



**WESTERN AUSTRALIAN  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION  
SOUTH WEST ZONE**

**MINUTES**

DATE Friday 28 June 2019

COMMENCING 9.00 am

VENUE Shire of Harvey – Uduc Rd Harvey – enter from Young St, Council Chambers are at the rear of the offices.

PROGRAM	9.00 am	Opening
	9.05 am	Business as per agenda
	10.15 am	Morning Tea
	10.45 am	Meeting resumes
	11.00 am	Presentations
	12.30 pm	Lunch

**AGENDA FORMAT**

The agenda is sent in two parts. The first, being the Zone Agenda, the second the State Council Agenda in PDF format. The State Council Agenda was emailed separately to members.

Members wishing to submit amendments to proposed motions are requested to forward a copy with a brief explanation to the Executive Officer at least 2 days prior to the meeting to enable distribution to, and consideration by members.

With the increasing size of attachments, which exceed Email, capacity Internet browser links have been provided to enable distribution of documents.

**E R Fisher  
Executive Officer**

**Distribution Lists** (by Email to the following addressee)

M Archer G Henley Tony Nottle Kate Dudley	D Blurton S Stanley	M Osborne T. Smith	P Omodei A Campbell	Capel (Info) Ian McCabe M Scott
Gaylene Godfrey A Schonfeldt M Bennett	D Taylor T Dean	T Clynh T Pratico	D Putland P Townshend M Smith	S Carstairs M Lang G Aird
Debbie Brown A Riordan T Jackson	B Piesse B Rose	C O'Brian (WALGA)	Vern McKay (Audit)	L Toohey DLG&CI

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## 1. Opening and Announcements

In the absence of the President and Vice President Cr. T Jackson was elected to chair the meeting. The meeting was opened at 9.05am and all present were welcomed.

## 2. Attendance & Apologies

The following attendance and apologies are recorded:

Local Government	Delegate		CEO	
Shire of Augusta – Margaret River	Cr. P Townsend	Present	Mr. D Putland	Present
Shire of Boyup Brook	Cr. G Aird	Present	Mr. S Carstairs	Present
Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes	Cr. T Pratico	Present	Mr. T Clynych	Present
City of Bunbury	Cr. T Smith	Present	Ms S Addison-Brown	Present
City of Busselton	Mayor G Henley	Present	Mr. T Nottle	Present
Shire of Capel	Cr. M Scott Cr. B Hearn	Apology Present	Mr. I McCabe	Present
Shire of Collie	Cr. S Stanley	Present	Mr. D Blurton	Present
Shire of Dardanup	Cr. M Bennett	Present	Mr. A. Schonfeldt	Present
Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup	Cr. B Piesse	Present	Mr. B Rose	Present
Shire of Harvey	Cr. T Jackson	Present	Mrs. A Riordan	Present
Shire of Manjimup	Cr. P Omodei	Present	Mr. A Campbell	Present
Shire of Nannup	Cr. T Dean	Apology	Mr. D Taylor	Present
Executive Officer			Mr. E Fisher	Present

## 3. Visitors:

### 3.1 WALGA

Mr. Mark Batty – Executive Manager, Environment and Waste and Ms. Alison Maggs - Strategic Sourcing Manager

### **3.2 Other Guests**

Ms. Darrelle Merritt - Principal Strategy Officer DLG&CI

### **3.3 DLGS & CI.**

## **4. Presentations**

### **4.1 Host Council Presentation**

Host shires are invited to provide a 15-20 minute presentation on current events affecting their local government area or to arrange an inspection of new or significant facilities of interest to members. Mr Edwin Berinson – Project Director made the presentation on the status of the Kemmerton Project he was assisted by Mr. Benn Prowse.

### **4.2 30 Foot Drop – Mr. Ben Aldridge**

At the last meeting it was reported that the Mayor of the City of Busselton advises that Mr. Ben Aldridge of 30 Foot Drop who has presented public symposiums throughout the SW on living with a disability made a presentation to the Council.

Mr. Aldridge lives in Capel and has suggested member Councils form a SW Access and Inclusion Alliance to share information on becoming more accessible and inclusive communities.

Mr. Aldridge as provided a detailed submission, which is included as an attachment to the Agenda.

Note: The EO has agreed to reimburse the cost of petrol for Mr. Aldridge.

**The EO to liaise with CEOs to bring forward a report to the next meeting.**

**Mr. Aldridge to provide a further report including funding sources.**

### **4.3 The Hon Dr. Steve Thomas MLC**

Dr. Thomas wishes to address a number of regional interests including waste management the BAM Act review, catchment councils, pest levies and RBGs.

A newspaper report by Dr Thomas is attached addressing the topics.

### **4.4 LGIS Presentation**

LGIS are unavailable to provide a presentation to this meeting as requested but will provide a presentation to the following meeting.

## **5. Confirmation of Previous Minutes**

Corrections Nil

Moved	Cr M Bennett	Seconded	Mayor G Henley	Carried
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## **MOTION:**

***The minutes of the meeting held at the Shire of Dardanup on Friday 3 May 2018 are confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.***

## **6. Business Arising**

6.1 Letters to Members of Parliament regarding funding of catchment councils have been sent in accordance with the resolution. Dr. S Thomas will be addressing this issue in his presentation today. A response was received from the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources prior to the election and a copy of the letter is attached.

6.2 At the last meeting it was recommended that SWZ formulate a position for the Zone on its recycling education and communication strategies. Subsequently the Zone resolved to seek advice from the Waste Management Group. A request was addressed to the Secretary of the group and we are awaiting a response. The EO has confirmed the group has received the request.

6.3 A letter has been sent to the Valuer-General regarding service reduction and Mining Lease revaluations inviting a representative to address a meeting of the Zone.

## **7. Reports**

### **7.1 District Emergency Management Committee Standing Report**

The Zone resolved that this be listed as a standing agenda item. The Minutes of the meeting have been distributed and a further PDF copy is circulated with this Agenda.

