and retention. The State &amp; Commonwealth Governments provide a range of financial and non-financial incentives with the aim of attracting and retaining the rural and remote health workforce. These incentives may provide some support but are not fully working for EP as they should for attracting &amp; retaining those in choosing a career in rural health. Lifestyle and financial factors are more likely to influence a health practitioner’s decision to practice in the region. Many of the regions Councils have had to become main players in providing incentives or taking other action to attract health professionals to their respective Council area. The latest being the DC of Streaky Bay with the council actually purchasing the medical practice. In the past most Councils have been faced with the doctor shortage problem. Research indicates a number of programs and incentives on offer or support services available to assist rural and remote areas like the Eyre Peninsula such as:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The General Practice Rural Incentives Program (GPRIP), which provides incentives to encourage medical practitioners to move to and remain in a regional, rural or remote area.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• The Rural GP Locum Program, which helps to provide access to locum services for rural GPs.
• The HECS Reimbursement Scheme, which introduced scaling to fast track the repayment of medical school fees for doctors practicing in outer regional, remote or very remote areas.
• The Scaling Incentive for overseas trained doctors (OTDs), which enables a reduction of the ten year Medicare moratorium for participants practicing in a regional, rural or remote location.
• Scaling of Medical Rural Bonded Scholarship and Bonded Medical Places return of service obligations to encourage bonded scholars to complete their obligations in more remote areas.

But one would have to question the effectiveness of such programs.

Regional incentive model

There is a need for programs to be more flexible and better targeted at the regional level. It was also suggested that one-size-fits-all models for delivering government programs are often administratively complex, don’t allow innovation to match regional needs and can result in unintended consequences.

It is apparent most doctors prefer the larger regional centres than the smaller more remote towns and the reasons why need to be better explored to allow strategies to be put in place to arrest this practice.

It is considered that a regional needs analysis may determine what relocation incentives would provide a greater boost to the local workforce, which would provide benefits to all service providers for example, by reducing their workload.

There is an opportunity to design regionally based incentive arrangements to reward doctors involved in teaching or providing critical after-hours services, or to provide incentive packages to other health practitioners needed in that local area.

This type of regionally based approach also provides an important opportunity to broaden the allocation of incentive payments beyond doctors e.g. nurses. Subject to local requirements, there may be instances where incentives would best be directed towards supporting nurses, dentists and allied health providers working in the private sector. Retention and relocation incentives could make a substantial difference in making rural private practice more attractive and sustainable.

Drivers for rural retention and relocation

Many of the current rural incentives for medical practitioners are focused on financial provisions as the main ‘carrot’ to entice rural
There is certainly an argument that policies which focus on financial incentives, and ignore issues such as community engagement and professional satisfaction are counterproductive.

During its investigation into the factors affecting the supply of medical practitioners in rural areas, the Senate Community Affairs Committee found the following causal factors to be of importance.

- The need to provide training and professional development opportunities;
- The need to provide options for career development;
- Strategies to assist with high workload and on call hours;
- The need to provide opportunities for spouse and children;
- The need to provide peer and professional support;
- A reliable locum service;
- Appropriate remuneration and recognition;
- Provision for adequate housing/childcare; and
- Potentially higher incomes available in private practice in metropolitan areas a disincentive to rural practice.

That Committee also found that the provision of purely financial incentives would not be enough to address all of these issues, and approaches which deal specifically with the issues of infrastructure, training and professional development need to be considered more carefully.

Additional incentives to affect distribution come at the point of medical school entry, providing relatively generous scholarship in exchange for a return of service obligation in the region.

**Alternative service models**

For some locations considered to be either too small and/or too remote to support a permanent live-in doctor, it may be necessary to introduce alternative models of primary health care.

There could be merit in examining enhanced linkages between rural and urban health care settings, with practitioners serving in both settings on a rotational basis. Or having regional “floating doctors” to assist – especially with women’s health.

There have also been some suggestions about the way Government programs could support overworked remote GPs by enhancing access to other health professionals to assist in delivering team-based care. Greater use of nurse practitioners and practice nurses is beginning to occur but could be expanded further, should they not be a supply issue.

**Continuing rural professional development**

Are there programs which directly provide rural continuing professional development education?

**Locum support**
Funding for locum back-filling is one of the other areas in which the Commonwealth provides valuable, less direct support for rural and remote practitioners. Funding for locums enables GPs and other professionals to take time for personal leave as well as to undertake professional development activities. Locum schemes are an important retention measure and generally provide good value for money provided they are not used as a replacement for permanent staff in rural areas.

**Rural workforce agencies (RWA)**

RWAs play a pivotal role in supporting and delivering rural health programs for and with the Commonwealth.

RWAs, located in each state and the Northern Territory, are funded by the Commonwealth to improve the recruitment and retention of GPs to regional, rural and remote areas which includes helping communities to recruit GPs, finding appropriate placements for doctors who want to relocate to rural Australia, assisting with the costs of relocation, supporting families with fitting into a new community and helping doctors access the necessary infrastructure, support and training.

RWAs also promote rural and remote general practice to Australian and international markets and provide support to international and Australian medical graduates moving to rural areas, with a focus on job orientation, training and education support.

**Private Practice – Business Support**

Generally the one doctor practice finds the management of the practice business on top of the day to day professional doctor service an issue too. It was considered regional medical practice management support should also be investigated. Is it a role for Local Councils on a fee for service basis? Is it a community incorporated body role – like Streaky Bay, Wudinna, and Mid West Health etc.?

**The EP Region**

The Eyre Peninsula Local Government Association (EPLGA) is extremely concerned about the apparent disinterest and lack of urgency being shown by the South Australian and Commonwealth governments in regard to the provision of core healthcare services across much of regional Australia, including on the Eyre Peninsula, and the detrimental impact this service gap is having on the physical and mental wellbeing of residents, and the long-term sustainability of regional communities.

For example:- Kimba has been without a permanent general practitioner since early 2018, and despite an investment by Council of more than $100,000 to date to recruit a doctor, residents are still having to wait weeks to get an appointment during bi-weekly locum visits, or make at least a 180-kilometre
round trip to Cleve to seek medical attention. To date, correspondence and meetings with the South Australian Premier and Minister for Health and Wellbeing have failed to provide a solution, as has sporadic attempts at recruitment by the Commonwealth-funded Rural Doctors Workforce Agency.

Kimba is not alone with its healthcare crisis, with multiple local government areas within the respective boundaries of the EPLGA and SAROC also struggling to facilitate the provision of basic health services for communities. It is simply not acceptable for regional and rural South Australians to be denied ready and local access to medical services purely because of their geography. Such a crisis would not be tolerated by those living in metropolitan parts of the state, so why their country cousins should be perpetually treated like second-class citizens when it comes to their health and wellbeing?

It is the intent of this motion that SAROC supports it so that it can be presented at the OGM in April 2019 to represent the local government sector as a collective and advocate for the State and Commonwealth governments to take action and expedite the recruitment of general practitioners to regional areas of South Australia and Australia in general.

**EPLGA Issues by Location**

**Streaky Bay**

**Issues:**
- Gone from 2 permanent Doctors to nil
- Community owns a medical clinic with assistance from the DC Streaky bay
- Locums now being utilized – creating an unviable business model for the medical practice
- Through DC Streaky Bay – ratepayers financially supporting the medical practice
- Not an unique situation in regions
- Locums not covering 24/7 for community

**Elliston**

**Issues:**
- Sharing arrangements with Cleve – Doctor lives in Elliston but when on call goes to Cleve leaving Elliston with no Doctor
- 18 months to get Doctor accredited before taking up position in Elliston
- Driving to Port Lincoln by volunteers in Council car to pick up Agency Registered Nurses to fill roles at Elliston
- Some Elliston nursing staff covering shortages at Coober Pedy – exacerbates the situation

**Kimba**
Issues:

- Great difficulty in attracting permanent residential Doctor
- No 24/7 on call coverage by Doctor – nearest is Cleve
- Locums not viable
- In flexibility of SA Country Health contracts for Doctors e.g. rights to hospital

Cummins

Issues:

- Have been fortunate in past with long term permanent Doctor
- Doctor now looking at retirement in future – disillusionment with prospects of attracting a replacement Doctor
- Current Doctor utilizes locums & registrars to assist his practice
- Struggle to maintain EO/ DoN – currently in recruitment phase
- Sharing DoN is an issue – better in one place all the time – staff get disillusioned by sharing and lack of constant leadership.

Wudinna

Issues:

- No real issues in comparison to other locations – Dr Scott Lewis been at Wudinna for 10 Years – longest serving Doctor for Wudinna
- Previous decisions by community etc. for establishment of Mid West health & Aged care Inc – been a blessing.
- Nursing is an issue at Wudinna – have a 70+ year old DoN (an elderly and very experienced nurse working ridiculous hours to assist the hospital). Lack of expertise and knowledge in some nursing positions a real issue and risky.
- Maintaining infrastructure standards to attract medical professionals can be an issue
- Concern for the ‘Burn Out factor’ when 1 Doctor is left to cover such a large area of central Eyre Peninsula for such long periods

Port Lincoln

Issues:

- Get affected by the regional issues as patients travel to Port Lincoln when no local service available

Other Broad Regional issues:

Strategic Planning for region: -
- Need short & longer term planning – who is tasked with this?
- LGA of SA has a Regional Health Taskforce established with Mayor Johnson as a representative – one possibility to tackle the issue from a Regional SA perspective rather than alone as EP – better learnings & collaboration possible & better directions of issues able to be given to the Minister on a regional wide basis for the state.
- Regional Strategy development needs further regional discussion.

**LGA of SA - Lobbying:**

- Need for development of a rural/ regional workforce policy and plans for whole of state’s regions
- Need to research sustainable regional health models for small communities
- Not only a State matter but also a Federal matter – elevate lobbying to Federal Government too.

