



Gascoyne Country Zone

Minutes

10:00am
Friday, 21 April 2023

Meeting held via
MS Teams

Gascoyne Country Zone

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Commenced at 10:00am, Friday, 21 April 2023

Acknowledgement of Country

We, the Zone members acknowledge the continuing connection of Aboriginal people to Country, culture and community. We embrace the vast Aboriginal cultural diversity throughout Western Australia, including the lands on which everyone is remotely participating in this meeting and we acknowledge and pay respect to Elders past and present.

Minutes

ATTENDEES

Shire of Carnarvon	President Cr Eddie Smith
Shire of Upper Gascoyne	Sa Toomalatai, Manager, Finance & Corporate Services, non-voting delegate
Shire of Shark Bay	President Cr Cheryl Cowell - Chair Dale Chapman, Chief Executive Officer, non-voting delegate
WALGA	Tony Brown, Executive Director, Member Services Max Bushell, Policy Officer, Road Safety and Infrastructure

GUESTS

Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries	Craig Vinci, Acting Regional Manager, Gascoyne
Roadwise	Ms Samantha Adams, Regional Road Safety Advisor
Gascoyne Development Commission	Simmone Van Buerle, Acting Chief Executive Officer

GUEST SPEAKER

Robyn Antenucci, Director Service Design and Operational Improvement, Department of Communities

APOLOGIES

Shire of Exmouth	Cr Jackie Brooks (Deputy) Ben Lewis, Chief Executive Officer, non-voting delegate
Main Roads	Gaff Murray, Operations Manager – Carnarvon
Regional Development Australia – Mid West Gascoyne	Mark Holdsworth, Executive Officer

Shire of Upper Gascoyne	Cr Jim Gaunt, Deputy President (Deputy) John McCleary, Chief Executive Officer, non-voting delegate
Shire of Carnarvon	Andrea Selvey, Chief Executive Officer, non-voting delegate
WALGA	Mark Bondietti, Manager Transport & Roads

Attachments

The following were provided as attachments to the agenda:

1. Previous Meeting Minutes – 17 February 2023 Meeting
2. President’s Report
3. DLGSC Update

1. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Pursuant to our Code of Conduct, Councillors must declare to the Chairman any potential conflict of interest they have in a matter before the Zone as soon as they become aware of it. Councillors and deputies may be directly or indirectly associated with some recommendations of the Zone and State Council. If you are affected by these recommendations, please excuse yourself from the meeting and do not participate in deliberations.

Nil.

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nil.

3. DEPUTATIONS

3.1 Youth at Risk Strategy

Robyn Antenucci, Director Service Design and Operational Improvement from the Department of Communities provided further information and updated the Zone on the Youth at Risk Strategy progress. The presentation is **attached** with the Minutes.

Noted

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

5.1 Minutes of the 17 February 2023 Meeting of the Gascoyne Country Zone

RESOLUTION

Moved: President Cr Eddie Smith
Seconded: President Cr Cheryl Cowell

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Gascoyne Country Zone held on 17 February 2023 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

CARRIED

5.2 Business Arising

Nil

6. ZONE BUSINESS

6.1 Solar Eclipse 2023

Shire of Exmouth

At the time of the meeting this event was completed. Shire of Exmouth representatives were an apology for this meeting.

Update from the Shire of Exmouth will be provided for the next meeting.

Noted

6.5 Zone Status Report – April 2023

Zone	Agenda Item	Zone Resolution	WALGA Response	Update	WALGA Contact
Gascoyne C	2021 19 February Zone Agenda Item 5.4 Issues with the DRFAWA Claims and Approvals Process	That the Gascoyne Country Zone recommend WALGA request DFES to form a working group of participants from affected Shires to review the current process and report back on outcomes and solutions.	<p>Data has been collected from a sample of Councils that have recently suffered declared disasters and is being analyzed to inform engagement with DFES.</p> <p>The Infrastructure Policy Team has supported the establishment of a working group as proposed and requested that efforts be made to engage DFES in the establishment of the group.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Brendan Moon, Coordinator General, National Emergency Management Agency accepted an invitation to speak at the WALGA Transport and Roads Forum in March. An interview with Brendan and a copy of his presentation is available at Brendan Moon: How You Can Make the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements Work For Your Council WALGA. The purpose of this session was to illustrate the ways in which other jurisdictions, working within the same national funding arrangements (NDRRA), have provided support to Local Governments. Unfortunately, the invited senior DFES officers did not attend. 2. A survey is currently being developed to quantify the extent and impact of Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangement reimbursement delays in response to Zone resolutions. It is noted that this is only part of the suite of problems faced by Local Governments recovering from disasters. 3. DFES have agreed to participate in a working group. This has not yet been convened by WALGA. 4. The Association is exploring opportunities to further develop advocacy for changes in the implementation of recovery funding arrangements at the Local Government convention. 	Ongoing	<p>Ian Duncan Executive Manager Infrastructure iduncan@walga.asn.au 9213 2031</p>
Gascoyne C	1 March 2023 State Council Agenda Item 7.1 Proposed Advocacy Position on Constitutional Recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Gascoyne Zone resolved that the referendum will be conducted as a matter of course and the result will be determined by the voters. Zone support is therefore irrelevant. 2. The Gascoyne Zone does not support WALGA adopting an Advocacy Position. The result of the referendum will be determined by the voters. 	<p>State Council Resolution</p> <p>That WALGA:</p>	April 2023	<p>Nicole Matthews Executive Manager Policy nmatthews@walga.asn.au 9213 2039</p>