## **MOTION**

Moved	Mayor G Henley	Seconded	Cr T Pratico	Carried
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## **THAT:**

***The report be received.***

### **7.2 Community Newspaper Awards**

## **MOTION**

Moved	Cr B Piesse	Seconded	Cr P Townshend	
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**THAT:**

***The Zone requests WALGA support a regional annual award program to recognize the significant contribution of community newspapers.***

<b>Submitting Council</b>	Shire of Donnybrook Balingup and Shire of Nannup
<b>Meeting Date</b>	May 2019
<b>Subject</b>	Community Newspaper Awards
<b>Recommendation</b>	That Council: Develop an annual award program to recognize the significant contribution of community newspapers.
<b>In Brief</b>	Community newspapers are the quiet achievers in the world of communication. Despite a changing media environment where the emphasis is sometimes on digital media, community newspapers remain the trusted source of information for many people in small regional communities.
<b>Background</b>	<p>These much-loved publications don't simply share information; they help readers connect with their community, which generates a sense of pride and belonging.</p> <p>Community newspapers run on the smell of an oily rag. They are often housed within Community Resource Centres (CRCs) and rely heavily on local volunteers, financial support from Local Governments and paid advertising.</p> <p>There are a number of community newspapers in the South West Zone, including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Bleat;</li><li>• The Dardanup Times;</li><li>• The Boyanup Post;</li><li>• Preston Press;</li><li>• Gelorup Stratham Dalyellup Gazette;</li><li>• The Williams;</li><li>• Greenbushes Balingup Newsletter.</li><li>• Nannup Telegraph.</li></ul>
<b>Comment</b>	<p>It is proposed the annual award will consider the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Balanced, fair and inclusive journalism that appeals to all demographics;</li><li>• Community participation demonstrated by letters to the editor, paid adverts and advertorials;</li><li>• Quality research and accuracy of information;</li><li>• Care and consideration for those whose stories are being told;</li><li>• Design and readability; and</li><li>• Availability and accessibility (e.g. available on a website, emailed to subscribers, a link on social media, hard copies at local outlets).</li></ul>

<b>Any other implications</b>	The awards will be limited to community-run newspapers or publications that are not affiliated with a commercial media outlet such as Fairfax Media.
<b>Attachments</b>	Nil.

## Amendment

Moved	Cr S Stanley	Seconded	Cr P Townshend	Carried
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***The Zone requests WALGA support a regional annual award program to recognize the significant contribution of community news publications.***

## The Amendment became the Motion

Moved	Cr B Piesse	Seconded	Cr P Townshend	Carried
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## 7.3 Strategic Issues for Zone Consideration

A suggestion was made to the EO by Cr. P Omodei that it may be advantageous to develop a register of strategic issues impacting across the Zone as a basis for ongoing discussions. To further the viability of the concept CEOs have been asked to consult with elected members and submit items for inclusion in a list that would become a standing agenda item.

Examples:

- Roads to Recovery
- Biosecurity issues,
- Significant delays in approvals for permits to clear roads
- Verge clearing

## 7.4 Support for Waste to Energy

Moved	Cr. M Bennett	Seconded	Cr. T Pratico	Carried
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## MOTION

***THAT WALGA continue to support Western Australia's Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030 and seek firm commitments from the State Government about how the waste avoidance, resource recovery and diversion from landfill targets will be achieved, including local options for reprocessing, recycling and waste to energy.***

## Report

These commitments should clearly indicate how the State Government will cease the proliferation of landfills in the non-metropolitan areas which are predominantly taking metropolitan waste or waste generated elsewhere in the state including mining and

construction camps. These commitments should encourage alternative options and outline what incentives the Government will put in place to reduce, and eventually eliminate, our reliance on landfill.

- Currently the Strategy sets Targets for these outcomes but does not include a firm plan of how the State Government is going to actually implement and achieve these Targets. The Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy Action Plan 2030 (**Attachment 2**) also does not provide clarity or concrete actions or incentives to address these targets.
- Building on and updating the first Western Australian Waste Strategy: Creating the Right Environment published in 2012, earlier this year (2019) the State Government released the West Australia's Waste Strategy (Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030). Previous State Government Targets have included goals of towards zero waste to landfill by 2020. This may no longer be achievable, however there has been positive trends in waste figures as included in Table 1 on page 9 of the Waste Strategy:

*Table 1: Changes in waste generation and landfill in Western Australia, 2010–11 and 2014–15 (Hyder, 2013 & ASK Waste Management, 2017)*

	2010–11	2014–15	Percentage change
Generation – total	6.53 million tonnes	6.23 million tonnes	↓ 5%
Generation – per capita	2,764 kilograms	2,437 kilograms	↓ 12%
Waste to landfill	4.49 million tonnes	3.61 million tonnes	↓ 20%
Resource recovery	2.04 million tonnes	2.62 million tonnes	↑ 28%

- Increases in FOGO and other recycling efforts have improved resource recovery significantly up 28%, whilst per capita generation is down 12%. The knock on effect is that there was a fifth (20%) less waste going to landfill in 2014/15 than in 2010/11. However, there have been questions raised regarding the accuracy of this data and the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation are going to require mandatory reporting by Local Government and industry to address this issue. Even given questions about the data, there is still more than 3.6 million tonnes of waste going to landfill every year.
- To reduce this the Waste Strategy 2030 sets out the following targets:

<b>VISION</b>	<i>Western Australia will become a sustainable, low-waste, circular economy in which human health and the environment are protected from the impacts of waste.</i>		
<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	<b>Avoid</b> Western Australians generate less waste.	<b>Recover</b> Western Australians recover more value and resources from waste.	<b>Protect</b> Western Australians protect the environment by managing waste responsibly.
<b>TARGETS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2025 – 10% reduction in waste generation per capita</li> <li>2030 – 20% reduction in waste generation per capita</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2025 – Increase material recovery to 70%</li> <li>2030 – Increase material recovery to 75%</li> <li>From 2020 – Recover energy only from residual waste</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2030 – No more than 15% of waste generated in Perth and Peel regions is landfilled.</li> <li>2030 – All waste is managed and/or disposed to better practice facilities</li> </ul>