**Other matters:**

- Efforts to have pathways to get Doctors in regions lack of up take – why?
- Are the issues more of a Doctor distribution issue with Doctors preferring to stay in cities?
- Is it time for better incentives to get Doctors to regions? – including SA Health incentives
- Conditions of employment issues also have impacts – e.g. Salaried Doctor v contracted Doctor
- SA Health’s failure to explain & address recruitment issues in the regions – do they really understand the issues
- Younger Doctors now looking at lifestyle / life balance – particularly when they have a young family. This is a big issue in attracting Doctors to the regional locations.
- The ongoing training/ collaboration/ sharing for regional doctors are difficult – especially single doctor practices. Collegiality has dropped off, need individual practices to collaborate too, upskilling and supporting one another critical
- The managing of their business outside of being a Doctor can be an issue too.
- Possible rotating of Doctors from City to Regions and vice versa – interns, students too (investigation of Federal & State support for this to happen)
- Closing hospitals is not an option due to geographical spread and distances e.g. Dr Scott Lewis, Wudinna has a catchment area of approx. 160km in all directions for traumas
- Aged care facilities and attachments to hospitals have issues around bonds, payments for beds etc. Locally
raised funds to be retained locally not going into SA Health budget.

- Opportunities for technology use to assist new junior Doctors in appointments to single doctor locations for example from say RAH – having on call support Doctor or session set aside for mentoring/ assistance etc.
- Investigation of possibility of a city based Doctor taking video conference appointments to assist small communities? Or out patient service by video conferencing. Possibility of private practices taking video conferencing appointments – can there be a Medicare charge for such? This could compliment & support regional GP's
- Need to research geographical issued Medicare service number options
- Before Councils get involved in setting up or purchasing medical practices – need to have LG understand different business models etc.
- Need to examine how to encourage larger private practices to assist the smaller practices in the region.
- Need to look at how Port Lincoln & Whyalla Hospitals can be a better/ fully serviceable to the regional people to reduce PATs costs and travel to Adelaide etc. Can PATs be paid to regional people to attend Port Lincoln & Whyalla medical facilities?
- New Regional Health Boards roles going to be critical in assisting the issues we now face
- Why can't Doctors be on the new Boards – conflict of interest given as reason from Minister? However use conflict of interest provisions like LG Act to over come this - Region needs Doctors on the skills based Boards – other wise hoe do we know what is needed at the coal face?
- On-call payments not equitable. If on tele- video conferencing – not paid. On call for 2 sites a loading of 50% added but if more sites still only 50% added to remuneration.
- SA Health poor culture to problem solving is an issue that needs to be addressed by the Minister.
- HACCs having more control on local assets may be of assistance.
- In any forward planning all Doctors, Medical practices, Councils and other stakeholders need to align with community interests. Decision makers need to have a stake in the game too for best results.
- Need to take what opportunities present and make the most of it and be flexible as possible to assist in meeting the needs.

LGA Policy Manual LGA Policy Manual Statement: Local government acknowledges that protecting the health and wellbeing of its
Does this item require a change to the LGA Policy Manual (new policy or amendment to existing policy)?

- communities is a shared responsibility of all tiers of government and recognises the significant contributions that councils make in this area. Councils should contribute equitably to providing preventative and on-going health services, notwithstanding the significant responsibilities of federal and state government.

3.1.1 Health Services: Local government recognises federal and state governments have a responsibility to provide quality health care and that council’s role is limited to local or regional preventative public health activities. Councils should continue to liaise with federal and state governments to maximise the benefits of community preventative health activities offered.

This policy is adequate to allow this motion to proceed.

This issue is covered in many other LGA Policies e.g. economic development is affected where medical services are lacking.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LGA Strategic Plan reference</th>
<th>Key Initiative: 1 Leadership and advocacy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Achieving greater influence for local government in matters affecting councils and communities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Contribute to state-wide and local policy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Council Contact Officer submitting form</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tony Irvine – EPGLGA &amp;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:tirvine@plga.com.au">tirvine@plga.com.au</a> 0428826587</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lyndon Keane, Manager Corporate Services, DD Kimba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:lyndon@kimba.sa.gov.au">lyndon@kimba.sa.gov.au</a> 0419 891 666</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Council Meeting minute reference and date of meeting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Resolution C009/19 from Ordinary Meeting of District Council of Kimba held on 13 February 2019.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**RESOLUTION C009/19**

Moved: Cr Megan Lienert
Seconded: Cr Brian Cant

That Council submit a request to the Eyre Peninsula Local Government Association seeking a motion for the South Australian Regional Organisation of Councils to present to the Local Government Association of South Australia Ordinary General Meeting to be held in April 2019 to lobby State and Federal Governments for the provision of better Health Services in regional Australia.

**CARRIED**
EPLGA Board Resolution No. …. Passed at the 25 February 2019 Board meeting.

Date submitted to LGA

22 February 2019

To be considered for inclusion on the agenda for the 2019 Ordinary General Meeting, please return Word version of completed form to lgasa@lga.sa.gov.au by COB Friday 22 February 2019
7.5 Funding for Regional Road Safety (Alexandrina)

Recommendation Reports from the SAROC Committee

Submitted by: Alexandrina Council
Approved by: SAROC Committee
Meeting: Ordinary General Meeting 12 April 2019
ECM: 671927 Attachment: 671880

Recommendation

That the Ordinary General Meeting asks the LGA to call on State Government to:

1. actively advocate to Federal Government for the permanent reinstatement of South Australia’s supplementary local roads funding; and

2. allocate increased funds for the maintenance and upgrade of safe and high quality regional roads, in line with their pre-election commitment to establish a dedicated Regional Roads and Infrastructure Fund.

SAROC Committee’s Comments

SAROC approved the item of business being placed on the agenda and recommended to the LGA Ordinary General Meeting recognising the importance of adequate State and Federal Government funding for regional road safety.

LGA Officer’s Comments

(Officer: Katherine Russell, Senior Policy Officer)

The proposed item of business has strong alignment to current LGA priorities and advocacy activities that are currently being undertaken on behalf of member councils.

South Australia’s supplementary road funding

Fixing South Australia’s road funding anomaly through the reinstatement of South Australia’s supplementary road funding has been included in the Australian Local Government Association’s (ALGA) federal election advocacy in advance of the 2019-20 Federal Budget and 2019 Federal Election.

The LGA has also commenced a ‘Fair Federal Funding for SA’ Local Roads campaign to build on and support ALGA’s advocacy.

As part of this advocacy, the LGA President has met with key federal MPs and has recently written to Premier Steven Marshall, the Hon Stephan Knoll, Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Peter Malinauskas MP, Leader of the Opposition, and the Hon Tom Koutsantonis MP, Shadow Minister for Transport & Infrastructure seeking their support in sending a strong message to their federal colleagues about how important a fair share of road funding is for South Australian communities.

Funds for maintenance and upgrades of regional roads

Successful LGA budget submissions and election campaigns have included a request that the State Government increase funds for the maintenance and upgrade of South Australia’s main roads.
Most recently, the LGA’s 2019-20 State Budget Submission (March 2019) highlights the lack of funding to maintain safe, high quality roads in metropolitan and regional areas. The submission notes that South Australian councils and communities continue to be concerned about the poor condition of State Government owned main roads in both metropolitan and country areas.

In 2016-17, 92% of travel was taken South Australia’s roads with an acceptable smoothness, as measured on the National Association of Australian State Road Authorities (NAASRA) roughness measure. This is below the State’s own target of 93% for this indicator.

Metro and regional communities have an expectation to access quality and safe road networks. Across Australia, 66% of all road deaths occur in regional and remote areas, despite two thirds of Australians living in cities. In South Australia, there were 51 fatal crashes in rural areas in 2018, which was 12 more than in 2017.

In addition to the suffering experienced by victims and their loved ones, the financial cost of road fatalities and injuries is approximately $1 billion each year.

The LGA’s submission states that in order to make any significant improvements to road safety and quality, the State Government needs to lift its own resurfacing and re-sheeting targets, and increase its investment in repairs to road infrastructure.

**Local government road safety**

At its meeting on 16 May 2018, SAROC requested the LGA Board develop a Local Government Road Safety Strategy Action Plan. This request was endorsed by the LGA Board on 17 May 2018 and preparation of a draft Road Safety Strategy Action Plan is now underway. Development of the draft Plan will involve consultation with member councils and with key stakeholders.

The draft document will be presented to SAROC for discussion and to the LGA Board of Directors for endorsement in June 2019.

Through the draft Local Government Road Safety Strategy Action Plan, there will be many opportunities to support the implementation of a range of Federal and State Government strategies, as well as advocating for increased funding to local government. By working as partners with Federal and State governments, local government can illustrate that it is part of the wider-ranging solution in improving road safety, as well as arguing for the equitable allocation of funding.

Advocating for proportional and increased funding for road safety investment in South Australia through the Supplementary Local Roads and Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grants is crucial to reducing the road trauma that devastates our community. Coupling that advocacy with other initiatives which support Federal and State governments in achieving their strategies will be even more effective.

**Financial and Resource Implications**

This activity has been anticipated in the LGA’s work program and resources are available to progress this work.
LGA General Meeting – Proposed Item of Business

The purpose of this form is to request consideration by SAROC, GAROC or the Board of Directors of an item of business to be included on the agenda of an LGA General Meeting.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Council Name</th>
<th>Alexandrina Council</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The body the item is being referred to</td>
<td>SAROC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposals may only be submitted to the ROC of which council is a member, or the Board of Directors.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject of the proposed item of business</td>
<td>Funding for Regional Road Safety</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposed motion for the General Meeting</td>
<td>That the LGA call on State Government to:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(1) actively advocate to Federal Government for the permanent reinstatement of South Australia’s supplementary local roads funding; and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(2) allocate increased funds for the maintenance and upgrade of safe and high quality regional roads, in line with their pre-election commitment to establish a dedicated Regional Roads and Infrastructure Fund.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting information</td>
<td>Safety upgrades on State Roads are a key advocacy priority for regional councils on the basis they will reduce travel times from metropolitan Adelaide, enhance the viability of regional towns as premium tourism and lifestyle destinations and foster continued growth of the primary production sector. Tourism and primary production are key employers and drivers of economic activity in regional South Australia. Sadly, a number of major accidents and fatalities have recently occurred on State Roads in the Alexandrina Council region, emphasising the urgent need for increased State Government investment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>In addition to providing their own dedicated funding stream for regional arterial road safety upgrades, the State Government can also support South Australian councils by actively advocating for the Federal Government to address the shortfall in the level of local roads funding provided to councils by way of Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grants. South Australia has 11% of Australia’s identified local roads and 7% of the Australian population but receives just 5.5% of federal local roads funding.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Supplementary Local Roads funding for South Australia was reinstated in the 2017-18 Federal Budget at $20 million per annum for two years, having previously been axed with effect from 1 July 2014. This program is currently unfunded beyond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Does this item require a change to the LGA Policy Manual (new policy or amendment to existing policy)?</strong></td>
<td>1.1.3 – Federal/State Government Funding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.2.4 – Infrastructure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.2.5 – Tourism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2.3.3 – Specific Funding Requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2.3.4 – Royalties for Regions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5.1.2 – State Roads</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| LGA Strategic Plan reference                        | Key Initiative: 1 - Leadership and advocacy                               |
|                                                   | B - Contribute to state-wide and local policy                             |
|                                                   | Key Initiative: 2 - Capacity building and sustainability                  |
|                                                   | A - Support local government through training and resources               |

| Council Contact Officer submitting form            | Name: Shen Mann, Acting Group Manager Leadership                           |
|                                                   | Date submitted: 19 February 2019                                          |

| Council Meeting minute reference and date of meeting| ACM1938 – 18 February 2019                                               |

