

Central Country Zone

MINUTES

Friday, 10 February 2023

Shire of Corrigin
Corrigin Recreation & Events Centre
Larke Crescent
Corrigin

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1. Opening and Welcome

The Chair declared the meeting open at **9:35am**.

1.1 Housekeeping – Zone Chair

1. Welcome:

The Zone Chair welcomed Zone members and provided OSH/bathroom/exit information to those in attendance.

2. Share your name and Local Government:

Delegates were reminded to ensure that they call their name and Local Government when taking the floor to allow for accurate Minutes to be recorded.

1.2 Host Council Presentation

Cr Des Hickey, President from the Shire of Corrigin, extended a welcome to delegates and guests and provided a presentation on activities in the Shire.

2. Attendance

Shire of Beverley	President Cr David White Mr Steve Gollan Chief Executive Officer, non-voting
Shire of Brookton	President Cr Katrina Crute Deputy President Cr Neil Walker Mr Gary Sherry Chief Executive Officer, non-voting
Shire of Corrigin	President Cr Des Hickey (Deputy Chair) Ms Natalie Manton Chief Executive Officer, non-voting Cr Sharon Jacobs (observer)
Shire of Dumbleyung	President Cr Julie Ramm Mr Gavin Treasure Chief Executive Officer, non-voting
Shire of Kulin	Deputy President Cr Brad Smoker
Shire of Lake Grace	President Cr Len Armstrong Deputy President Cr Ross Chappell Mr Chris Paget, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, non-voting
Shire of Narrogin	President Leigh Ballard (Chair) Cr Graham Broad Mr Dale Stewart Chief Executive Officer, non-voting
Shire of Pingelly	President Cr Bill Mulroney Mr Andrew Dover Chief Executive Officer, non-voting
Shire of Quairading	President Cr Peter Smith Cr Jonathan Hippisley
Shire of Wagin	President Cr Phillip Blight Mr Ian McCabe Chief Executive Officer, non-voting



Shire of Wandering	President Cr Ian Turton Mr Alan Hart Chief Executive Officer, non-voting
Shire of West Arthur	President Cr Neil Morrell Cr Karen Harrington Mr Vin Fordham Lamont, Chief Executive Officer, non-voting
Shire of Wickepin	President Cr Julie Russell Mr Nathan Caine, Chief Executive Officer; non-voting
Guests	
Minister for Housing; Lands; Homelessness; Local Government	Hon John Carey MLA
Office of the Minister for Housing; Lands; Homelessness; Local Government	Matthew O'Keefe
Department of Mines, Industry Regulation & Safety	Saj Abdoolakhan, Executive Director Building & Energy
Wheatbelt Development Commission	Pip Gooding, Regional Manager
Main Roads WA	Sanjeev Gupta, A/Project Development & Delivery Manager
Water Corporation	Michael Roberts, Regional Manager Goldfields & Agricultural Region
Department of Local Government, Sport, & Cultural Industries	Kait McNamara, Director, Child Safeguarding Tom Fleming, Principal Policy Officer, Child Safeguarding Implementation Unit
National Emergency Management Agency	Jodie Pollard, Recovery Support Officer
WALGA	Nick Sloan, Chief Executive Officer Tony Brown, Executive Director Member Services Kathy Robertson, Executive Officer Governance Tom Zaunmayr, Senior Media & Communications Advisor Rodney Thornton, Regional Road Safety Advisor

3. Apologies

Shire of Beverley	Deputy President Cr Chris Lawlor
Shire of Corrigin	Deputy President Cr Scott Coppen Cr Mike Weguelin
Shire of Cuballing	President, Cr Eliza Dowling Deputy President, Cr Rob Harris Mr Stan Scott, Chief Executive Officer

Shire of Dumbleyung	Deputy President Cr Amy Knight
Shire of Kulin	President Cr Grant Robins Mr Alan Leeson A/Chief Executive Officer
Shire of Lake Grace	Mr Alan George, Chief Executive Officer
Shire of Pingelly	Deputy President Cr Jackie McBurney
Shire of Quairading	Ms Nicole Gibbs Chief Executive Officer
Shire of Wagin	Deputy President Cr Gregory Ball
Shire of Wandering	Deputy President Cr Paul Treasure
Shire of Wickepin	Deputy President Cr Wes Astbury
Shire of Williams	President Cr Jarrad Logie Cr Moya Carne Mr Geoff McKeown Chief Executive Officer
Members of Parliament	Hon Mia Davies MLA, Member for Central Wheatbelt Hon Peter Rundle MLA, Member for Roe Hon Shelley Payne MLC, Member for Agricultural Region Hon Sandra Carr MLC, Member for Agricultural Region Hon Darren West MLC, Member for Agricultural Region Hon Colin de Grussa MLC, Member for Agricultural Region Rick Wilson MP, Federal Member for O'Connor
Wheatbelt Development Commission	Susan Hall A/Chief Executive Officer
Regional Development Australia WA	Mandy Walker, Director Regional Development
Department of Local Government, Sport, & Cultural Industries	Samantha Cornthwaite, Regional Manager Wheatbelt

Attachments

The following are provided as attachments to the minutes:

1. Item No. 11.5 WALGA RoadWise – February 2023 Report

4. Declarations of Interest

WALGA representatives declared an interest in Item 9.3.1.

5. Announcements

Nil.

6. Guest Speakers / Deputations

6.1 **Hon. John Carey MLA, Minister for Housing; Lands; Homelessness; Local Government**

Hon. John Carey presented to the Zone on matters within his portfolio.

Local Government Act reforms

The Minister has advised that he will be introducing the legislative reform proposals in two tranches. The first to be introduced in March/April 2023 covering the following areas:

- Electoral Reform
 - Number of Elected Members – tiered limits
 - Optional Preferential voting
 - Public vote to elect the Mayor/President for Bands 1 and 2
 - No electoral wards for Bands 3 and 4
 - Filling extraordinary vacancy without extraordinary election
- Standardised Council meeting procedures,
- Live streaming of meetings for Bands 1 and 2
- Recording of meetings for Bands 3 and 4,
- Caretaker period
- Publication of information relating to CEO's performance
- Community Engagement
- Council/CEO Communications agreements

The second tranche that will be introduced later in the year will cover the following:

- Office of the Local Government Inspector
- Monitors
- Conduct Panel

Rural GPs

The Minister advised that he will be implementing an exemption from the requirement to seek public tenders where a Local Government is extending, varying, or renewing a contract. This will make it easier for Local Governments to vary and extend contracts relating to the provision of medical services; however, Local Governments will still need to go through a public tender process when first engaging a GP. To ensure the transparency of the decision to extend a medical services contract, it is proposed that an absolute majority of Council as currently defined in the *Local Government Act 1995* is required. This will require a Council report to be prepared and presented, setting out the basis for making the decision. This is consistent with other decision-making and reporting processes currently undertaken by Local Governments.