Source: Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030 page 6

- If these targets are achieved it would result in the following:



- Total waste generated in 2030 reduced by 20% from 2014/15 figures to 4.98 million tonnes per annum.
  - Only 15% of total waste generated is landfilled (acknowledging that the target is only set for Perth and Peel), the total waste to landfill across the state will be 0.75 million tonnes.
  - Resource recovery is increased to 75%, resulting in 3.74 million tonnes being recovered.
  - That leaves 0.5 million tonnes potentially available for Waste to Energy – which the Strategy notes should only be generated from ‘residual waste’. The alternative is that waste to landfill will increase to 1.25million tonnes per annum.
- Whilst the targets are clear, the plan about how this will be implemented is yet to be developed and Local Government and industry will need long term certainty to invest to achieve these targets. The Shire of Dardanup is therefore asking WALGA members to support WALGA to advocate to the State Government for more specific and firm commitments to divert waste from landfill through local options for reprocessing, recycling and waste to energy.
  - In this regard, the Waste Authority recognises the benefits in siting waste infrastructure close to the source of waste generation. Benefits include reduced transport impacts from the movement of waste, such as greenhouse impacts, traffic congestion and community amenity (Waste Authority’s Waste to Energy Position Statement, 2013 - **Attachment 3**). It is therefore important that **local options** for reprocessing, recycling and waste to energy are considered an essential component in achieving the Waste Strategy’s targets. Not taking action and continuing with the status quo will mean waste is transported hundreds or even thousands of kilometres to be disposed of in the regions, rather than being dealt with at source. By considering smaller scale local options it would provide opportunities for reduction at source and also assist communities in the regions to reduce their waste to landfill.
  - Considering the above, without Waste to Energy (WtE) and significant improvements in resource recovery, there would still be 25% or 1.25million tonnes state-wide of waste being sent to landfill. According to a 2013 discussion paper (**Attachment 4**) prepared for WALGA by the Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC), a standing committee of the Association with delegated authority to represent the Association in all matters relating to solid waste management, WtE could reduce the weight of waste by 70-80% and the volume of waste by 90%.
  - The Waste Authority considers best practice WtE processes to be a preferable option to landfill for the management of residual waste but not at the expense of reasonable efforts to avoid, reuse, reprocess or recycle waste. WtE has the potential to divert substantial volumes of waste from landfill (and thereby support the delivery of Waste Strategy targets) and produce a beneficial product (Waste Authority’s Waste to Energy position Statement, 2013).
  - To address this it is important that options for reduction in the amount of waste going to landfill also consider smaller waste to energy plants that could be located within regional areas to reduce reliance on landfill. Initial investigations indicate that current available technologies could provide opportunities for smaller plants to be established that would use about 500kg of Municipal Solid Waste per hour or about 4,400 tonnes

per annum. Such facilities could be located across regional areas and reduce waste to landfill but also provide for energy generation.

- It is recommended that the alternative options outlined in this item be incorporated into the Waste Strategy's Action Plan 2030 with specific incentives put in place by the Government to ensure we reduce, and eventually eliminate, our reliance on landfill.

Attachments are included as links.

Attachment 1 -

[http://www.wasteauthority.wa.gov.au/media/files/documents/Waste\\_Avoidance\\_and\\_Resource\\_Recovery\\_Strategy\\_2030.pdf](http://www.wasteauthority.wa.gov.au/media/files/documents/Waste_Avoidance_and_Resource_Recovery_Strategy_2030.pdf)

Attachment 2 -

[http://www.wasteauthority.wa.gov.au/media/files/documents/Waste\\_Avoidance\\_and\\_Resource\\_Recovery\\_Strategy\\_2030\\_Action\\_Plan.pdf](http://www.wasteauthority.wa.gov.au/media/files/documents/Waste_Avoidance_and_Resource_Recovery_Strategy_2030_Action_Plan.pdf)

Attachment 3 -

[https://www.wasteauthority.wa.gov.au/media/files/documents/W2E\\_Position\\_Statement.pdf](https://www.wasteauthority.wa.gov.au/media/files/documents/W2E_Position_Statement.pdf)

Attachment 4 -

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/7ihc97m8p056nk1/Attachment%204%20-%20W2E%20Discussion%20Paper%20FINAL.pdf?dl=0>

## 7.5 Reactivation of South West Rail Line

### MOTION

Moved	Cr B Piesse	Seconded	T Pratico	Carried
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***THAT WALGA advocate for the State Government to make a clear decision on the reactivation of the South West rail line.***

<b>Submitting Council</b>	Shire of Donnybrook Balingup
<b>Meeting Date</b>	28 June 2019
<b>Subject</b>	Requests the State government make a clear decision on the reactivation of the South West rail line.
<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>That; SWZ WALGA advocate for the State Government to make a clear decision on the reactivation of the South West rail line.</b>
<b>In Brief</b>	The Shire of Donnybrook Balingup is seeking the support of the South West Zone of WALGA to lobby for a decision (either in

the affirmative or negative) regarding the re-activation of the South West rail line.

**Background**

There have been a number of discussions over a long period of time about the potential re-activation of the South West rail line, particularly the section north of Greenbushes, with the announced expansion of the Talison lithium mine.

A pre-feasibility assessment on the potential re-activation of the rail line was conducted in partnership between Arc Infrastructure, the South West Development Commission and Talison Mining, identifying the need for capital investment in the order of \$100 - \$200m. The pre-feasibility study was conducted mid-late 2018, however, the Shire is not aware of any further developments or decisions being made in relation to this matter.

A project of this magnitude will require the close co-operation and commitment of the State and Federal Government and potentially a contribution from Talison Mining.

**Comment**

In seeking this advocacy the Shire of Donnybrook Balingup is not pushing specifically for either a 'yes' or 'no' decision, it is merely contending that the State government make a decision, rather than leaving the matter unresolved for an extended period.