To be considered for inclusion on the agenda for the 2019 Ordinary General Meeting, please return Word version of completed form to lgasa@lga.sa.gov.au by **COB Friday 22 February 2019**
7.6 Regional Economic Growth and Development (Wattle Range)

Recommendation Reports from the SAROC Committee
Submitted by: Wattle Range Council
Approved by: SAROC Committee
Meeting Ordinary General Meeting 12 April 2019
ECM: 672043 Attachment: 672025

Recommendation
That the Ordinary General Meeting asks that the LGA continue to lobby the State Government to develop and implement initiatives that will assist with the growth and development of regional South Australia.

SAROC Committee’s Comments
The SAROC committee recognised the strategic importance of this issue and approved the item of business being placed on the agenda and recommended to the LGA Ordinary General Meeting. SAROC’s recommendation includes a minor amendment to reflect that the LGA already has a strong focus on regional development and request that this advocacy work continues.

LGA Officer’s Comments
(Officer: Sean Holden, Senior Policy Adviser)
This item of business from the Wattle Range Council is consistent with the LGA Statement on Economic Development and previous SAROC and LGA advocacy on growing and developing our regions. Discussion of this issue at the OGM will help to shine a light on the importance of our regions and strengthen the sector’s support for greater action on regional growth and development.

The State Government can support councils and regional organisations to maintain and grow their economy and their population by providing adequate infrastructure, effective public services (especially education and training), and sustainable economic development. This investment is best achieved through close engagement with local government.

SAROC and the LGA have been successful in its advocacy to the Commonwealth and State Government for regional initiatives, which has included:

- The introduction of the Royalties for Regions program quarantining 30 per cent of mining royalties to be delivered into the Regional Roads and Infrastructure Fund (RRIF).
- Reinstatement of the Federal Government’s Supplementary Road Funding of $20m over the two years 2017-2018 and 2018-2019.
- Influencing the new government to remove the contribution to education by skilled migrants introduced by the previous government that acted as a deterrent to settling in South Australia.
The LGA is currently working with and/or advocating to the State Government for the following initiatives that will assist with the growth and development of regional South Australia.

- Stronger relationships with the Regional Development Australia framework and Regional Local Government Associations and their economic development projects.
- Investment attraction via the LGA driven China Engagement Strategy and MOU with the Australia China Business Council.
- Enhancement of tourism development opportunities. Tourism is the second biggest industry in South Australia worth almost $7 billion a year for the state. Councils spend $22m a year on visitor information centres alone and the industry employs 33,000 people of which 12,000 are in regional SA. The visitor economy is the focus of the South Australian Tourism Commission in 2019 and much of the destination and product marketing will require significant private and public spending on infrastructure. The LGA is lobbying for representation on the South Australian Tourism Commission Board and in the meantime influences via a position on the South Australian Regional Visitor Strategy Steering Committee.
- The LGA will shortly be releasing the “Evidence to Inform Local Government Advocacy for a Strategic Population Policy” report, which has been supported by the Local Government Research and Development Scheme. The report includes a region-by-region (RDA boundaries) snapshot, policy position and an advocacy tool to influence the State Government population considerations.
- The LGA contributed to the Economic and Finance Committee’s Inquiry into the Economic Contribution of Migration in South Australia via both a written submission and presenting oral evidence to the inquiry.
- Continuation of the Federal Government’s Supplementary Road Funding.

The LGA will also be using its 2019/20 State Budget Submission to seek greater support from the State Government to funding key economic development drivers in regional South Australia.

Financial and Resource Implications

This activity can be delivered within the LGA’s work program and resources are available to progress this work.
## LGA General Meeting – Proposed Item of Business

The purpose of this form is to request consideration by SAROC, GAROC or the Board of Directors of an item of business to be included on the agenda of an LGA General Meeting.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Council Name</th>
<th>SAROC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>The body the item is being referred to</strong>&lt;br&gt;[Proposals may only be submitted to the ROC of which council is a member, or the Board of Directors.]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subject of the proposed item of business</strong></td>
<td>Regional Economic Growth and Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Proposed motion for the General Meeting</strong></td>
<td>That the LGA lobby the State Government to develop and implement initiatives that will assist with the growth and development of regional South Australia.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Supporting information</strong>&lt;br&gt;[Provide a summary of the issue(s), relevant background information, description of the impact on the sector and evidence that this is an item of strategic importance to local government.]</td>
<td>Over the past two decades, successive State Governments have had an Adelaide city centric focus on infrastructure investment and economic development often to the detriment of the regions. Net migration has followed this city centric strategy with more and more of the region’s youth moving to the city in search of higher education and employment with a corresponding negative impact on regional economic development. Adelaide needs healthy regions just as the regions need a healthy capital. This regional Council is concerned that this symbiotic relationship has been out of balance for a considerable period of time and that it will have a long-term negative impact on the overall health of the State’s economy. South Australia has only 10 regional cities with a population in excess of 10,000 residents, three of which are on the Adelaide fringe. Victoria has 28 regional cities, Queensland has 22, and New South Wales has over 35. These States have and are continuing to invest in regional health, education and infrastructure in these cities and they are growing and prospering as a result of this investment. The investment is also taking the pressure off the capital cities which are all struggling with traffic congestion, overpopulation and rapidly escalating property prices. South Australian regions have the same capacity to grow and prosper given the right investment and commitment from the State Government.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LGA Policy Manual</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Does this item require a change to the LGA Policy Manual (new policy or amendment to existing policy)?</strong></td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| LGA Strategic Plan reference | Key Initiative: 1 Leadership and advocacy. Achieving greater influence for local government in matters affecting councils and communities  
Key Initiative: 2 Capacity building and sustainability. Working with member councils to build capacity and increase sustainability. An integrated and coordinated local government. |
| Council Contact Officer submitting form | Name: Ben Gower  
Date submitted: 26 Feb 2019 |
| Council Meeting minute reference and date of meeting | Minutes of the Wattle Range Council Ordinary Meeting dated 12 February 2019 section 16.2.4 |

To be considered for inclusion on the agenda for the 2019 Ordinary General Meeting, please return Word version of completed form to lgasa@lga.sa.gov.au by **COB Friday 22 February 2019**
7.7 Little Corella Management (Alexandrina)

Recommendation Reports from the SAROC Committee
Submitted by: Alexandrina Council
Approved by: SAROC Committee
Meeting: Ordinary General Meeting 12 April 2019
ECM: 671926 Attachment: 671879

Recommendation
That the Ordinary General Meeting asks the LGA to continue to advocate to State Government for:

1. the urgent adoption (in consultation with the local government sector) of a state-wide strategy for the management of Little Corellas; and

2. a commitment to fund implementation of the strategy, which must include financial assistance to local governments for:
   (a) the development of integrated local management plans; and
   (b) the implementation of medium and long term management options at a local-scale.

SAROC Committee’s Comments
Having carefully considered this issue, the SAROC committee approved this item of business being placed on the agenda for the LGA Ordinary General Meeting.

LGA Officer’s Comments
(Officer: Katherine Russell, Senior Policy Officer)
Alexandrina Council has raised this issue previously with the LGA Board and brought a motion to the OGM on 13 April 2018 seeking vigorous lobbying from the LGA to request the State Government progress a state-wide strategy in response to the Little Corellas issue, to be supported by funding for implementation. The LGA has raised this issue with the State Government on behalf of councils on numerous occasions.

The LGA made a submission to the Parliamentary Inquiry into Overabundant and Pest Species held by the Natural Resources Committee in October 2018 highlighting the impact of managing abundant species on the local government sector.

The LGA also gave evidence to the Inquiry in December 2018 arguing for the urgent need for a state-wide Strategy into management of Little Corellas and other overabundant species. Other witnesses at the Inquiry included representatives of the Department for Environment and Water (‘the Department’), the District Council of Grant and Mount Barker District Council, as well as Mayor Keith Parkes of Alexandrina Council, who appeared together with Mr Lea Bacon, Director Policy at the LGA.

The outcome from the Inquiry has not yet been released.

Sufficient research into the management of Little Corellas exists through the Discovery Circle Report prepared by the University of South Australia, which is widely agreed to be the appropriate
basis for progressing medium and long-term actions in the management of Little Corellas. This research was undertaken in collaboration with the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources, Flinders University, Michigan State University, the LGA, Alexandrina Council, Mt Barker District Council, Flinders Ranges Council, Town of Gawler, City of Marion and City of Salisbury. In addition to councils own funding, the Local Government Research and Development Scheme allocated $20,000 to support this project.

Progressing this issue through ongoing advocacy remains a focus for the LGA. The LGA’s 2019-2020 State Budget Submission includes management of abundant species as one of its 12 key priorities. Specifically, in that submission, the LGA calls for a state-wide management strategy as well as funding to implement medium and long-term actions to manage overabundant species.

The management of overabundant species has a significant impact on South Australia’s environment and infrastructure. It affects a range of overabundant natural species as well as pest species and needs to be addressed. The State Government has the opportunity to provide leadership in targeting this significant environmental issue and partner with local government in delivering a lasting solution.