			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Supports respectful conversations about constitutional recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and the Voice to Parliament. 2. Requests that the Commonwealth Government ensure that Local Governments and communities are kept informed on the proposal. <p>COMPLETE</p>		
Gascoyne C	1 March 2023 State Council Agenda Item 7.3 Child Safeguarding Advocacy Position	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Zone does not support an advocacy position until further information is made available regarding all potential implications for Local Governments, i.e., the extent of Local Government responsibilities and costs. 2. The Zone will request a presentation from the Department of Communities. 	<p>That the Child Safeguarding Advocacy Position as follows be endorsed:</p> <p>Child Safeguarding</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Local Government supports: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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. <p>COMPLETE</p>	April 2023	Nicole Matthews Executive Manager Policy nmatthews@walga.a sn.au 9213 2039

Gascoyne C	2022, 24 June Zone Agenda Item 9.2 Management Orders on State owned Land Management Orders on State owned land	That the Gascoyne Country Zone recommend that WALGA in consultation with Zone delegates, advocate to the State Government for a review of the Management Orders pertaining to State Land that is managed by Local Government especially in relation to Local Government leasing such land to other parties.	The Shire of Carnarvon provided 3 examples of issues experienced when seeking Ministerial approval to lease land subject of a management order. The DPLH has been advised and is investigating the basis for the decisions. DPLH Officers advise they will also follow up directly with the Shire. Background on this issue was provided to the GOS Policy Team meeting on 12 April and outcomes from DPLH, when available, will be advised to the Gascoyne Country Zone and the GOS Policy Team.	April 2023	Tony Brown, Executive Director Member Services tbrown@walga.asn.au 9213 2051
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Noted

7. STATE COUNCIL AGENDA – MATTERS FOR DECISION

(Zone delegates to consider the Matters for Decision contained in the WA Local Government Association State Council Agenda and put forward resolutions to Zone Representatives on State Council)

The full State Council Agenda can be found via link: [State Council Agenda 3 May 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 Best Practice Governance Review – Feedback on Governance Model

That:

1. This report summarising feedback from Members on the Best Practice Governance Review Final Report be received; and
2. Two sets of constitutional changes be developed for consideration by State Council at the July 2023 meeting to be put to the 2023 Annual General Meeting, that:
 - a. Give effect to the revised Model 1, as per the Best Practice Governance Review Final Report; and
 - b. Refine the constitution to address inconsistencies and other issues while maintaining the current governance model.

RESOLUTION

Moved: President Cr Eddie Smith
Seconded: President Cr Cheryl Cowell

That:

1. **This report summarising feedback from Members on the Best Practice Governance Review Final Report be received; and**
2. **Two sets of constitutional changes be developed for consideration by State Council at the July 2023 meeting to be put to the 2023 Annual General Meeting, that:**
 - a. **Give effect to the revised Model 1, as per the Best Practice Governance Review Final Report; and**
 - b. **Refine the current constitution to address inconsistencies and other issues while maintaining the current governance model.**

CARRIED

7.2 Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries' Child Safe Awareness Policy Template

That State Council:

1. Supports the draft Child Safe Awareness Policy Template being provided to Local Governments to assist with their implementation of Recommendation 6.12 of the Royal Commission (Child Safety Officers in Local Government); and
2. Notes the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries' commitment to providing ongoing support and resourcing assistance to Local Governments to assist with implementation of the draft Child Safe Awareness Policy Template and other relevant actions relating to child safeguarding, through the Child Safeguarding Implementation Unit.