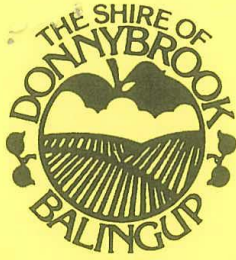
By having clear direction in this regard, all local governments impacted by the SW rail corridor can in turn plan accordingly with regards to urban renewal projects, leases and other related matters.

**Any other implications**

Nil

**Attachments**

Attachment 1 – Letter from Shire of Donnybrook Balingup to Nola Marino



All communications to be addressed to:  
the Chief Executive Officer  
P.O. Box 94  
Donnybrook, W.A. 6239  
Telephone: (08) 9780 4200  
Facsimile: (08) 9731 1677  
Email: [shire@donnybrook.wa.gov.au](mailto:shire@donnybrook.wa.gov.au)  
Website: [www.donnybrook-balingup.wa.gov.au](http://www.donnybrook-balingup.wa.gov.au)

Your Ref: OCOR44288  
Our Ref: ADM 10/A  
Enquiries: Ben Rose

Hon Nola Marino MP  
Assistant Minister for Regional Development & Territories; and Member for Forrest  
PO Box 2028  
BUNBURY WA 6231



Dear Nola

### **SOUTH WEST RAILWAY LINE**

Firstly, we convey our sincere congratulations to you on your re-election as Member for Forrest and your recent appointment as Assistant Minister for Regional Development and Territories. We look forward to a continued constructive and effective working relationship with you.

As we have discussed with you previously, the much-discussed re-activation of the South West rail line (particularly from Greenbushes, to Kemerton, via every major settlement within the Shire of Donnybrook Balingup) is emerging as major local, and regional, issue. We understand that a pre-feasibility assessment on re-activation of the rail line was conducted in partnership between Arc Infrastructure, the South West Development Commission and Talison Mining, identifying the need for capital investment in the order of \$100 - \$200M. This pre-feasibility study was conducted mid-late 2018, however, we are not aware of any further action, or decisions, in relation to this matter.

There is no doubt a project of this magnitude is not going to happen without the close cooperation and commitment of the State and Federal Government and a contribution from Talison Mining.

As you are aware, having kindly assisted the Shire with various project funding arrangements in recent times, in particular the contribution towards the re-vitalisation and renewal of our iconic tourist attraction the Apple Fun Park, an early decision in relation to the future of the rail corridor through this Shire is imperative in a townscape and planning context. In this regard, we seek your advocacy, to expedite a decision (either way) in relation to the future of the rail line. Presently, the Shire does not have an adopted/resolved position on re-activation of the rail line, although it is cognisant of the community concerns relating to forecast traffic

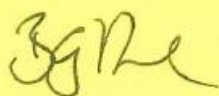
OUR VISION:  
A proud community enjoying our rural lifestyle, cultural heritage and natural environment.



movements through our townsites along the South West Highway. In Donnybrook alone it is predicted that vehicular traffic will increase from circa 8000 a day, to over 11,000 within three years, acknowledging Talison are predicting an increase from 80 road trains to 200 per day when the mine comes on stream, should the road over rail option be the chosen outcome.

While we do not wish to politicise our predicament, given the importance of the State Government funded plan to develop the historical and heritage precinct also along the railway line south of the Apple Fun Park in Donnybrook is also implicated by the final road versus rail decision, the Shire would appreciate your strong advocacy, along with the State Government (in consultation with the Member for Collie-Preston and relevant State Government Ministers, to drive a decision, one way or another, about the re-activation of the South West rail line. In recent meetings with the Hon. Mick Murray, we have also discussed this matter and sought his advocacy on the matter.

Yours sincerely



Benjamin (Ben) Rose  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Cr Brian H Plesse  
SHIRE PRESIDENT

4 June 2019

CC Hon Mick Murray, Member for Collie-Preston  
Mr Ian Telfer, President, Bunbury Geographie Economic alliance  
Mr Tony Pratico, Chair, Warren Blackwood Alliance

## 7.6 Westport – Requesting Support and Advocacy for Bunbury Port

Moved	Cr. T Smith	Seconded	Cr. M Bennett	Carried
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### MOTION

***THAT member Councils of the South West Zone extend their support and advocacy (through the Westport and Government Process) for the Bunbury***



## ***Port to provide a greater role in the growing freight task in Western Australia including “roll on-roll off” and container freight.***

Recommendations made by the Westport Taskforce will see significant opportunities, employment and economic benefits for the South West if the Bunbury Port plays a more significant role in the State's freight task.

There is no direct financial or budget implication related to the recommendation, however the recommendation of the Westport Taskforce will significantly influence the opportunities for growth of business, innovation, employment and GRP for Bunbury and the South West for decades into the future.

In order to better position Bunbury Port being considered for roll on-roll off and container freight tasks, it is requested that the South West Zone Member Councils formally support and advocate for the Bunbury Port to provide a key solution in addressing the State's freight task needs into the future.

### **Background**

The City of Bunbury has been actively engaging with the Westport Taskforce, attending meetings and workshops since it was established in September 2017.

At its ordinary Council Meeting of Tuesday 11 June, the City of Bunbury Council resolved (Decision 158/19):

*That Council:*

1. *Supports Bunbury Port in providing a higher role in the States freight task.*
2. *Requests the CEO:*
  - a) *Write to the Westport Taskforce Chairperson advising Councils support.*
  - b) *Address the South West Zone of WALGA meeting and seek its support of the Bunbury Port providing a higher role in the growing freight task in Western Australia.*
  - c) *Continue to lobby for support of Bunbury Port providing a higher role in in the growing freight task in Western Australia.\_\_\_\_\_*

### **Details**

Given the importance of the recommendations of the Westport Taskforce to the future economic growth of the Bunbury Geographie region and the positive impacts this will have on the whole South West Region, it is recommended that the region send a strong message of support demonstrating that the Bunbury Port is positioned to and capable of playing a more significant role in addressing the State's freight task needs.

In December 2018 Westport released a report “Westport: What we have found so far”. A copy of this report is attached at the link provided.