**Financial and Resource Implications**

Further advocacy on this issue has been anticipated in the LGA’s work program and resources are available to continue to advocate to the State Government. However, the LGA does not currently have the resource capacity to take ownership of the issue and lead a state-wide response on behalf of the State Government.
## LGA General Meeting – Proposed Item of Business

The purpose of this form is to request consideration by SAROC, GAROC or the Board of Directors of an item of business to be included on the agenda of an LGA General Meeting.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Council Name</th>
<th>Alexandrina Council</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The body the item is being referred to</td>
<td>SAROC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposals may only be submitted to the ROC of which council is a member, or the Board of Directors.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject of the proposed item of business</td>
<td>Little Corella Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposed motion for the General Meeting</td>
<td>That the LGA continue to advocate to State Government for:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(1) the urgent adoption (in consultation with the local government sector) of a state-wide strategy for the management of Little Corellas; and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(2) a commitment to fund implementation of the strategy, which must include financial assistance to local governments for:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(a) the development of integrated local management plans; and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(b) the implementation of medium and long term management options at a local-scale.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting information</td>
<td>LGA member councils have previously asked the LGA to advocate to State Government for:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• strong leadership and to take action in the management of abundant bird species including Little Corellas;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• funding to local government to establish and implement management plans that will enable councils to effectively manage little corellas in their local area; and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• the rapid progression of a state-wide strategy and response to the management and population control of Little Corellas, which should then be supported with financial assistance to Local Governments to assist with the implementation of medium and long term management options for this and other abundant bird species.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Over the past year the LGA has played an active role in advocating for State Government action to address Little Corellas. In 2018, Minister for Environment and Water, David Speirs MP, wrote to the LGA acknowledging the significance of this issue and confirming that a state-wide strategy is being prepared by his department as a matter of priority. A draft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LGA Policy Manual</td>
<td>strategy has not yet been released for consultation and the State Government has currently not committed any funds for implementation of the strategy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Does this item require a change to the LGA Policy Manual (new policy or amendment to existing policy)? | 1.1.7 - State-Wide Strategies  
4.1.2 – Community Natural Areas |
| LGA Strategic Plan reference | Key Initiative: 1 - Leadership and advocacy  
B - Contribute to state-wide and local policy  
C - Lead Reform  
Key Initiative: 2 - Capacity building and sustainability  
A - Support local government through training and resources  
Key Initiative: 3 - Best practice & continuous improvement  
B - Benchmark, innovate and research |
| Council Contact Officer submitting form | Name: Shen Mann, Acting Group Manager Leadership  
Date submitted: 22 February 2019 |
| Council Meeting minute reference and date of meeting | ACM1938 – 18 February 2019 |

To be considered for inclusion on the agenda for the 2019 Ordinary General Meeting, please return Word version of completed form to lgasa@lga.sa.gov.au by COB Friday 22 February 2019
8.1 Inclusion of Wine Bottles in the Container Deposit Legislation (Unley)

Recommendation Reports from the GAROC Committee

Submitted by: City of Unley
Approved by: GAROC Committee
Meeting Ordinary General Meeting 12 April 2019
ECM: 670515 Attachment: 670499

Recommendation

That the Ordinary General Meeting requests the LGA to investigate whether there is sufficient support across Local Government to request the State Government amend the Container Deposit Legislation (incorporated into the Environment Protection Act 1993) to include wine bottles, and to achieve consistency with the treatment of other glass bottles in the waste stream, an increase in the recycling of bottles, and a reduction in the contamination of other recycled waste caused by broken glass.

GAROC Committee’s Comments

Having carefully considered this issue, GAROC supported this item of business being included on the agenda for the OGM with an amendment to reflect that wine bottles are already part the recycling stream.

GAROC noted that the Hon. David Speirs MP, Minister for Environment and Water has recently commenced a review of the Container Deposit Scheme and the LGA has already provided a response to this review. Local government, industry groups and other key stakeholders will need to give further consideration as to how an expansion of the Container Deposit Scheme would operate.

LGA Officer’s Comments

(Officer: Emily Heywood-Smith, Senior Policy Officer)

On 13 January 2019, the Hon. David Speirs MP, Minister for Environment and Water, announced two reviews relevant to the management of waste and recycling in South Australia. Firstly, Minister Speirs sought feedback on the regulation of single-use plastics in South Australia. Secondly, Minister Speirs sought comment on the scope of a review of South Australia’s Container Deposit Scheme (CDS). Responses to both reviews were due on Friday, 22 February 2019.

The LGA understands that these two reviews will be central to the State Government’s action on waste and recycling in South Australia. Given that many aspects of waste management fall to local government to implement, the LGA has sought to provide a strong voice for the sector in these discussions. In order to achieve this, the LGA held an information session on the reviews on Monday, 11 February 2019. The session provided councils and waste subsidiaries with an overview of the reforms and enabled participants to discuss the position of the sector as a whole.

The information session was well attended (in person and via live-streaming) and the LGA’s submission to the reviews reflects the views of the sector as expressed at the session.
The LGA submission advised that:

- the LGA believes the Container Deposit Scheme (CDS) has been highly successful at improving resource recovery rates in South Australia and reducing litter and supports the continuation and possible expansion of the scheme;

- the LGA acknowledges that while CDS was designed and implemented as a litter reduction mechanism, it is now viewed more broadly as a resource recovery mechanism;

- it may be helpful to acknowledge that the CDS may have different objectives for different materials (i.e. it may be very important as a litter reduction mechanism for plastics but it is also very important as a resource recovery mechanism for glass);

- the CDS provides a method of ensuring that as much glass as possible is returned to recyclers directly (outside of the yellow bin system) and this is important because:
  - recovered glass is a high value material if recovered in a “clean” state and there are strong local markets for recovered glass within South Australia; and
  - glass (when disposed through the yellow bin) is responsible for a significant proportion of the cost to councils of providing recycling services and glass fines (glass broken into very small pieces) cause a number of problems for councils through the recycling process.

- for these reasons, it is the CDS’ role as a resource recovery mechanism for glass where there is the strongest case for expansion of the scheme (possibly through the inclusion of wine bottles).

The LGA understands that expanding the CDS to include wine bottles would bring significant benefits to the local government sector and the community, both in terms of reducing the cost of recycling services and increasing the quality (and value) of the other materials being recycled through the yellow bin. This motion calls on the LGA to undertake further investigation on the benefits of including wine bottles in the CDS, and if passed, further consultation with councils and evidence-based investigations will be undertaken to determine a strong position for further advocacy specifically in relation to wine bottles.

The LGA is aware of a lack of available data to demonstrate or quantify how much of the cost to councils of providing recycling services can be attributed to the presence of glass in the yellow bin. The LGA’s investigations would explore options for obtaining useful data in this regard with a view to feeding this information into the review.

More broadly, the LGA will continue to be actively involved in the CDS review process, including through membership of the EPA Stakeholder Reference Group for the review.

**Financial and Resource Implications**

This activity has been anticipated in the LGA’s work program and resources are available to progress this work.
# LGA General Meeting – Proposed Item of Business

The purpose of this form is to request consideration by SAROC, GAROC or the Board of Directors of an item of business to be included on the agenda of an LGA General Meeting.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Council Name</th>
<th>City of Unley</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The body the item is being referred to</td>
<td>GAROC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Proposals may only be submitted to the ROC of which council is a member, or the Board of Directors.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject of the proposed item of business</th>
<th>Inclusion of Wine Bottles in the Container Deposit Legislation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proposed motion for the General Meeting</td>
<td>That the Ordinary General Meeting requests the LGA to investigate whether there is sufficient support across Local Government to request the State Government amend the Container Deposit Legislation (incorporated into the <em>Environment Protection Act 1993</em>) to include wine bottles, to assist not only with an increase in the recycling of bottles, but a reduction in the contamination of other recycled waste caused by broken glass.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Supporting information | Contamination of recyclable waste and China’s decision not to accept waste from Australia has recently drawn attention to the significant environmental issue of waste management. Apart from the many aspects relating to waste addressed in a recent edition of SA Weekend magazine, the Executive Director of KESAB suggested that wine bottles be added to South Australia’s Container Deposit Legislation. According to the Environmental Protection Authority, in 2016-17, the return rate for beverage containers in South Australia was 79.9%. More than 586.8 million containers (43,298 tonnes) were recovered by collection depots. $58 million was refunded to the community during that period. Approximately 34,667 tonnes of glass beverage containers were sent for recycling. Much of the paper and cardboard placed in our recycling bins becomes contaminated with glass particles/powder that results in additional land-fill, which attracts a higher cost to Council than recyclables. While reducing the quantity of glass items in our bins will not eliminate this issue, it should reduce it. An audit of recycling bins in the City of Unley has shown that 25% of waste (2.3 kilograms) comes from wine bottles. With |

Provide a summary of the issue(s), relevant background information, description of the impact on the sector and evidence that this is an item of strategic importance to local government.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LGA Policy Manual</th>
<th>(please click here to view the LGA Policy Manual)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Does this item require a change to the LGA Policy Manual (new policy or amendment to existing policy)?</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LGA Strategic Plan reference</td>
<td>(please click here to view the plan and identify the Key Initiative and Strategy reference)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leadership and Advocacy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B – Contribute to State-wide and local policy reform</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C – Lead Reform</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E – Build and maintain effective partnerships and stakeholder relations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best Practice and Continuous Improvement</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B - Benchmark, innovate and research</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council Contact Officer submitting form</td>
<td>Name: Tami Norman, Executive Manager Office of the CEO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council Meeting minute reference and date of meeting</td>
<td>Item 1270/2018, 27 August 2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To be considered for inclusion on the agenda for the 2019 Ordinary General Meeting, please return Word version of completed form to lgasa@lga.sa.gov.au by COB Friday 22 February 2019
8.2 Social Infrastructure that promotes liveable and healthy communities (Adelaide)

Recommendation Reports from the GAROC Committee

Submitted by: City of Adelaide
Approved by: GAROC Committee
Meeting Ordinary General Meeting 12 April 2019
ECM: 671566 Attachment: 671205

Recommendation

That the Ordinary General Meeting requests that the LGA:

1. supports and encourages councils to improve planning for community, sporting and cultural facilities and services/programs (social infrastructure) including through research, innovation, collaboration, skills and capacity development;

2. liaises with the South Australian Government to ensure councils are engaged and informed regarding social infrastructure planning associated with urban development and planning processes, with reference to implementation of the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016 (SA) (PDI Act) and the 30-year Plan for Greater Adelaide, and

3. requests that the South Australian government investigates opportunities to promote a more consistent and place-based approach to social infrastructure planning in the state, including development of a contemporary social infrastructure guideline/design standard for SA.