The regulations are expected to be amended shortly.

Flexible on-line meetings

Regulations have been introduced for Local Governments to hold flexible on-line meetings.

Model Financial Statements

Regulations about to be introduced to provide for size and scale financial statements, with less requirements for Bands 3 and 4 Local Governments.

Housing and Lands portfolio

Investment being rolled out around housing in regional areas. In addition, a toolkit for Local Governments about how to access and utilise certain parcels of land. It is about unlocking lands for Local Governments.



The Minister answered questions on the following subjects;

- Local Government compliance requirements
- Annual Electors Meetings
- Number of Elected Members
- Attracting community members to stand for Council
- Auditing requirements from the Office of the Auditor General
- Review of Fees and Charges
- Land development and the cost of infrastructure

6.2 Saj Abdoolakhan, Executive Director Building & Energy, Department of Mines, Industry, Regulation & Safety (DMIRS)

Saj Abdoolakhan Executive Director Building and Energy, DMIRS presented to the Zone on the matters of the network safety and pole top fires.

Action: Saj advised that he will organise a meeting with Western Power around the type of insulators used on power poles and the effect this may be having on pole top fires and advise the Zone accordingly.

7. Members of Parliament

Members of Federal and State Government, representing the Zone Member Local Government Districts, were invited to provide a brief update on matters relevant to Zone Members.

No Members of Parliament were present at the meeting.

The Central Country Zone acknowledged Hon Mia Davies MLA for her services to the Wheatbelt region as Leader of the Opposition.

8. Agency Reports

8.1 Department of Local Government, Sport, and Cultural Industries (DLGSC)

Kait McNamara, Director of Child Safeguarding and Tom Fleming, Principal Policy Officer, Child Safeguarding Implementation Unit presented to the Zone on the current status of the Child Safe Awareness Policy template for local government.

The presentation outlined the Policy’s position within the range of child safe reforms recommended by the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse that will impact local government, including the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations and the Reportable Conduct Scheme.

The presentation also outlined the Unit’s role in supporting local government to implement the child safe reforms.

Noted

8.2 Wheatbelt Development Commission (WDC)

Pip Gooding, Regional Manager provided an update to the Zone and a report to be distributed to Zone Delegates.

Noted

8.3 Regional Development Australia Wheatbelt (RDAW)

Mandy Walker, Director Regional Development, was an apology. The RDAW report for February 2023 was attached to the agenda.

Noted

8.4 Main Roads Western Australia

Sanjeev Gupta, Acting Project Development & Delivery Manager, provided an update to the Zone.

Noted

The meeting was adjourned for a short break at 11:43am.

The meeting reconvened at 11:51am.

9. Minutes

9.1 Confirmation of Minutes from the Central Country Zone meeting held on Friday, 25 November 2022

The Minutes of the Central Country Zone meeting held on Friday, 25 November 2022 have previously been circulated to Member Councils.

RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Phil Blight
Seconded: Cr Ross Chappel

That the Minutes of the Central Country Zone meeting held on Friday, 25 November 2022 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings subject to correcting the reference on page 21 to GECZ and replace it with CCZ.

CARRIED

9.2 Business Arising from the Minutes from the Central Country Zone Meeting held on Friday, 25 November 2022

9.2.1 Proposed Advocacy Position on Management of Bush Fire Brigades

At the September 2022 State Council meeting the following was the response to the Zone's positions:

CENTRAL COUNTRY ZONE

That the following Advocacy Position on Management of Bush Fire Brigades be endorsed.

Management of Bush Fire Brigades

1. *The State Government to consider the most appropriate operational model for the management of Bush Fire Brigades, which may include the establishment of an independent Rural Fire Service, as recommended in the 2016 Ferguson Report.*
2. *Bush Fire Brigade volunteers play a critical role in helping to protect their local communities. Local knowledge and skills are integral to bushfire management in Western Australia.*
3. *Future management and funding of volunteer Bush Fire Brigades must:*

- a) *Recognise the changing risk environment, including work health and safety requirements, and the increasing intensity and frequency of bushfires;*
 - b) *Take account of the differing circumstances of Bush Fire Brigade units and regional variations in bush firefighting approaches; and*
 - c) *Be adequately and equitably resourced through the Emergency Services Levy to ensure that Local Government has the same or similar capacity to manage and attend emergency bush fire events to DFES resourcing capability.*
4. *The State Government, through the Consolidated Emergency Services Act and/or other mechanism's must:*
- a) *establish a clear framework to enable transfer of Bush Fire Brigades to the State Government if a Local Government decides to do so in consultation with their local volunteer bush fire brigades;*
 - b) *Consult on the process, timeline, and implications for transfer of responsibility for Bush Fire Brigades in accordance with 3(a) through the establishment of a working group comprising representatives of Local Government, Bush Fire Brigades, the Department of Local Government, Sport, and Cultural Industries (DLGSC) and the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES);*
 - c) *Provide for mandatory and minimum training requirements and recognition of competency and prior learning for Bush Fire Brigade volunteers, supported by a fit-for-purpose and universally accessible training program, designed in consultation with Bush Fire Brigade representatives, Local Government and LGIS, and managed by DFES; and*
 - d) *Develop a co-designed suite of relevant management guidelines and materials to assist in the management of Bush Fire Brigades.*

SECRETARIAT COMMENT

The Zone has made comment about the need for the State Government to consider, as a matter of priority, the appropriate operational model for Government management of Bush Fire Brigades, which may include the establishment of an independent Rural Fire Service, as recommended in the 2016 Ferguson Report. WALGA Recommendation 4 has been amended to highlight this.

Addition at 3c not considered necessary as provided for with existing wording 'adequately and equitably'.

Addition at 4a not supported as removes the decision-making power from the Local Government. Additionally, the working group proposed at 4b includes representatives of VBFs.

Noted

9.3 Minutes of the Central Country Executive Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 1 February 2023

The recommendations from the Executive Committee Meeting that require Zone consideration have been extracted for the Zones consideration.