<https://www.mysaytransport.wa.gov.au/WWHFSF>

## Strategic Proposal

The recommendation of the Westport Taskforce will significantly influence the opportunities for growth of business, innovation, employment and GRP for Bunbury and the South West for decades into the future.

The Bunbury Port is a vital part of the freight network in Western Australia and is a particularly important economic driver for the South West region with trade through the port reaching a record of 16.9 million tonnes in 2017/2018. Major commodities exported through the port are alumina and woodchips, while the largest imports are caustic soda and mineral sands. The port is used by a diverse range of industries, and includes eleven types of exports and seven types of imports.

The Bunbury Geopraphe Growth Plan nominates the expansion of the Bunbury Port as one of the Key economic growth drivers for the region. The report states *“Port and transport growth generates flow-on employment by facilitating growth in the mining and agribusiness sectors by allowing cost-effective exports. Growing the role of the Port would also support a range of other industries in transport services, engineering, design and construction and subsequent jobs in the wider economy. There is also the potential for the Port to function as a container terminal for Perth-Peel if connected by efficient rail and logistics arrangements.”*

The outcome of the Westport Taskforce review of the Fremantle, Kwinana and Bunbury ports will dictate the timing for, and rate of expansion of the Bunbury Port. The outcome will heavily influence the ability of Bunbury Port to realise its economic potential outlined in the Bunbury Geopraphe Growth Plan. At the community forum held on 6 June it was identified that there were a number of advantages of expanding the Bunbury Port, including:

1. An abundance of undeveloped land for future port development;
2. An existing approved Inner Harbour Structure Plan (planning framework in place);
3. Existing high grade transport connections (road and rail) to and from the port; and
4. Abundance of available industrial land within close proximity to the port (Picton, Waterloo, Kemerton, etc).

The community were informed that:

- The Port has capacity to commence RORO car imports at minimal cost as it has significant vacant land and access to labour. No dredging would be required to accommodate RORO imports
- 4 additional berths could be constructed now within the existing Port footprint without the need for additional dredging
- Significant transport corridors already exist;
  - o Rail – There is an existing rail corridor connecting alumina refineries directly to Bunbury Port. In addition the upgrade studies are nearing finalisation for the rail from Greenbushes to Kemerton and Port.
  - o Willenge Drive connecting Picton direct to port provides heavy haulage route
  - o The Federal and State Governments are already making a significant investment in the form of the Bunbury Outer Ring Road to improve the

efficiency of freight access to the Bunbury Port. The planning for this work is well advanced with construction starting 2020

- Intermodal hubs may not be required however there is ample land available for them if deemed appropriate.
- There is already a key alignment between rail, industrial parks and BORR
- There are no significant environmental impediments for the expansion of the Port
- There are positive community relations
- Bunbury Port is an option that can meet the long term needs of growing State freight task.

It is suggested that in the short term Bunbury Port could accommodate RORO car imports and processing, while in the medium term Bunbury Port could accommodate container vessels with an investment to increase depth of channel.

## **Comment**

The Westport Taskforce was established by the Minister for Transport in September 2017. It is a cross-agency project team that is led by independent Chair, Nicole Lockwood, and governed by a Steering Committee comprising six Director's General and the Chairman of Fremantle Ports and the WA Planning Commission.

Westport was tasked with developing a Strategy to guide the Government on the long-term development and growth of the Inner Harbour at Fremantle; the Outer Harbour at Kwinana; the required rail and road networks; and the potential for the Port of Bunbury to contribute to growing needs. The Strategy will look at Perth and the South West's freight, trade and logistics requirements for the next 50-100 years. The final Strategy is due to be presented to Government by the end of 2019.

Many products that WA households use and consume every day arrive by sea container. Perth's current freight network will not be sufficient to cope with rising demand and is already under pressure.

Having a long-term freight plan provides certainty for government, investors, residents and industry. It allows industrial land to be secured while it is still available and provides time to manage sensitive terrestrial and marine environments. Even if additional infrastructure is not required straight away, Westport will have enabled the State to plan for it well in advance.

The environment is a critical area of focus for Westport and is being considered throughout the development of the final Strategy. Westport has adopted PIANC's Working with Nature approach, which is a proactive, integrated philosophy that considers environmental values from the outset, rather than as an afterthought.

While the State Government made an election commitment to plan and build new port facilities at the Outer Harbour in Cockburn Sound, Westport is undertaking a comprehensive, evidence-based assessment of the capabilities of all three study areas (Fremantle, Kwinana and Bunbury) to determine how best to handle Perth's future trade load. Westport will also determine proposed timeframes for any trade transitions, along with funding and investment models.

The Deloitte Access Economics trade forecasts commissioned by Westport estimate that WA's container trade will quadruple in volume by the year 2068 from 0.7 million TEU (twenty-foot equivalent units) to 3.1 million TEU. This is based on a long-term average growth of 2.8 per cent annually.



There are four main types of port trade: containers, bulk goods (liquids, minerals, woodchips etc), general cargo (vehicles, machinery etc) and passengers (cruise ships, navy vessels etc). Fremantle is currently WA's main container port while also handling passenger vessels and general cargo. Kwinana currently handles bulk products while naval vessels access Garden Island through Cockburn Sound. Bunbury handles bulk products, general cargo and some passenger vessels.

The Westport Taskforce is collaborating with more than 80 industry, government, business and community organisations to develop a Strategy based on robust data and consultation. Westport's process is being independently assessed by well-respected peer reviewers and Westport is also developing an Aboriginal Engagement Strategy.

## **8. WALGA State President's Report July**

### **MOTION**

Moved	Cr P Omodei	Seconded	Cr S Stanley	Carried
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### ***THAT:***

***The report be received.***

#### **Federal Election**

With the return of the Morrison Government, the Cabinet was settled on 26 May and Mark Coulton was named as the new Local Government Minister.

Other ministers of interest were the Minister for the Environment (Susan Ley) and the Minister for Water Resources, Drought, Natural Disasters and Emergency Management (David Littleproud).