GAROC Committee’s Comments

GAROC amended part 1 of the recommendation to include ‘community sporting and cultural facilities and services/programs’ to provide further clarity and ensure a definition of social infrastructure was reflected in the wording of the recommendation.

LGA Officer’s Comments

(Officer: Victoria Brown, Senior Policy Advisor)

Social infrastructure is critically important, and there could be greater consistency and a more strategic approach across the sector to location, design and on-going funding of social infrastructure. This is supported in part by Infrastructure Australia’s recent Planning Liveable Cities report, and ALGA’s 2018 National State of the Assets report.

In 2012, with funding assistance from the Local Government Research and Development Scheme (LGR&DS), the Cities of Charles Sturt, Onkaparinga, Playford and Salisbury, Adelaide Hills Council and the LGA collaborated to develop a framework and guides to support the development of social infrastructure in growth corridors and urban regeneration areas. If this recommendation is supported by the Ordinary General Meeting, further investigation will be undertaken to understand how the guide can be updated and strengthened to further assist councils and where gaps and inconsistencies remain.
Part 1 of the item of business focuses on increasing research, innovation, collaboration, skills and capacity. Funding through the LGR&DS may be available to councils and the LGA to progress this objective, subject to a well-defined project proposal being successful in a competitive funding round.

Part 2 of the item of business focuses on urban development and planning processes through the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016. The LGA is strongly engaged in the implementation of the Act in a number of ways and will continue to advocate for councils to be engaged in, informed of and have genuine influence on planning processes for social infrastructure and urban development.

The LGA can stress the importance of social infrastructure as part of this process, along with advocating to State Government for the development of design standards and robust regional planning that incorporates physical and social infrastructure, as per part 3 of the item of business.

This recommendation aligns with and is supported by several policies in the LGA Policy Manual, as outlined below.

3.3.1 Libraries: Local government acknowledges its partnership with the State Government as vital, but recognises funding cuts by the State Government to councils will reduce capability to maintain libraries. Local government shall continue to lobby for levels of funding to meet objectives of the local/ state partnership agreement for libraries while also seeking federal government contributions.

3.3.2 Sports and Recreation Facilities: Local government recognises the importance of providing these facilities for the health and wellbeing of the community, and shall continue to work with non-government bodies, community organisations, and the private sector to maintain appropriate facilities, while also seeking federal and state government contributions.

3.3.3 Arts and Cultural Development: Local government is committed to maintaining a culturally diverse, tolerant and open society, and shall equitably contribute to facilitating arts and cultural development activities and programs that promote social cohesion and harmony, notwithstanding the responsibilities of federal and state governments.

3.3.4 Educational Collaboration: Local government supports the establishment of joint use facilities with educational institutions and shall identify and implement collaborative arrangements where appropriate to achieve cost savings and improvement of services.

Financial and Resource Implications

The LGA could work with councils to find funding and resourcing opportunities to progress Part 1 of the motion, including potential grant funding from the Local Government Research and Development Scheme. However, direct LGA Secretariat support and assistance to councils in this area would require a re-prioritisation of resources from other policy areas.

LGA advocacy for part 2 and part 3 of the item of business can be incorporated within the existing LGA work plan and budget as part of activities relating to the implementation of the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016.
### LGA General Meeting – Proposed Item of Business

The purpose of this form is to request consideration by SAROC, GAROC or the Board of Directors of an item of business to be included on the agenda of an LGA General Meeting.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Council Name</th>
<th>City of Adelaide</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The body the item is being referred to</td>
<td>GAROC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject of the proposed item of business</td>
<td>Social Infrastructure that promotes liveable and healthy communities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposed motion for the General Meeting</td>
<td>The Ordinary General Meeting requests that the LGA:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. Supports and encourages Councils to improve their social infrastructure planning including through research, innovation, collaboration, skills and capacity development;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Liaises with the South Australian Government to ensure Councils are engaged and informed regarding social infrastructure planning associated with urban development and planning processes, with reference to implementation of the <em>Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016</em> (SA) (PDI Act) and the 30-year Plan for Greater Adelaide, and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. Requests that the South Australian government investigates opportunities to promote a more consistent and place-based approach to social infrastructure planning in the state, including development of a contemporary social infrastructure guideline / design standard for SA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting information</td>
<td>Social infrastructure is important for cohesive, healthy, liveable, prosperous and equitable communities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Social infrastructure includes community and cultural facilities, libraries, sport and recreation facilities, education and health services, as well as community development and support programs. Responsibility for delivering different types of social infrastructure sits across levels of government, and responsibility for delivering outcomes is therefore shared.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Effective planning for, and timely provision of, social infrastructure is especially important for communities undergoing significant change e.g. densifying inner-city councils, and new green-fields growth areas at the city fringe. Unfortunately, social infrastructure often lags behind urban development and other infrastructure, resulting in missed opportunities for integrated outcomes, efficient use of resources, partnerships, negotiated contributions by developers, and maximised community benefits.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Infrastructure Australia’s recent *Planning Liveable Communities* (December 2018) report recommends that more place-based infrastructure planning (including for social infrastructure) is required for liveable communities. Local Government is a key partner in development of place-based solutions to community needs.

An improved and more consistent approach to planning for social infrastructure in South Australia may result in better outcomes for communities as well as savings for Councils (e.g. through better use of funds, more efficient asset use, clarity regarding community needs, and shared contributions to social infrastructure by developers and others etc).

While SA Councils spent almost as much on community support, cultural and library services ($316 million) as they did on open space, sport and recreation services ($319 million) in 2016/17, the practice of strategic planning for these social/community assets and services is not as well developed. There is an opportunity to enhance how these assets and services are planned for strategically by Councils, and integrated into development outcomes for communities.

The LGA could play a role in promoting and supporting Councils to undertake appropriate planning for Council-owned social infrastructure (community buildings/assets, service provision), as well as strengthening Councils’ role in advocacy and negotiation of provision by others such as through development processes.

The ALGA’s National State of the Assets report 2018 also found that many councils have information and knowledge gaps in their overall infrastructure planning processes, including for community buildings. This report concluded that without intervention, such as capacity building, there is likely to be an increasing inability to forecast and finance future infrastructure renewal and upgrade infrastructure to meet future needs due to demand and growth.

The LGA Research and Development fund supported a project on this topic in 2012, which has assisted some Councils since. However, there remain gaps, inconsistencies and low levels of experience in the sector relating to social infrastructure planning.

A contemporary social infrastructure guideline could help promote a more consistent approach to social infrastructure planning in the state.

The 30-year Plan for Greater Adelaide includes policy which promotes social infrastructure, and it is understood that the Department for Planning, Transport and Infrastructure has developed a guideline resource for internal (but not Council) use i.e. by departmental staff and for State government projects.

The implementation of the PDI Act provides new opportunities for including social infrastructure in ‘Infrastructure Schemes’. The
Planning Commission is also developing new planning instruments, including design standards, which could include social infrastructure.

The motion will bring a stronger focus to this aspect of planning for liveable communities and support greater Council and State government collaboration.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LGA Policy Manual</th>
<th>Does this item require a change to the LGA Policy Manual (new policy or amendment to existing policy)?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(please click here to view the LGA Policy Manual)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| LGA Strategic Plan Reference | Key Initiative: 1 – Leadership and advocacy  
Strategy B – Contributed to state-wide and local policy.  
Strategy C – Lead reform  
Key Initiative: 2 – Capacity building and sustainability  
Strategy B: Lead, initiate and promote working together.  
Strategy D: Help councils build communities. |

| Council Contact Officer submitting form | Name: Penny Worland, Senior Social Planner, City of Adelaide and Clare Mockler, Director Community, City of Adelaide  
Date submitted: 14 February 2019 |

| Council Meeting minute reference and date of meeting | Minute 4  
Date of meeting: 12 February 2019 |

To be considered for inclusion on the agenda for the 2019 Ordinary General Meeting, please return Word version of completed form to lgasa@lga.sa.gov.au by COB Friday 22 February 2019.
**8.3 Movement and Transport Planning (Adelaide)**

**Recommendation Reports from the GAROC Committee**

Submitted by: Adelaide City Council  
Approved by: GAROC Committee  
Meeting: Ordinary General Meeting 12 April 2019  
ECM: 671567  
Attachment: 671214

---

**Recommendation**

That the Ordinary General Meeting requests that the Local Government Association:

1. Establishes a Local Government Movement and Transport Planning Network with the intent to:
   - keep informed of current and future trends in movement and transport strategies, with relevance to metropolitan Adelaide and regions across the state;
   - identify priority movement and transport projects, with a key focus on mobility sharing, cycling, walking and public transport;
   - identify strategic, capital and operational funding opportunities at all levels of government as well as seek partnerships to deliver strategies and projects;
   - ensure movement and transport strategies are aligned and cohesive across council areas; and
   - discuss opportunities to partner on projects, cross-promote and share information, ideas, and learnings.

2. Membership could include all councils who elect to sign up to the group, the LGA, as well as representatives from the State Government (e.g. DPTI and ODASA)

3. The scope could include discussion of a metropolitan Adelaide without boundaries, and assisting councils and other key stakeholders (e.g. RAA, Bike SA, BISA, AILA, Engineers Australia, Property Council etc.) to create, influence and implement:
   - Major projects
   - Climate change adaptation
   - Green infrastructure provision
   - Customer centricity
   - Business cases and the process for Infrastructure Australia (IA)
   - Consistent approaches to design and infrastructure
   - Consistent approaches to transport mode integration
**GAROC Committee’s Comments**

Having carefully considered this issue, the GAROC committee approved this item of business being placed on the agenda and recommended to the LGA Ordinary General Meeting.

At the recommendation of the LGA Secretariat, GAROC made a slight amendment to the title of the proposed group from ‘advocacy group’ to ‘planning network’ to make clear the distinction from the LGA’s role to advocate for local government in matters affecting member councils.