9.3.1 (Item 5.6.1) Executive Officer Service Review

Background

A Special Meeting of the Central Country Zone was held on Friday, 9 April 2021 to consider the recommendations of its Executive Committee with respect to the appointment of a new Executive Officer. The meeting resolved as shown below:

RESOLUTION: *Moved: President Ballard* *Seconded: Cr Hopper*

That the:

1. *Central Country Zone not proceed with interviews for either applicant due to the non-compliant nature of the applications and the failure to address key criteria.*
2. *Central Country Zone suspend the recruitment of an Independent Executive Officer and request the Western Australian Local Government Association provide the secretariat*

support to the Zone for a period of 12 months from 1st July 2021 to the 30th June 2022 to allow the executive to conduct a thorough review of what Zone members are looking for in the role of executive officer.

3. Central Country Zone acknowledges the contract with BHW Consulting expires on the 30th June 2021 and thanks BHW Consulting for their service over the past 13 and a half years.
4. Central Country Zone Executive undertake a review over the coming 12 months and arrange for a formal report to be prepared for February 2022 CCZ Zone Meeting, to allow enough time for recruitment should the Zone wish to engage an independent Zone Executive Officer.

CARRIED

Executive Officer Comment:

The Executive Officer wrote to the WALGA CEO on Friday, 9 April 2021 as per part 2 of the above resolution.

A response was provided to the Executive Officer on Thursday, 15 April 2021.

Copies of the letter and proposal from the WALGA CEO form attachments to the meeting agenda. WALGA proposes to provide the Central Country Zone of WALGA with Executive

Support at no cost to the Zone or its members, including:

- A dedicated Zone Executive Officer as the principal point of contact for all Zone business;
- Liaison with the President and Executive Committee as required;
- Preparation of agendas and minutes of all meetings;
- Organisation of meeting logistics, in relation to meeting room bookings and set-up;
- Preparation of correspondence and action items;
- Arrangement of guest speakers for Zone meetings; and,
- Organisation of any other meetings or deputations.

Should the Zone require work outside any of the services detailed above, WALGA will facilitate the appointment of consultants for specialist work as required. WALGA's Governance & Organisational Services Team will provide the service and one dedicated senior officer will be assigned to the Zone.

WALGA can undertake the services outlined above at no cost to the Zone, which aligns with WALGA's Corporate Strategy.

RESOLUTION: Moved: Cr Hopper Seconded: Cr Blight

That:

1. The Central Country Zone accept WALGA's proposal to provide it with Executive Support, for a period of 12 months from 1st July 2021 to the 30th June 2022, at no cost to the Zone or its members, acknowledging that the service will include:
 - A dedicated Zone Executive Officer as the principal point of contact for all Zone business;
 - Liaison with the President and Executive Committee as required;
 - Preparation of agendas and minutes of all meetings;
 - Organisation of meeting logistics, in relation to meeting room bookings and set-up;
 - Preparation of correspondence and action items;
 - Arrangement of guest speakers for Zone meetings; and,
 - Organisation of any other meetings or deputations.
2. Should the Central Country Zone require work outside any of the services provided by WALGA and detailed above, WALGA agrees it will facilitate the appointment of consultants for specialist work as required. The costs associated with this work would be borne by the Zone.

3. *The Central Country Zone retain the existing financial management arrangements until the review on executive support services beyond the 2021/2022 financial year has been concluded.*

CARRIED

At the November 2021 Central Country Zone meeting, the Executive Committee resolved to defer any review of the Executive Officer position for 12 months, to November 2022.

Zone Comment:

Feedback from the floor was the Zone have other more timely matters they want to progress and focus on. It was also mentioned that WALGA have only facilitated two meetings to date, and a review at this time may be too early.

RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Katrina Crute

Seconded: Cr Julie Russell

The Central Country Zone Executive Committee defer any review of the Executive Officer position for 12 months to November 2022.

Comment

Unfortunately, this item was overlooked for consideration at the November 2022 meeting and was presented to the Committee for consideration.

WALGA is prepared to continue the current arrangement at no cost to the Zone.

The Executive Officers left the meeting room at 8:25am for the Executive Committee to consider this matter and returned to the meeting room at 8:48am.

Executive Committee Resolved at their 1 February meeting:

That the Central Country Zone:

1. *Continue with WALGA for executive services until February 2025. This will follow on from the WALGA Governance Review and implications.*
2. *A review to be carried out in February 2025 by the Executive Committee. A Zone agenda item to be tabled for the November 2024 meeting advising of the review to be considered at the February 2025 Zone meeting.*

WALGA staff left the meeting at 11:53am.

WALGA staff returned to the meeting at 12:01pm.

ZONE RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Bill Mulroney

Seconded: Cr Graham Broad

That the Central Country Zone endorse the Executive Committee's resolution.

1. **Continue with WALGA for executive services until February 2025. This will follow on from the WALGA Governance Review and implications.**
2. **A review to be carried out in February 2025 by the Executive Committee. A Zone agenda item to be tabled for the November 2024 meeting advising of the review to be considered at the February 2025 Zone meeting.**

CARRIED

9.3.2 (Item 6) State Council Agenda Items

- 5.1 Voice to Parliament and Referendum on constitutional recognition for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders

Executive Committee Resolved

That the Central Country Zone acknowledge that Local Governments should not be a part of a political process. The referendum is a Federal Government advocacy position.

This item will be considered at Item 12.4.1.

5.3 Child Safeguarding Advocacy Position

Executive Committee Resolved

That Local Governments should not be involved in the Child Safety reporting. Reporting should be done by the State Government Agency.

This item will be considered at Item 12.4.1.

Noted

9.3.3 (Item 5.3) Zone Strategic Priorities

The Zone endorsed the following items at the April 2022 Zone meeting:

1. Local Government Act — Amendments
2. Red Tape Reduction
3. Regional Collaboration and resource sharing
4. Local Government staff shortages
5. Housing
6. Work Health & Safety
7. Telecommunications
8. Disaster Preparedness

5.3.1 Local Government Act — Amendments

The committee discussed the proposed Local Government Act amendments relating to electoral reform. In particular the Ministers request for Local Governments to consider reducing Elected Members as per the reform proposals as per below:

- *Reduce numbers to the following;*
 - *up to 5,000 – five to 7 councillors (including the President)*
 - *between 5,000 and 75,000 – five to nine councillors (including the Mayor/President)*
 - *above 75,000 – nine to fifteen councillors (including Mayor).*
- *Directly elect a Mayor/President for Band 1 & 2 Local Governments (21 LGs effected)*
- *Abolish Wards for Band 3 and 4 Local Government (6 LGs effected)*

Local Governments have until 14 February 2023.