RESOLUTION

Moved: President Cr Eddie Smith
Seconded: President Cr Cheryl Cowell

That the Zone does not support an advocacy position until further information/clarity on the role of Local Government and all potential implications for Local Governments is made available, i.e. the extent of Local Government responsibility and costs.

CARRIED

7.3 Abandoned Shopping Trolleys Advocacy Position

That State Council endorse the following position on Abandoned Shopping Trolleys:

The Local Government Sector advocates for State Government to consult with the Sector and prioritise legislative reforms that require retailers to contain shopping trolleys within shopping centre property boundaries, inclusive of enforcement and modified penalty mechanisms that are a realistic economic imperative for retailers to comply with containment requirements.

7.4 Speed Management Reform Advocacy Position

That the Speed Management Advocacy Position as follows, be endorsed:

1. *That WALGA supports Local Governments wishing to manage travel speeds, including speed limit changes, as a means of achieving the many health, social and environmental benefits for communities.*
2. *That Main Roads WA (MRWA) retain the overarching authority for speed limit setting/zoning.*
3. *That Main Roads WA speed zoning policies and processes be reformed so that Local Governments are more influential in the determination of speed limit decreases or increases for local roads.*
 - a. *This will include applications that are deemed to be approved when the application:*
 - i. *is based on assessments by competent Local Government practitioners,*
 - ii. *contains evidence-based identification of the benefits,*
 - iii. *contains preliminary designs for infrastructure safety upgrades associated with applications to increase speed limits, and*
 - iv. *includes an engagement strategy for managing community and stakeholder expectations.*
 - b. *Allows for Main Roads WA to decline an application, within a mutually agreed timeframe, on the basis that it:*
 - i. *does not meet the above criteria, and*
 - ii. *provides specific evidence for declining the application.*
4. *The WALGA seeks to work with Main Roads WA and other stakeholders, to develop a speed management guide for Local Governments.*

7.5 State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement 2023/24 to 2027/28

That the State Roads Funds to Local Government Agreement 2023/24 – 2027/28 be endorsed.

Matters for Noting

- 9.1 2023 Policy Priorities
- 9.2 Local Emergency management Arrangements (LEMA) Review Project
- 9.3 Submission to the Independent Review of WA's COVID-19 Management and Response
- 9.4 Submission to the DWER E-waste to landfill Ban Consultation Paper
- 9.5 Report Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC)
- 9.6 March 2023 Economic Briefing

RESOLUTION

Moved: President Cr Eddie Smith
Seconded: President Cr Cheryl Cowell

That the Gascoyne Country Zone;

- 1. Supports all Matters for Decision as listed above, except 7.1 and 7.2 (that have separate resolutions), in the May 2023 State Council Agenda; and**
- 2. Notes all Policy Team Reports, Matters for Noting and Organisational Reports as listed in the May 2023 State Council Agenda.**

CARRIED

8. EXECUTIVE REPORTS

8.1 State Councillor's Report to the Zone

State Councillor, President Cr Cheryl Cowell provided an update on the previous State Council meeting.

Noted

8.2 President's Report to the Zone

WALGA representative, Tony Brown presented the President's Report.

Noted

8.3 Gascoyne Development Commission

A/Chief Executive Officer, Simone Van Buerle, provided an update to the Zone.

Noted

8.3.1 Gascoyne Development Commission – Working Group Update

President Cr Cheryl Cowell, the Zone representative on the working group provided an update to the Zone.

Noted

8.4 Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries

Craig Vinci, Acting Regional Manager, provided an update to the Zone on DLGSC matters.

Noted

8.5 Roadwise Report

Samantha Adams, Road Safety Officer, Mid-West will circulate a report after the meeting.

Noted

8.6 Regional Development Australia – Mid West Gascoyne

Mark Holdsworth, Executive Officer, RDA Mid-West Gascoyne, was an apology for this meeting.

Noted

9. OTHER BUSINESS

9.1 Zone Meeting Dates – 2023

Zone Meeting	Type	Location
10:00am, Friday 17 February	In-Person	Carnarvon
10:00am, Friday 21 April	<i>Teleconference</i>	
10:00am, Friday 23 June	In-Person	Exmouth
10:00am, Friday 25 August	<i>Teleconference</i>	
10:00am, Friday 24 November	In-Person	Carnarvon

10. DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

Next meeting: 10:00am, Friday 23 June, hosted by the Shire of Exmouth.

11. CLOSURE

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 11:15 am.