GAROC members suggested that a Local Government Movement and Transport Network would have particular merit and add value to the local government sector if it included membership from relevant appropriate government departments and sector peak bodies on any given issue.

**LGA Officer's Comments**

*(Officer: Lea Bacon, Director Policy)*

Through various models, the LGA Secretariat currently supports and works with a number of existing officer-level networks in the local government sector, in areas such as communications, events, environmental health, community managers, volunteering and financial managers. These networks provide a forum for councils to come together to stay informed of current trends, discuss solutions to emerging issues and identify support, resources and advocacy that would assist the sector. Membership of these networks is typically open to all councils on a voluntary basis.

A Local Government Movement and Transport Planning network would provide a formal structure to support capacity building within regional and metropolitan councils and to inform the LGA’s advocacy agenda in the broader transport and infrastructure portfolio.

As the City of Adelaide has identified, this is a busy and developing policy space which will have various implications for councils based on their size and/or regional/metropolitan location. While the proposed motion identifies a broad intent and scope for the network, this could be managed by establishing a smaller leadership group of the network to set a focused agenda, identify speakers and presentations, and share hosting/chairing responsibilities.

A Local Government Movement and Transport Planning Network would align with, but not replicate, the LGA Board’s Local Government Transport Advisory Panel (LGTAP) that has a membership and specific remit to make recommendations on the Special Local Roads Program (the Commonwealth grant funded program applicable to South Australia).

**Financial and Resource Implications**

This activity is not currently anticipated in the LGA’s work program, but can be delivered within existing LGA resources.

It is envisaged that the LGA Secretariat could provide in-kind support to host meetings at Local Government House, to utilise webinar facilities and to establish a landing page on the LGA members’ website as an information hub. Providing support to this network would be a shared responsibility between the LGA and the participating councils.

As the group would take a sector-wide view to issues, there is likely to be strong alignment with the purpose of the Local Government Research and Development Scheme should a future need be identified for additional resources to support the outcomes of the proposed Network.
LGA General Meeting – Proposed Item of Business

The purpose of this form is to request consideration by SAROC, GAROC or the Board of Directors of an item of business to be included on the agenda of an LGA General Meeting.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Council Name</th>
<th>City of Adelaide</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The body the item is being referred to</td>
<td>GAROC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject of the proposed item of business</td>
<td>Movement and Transport Planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposed motion for the General Meeting</td>
<td>The Ordinary General Meeting requests that the Local Government Association:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. Establishes a local government sector advocacy group with the intent to:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>o Keep informed of current and future trends in movement and transport strategies, with relevance to metropolitan Adelaide and regions across the state</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>o Identify priority movement and transport projects, with a key focus on mobility sharing, cycling, walking and public transport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>o Identify strategic, capital and operational funding opportunities at all levels of government as well as seek partnerships to deliver strategies and projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>o Ensure movement and transport strategies are aligned and cohesive across council areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>o Discuss opportunities to partner on projects, cross-promote and share information, ideas, and learnings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Membership could include all councils who elect to sign up to the group, the LGA, as well as representatives from the State Government (e.g. DPTI and ODASA).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. The scope could include discussion of a metropolitan Adelaide without boundaries, and assisting councils and other key stakeholders (e.g. RAA, Bike SA, BISA, AILA, Engineers Australia, Property Council etc) to create, influence and implement:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>o Major projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>o Climate change adaptation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>o Green infrastructure provision</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Customer centricity</td>
<td>Business cases and the process for Infrastructure Australia (IA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Consistent approaches to design and infrastructure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Consistent approaches to transport mode integration</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Supporting information**

Some Councils interact regularly with their neighbouring Councils and the State Government in isolation; the intent of this group is to enable us to partner, work closely and collaborate with, and ultimately advocate on behalf of, our Councils' constituents.

It is acknowledged that mobility, movement, transport and land use is an extensive topic, and to ensure that we get the most out of the group it could be beneficial to focus the group’s efforts on specific topics with relevance to all Council areas.

These key focus areas could include:

**Public Transport**
- Mobility as a service
- Shared mobility services (bikes, e-scooters etc)
- Tram network
- Train network
- Bus network, bus lanes/priority measures
- Travel Behaviour Change initiatives
- Park and Ride facilities
- Bus, train and tram stations – in particular design quality to improve customer experiences and improve patronage
- Integrating green infrastructure in all transport projects as a key outcome

**Cycling**
- Delivery of continuous and safe bike routes across Council areas – partnership and funding opportunities
- Promotions and education initiatives to get more people on their bikes
- Public and private end-of-trip facilities
- Ensuring the experience of riding bikes is not only easy, but healthy and good for the economy, directly and indirectly

**Walking**
- Ensuring streets are for people
- Delivery of continuous and safe walking
- Creating quality, green and shaded streets
- Increasing canopy cover of streets
- Integrating green infrastructure
**Land Use**

- Key growth areas and opportunities to integrate the transport network

Many other topics could be considered and would need to be agreed by an Executive Committee to be established.

The group’s scope would differ significantly from the current scope of the Local Government Transport Advisory Panel (LGTAP) established by the LGA to propose and monitor a continuing program of projects and the prioritisation of funding under the Special (supplementary) Local Roads Program. Rather, the proposed group would consider current and emerging trends, identify availability of funding sources, seek out partnership opportunities, encourage cohesion and alignment of strategies across council areas, and look to canvass broader policy areas such as multiple modes of sustainable transport, climate change adaptation and green infrastructure. The group could be established separately or could fall within the ambit of LGTAP if the scope of the existing group were expanded.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LGA Policy Manual</th>
<th>No change required. Proposal aligns with Policy Statement 5.1 Roads, in particular 5.1.4 (cycling) and 5.1.5 (public transport).</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| LGA Strategic Plan Reference | Key Initiative 1 – Leadership and Advocacy  
Strategy B – Contribute to state-wide and local policy  
Strategy E – Build and maintain effective partnerships and stakeholder relations |
| Council Contact Officer submitting form | Name: Daniel Bennett, Associate Director, Strategy and Design, City of Adelaide  
Date submitted: 14 February 2019 |
| Council Meeting minute reference and date of meeting | Minute 6  
Date of meeting: 12 February 2019 |

To be considered for inclusion on the agenda for the 2019 Ordinary General Meeting, please return Word version of completed form to lgasa@lga.sa.gov.au by COB Friday 22 February 2019
8.4 Hardship Policy for council rates (Playford)

Recommendation Reports from the GAROC Committee
Submitted by: City of Playford
Approved by: GAROC Committee
Meeting Ordinary General Meeting 12 April 2019
ECM: 671569 Attachment: 671541

Recommendation
That the Ordinary General Meeting requests the LGA work with its member councils to prepare guidelines to assist councils in developing Rates Hardship Policies.

GAROC Committee’s Comments
At the recommendation of the LGA Secretariat, GAROC amended the wording of the motion proposed by the City of Playford to reflect the LGA’s role as a membership body for councils that does not have the power to adopt policies for councils. Rather, there is value in the LGA working with member councils to prepare guidelines that would provide a consistent approach for councils to prepare a hardship policy should they choose to adopt one. It is not considered that this wording change materially alters the intent of the proposal from the City of Playford.

LGA Officer’s Comments
(Officer: Rebecca Muller, Senior Policy Officer)
Councils recognise that some ratepayers, particularly those on low incomes and older people, are facing payment difficulties as cost of living pressures such as electricity, health and transport costs continue to rise. Support is available to assist these ratepayers.

Ratepayers experiencing ongoing or extreme financial hardship may apply to their council for a remission of rates as per Section 182 of the Local Government Act 1999 (the Act), which sets out that if a council is satisfied on application of a ratepayer, that payment of rates would cause hardship, a council may postpone payment in whole or in part for a period of time, or remit the rates in whole or in part.

The number of South Australian rate payers applying for hardship support is relatively small and the majority of the people applying for assistance do receive support from their council such as a payment plan or remitting part or all of their rates.

As opposed to Section 182A of the Act which deals with postponement of rates for seniors and is prescribed in detail by the Act and Regulations, Section 182 is not prescriptive and councils have broad discretion to determine the conditions under which it is applied.

In developing a Hardship Policy, a council would need to carefully consider the needs of the whole community and their long term strategic management plans.

It should be noted that the Municipal Association of Victoria has developed Hardship Policy Guidelines that provide information on a range of options for Victorian councils to consider in assisting their residents who meet hardship criteria and identifies options for staff training. This provides a resource that the LGASA can draw on to develop a guide that is specific to South Australia.
**Financial and Resource Implications**

This activity is not currently anticipated in the LGA’s work program, but can be delivered within existing LGA resources with the assistance of a working group of member councils (such as the Rating and Valuation Working Group of the SA Local Government Financial Managers Group (SALGFMG)).

There is alignment with the objectives identified in the Local Government Research and Development Scheme’s 2019/20 Annual Business Plan should a future need be identified for additional resources.
LGA General Meeting – Proposed Item of Business

The purpose of this form is to request consideration by SAROC, GAROC or the Board of Directors of an item of business to be included on the agenda of an LGA General Meeting.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Council Name</th>
<th>City of Playford</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The body the item is being referred to</td>
<td>GAROC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposals may only be submitted to the ROC of which council is a member, or the Board of Directors.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject of the proposed item of business</td>
<td>Hardship Policy for council rates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposed motion for the General Meeting</td>
<td>That the Ordinary General Meeting investigate the adoption of a Rates Hardship Policy for local government organisations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting information</td>
<td>There is currently no Hardship Policies for Council Rates, only for Water and Sewer charges. The implementation of such a policy would align Councils with other essential service providers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>While Councils are required to provide hardship assistance, there is a need for a Hardship Policy separate to the Rebate Policy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>City of Playford has undertaken stakeholder engagement with the social inclusion sector to ensure access for ratepayers to free accredited financial counselling services.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Supporting documents:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>City of Playford Rates Hardship Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>City of Playford Financial Hardship FAQ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>City of Playford Hardship Policy Guidelines (attached)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Statement from Anglicare (attached)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Anglicare Brochure (attached)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Find a Financial Counsellor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LGA Policy Manual</td>
<td>Yes. This would require the development of a new policy for adoption across all local government or alternatively, require that each organisation implement a stand-alone policy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LGA Strategic Plan reference</td>
<td>Key Initiative 1 – Leadership and Advocacy. To lead reform and contribute to local policy. Implementing a sector wide Rates Hardship Policy will also increase the profile of local government.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council Contact Officer submitting form</td>
<td>Name: Deb Foster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Date submitted: 18 February 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council Meeting minute reference and date of meeting</td>
<td>Resolution #3399</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12 February 2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Hardship Policy Guideline

*These guidelines support Council’s Hardship Policy*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ECM Document Set No.:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Version No.:</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date of Current Version</td>
<td>June 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Responsible Team</td>
<td>Finance /Rates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Key Internal Stakeholders</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initial Date of Adoption</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last Reviewed</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Authorised By</td>
<td>Grace Pelle-Senior Manager-Finance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resolution No.:</td>
<td><em>Only applicable if a Council endorsed guideline</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Requirement</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date of Next Review</td>
<td>June 2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. Purpose
City of Playford is committed to assisting customers who are experiencing financial hardship to manage their bills on an ongoing basis, and to pay outstanding and ongoing rates debt. These guidelines support the Hardship Policy.