71 Local Governments are not affected; however, all other Local Governments have been asked to consider putting forward a proposal to the Local Government Advisory Board.

The Shire of Narrogin are affected as they have a population above 5,000 people, so are entitled to have up to nine elected Members (including the President), however the most recent census had incorrect information that recorded the population as under 5,000.

Executive Committee Resolved

That the Central Country Zone support the Shire of Narrogin for Census data reforms, to obtain the correct population data.



ZONE RECOMMENDATION

That the Central Country Zone support the Shire of Narrogin for Census data reforms, to obtain the correct population data.

MOTION

Moved: Cr Graham Broad
Seconded: Cr Katrina Crute

That the Central Country Zone support the Shire of Narrogin for Census data reforms, to obtain the correct population data and given concerns about the integrity of the 2021 Census data conducted during COVID and online for the first time, to request the Minister for Local Government to consider reducing the population threshold for maximum Elected Members of 9 to be a population of 4,000 not 5,000.

CARRIED

9.4 Minutes of the Central Country Executive Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 1 February 2023

The Minutes of the Central Country Zone Executive Committee meeting held on Wednesday, 1 February 2023 were attached to the agenda.

The remainder of the items are for the Zones consideration.

RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Phil Blight
Seconded: Cr Julie Russell

That the Minutes of the Central Country Zone Executive Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 1 February 2023 be noted, and the items not considered above be endorsed.

CARRIED

10. Zone Business

10.1 Central Country Zone Emergency Management MOU

At the November 2022 Zone meeting it was resolved that the Zone Executive Officer circulate a new draft MoU and request Local Governments to extend the MoU review date to 5 years.

The MoU has been updated and circulated to all Local Governments. An item will be prepared for the April meeting advising on the Zone and Local Government response.

Noted

11. Zone Reports

11.1 Zone President Report

Zone President Leigh Ballard provided a report to the Zone.

Noted

11.2 Local Government Agricultural Freight Group (LGAFG)

Cr Katrina Crute provided a report to the Zone on the Local Government Agricultural Freight Groups activities.

Noted

11.3 Great Southern District Emergency Management Committee (DEMC)

President Leigh Ballard provided a report to the Zone.

Noted

11.4 Regional Health Advocacy Group

Ms. Natalie Manton provided an update to the Zone.

Noted

11.5 WALGA RoadWise

Rodney Thornton, Regional Road Safety Advisor provided a report to the Zone. (**Attachment 1**)

Noted

12. Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) Business

12.1 2023 Local Government Honours Program

The annual Local Government Honours Program affords significant public recognition and celebration of the outstanding achievements and lasting contributions made by Elected Members and Local Government officers to their respective Councils, the WA Local Government sector, and the wider community.

Nominations for the 2023 Honours Program are open now.

There are six awards in the 2023 Program:

1. Local Government Medal
2. Life Membership
3. Eminent Service Award
4. Merit Award
5. Local Government Distinguished Officer Award
6. Young Achievers Award

Nominations will close at **5:00pm on Friday, 9 June** and the awards will be presented as part of the WALGA Annual General Meeting held on Monday, 18 September.

For more information or to submit a nomination, visit the WALGA website or contact Kathy Robertson, Executive Officer Governance, on 9213 2036 or via email at honours@walga.asn.au.

Noted

12.2 State Councillor Report

Cr Phillip Blight provided his State Councillor Report to the Zone.

RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Katrina Crute

Seconded: Cr Des Hickey

That the State Councillor Report be received.

CARRIED



12.3 WALGA Status Report

By Tony Brown, Executive Officer

BACKGROUND

Presenting the Status Report for February 2023 which contains WALGA’s responses to the resolutions of previous Zone Meetings.

CENTRAL COUNTRY ZONE STATUS REPORT February 2023

Zone	Agenda Item	Zone Resolution	WALGA Response	Update	WALGA Contact
Central C	2022, 18 February Zone Agenda Item 11.1	That the Central Country Zone recommend that the Local Government Agricultural Freight Group be disbanded and request WALGA to consider establishing a policy forum to encompass all Freight issues.	<p>The Infrastructure Policy Team noted that a decision to disband the Agricultural Freight Group is a matter for the participating Zones.</p> <p>The Infrastructure Policy Team considered potential terms of reference for an Agricultural Freight Policy Forum at their December meeting and ultimately determined to ask WALGA staff to identify deficiencies in the current State Government freight strategy in the Agricultural region to inform their consideration. The strategy is covered in five documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revitalising Agricultural Region Freight Strategy (2018) • Draft South West Supply Chain Strategy (2020) • Regional Freight Plan (2013) • Agricultural Supply Chain Improvement Program (ASCI) – Phase 1 (2021) • Infrastructure Australia – Western Australia Agricultural Supply Chain Improvements Proposal <p>The December Policy Team meeting did not have time to further discuss deficiencies in the strategy that may support the case for a Policy Forum.</p>	Ongoing	<p>Ian Duncan Executive Manager Infrastructure iduncan@walga.asn.au 9213 2031</p>