Anthony Albanese has been named Leader of the Opposition and Jason Clare is Shadow Local Government Minister.

ALGA is seeking early meetings with the revised Ministry and Opposition leadership in order to progress the Local Government agenda, particularly the "1% for LG" Financial Assistance Grants campaign and the expansion of infrastructure funding.

#### **Preferred Supplier Arrangements (PSA)**

I want to remind members of the benefits of using the Preferred Supplier Arrangements (PSA) to access your requirements for products and services.

The PSA are built exclusively around members' needs and requirements. Members provide ideas for the PSA and what it should include, they participate in Client Reference Groups for each PSA to help design the specifications, and they assist in the evaluation process.

The process used to establish a PSA equates to the integrity of a tender process and as a result, Local Governments can utilize PSA's without going to the expense and inconvenience of an individual tender. PSAs therefore save Local Governments on the cost, time and risk of undertaking the procurement. They also save suppliers from the

expense of responding to individual tenders. They are also regionally versatile and increasingly they contain suppliers that are specific to a regional area or you can access suppliers that can offer their services to the whole state.

PSAs also provide significant benefits in terms of discounted price compared to alternate options as there is a contractual requirement for suppliers to provide their best prices and conditions of supply through the Panel.

So for all of these reasons and more, I encourage you to consider Preferred Suppliers when you need to procure a product or service. The use of the PSA very much helps strengthen the Association.

### **Be Open About Rates**

The media conversation on Local Government rating levels is ramping up, so it is important that Local Governments are considered in their public commentary on the rating levels that have been struck and the reasons behind any shifts.

The fascination with some, that CPI is the inflator for rates, needs to be acknowledged, but then mitigated with the recognition that Local Government costs aren't based on the same basket of goods as that of household consumption.

Rapidly rising public utility costs and construction inflators, added to the impacts of funding losses from State and Federal Governments and compounded by the changing demands and expectations of local communities, combine to push the inflationary pressures on rates beyond CPI.

Whilst we all recognize the difficulty of funding growing communities with a restricted rating strategy, it is often equally true that struggling communities look to their Local Government to provide the stimulus that will halt and reverse their decline. That too adds to the funding demands on a Local Government that challenge the relevance of CPI to the rating formula.

Whilst Local Government as a sector is in a positive position in terms of managing debt, that is often achieved through the creation of reserve funds to provide the capital to fund infrastructure instead of resorting to debt and the payment of interest.

The creation of reserves will often require a rating effort beyond the use of a simple cost inflator in order to provide the capacity to avoid debt.

No Local Government wants to burden its ratepayers with rate increases. Equally, without providing the opportunity for the community to understand the full extent of the rating challenge you are inviting a level of criticism that does the sector no favours.

### **Local Government Amendment Bill**

WALGA is confident that Parliament will assent to the Local Government Legislation Amendment Bill 2019 in the near future, and in time for certain provisions to take effect for the 2019 Local Government elections.

The Bill is currently in the third reading stage and on 11<sup>th</sup> June, the Minister for Local Government arranged Notice to the Legislative Council proposing minor amendments to facilitate the Bill's passage.

This Notice proposes to retain provisions relating to senior employees (Section 5.37) and retain provisions relating to contracts for CEO and senior employees (Section 5.39). The Bill originally proposed to respectively delete and amend these provisions.

WALGA's advocacy for amendment to Section 5.37 and 5.39 will carry over into the Phase 2 of the Local Government Act Review.

## **PRESIDENT'S CONTACTS**

During the May – July period, contacts that have occurred or are scheduled to take place prior to the March State Council meeting are as follows:

### **State Government Relations:**

- Hon. David Templeman MLA , Minister for Local Government; Heritage; Culture and the Arts
- Hon. Alannah MacTiernan MLC, Minister for Regional Development; Agriculture and Food; Ports;

### **Local Government Relations**

- City of Busselton, Mayor Grant Henley, CEO Mike Archer
- City of Rockingham, Mayor Barry Sammels, CEO Michael Parker
- City of Cockburn, Mayor Logan Howlett, CEO Stephen Cain
- City of Mandurah, Mayor Rhys Williams, CEO Mark Newman
- City of Kwinana, Mayor Carol Adams, CEO Joanne Abbiss
- Cr Paul Omodei, President, Shire of Manjimup
- State Council Meeting
- State Council & Zone Structure Working Group Meeting
- ANZAC Day Awards Judging Panel
- LGIS Board Meeting
- Executive Committee Meeting
- ALGA Board Meeting
- National General Assembly
- Mr Gary Okely, CEO JLT

### **Conferences / Workshops / Public Relations**

- City of Joondalup Mayoral Dinner 2019
- ALGWA Breakfast
- Swan Chamber of Commerce Breakfast Event/Panel Q & A Member
- Womens Voices Lunch with Minister Simone McGurk
- Leadership Matters Breakfast with Bill Shorten

### **Zone Meetings**

- South Metro Zone Meeting
- South East Metro Zone Meeting

## 9. State Council Agenda

The State Council Agenda numbers and page numbers have been retained for easy reference.