2. Scope
This guideline refers to the Hardship Policy and outlines the options for ratepayers seeking relief from rates due to hardship or extenuating circumstances. Council may grant relief in the form of postponement of rates (for seniors), refer the ratepayer to see an accredited financial counsellor, or negotiate a flexible long term debt repayment arrangement. It does not include rate rebates or remissions.

3. Legislation and References
Local Government Act 1999
- Section 177 advises that rates imposed on land are a charge on the land
- Section 178 advises that liability for the rates charged on the land is the principal ratepayer (owner)
- Section 182 advises of Council’s power to grant relief of rates due to hardship or extenuating circumstances by way of remission or postponement of rates.
- Section 183 of the Act determines the priority of which payments are to be allocated to ratepayers debt.
- Section 184 of the Act advises Council may sell the land if rates has been in arrears for three years or more.

4. Definitions
Accredited financial counsellor means a person who holds a Diploma of Community Services (Financial Counselling), and who has worked at least 12 months as a financial counsellor under the supervision of the South Australian Financial Counsellors Association.

The Act is the Local Government Act 1999

Assistance means support available for ratepayers

Council is the local government entity known as City of Playford.

Financial hardship means a circumstance of experiencing a lack of financial means, that may be either ongoing or temporary, but does not include circumstances where a person chooses not to meet a liability for an unpaid debt.

Guidelines means the Hardship Guidelines

Policy means the Hardship Policy

Ratepayer means a person who owes amounts for rates, fees, or other charges due and payable to the Council.
5. Guidelines

5.1. Financial Hardship definitions
A ratepayer experiencing financial hardship is someone who is identified by themselves, by Council, by an accredited financial counsellor, or welfare agency as having the intention, but not the financial capacity, to make required payments in accordance with Council's payment terms.

Hardship assistance required will be determined by either an **accredited financial counsellor** or Council's assessment process.

Depending if the hardship experienced is ongoing or temporary, ratepayers may have different needs and require different assistance.

Ratepayers who identified as experiencing **ongoing hardship** may require ongoing assistance and are generally on low or fixed incomes such as:

- aged pension
- disability pension
- carers pension
- single parenting pensions

Ratepayers who may be experiencing **temporary hardship** may require short term assistance and are generally experiencing short-term change in circumstances, such as:

- loss or change in income due to unemployment or reduced employment
- separation, divorce or other family crisis
- serious illness, injury, or bereavement in the family
- unexpected accident, incident, unexpected bills, or some other temporary financial difficulty

Hardship indicators considered when determining appropriate assistance:

- receiving Centrelink income or low income
- holds or is eligible for a government concession
- the ratepayer's payment history
- previous recovery action
- previous assistance supplied
- the ratepayer is the owner / occupier of the property

5.2. Hardship assistance available
Council will inform the ratepayer of assistance available including:

- A **payment plan** based on:
  - the ratepayer’s capacity to pay and current financial situation
  - any arrears owing by the ratepayer
  - the ratepayer’s likely debt needs over the following 12 month period
  - mutually agreed amount which addresses both arrears and new rates charges where possible
  - a frequency agreed with the ratepayer (e.g. weekly, fortnightly, monthly)
- an extension of time to pay where agreed
• availability of Centrelink’s Centrepay service, or direct debit (when available)
• referral to an accredited financial counsellor
• confidential case management
• protection from debt recovery

5.4 Rights of Ratepayers
Ratepayers experiencing financial hardship have the right to

• be treated respectfully, empathetically and have their circumstances kept confidential
• receive information about the Hardship Policy
• seek assistance of an accredited financial counselling assistance
• negotiate a mutually acceptable payment arrangement
• consider various payment methods
• receive written confirmation of the agreed payment arrangement
• renegotiate their payment arrangement if there is a change in their circumstances
• be protected from legal action and additional debt recovery costs, whilst they continue to make payments according to an agreed payment arrangement

5.5 Ratepayers obligations
Ratepayers that have entered into a payment plan under this policy are obligated to

• make the agreed scheduled payments
• update the council on any changes to contact information including correct postal address, phone numbers and email address
• advise the council of any changes to their circumstances
• advise council if the reasons of hardship assistance are no longer applicable
• maintain contact with the rates team
• treat council employees respectfully
• not make false or misleading statements in application of assistance

5.3 Applications for Hardship assistance
Applications for hardship assistance may be made by

• by an accredited financial counsellor on behalf of the ratepayer or
• by the rate payer direct with the rates team

Depending on the extent of the ratepayers financial circumstances, council may request that the ratepayer attend an appointment with an accredited financial counsellor. Applicants attending financial counselling are required to complete a

• hardship application form
• authority to act form for an accredited financial counsellor (if applicable)
• income and expenditure statement

Hardship application forms are available on www.playford.sa.gov.au
Ratepayers seeking assistance direct with the **rates team** will be required to complete an assessment process to ensure staff are able to determine the assistance required. Payment arrangements are to:

- be based on capacity to pay
- include the arrears and ongoing council rates where possible
- be fair and reasonable timeframes to pay the debt
- be mutually negotiated and agreed

### 5.6 Completion of hardship assistance

Completion of hardship assistance is when the ratepayer has paid all outstanding debt. Council will explain to the ratepayer that they will be returned to regular billing cycles, after they have successfully completed the hardship assistance.

Council will advise the ratepayer that they have completed their hardship payment arrangement and given the option to continue making ongoing payments towards their current council rates based on their historical annual rates.

On successful completion of the hardship assistance Council **may consider** waiving overdue fines in whole or in part.

### 5.7 Removal of hardship assistance

Council will explain to the ratepayer that they will be removed from hardship assistance, and be returned to Council’s standard collection cycles, including debt recovery:

- should they cease to make payments according to the agreed payment arrangement
- fail to contact, or respond to, Council for a period of greater than 60 days

Council will advise the ratepayer that they have been removed from receiving hardship assistance for not meeting their obligations, and that Council will recommence debt recovery, which may include legal action.

Where a hardship ratepayer is **re-seeking** assistance but has failed to fulfil their previous obligations under an existing hardship arrangement, Council will require them to set up future payments by either:

- Centrepay or
- direct debit deductions

### 5.8 Debt recovery

Council will suspend debt recovery processes while negotiating a suitable payment arrangement with a hardship ratepayer.

Council will not engage in legal action or commence proceedings for the recovery of a debt of a hardship ratepayer if the ratepayer has agreed to a payment arrangement and continues to adhere to the terms of that arrangement.
Council can recommence any legal proceedings for the recovery of the debt once the ratepayer has been removed from hardship assistance due to failure of the ratepayer to meet their obligations.

6. Applications for Hardship Postponement

Where applicants satisfy the requirements for relief from rates due to hardship or extenuating circumstances the Council may grant relief in the form of postponement of rates in whole or in part for such period as the Council thinks fit or remit the rates in whole or in part.

Hardship postponement requirement will be determined by either an accredited financial counsellor or Council’s assessment process.

7. Applications for Seniors Postponement

The City of Playford understands that sometimes senior ratepayers may be undergoing long term financial difficulties, and require assistance through a rates postponement. Under section 182 of the Local Government Act 1999, postponements can be granted where council is satisfied that the payment of rates in accordance with the act would cause hardship.

Ratepayers applying for postponement of their rates should be referred to an accredited financial counsellor for assistance with their application. Information provided is required to assist Council to assess application for postponement of rates.

Applications must be made on the prescribed application form, and be accompanied by the required information as requested by council including:

- completed Authority to Act for accredited financial counsellor
- completed Income and Expenditure statement
- completed postponement application form and signed declaration details
- copy of Seniors card

Council may provide for the postponement of the payment of the prescribed portion of rates for the current or future financial year if satisfied it would cause hardship if:

- the ratepayer holds, or qualifies to hold a current State Seniors Card issued by the state government,
- the person is, or is the spouse of, of the prescribed ratepayer
- the rates are payable on land that is the principal place of residence of the prescribed ratepayer and;
- the land is owned by the prescribed ratepayer or his/her spouse; and
- no other person has an interest (as owner) in the land

Eligible ratepayers are required to pay a minimum of $500 per year toward their Council rates with payment of the remaining balance postponed for an indefinite period, until their property is sold or eligibility ceases.

Ratepayers can opt to pay...
- one lump sum of $500
- quarterly payments of $125 or
- fortnightly centrepay deductions of $20

Should the entitlement to postponement cease to exist, the owner of the land must inform council.

The interest rate which will apply to the postponement of rates amount for the rating year is based on the annual Cash Advance rate plus 1% and will be applied to the total amount postponed on a monthly basis, compounded until the amount is paid.

**Note:** The interest rate and administration charge which applies to the postponed rates is prescribed in the Local Government Act 1999 and may vary from 1 July for each rating year. Council will provide information about the postponed rates debt, and the charges accrued, with future rates notices.

The Senior Rates Postponement fact sheet and the Senior Rates Postponement application form is available on [www.playford.sa.gov.au](http://www.playford.sa.gov.au)

8. Responsibilities

The City of Playford Hardship Policy, guidelines and application forms, and Rates Postponement application forms and fact sheet, are the responsibility of the rates team.