			<p>In the immediate term, funding that has been provided by the Federal Government, specifically in the Secondary Freight network programs (Wheatbelt, Mid West and Great Southern) and rail siding investments exceed the capacity of the construction industry to deliver.</p> <p>However, there is likely to be the need for strategic planning for medium term investments.</p>		
Central C	<p>2019 Nov 29 Zone Agenda Item 10.8 Western Australia's Share of Fuel Excise</p>	<p>That WALGA prepares and endorses a strategy to obtain transparency of the distribution of the fuel excise with the intent to maximise the return to Western Australia for road maintenance.</p>	<p>The resolution has been referred to the Infrastructure Policy Team and based on direction provided further research to support an advocacy position is being carried out.</p> <p>The Association met with the RAC and received access to a 2020 revision of a report commissioned by the RAC quantifying motorist taxation and Federal Government investment in WA transport infrastructure.</p>	Ongoing	<p>Ian Duncan Executive Manager Infrastructure iduncan@walga.asn.au 9213 2031</p>
Central C	<p>25 November 2022 Zone Agenda Item 10.1 Aged Care Services</p>	<p>That the Zone request WALGA to research the impact of this issue on local communities in WA and look to engage the Commonwealth and State Minister of Health and Health Departments to consider solutions.</p>	<p>WALGA has followed up with ALGA to determine if there is a state-wide Local Government response to the 24/7 initiative in the regions. LGNSW have undertaken advocacy in the space around workforce issues and funding for Council run aged care services in regional areas. WALGA will follow up with LGNSW and other key stakeholders including Western Australia Primary Health Alliance (WAPHA), WA Country Health Services (WHACS) and Rural Health West to further examine the current situation and identify opportunities for advocacy.</p>	February 2023	<p>Nicole Matthews Executive Manager Policy nmatthews@walga.asn.au 9213 2039</p>
Central C	<p>2020 February 21 Zone Agenda Item 12.1 General Practitioner Services in Rural Areas - Shire of Corrigin</p>	<p>That WALGA be requested to investigate tendering issues around General Practitioner Services in Rural Areas with consideration given to including an exemption from tendering for such services under the Local Government (Functions and General) Regulations 1996.</p>	<p>The Minister for Local Government has held 2 roundtable meetings with some of the effected Local Governments and has listened to the argument. The Minister has advised of the following position he will look to implement.</p> <p><i>"Recognising the importance of obtaining value for money in a competitive way in the initial procurement of medical services, an exemption is proposed from the requirement to seek public tenders where a local government is extending, varying, or renewing a contract. This will make it easier for local governments to vary and extend contracts relating to the provision of medical services; however, they will still need to go through a public tender process when first engaging a</i></p>	February 2023	<p>Tony Brown Executive Director, Member Services tbrown@walga.asn.au 9213 2051</p>



			<p><i>GP. To ensure the transparency of the decision to extend a medical services contract, it is proposed that an absolute majority of council as currently defined in the Local Government Act 1995 is required. This will require a council report to be prepared and presented, setting out the basis for making the decision. This is consistent with other decision-making and reporting processes currently undertaken by local governments."</i></p> <p>Between 35 and 40 Local Governments in regional Western Australia currently subsidise a local GP service in their community. This is an advocacy success for the Local Government sector.</p> <p>We have been advised that the regulations are expected to be amended shortly.</p>		
Central C	2021 19 November Zone Agenda Item 12.1 Sector ICT Solution	That the Zone request WALGA to research providers and the viability of an in-house IT system.	<p>The idea of an all-of-sector model ICT solution is not viable for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Different size Local Governments – no one size fits all. • Local Government's being at different levels of need and maturity in the ICT requirements. • We are unlikely to get the requisite LG buy-in to warrant the investment; and • The inherent complexity of a custom-built system is time and cost prohibitive. <p>A more workable suggestion is for a group of similar size/maturity level Local Governments to engage a consultant to define a model set that meets their needs. Any recommendations could be reviewed by a representative of the LG ICT Managers Network to ensure it is appropriate.</p> <p>It would be expected that the following range of recommendations are achievable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suitable hardware requirements (including remote options where appropriate) • Suggested lightweight accounting software • Baseline model directory structure • Security options • Backup software and procedures • Suitable internet options 	February 2023	<p>Tony Brown Executive Director, Member Services tbrown@walga.asn.au 9213 2051</p>

			<p>WALGA is looking to assist in facilitating discussions on a shared service model to research this with a group of Local Governments further. Due to work priorities this work was not carried out in 2022, however work is scheduled this year.</p>		
Central C	7 December 2022 State Council Agenda Item 5.2 Elected Member Superannuation	That WALGA advocates for superannuation to be required to be paid to Elected Members of all Local Governments.	<p>The recommendation, which was based on member support for the position at WALGA's 2022 Annual General Meeting and was subsequently confirmed through a follow-up consultation process with affected Band 1 and Band 2 Local Governments, was supported by the majority of Zones.</p> <p>State Council Resolution</p> <p>That WALGA:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. advocates for superannuation to be required to be paid to Elected Members of Local Governments in Salaries and Allowances Tribunal (SAT) Band 1 and Band 2; and 2. supports the position that superannuation payments to Elected Members of Local Governments in SAT Band 3 and Band 4 should be optional and determined by Council. <p><u>RESOLUTION 395.8/2022</u> <u>CARRIED</u></p>	February 2023	Tony Brown, Executive Director Member Services tbrown@walga.asn.au 9213 2051
Central C	25 November 2022 Zone Agenda Item 12.3 WALGA Status Report	WALGA is to investigate and distribute to Zone Delegates an explanation as to why the Zone's suggested amendment to 3(c) on bushfire brigades was not adopted by the State Council.	<p>Addition at 3c not considered necessary as provided for with existing wording 'adequately and equitably'.</p> <p>Addition at 4a not supported as removes the decision-making power from the Local Government. Additionally, the working group proposed at 4b includes representatives of VFBs.</p>	February 2023	Tony Brown, Executive Director Member Services tbrown@walga.asn.au 9213 2051

Zone Comment

This is an opportunity for Member Councils to consider the response from WALGA in respect to the matters that were submitted at the previous Zone Meeting.

Noted

12.4 Review of WALGA State Council Agendas – Matters for Decision

12.4.1 State Council Agenda Items – (1 March 2023)

Background

WALGA State Council meets five times each year and as part of the consultation process with Member Councils circulates the State Council Agenda for input through the Zone structure.

The full State Council Agenda can be found via this link: [State Council Agenda 1 March 2023](#)

The Zone is able to provide comment or submit an alternative recommendation that is then presented to the State Council for consideration.

Matters for Decision

7.1 Proposed Advocacy Position on Constitutional Recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders

Executive Summary

- The Australian Government will hold a referendum in the second half of 2023 on amending the Constitution to enshrine an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice to Parliament (the Voice) as part of its commitment to implement the Uluru Statement from the Heart.
- At its December 2022 meeting State Council resolved that WALGA prepare an advocacy position in support of constitutional recognition to be circulated to WALGA Zones for their next meeting for consideration and feedback.
- WALGA has prepared the attached Information Paper for WALGA Zones and State Council to facilitate discussion on the proposed WALGA Advocacy Position.

WALGA Recommendation

That the following Advocacy Position be endorsed: WALGA supports constitutional recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People through the enshrining of a Voice to Parliament.