<b>5. MATTERS FOR DECISION .....</b>	<b>5</b>
5.1 National Redress and Local Government (05-086-03-0004 KD) .....	5
5.2 Draft Guidelines for Local Heritage Surveys and <i>Heritage Act 2018</i> Proclamation Regulations (05-071-03-0003 SM) .....	14
5.3 Review of the <i>Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972</i> (Phase Two) (05-032-01-0001 SM) .....	19
5.4 Planning for Bushfire Guidelines: Element 3 Vehicular Access (05-024-02-0056 CH)35	
5.5 Remote Area Tax Concessions (05-001-03-0006 DM).....	50
5.6 Directions Paper for the 10 Year Strategy on Homelessness (05-018-02-0007 JB) ..	67
 <b>6. MATTERS FOR NOTING / INFORMATION .....</b>	 <b>75</b>
6.1 Report on Local Government Road Assets and Expenditure 2017/18 (0600-703-0016 MB) .....	75
6.2 2019-2020 State and Federal Budgets (05-088-03-0001 NF) .....	86
6.3 Public Library Assets (05-012-03-0001 KD) .....	93
6.4 Climate Change Policy Advocacy Update (05-028-04-0002 LS) .....	96
6.5 Report Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) (01-006-03-0008 RNB) .....	99
<b>7.1 Key Activity Reports .....</b>	<b>101</b>
7.1.1 Report on Key Activities, Environment and Waste Unit (01-006-03-0017 MJB) .....	101
7.1.2 Report on Key Activities, Governance and Organisational Services (01-006-03-0007 TB) .....	106
7.1.3 Report on Key Activities, Infrastructure (05-001-02-0003 ID) .....	109
7.1.4 Report on Key Activities, People and Place (01-006-03-0014 JB).....	112
7.2 Policy Forum Reports (01-006-03-0007 TB) .....	115

## MOTION

Moved	Mayor Henley	Seconded	Cr. S Stanley	Carried
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**THAT *the recommendations in the State Council Agenda be endorsed.***

## 8.1 Items Excluded for further discussion

Moved	Cr. S Stanley	Seconded	Cr T Pratico	Carried
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## That WALGA

1. **Seek a commitment from the Waste Authority to complete an audit into downstream processing of mixed plastic that are shipped overseas to ensure this waste is not ending up in illegal recycling centres with large amounts either burned or buried in landfill.**
2. **Advocates to the State government to consider a State Government rescue package using the Waste Levy as is the case in other States.**

## 9. Discussion Forum/Zone Agenda Items

Items submitted for noting

### 9.1 National Redress Scheme – Update from the State Government on Engagement with WA Local Government regarding participation in the National Redress Scheme

#### **Background**

- The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse (the Royal Commission) was established in January 2013, to investigate systemic failures of public and private institutions to protect children from child sexual abuse, report abuse, and respond to child sexual abuse.
- The Royal Commission's *Redress and Civil Litigation (September 2015)* Report recommended the establishment of a single national redress scheme to recognise the harm suffered by survivors of institutional child sexual abuse.
- The National Redress Scheme (the Scheme):
  - acknowledges that many children were sexually abused in Australian institutions;
  - recognises the suffering they endured because of this abuse;
  - holds institutions accountable for this abuse; and
  - helps people who have experienced institutional child sexual abuse access counselling and psychological services, a direct personal response, and a redress-payment.
- The State Government, specifically the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries and the Department of the Premier and Cabinet, is undertaking engagement with WA Local Governments about their (potential) participation in the Scheme.
- Engagement with the sector is ongoing and will enable an understanding to be developed about the capacity and capability of Local Governments to join the Scheme. This engagement will also allow discussion and agreement to be reached about how participation in the Scheme is best facilitated.
- The State Government committed to provide an update to each of the Zone meetings at the June/July schedule.
- To date, the Scheme has not received any applications naming a WA local government as the institution in which child sexual abuse occurred.

## ***Discussion***

### **Royal Commission**

The Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSC) has previously engaged with the WA Local Government Association (WALGA), Local Government Professionals (LGPro) and WA local governments on the recommendations, findings and (potential) key implications of the Royal Commission.

This preliminary engagement occurred between July and September 2018 through the distribution of an Information and Discussion Paper (31 July 2018), the hosting of webinars (August 2018) and an invitation for submissions that concluded in late September 2018.

Information and feedback gathered from the Royal Commission engagement is being used to advise the policy positions and implementation approaches of future Royal Commission reforms and child safeguarding initiatives.

### **Stage 1 Redress Engagement**

The Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPC) and DLGSC approached WALGA in late October 2018 regarding engagement with the sector about the potential for WA local government to participate in the National Redress Scheme with the State Government.

A consultation process in accordance with the State Local Government Partnership Agreement commenced in December 2018 with the direct distribution of an Information and Discussion Paper in early January 2019 to all WA local governments, the WA Local Government Association (WALGA), Local Government Professionals WA (LG Pro) and the Local Government Insurance Scheme (LGIS).

Between March and May 2019, DLGSC completed the first round of engagement with local governments that included:

- An on-line webinar to 35 local government, predominantly from regional and remote areas;
- Presentations at 12 WALGA Zone and LG Pro meetings;
- Various responses to email and telephone enquiries from individual local governments.

These consultations have reached 115 out of 137 local governments

Key observations and discussion themes from the Stage 1 engagement has been:

#### **Observations**

- A very low level of awareness regarding Redress existed in the WA local government sector prior to the initial, stage 1 engagement;
- Little to no discussions had occurred within the sector or within individual local governments regarding Redress because of the initial low-level awareness.

#### **Themes**

- Local governments were concerned about:
  - The cost of any Redress payment;
  - The availability of historical information;
  - The capacity of local governments to provide a DPR (apology) if requested;
  - Maintenance of confidentiality, particularly in small Councils and communities;
  - Whether LGIS insurance would cover any aspect of a Redress payment.
- Early preliminary feedback from the stage 1 engagement indicated that the sector may favour participation in the Scheme with the State Government.
- WALGA released their own Discussion Paper to the sector and LGIS, covering specifically the insurance aspect, in April 2019.

## **Next Steps**

### Stage 2 Redress Engagement

Through June and July 2019, DPC will undertake briefings to relevant State Ministers, Ministerial officers and relevant Cabinet Sub Committees on the engagement to date with the WA local government sector and key observations from Stage 1.

DLGSC, in consultation with DPC and the Department of Justice, will then prepare a follow-up information paper for WA local government, that will focus on and outline the confirmed options for participation in the Scheme. This will allow the local government sector to identify and endorse the preferred approach, which the WA Government can formally consider when deciding about the participation of local governments in the longer term.

Phase 2 engagement will commence in late August 2019 with the release of the 2nd Paper, continue through the November zone meetings and conclude at the December 2019 WALGA State Council meeting.