9. Accessibility

Applications for rate postponement or hardship assistance are to be made on Council’s application form and accompanied by the appropriate supporting documentation. The policy, guidelines and application forms are available on Council’s website [www.playford.sa.gov.au](http://www.playford.sa.gov.au) or by contacting Council on (08) 8256 0333.

For enquiries regarding hardship assistance or seniors postponement of rates contact Rates team phone line: (08) 8256 0333
Rates assist email address: ratesassist@playford.sa.gov.au

10. Approval and Change History

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Version</th>
<th>Approval Date</th>
<th>Approval by</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>June 2018</td>
<td>Senior Manager - Finance</td>
<td>New Guidelines</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Electronic version is the controlled version. Printed copies are considered uncontrolled. Before using a printed copy, verify that it is the current version.
Statement from Anglicare
20/12/2018

The Anglicare Community Financial Services team operating from the Elizabeth Mission regularly supports clients with mortgages living in hardship from the Playford Council Region. The introduction of the Playford council Hardship policy enables our financial counsellors to work effectively on positive ways forward for both the client and the council with clear definition. The reduction in stress for a client goes a long way to improving mental health and financial outcomes.

Anglicare recently welcomed the inclusion of the City of Playford rates team at our Anti-Poverty Week Big BBQ. The event was designed to open the Elizabeth Mission site to community members to encourage engagement with local services. The rates team provided information on how they can provide support if dealing with hardship in conjunction with general information.

The mutual support from the Playford council rates team has resulted in clients being referred through to our Intake line from the council when the rates teams has identified a client in hardship. Without this support the client may not have engaged in financial counselling to work towards a more stable financial future.

Inviting the Manager of Rates, to our team meetings provides our financial counsellors with information, the opportunity to ask questions and work collaboratively for the best way forward for clients and council. It is an integral part of our professional development and knowledge.

Carolyn Piper
Coordinator | Financial Counsellor
Anglicare SA Community Financial Services
P 8209 5762 | F 8209 5458 | M 0403 496 524 | E cpiper@anglicaresa.com.au

Community Financial Services Intake line 1800 759 707

This Financial Counsellor is a full member of The South Australian Financial Counsellors’ Association Inc. Registration number FC270.

The Elizabeth Mission, Anglicare SA
91-93 Elizabeth Way Elizabeth SA 5112
www.anglicaresa.com.au
AnglicareSA Financial Counselling Services provide free and confidential information, support and advocacy to assist people in financial difficulty.

Contact Us
1800 759 707
financialcounselling@anglicaresa.com.au
www.anglicaresa.com.au
www.facebook.com/AnglicareSA

Appointments are offered at a number of locations across South Australia:
Whyalla
Elizabeth
Salisbury
Adelaide
Hindmarsh
Christies Beach
Here for you

From time to time, many people find themselves struggling to buy food, pay the rent or mortgage and can be juggling numerous debts.

If you’re in this situation, a financial counsellor can help you understand your options so that you can get back on your feet.

People from all walks of life can find themselves with money problems.

Financial counsellors are non-judgmental, trained professionals that can help. They can provide information, support and advocacy to people in financial difficulty. Services are free, independent and confidential.

Financial counsellors have an extensive knowledge across a range of areas of law and policy, including consumer credit law, debt enforcement practices, the bankruptcy regime, industry hardship policies and government concession frameworks.

Are you...?

- Stressed or worried about money
- Having to juggle your debts
- Needing assistance with your budgeting
- Behind with bills (Gas, Electricity, Credit Cards, Water, Telephone, Internet, Court Fines, Loans and more)
- Behind in rent or mortgage payments
- Thinking about bankruptcy
- Looking for support or information about Centrelink, Child Support or Concessions

A financial counsellor can...

- Look at your financial situation
- Help you organise your budget
- Suggest ways to manage your debt
- Negotiate with your creditor/s
- Talk to you about your rights and responsibilities as a consumer
- Advocate on your behalf with landlords and real-estate agents
- Discuss bankruptcy and its alternatives
- Refer you to other services if needed

What to bring to your appointment

- Payslips or details of Centrelink or other income
- Most recent bank statements
- Credit Card / Store Card Statements
- Any bills, contracts or loan documents
- Payment receipts
- Any other documents

The financial counselling service does not provide material or financial assistance.

Funded by:

[Logos of Australian Government Department of Social Services and Government of South Australia Department for Communities and Social Inclusion]
9.1 Engineering Principles for Development (Campbelltown)

Recommendation Reports from the LGA Board of Directors

Submitted by: Campbelltown City Council
Approved by: LGA Board of Directors
Meeting: Ordinary General Meeting 12 April 2019
ECM: 670190 Attachment: 670112

Recommendation

That the Ordinary General Meeting requests the LGA to investigate whether there is sufficient evidence across Local Government to change the Standards used to determine space allocation for parking on site and on street, including turning circles, given the wider use of SUV vehicles that require more space than standard vehicles.

LGA Board of Directors’ Comments

Having carefully considered this issue, the LGA Board of Directors agreed that the issue outlined in the item of business is of strategic importance to member councils and warranted further investigation.

LGA Officer’s Comments

(Officer: Victoria Brown, Senior Policy Advisor)

The LGA Secretariat recommended to the LGA Board of Directors that this topic should be considered at the OGM on 12 April 2019, because the item of business is consistent with the LGAs advocacy on urban development and the need for a comprehensive review of the cumulative impacts of infill development.

The potential issue outlined by the City of Campbelltown relates to the standard dimensions and sweep paths currently utilised in new and infill developments for the provision of car parking and space for manoeuvring of vehicles.

The item of business asserts that the current standards may not be suitable for the dimensions of more commonly used vehicles, such as SUVs. The item of business requests that the LGA investigate whether there is sufficient evidence across local government to propose a change to this standard.

According to VFACTS1, three cars in the top ten sold in 2018 were utility vehicles:

- Ford Ranger: 5.36m (L) x 1.86m (W)
- Mitsubishi Triton: 5.2m (L) x 1.78m (W)
- Toyota Hilux: 5.3m (L) x 1.85m (W)

---

1 It is accepted that there are many sources of statistics for car sales, and VFACTS data is used for comparison only.
Three of the top ten cars sold in 2018 were SUV’s:

- Mazda CX5: 4.55m (L) x 1.76m (W)
- Nissan Xtrail: 4.64m (L) x 1.82 (L)
- Toyota RAV 4: 4.6m (L) x 1.84m (L)

The remaining four vehicles were standard/ small cars:

- Volkswagen Golf: 4.05m (L) x 1.75m (W)
- Hyundai i30: 4.33m (L) x 1.79m (W)
- Toyota Corolla: 4.46m (L) x 1.79 (W)
- Mazda 3: 4.27m (L) x 1.76 (W)

Across the range of the most popular vehicle models, widths do not vary much. However, popular utility vehicles are significantly longer in length, and SUVs are slightly longer than a standard sedan.

If this item of business is endorsed by the OGM, the LGA would undertake consultation with councils to identify if the issue outlined in the item of business is a sector wide issue. If so, the LGA will report back to the LGA Board of Directors with its findings, and proposal for progressing this issue further.

**Financial and Resource Implications**

This activity has not been anticipated in the LGA’s work program, but resources are available to undertake investigations with councils.
# LGA General Meeting – Proposed Item of Business

The purpose of this form is to request consideration by SAROC, GAROC or the Board of Directors of an item of business to be included on the agenda of an LGA General Meeting.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Council Name</th>
<th>Campbelltown City Council</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The body the item is being referred to</td>
<td>LGA Board of Directors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposals may only be submitted to the ROC of which council is a member, or the Board of Directors.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject of the proposed item of business</td>
<td>Engineering principles for Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposed motion for the General Meeting</td>
<td>That the Ordinary General Meeting or the next meeting of the LGA (Local Government Association) requests the LGA to investigate whether there is sufficient evidence across Local Government to change the Standards used to determine space allocation for parking on site and on street, including turning circles, given the wider use of SUV vehicles that require more space than standard vehicles.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting information</td>
<td>The Australian/New Zealand Standard 2890.1:2004 sets out vehicle dimensions to determine the adequacy of design for both public and private public parking areas of a commercial and residential nature. The Standard sets out dimensions and sweep paths for two vehicles B85 (4.91mx1.87m) and B99 (5.2mx1.94m), of which B85 represents 85% of vehicles sold in Australia. Most Councils use the B85 vehicle dimensions when assessing parking and manoeuvring on residential sites. Council investigation suggests the data collected to determine the dimensions for standard vehicles was gathered in 2000. Whilst some vehicles still fit within the B85 category, the apparent trend for Australia’s top selling vehicle is now dominated by a utility vehicle with a length between 5.1-5.4m, which may fall into the B99 category. It is unclear whether the 2000 B85 vehicle dimensions are an accurate reflection of modern vehicles purchased today. As this affects a number of Councils, an investigation by the LGA as to whether there is a noticeable shift in dimensions and/or sweep paths for modern vehicles may assist to advocate for a review of the Australian Standards, given the wider use of SUV vehicles that require more space than standard vehicles.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**LGA Policy Manual**

*Does this item require a change to the LGA Policy Manual (new policy or amendment to existing policy)?*

| Policy Statement Number 6.1 – Planning Processes:  
**6.2.3 Infill Development:** Local government recognises that building sustainable densities is key to healthy and vibrant communities, but that current policy on cumulative impacts of infill development should be reviewed and monitored. Local government shall continue to work with state government to identify appropriate targets and controls and shall lobby for a greater role in policy development.  
**6.2.6 Principles of Good Design:** Local government recognises that planning decisions should be made cognisant of good design principles. Local government shall continue to collaborate with state government in the development of quality design principles, along with lobbying against design requirements that are not in the best interests of the local community. |

**LGA Strategic Plan reference**

*Key Initiative: 3 Best practice & continuous improvement  
Facilitating continuous improvement in councils and the LGA  
Strategy B Benchmark, innovate and research*

**Council Contact Officer submitting form**

*Name: Lyn Barton  
Date submitted: 30 January 2019*

**Council Meeting minute reference and date of meeting**

*Item 11.3, 18 December 2018*

---

To be considered for inclusion on the agenda for the 2019 Ordinary General Meeting, please return Word version of completed form to lgsa@lga.sa.gov.au by **COB Friday 22 February 2019**