Central Country Zone Recommendation

The Central Country Zone Executive Committee has recommended as follows on this item:

That the Central Country Zone acknowledge that Local Governments should not be a part of a political process. The referendum is a Federal Government advocacy position.

MOTION

Moved: Cr Katrina Crute

Seconded: Cr David White

That:

1. the Central Country Zone acknowledge the importance of the recognition of all Australians in the Australian Constitution; and
2. the Central Country Zone does not believe WALGA should actively participate in the national referendum on the Voice to Parliament.

CARRIED

7.2 Community Disaster Resilience Strategy Submission

Executive Summary

- The State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) has released the draft Western Australian Community Disaster Resilience Strategy (CDRS) for public consultation, until 3 March 2023.
- The Strategy intends to provide the guidance to support all Western Australians to increase their disaster resilience.
- The Strategy builds on a CDRS Discussion Paper. WALGA previously provided input on the discussion paper, and Local Government Consultation was also undertaken by SEMC
- WALGA has prepared a draft Submission that is supportive of the CDRS

WALGA Recommendation

That the submission on the draft Western Australian Community Disaster Resilience Strategy be endorsed.

7.3 Child Safeguarding Advocacy Position

Executive Summary

- Since 2018 WALGA has consulted extensively with Local Government in relation to the response to the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse (the Royal Commission) including the National Redress Scheme, Reportable Conduct and Child Safety Officers.
- WALGA has developed a Child Safeguarding Advocacy Position which will be used to guide policy development, advocacy, and capacity building activities for Local Government within the State framework.
- The new Advocacy Position has been developed based on submissions previously endorsed by State Council and extensive consultation with Local Government and is supported by the Local Government Child Safety Communities of Practice network and the Community Industry Reference Group (CIRG).

WALGA Recommendation

That the Child Safeguarding Advocacy Position as follows be endorsed:

Child Safeguarding

1. *Local Government supports:*
 - a. *the recommendations from the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse 2017, in particular Recommendation 6.12 which can be achieved by Local Government implementing and embedding child safeguarding across its functions with support from Governments at the national, state and territory levels; and*
 - b. *the ten National Principles for Child Safe Organisations (Australian Humans Rights Commission).*
2. *The State Government through an Independent Oversight Body should provide financial, resourcing and capacity building support to Local Governments to implement and embed child safeguarding across its functions, through the provision of:*
 - a. *supporting materials such as template policies, procedures, and guidelines;*
 - b. *consistent key messaging and resources to promote and share in venues and facilities and online;*
 - c. *examples of best practice, including case studies;*
 - d. *self-assessment tools to assist Local Government;*
 - e. *ongoing training and skills development for Local Government staff, including online training options;*
 - f. *funding for the delivery of the child safeguarding function within smaller, less well resourced (Band 3 and Band 4) Local Governments; and*
 - g. *expert officers within each region to provide support and guidance to Local Government on child safeguarding.*

3. *The Local Government sector supports Local Government participation in the State's National Redress Scheme, with full financial coverage by the State.*

Central Country Zone Recommendation

The Central Country Zone Executive Committee has recommended as follows on this item:

That Local Governments should not be involved in the Child Safety reporting. Reporting should be done by the State Government Agency.

MOTION

Moved: Cr Katrina Crute

Seconded: Cr Neil Walker

That the Central Country Zone acknowledges the work carried out by the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries through the Child Safety feedback and consultation process and reaffirms that Local Governments should not be listed as a Reporting Agency.

CARRIED

7.4 Submission on Draft Guideline Minimising Noise Impact from Outdoor Community Basketball Facilities

Executive Summary

- The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation released the *Draft Guideline: Minimising noise impact from outdoor community basketball facilities* on 23 December 2022 for a 10 week consultation period.
- The Draft Guideline includes options for how noise, from new community basketball facilities can be mitigated. This includes separation distances between the facility and residents in different circumstances, engineering, and facility management controls.
- A draft Submission was circulated to Local Government for feedback and the final Submission has been updated based on the information provided.
- The WALGA Submission provides feedback on the costs and practicality of the various interventions suggested.

WALGA Recommendation

That the submission on the Draft Guideline: Minimising noise impact from outdoor community basketball facilities be endorsed.

7.5 Main Roads Draft Roadside Advertising Policy and Application Guidelines

Executive Summary

- Main Roads is seeking feedback on their Draft Roadside Advertising Policy and Application Guidelines.
- This policy could be used to significantly curtail the deployment of roadside advertising devices, which are currently used by Local Governments as a source of public realm amenity, support funding bus shelter improvements and are a source of revenue for Local Government in some cases.
- As drafted, these guidelines would apply to most of the public road network, including Local Government roads, and signs on private property that are visible from the road. The draft guidelines would cover advertiser-funded bus shelters and information or decorative banners.
- There is no demonstrated road safety problem resulting from roadside advertising devices, as currently deployed in Western Australia. Road safety is the stated rationale for developing this policy.
- WALGA has prepared a submission to Main Roads on the guidelines, requesting:
 - Greater delegation of authority in assessing small format static signs and small format digital signs.

- Guaranteed processing times for classes of signs for which Main Roads retains the assessment function. This includes requesting a schedule of approval time frames, and a “deemed approved” clause in the event of these timeframes not being met.

WALGA Recommendation

That the submission to Main Roads on its Draft Roadside Advertising Policy and Application Guidelines be endorsed.

Policy Team Reports

8.1 Environment and Waste Policy Team Report

1. Matters for State Council Decision

The Submission on the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation draft Guideline *Minimising noise impact from outdoor community basketball facilities* was considered and endorsed for State Council decision at the March 2023 meeting (see [Agenda item 7.4](#)).

2. Matters for State Council Noting

The following updates were noted by the Policy Team:

New Urban Forest promotional videos – available on the WALGA website [here](#).

Varroa mite and backyard beekeepers – WALGA continues to engage with DPIRD on this issue.

In relation to Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) and Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD):

- Release of a [National LSD Action Plan](#);
- A Northern Australian Coordination Network has been [established](#) and funded to assist in managing the threat of LSD and FMD;
- The Western Australian taskforce continues to meet, this group includes DPIRD, industry groups, livestock agents and processors; and
- The National FMD Biosecurity Response Zone extended to 30 June 2023 to ensure Australia’s strong protections against FMD remain in place.

WALGA Recommendation

That the matters considered by the Environment and Waste Policy Team be noted.

8.2 Governance and Organisational Services Policy Team Report

The Governance and Organisational Services Policy Team includes the following subject areas:

- *Employee Relations*
- *Governance*
- *Strategy and Association Governance*
- *Training*
- *Regional Capacity Building / Local Government Reform*

The Governance and Organisational Services (GOS) Policy Team have not had a meeting since the last State Council meeting in December 2022.

A meeting of the GOS Policy Team is scheduled for Friday, 3 February.

A Report providing an update on matters considered at that meeting will be included in the next State Council Agenda.

WALGA Recommendation

That the Governance and Organisational Services Policy Team Report be noted.

8.3 Infrastructure Policy Team Report

The Infrastructure Policy Team includes the following subject areas:

- Roads and paths
- Road safety
- Transport
- Freight
- Utilities (including telecommunications and underground power)

This Report provides an update on matters considered, since the last State Council meeting, by the Infrastructure Policy Team at its meetings held on 7 December 2022 and 11 January 2023.

1. Matters for State Council Decision

Nil.

2. Matters for State Council Noting

2.1 Policy Team meeting on 7 December 2022

At the meeting on 7 December, the Infrastructure Policy Team considered matters related to:

Road Traffic Issues

This matter was deferred for consideration after the development and endorsement of a clear Local Government advocacy position on speed management.

Car Parking and Traffic Congestion Around Schools

The Policy Team requested WALGA use its role at the Safe Active Travel to School Working Group to advocate for desired outcomes and to provide advice back to the Local Government sector.

Proposal for Regional Road Maintenance Contracts with Main Roads

The Policy Team requested WALGA explore, in discussion with Main Roads WA, opportunities and interest in contracting Local Governments to undertake maintenance and minor works on the State road network.

Northern Australian Beef Roads Program

The Policy Team requested that WALGA engage with the Goldfields-Esperance Regional Road Group regarding the matter of Northern Australian Beef Roads Program.

2.2 Policy Team meeting on 11 January 2023

Western Power Access Arrangement 5

At the meeting on 11 January, the Infrastructure Policy Team endorsed the draft submission, consistent with the policy positions endorsed by State Council in April 2022, concerning Western Power Access Arrangement 5 (2022 – 2027) for lodgement with the Economic Regulation Authority.

WALGA Recommendation

That the matters considered by the Infrastructure Policy Team be noted.

8.4 People and Place Policy Team Report

1. Matters for State Council Decision

The Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act Stage 3 Co-Design Submission was considered and endorsed for State Council decision by Flying Minute (see [Agenda item 9.5](#)).

The following items were considered and endorsed for State Council decision at the March 2023 meeting:

A submission on the draft Western Australian Disaster Resilience Strategy (see [Agenda item 7.2](#)); and
An updated Child Safeguarding Advocacy Position (see [Agenda item 7.3](#)).
2. Matters for State Council Noting

The following noting items were considered:

The consultation response to the Draft Position Statement: Child Care Premises prior to submission to the DPLH (see [Agenda item 9.6](#)); and
The Local Development Plan Background Paper (see [Agenda item 9.3](#)).

WALGA Recommendation

That the matters considered by the People and Place Policy Team be noted.

Matters for Noting/Information

- 9.1 Animal welfare in Emergencies Grant Program Overview
- 9.2 Emergency Management Update
- 9.3 Local Development Plan Background Paper
- 9.4 2023-24 WALGA Federal Budget Submission
- 9.5 WALGA Submission on Phase Three of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021 Co-Design Process
- 9.6 Child Care Premises Position Statement: Consultation Response
- 9.7 Report Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC)

RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Phil Blight
Seconded: Cr Katrina Crute

That the Central Country Zone:

- 1. Supports Matters for Decision, items 7.2, 7.4, 7.5, 8.1 to 8.4 as listed above in the March 2023 State Council Agenda,**
- 2. Notes the Zones amended positions on items 7.1 and 7.3 and**
- 3. Notes all Matters for Noting and Organisational Reports as listed in the March 2023 State Council Agenda.**

CARRIED

12.5 WALGA President's Report

WALGA CEO Nick Sloan provided the WALGA President's Report to the Zone.

RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Des Hickey
Seconded: Cr Katrina Crute

That the Central Country Zone notes the WALGA President's Report.

CARRIED

13. Emerging Issues

13.1 **Mental Health Check for Gun Owner Licensing**

Nathan Cain, CEO of the Shire of Wickepin

The Zone requests more clarity on the Premier's comments about requiring a mental health check for all gun owners – in particular, who will be targeted by the new policy? Would farmers be exempt? How will it be funded?

Action: Invite a representative from WA Police to the next Central Country Zone meeting to provide detail, and clarity as to what the consultation process with farmers and medical professionals involved has been.

14. Date, Time, and Place of Next Meetings

The next Central Country Zone meeting will be held on Friday, 14 April 2023 commencing at 9:30am. This meeting will be hosted by the Shire of Cuballing.

15. Closure

*There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at **12:54pm**.*



RoadWise®



WALGA

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WALGA RoadWise Safety Advisor Report Central Country Zone

Wheatbelt South February 2023

What is the Safe System Approach in a Nutshell?

There are many definitions of the Safe System approach to road safety; the challenge is to summarize without too much detail while retaining meaning.

‘The Safe System approach views the road transport system holistically, by seeking to manage the interaction between the road user, travel speed and the vehicle.’¹

The above definition from Main Roads WA captures the essence in a sentence. The paragraphs below from Austroads add some detail:

‘Safe System takes a holistic view of road transport. It recognises that people will make mistakes but aims to create a system where mistakes and crashes do not result in death or serious injury. It recognises that preventing death and serious injury requires road managers and safety practitioners to address risks in all parts of the transport system: roads and roadsides, travel speeds, vehicles, and road users. It is committed to the safety of all people using the road system.’²

The Safe System considers road safety as a transport system matter, focusing on efficient, reliable and safer mobility, and not as a ‘road safety problem’ in isolation.

Improving Road Safety on Local Government Roads: Best Practice

Local Governments have a strategic and operational road safety role as road managers, planning authorities and fleet managers, in addition to their community development and leadership roles.

Local Governments are crucial partners in the translation of safe system principles into practice, and WALGA is in a strong position to positively influence and work with the sector to build support and local capacity that contributes to the collective road safety effort.

For best practice road safety, visit the RoadWise website³

¹ <https://mainroads.wa.gov.au/technical-commercial/road-safety/management-system-rosma/>

² <https://austroads.com.au/latest-news/updated-guide-to-road-safety-places-safe-system-at-its-core>

³ <https://www.roadwise.asn.au/local-government/best-practice-in-road-safety>

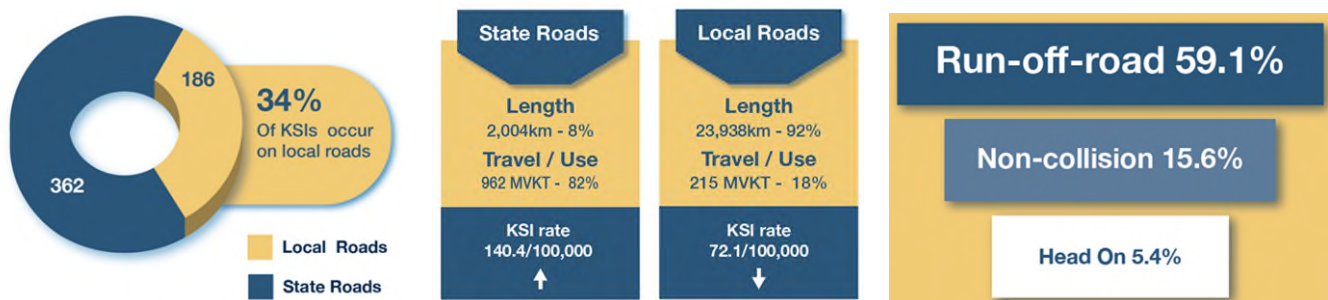
Road Safety Performance on Local Government Roads

The latest edition of the WALGA RoadWise *Road Safety Performance Report 2015-2019 on Local Government Roads* is now available for presentation to Local Government staff and Elected Members at Regional Road Group and zone meetings.

Using these reports, Local Government staff and Elected Members can consider and prioritise road safety improvements on local roads based on the evidence; the priority crash types for treatment and numbers of people killed or seriously injured (KSI) in the Local Government area. The regional reports compare all regions and individual Local Governments' numbers.

These reports are also available at a Local Government level for Council Briefings.

Thirty-four per cent of this region's KSI crashes occurred on the local road network in 2015-2019.



Local Governments are encouraged to consider road safety in all their road programs through Regional Road Group, to not just reseal but include guideposts, delineation and sealed shoulders where warranted; these are simple but effective measures where funding allows.

To book a tailored Road Safety Performance Report presentation or Council Briefing, contact Rodney Thornton, Regional Road Safety Advisor, Mob: 0409 689 313 or Email rthornton@walga.asn.au

Road Safety Management Systems Service

WALGA's Road Safety Management Systems service aims to assist Local Governments to develop and adopt a tailored road safety management system (RSMS).

A RSMS is a framework which outlines the key policies, plans and processes that will enable Local Governments to systematically and strategically manage local road safety.

Developing a RSMS assists Local Governments to build, refine, evaluate and continually improve their road safety approach in order to improve road safety outcomes for the community by approaching all aspects aligned with road safety outcomes.⁴

For more specific advice on how to develop and implement Road Safety Systems Management, please contact Jo Malcolm, Road safety Systems Specialist on (08) 9213 2523 or Email jmalcolm@walga.asn.au

⁴ <http://portal-mainroads.opendata.arcgis.com>

⁵ <https://www.roadwise.asn.au/take-action/road-safety-management-systems-service.aspx>

Targeted Speed Limit Reductions: The Value of Prevention

WALGA RoadWise understands that the Local Government sector does not support 'blanket' speed limit reductions, particularly in relation to high-speed roads (Distributor Roads) as designated in the WA road hierarchy. (Go to Main Roads WA and search road hierarchy).⁵

However, as low-cost road safety initiatives, there are circumstances in which Local Government may consider requesting targeted speed limit reductions on specific local roads. The process is to complete a Speed Limit Review Request Form available through Main Roads WA.

'Speed zones are set to enable drivers travelling at a speed limit to safely respond to potential risks in the road environment. Lower speed limits apply in built up areas where there are more people and vehicles, to reduce the chance of crashes and serious injuries.'⁶



7

Travel speed is directly related to the likelihood of a crash and the severity of injury in a crash.

The use of 20mph (30km/h), as part of a Safe Systems approach, is becoming more common across the UK and the rest of the world.

'Reducing vehicle speed is one of the four key elements of achieving a Safe System. Given that the most harmful road user interactions are in 'local' areas where people are often pedestrians and bicycle users many road transport authorities are considering moving the default from 30mph to 20mph (or 50kph to 30kph).'⁸

Road transport authorities in Western Australia have already initiated targeted speed limit reductions. Local Governments in Western Australia have successfully reduced speed limits to either 40km/h and 30km/h on local roads where there is high risk of road trauma. These include Oxford Street, Leederville; Albany Highway, Victoria Park; 'Safe Active Streets' in Nedlands and even in Wheatbelt North region with a 40km/h Area on Stirling Terrace and connecting streets in Toodyay.

For more details on any items in this report, please contact Rodney Thornton, Regional Road Safety Advisor Mob: 0409 689 313 or Email rthornton@walga.asn.au

⁶ <https://roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au/speeding/speedlimits/safespeedlimits.html>

⁷ <https://roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au/staying-safe/pedestrians/speedandfatalities/index.html>

⁸ https://blogs.napier.ac.uk/tri/wp-content/uploads/sites/56/2022/11/TRI-Technical-Paper-101.The-value-of-Prevention.AD_.pdf

2023 WA Transport and Roads Forum

WALGA and Main Roads WA invite you to the 2023 WA Transport and Roads Forum which will be held on Wednesday, 8 March at the Crown Perth.

Challenge your thinking, share knowledge and network with your Local Government peers at the 2023 WA Transport and Roads Forum.

Hear from State Government leaders on the latest strategies for the Local Government sector plus exciting news on the use of recycled materials in our roads.

Date: Wednesday, 8 March 2023
Time: 8:45am - 5:00pm
Venue: Crown Perth, Great Eastern Highway,
Burswood Western Australia 6100
Cost: \$70 (incl GST)
RSVP by Wednesday, 1 March 2023

Forum topics include:

- Use of recycled materials in roads including guidance from industry experts and insights from the Main Roads program
- Cost effective solutions to reduce serious road crashes
- Dealing with the aftermath of natural disasters
- Demands from diverse network uses, from eRideables to larger trucks
- Aboriginal employment, managing freight and native vegetation clearing.