DLGSC requests that engagement undertaken with the sector to date on the participation of WA local government with the State Government in the National Redress Scheme is noted and subsequent engagement with the sector will occur, including:

- the release of a Stage 2 discussion paper in late August 2019;
- attendance and discussions with a DLGSC representative at the November 2019 Zone meetings;
- A final preferred position on the WA local government sector's participation in the National Redress Scheme will be sought at the WALGA State Council meeting in early December 2019.

For further enquiries please contact:

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## **9.2. South West Sports Hall of Fame (WITHDRAWN)**

Moved		Seconded		Carried
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### ***MOTION***

### ***THAT***

~~***That the SW Zone support in-principle the proposal to revitalize the South West Hall of Fame and request that member local governments commit to a shared funding model for the initial capital cost and ongoing management of the program for a period of 10 years as below:***~~

<b>Local Government Area</b>	<b>Indicative Upfront contribution (based on rates levied)</b>	<b>Indicative Annual Management Cost (based on rates levied)</b>
<i>Augusta-Margaret River</i>	\$4,800	\$360
<i>Boyup Brook</i>	\$460	\$35
<i>Bridgetown-Greenbushes</i>	\$915	\$70
<i>Bunbury</i>	\$8,460	\$635
<i>Busselton</i>	\$10,285	\$770
<i>Capel</i>	\$2,740	\$205
<i>Collie</i>	\$1,370	\$100
<i>Dardanup</i>	\$2,740	\$205
<i>Donnybrook-Balingup</i>	\$1,140	\$85
<i>Harvey</i>	\$4,570	\$340
<i>Manjimup</i>	\$2,060	\$155
<i>Nannup</i>	\$460	\$35

## In Brief

Based at the South West Sports Centre the South West Sports Hall of Fame was initiated in 2002 with the first round of inductions held in 2004. Since then no further inductions to the Sports Hall of Fame have been made due to a combined lack of funding and political support.

## Background

The South West Sports Hall of Fame was established in 2002/03 with an election commitment from the then Premier, Geoff Gallop and with 11 original LGA members (Cities of Bunbury and Busselton and Shires of Augusta Margaret River, Boyup Brook, Bridgetown-Greenbushes, Capel, Collie, Dardanup, Donnybrook-Balingup, Harvey, Manjimup and Nannup) along with the South West Development Commission and Department for Sport and Recreation. It was established to recognise the sporting achievements at national and international level by South West residents. Its intent was not just to recognise past champions but also act as an inspiration to future generations.

Located at the South West Sports Centre in Bunbury, which is recognised as the regional sporting hub for the South West, there were eleven (11) initial sportsmen and women inducted into the Sports Hall of Fame when it was unveiled in 2004. Since then no further athletes have been inducted due to a lack of ongoing funding and support from all member organisations.

## Details

In 2015 the City of Bunbury received a number of requests for new inductees. This coincided with similar requests to other local government members. As a result DSR requested the formation of a Steering Committee to guide the future direction of the Hall of Fame. \$5,000 was provided to develop a project scope using a consultant's services to develop the scope under direction from



the Steering Committee. Eight members of the original membership chose to form the Steering Committee which was tasked with developing a plan to induct new athletes meeting the selection criteria whilst also looking to create a greater South West focus. At this time it was agreed by the Steering Committee that all Local Governments in the South West should be able to showcase their inductee's achievements as part of the program.

The consultant (Gumpton) was tasked with replicating the original display cabinets whilst also providing a certificate for each athlete inducted to be provided to their respective local government for public display.

Due to the lack of artwork for the original displays the consultant report recommended their replacement with new cabinets and associated certificates for their respective representative local government; this to facilitate ongoing continuity of the displays. The cost to undertake this for each athlete was estimated at \$4,650; this option would have resulted in a recurring cost of \$4,650 per athlete inducted into the Sports Hall of Fame thereafter.

Following the report produced by Gumpton no member organisations were prepared to provide the funds identified to further develop the Hall of Fame as it was felt to be cost prohibitive.

Subsequently and at the request of Council the City of Bunbury Sport and Recreation department have undertaken further research to establish alternative options for the Hall of Fame that provide a more cost effective solution to both inducting new athletes whilst also reinvigorating the display. The strategic recommendation is provided below and is subject to an agreement from the zone

members to jointly fund the project – initially to reactivate the Sports Hall of Fame and subsequently to provide ongoing recurrent funding to facilitate the management, maintenance and future induction of athletes.

## **Strategic Proposal**

Replace the existing display cabinets with an interactive display based at the South West Sports Centre via an interactive touch screen kiosk with associated displays providing information about the South West Hall of Fame, eligibility criteria and information regarding where information about inducted athletes can be accessed at other local government within the region. The touch screen would enable viewers to interact with the display to find out information about specific athletes as well as access media footage of their performance at national and international events.

An initial capital cost to revitalise the current display and create an interactive Hall of Fame that allows easy induction of future athletes meeting the eligibility criteria is estimated at approximately \$40,000 with an ongoing management cost of \$2,000-

\$3,000 per year required to maintain the program and update with any new inductees.

Should member organisations wish to hold an event (annually or every other year) to induct new athletes to the Sports Hall of Fame this should be treated as a separate project.

### **Comment**

The City of Bunbury recognises the importance of the Hall of Fame for the whole South West region and is keen to reinvigorate the program with a updated, modern and interactive display that provides interested parties with the option of viewing and interacting with the main display at the South West Sports Centre as well as local displays at a nominated site within each member local government.

To date no proposals have been supported by the member organisations on the basis of both cost and the misconception that as the display is currently based at the South West Sports Centre it is, by default, a City of Bunbury project with all responsibilities falling to the City.

This request and strategic proposal seeks to reinvigorate the South West Hall of Fame to enable it to meet the needs of all regional local governments in the Bunbury Geographe region, and provide opportunities for south west athletes past and present to be represented.

### **Further Report**

The City of Bunbury provided additional information to Councils in regard to the proposal

The following Councils have indicated support for the proposal

- Shire of Nannup

# SOUTH WEST COUNTRY ZONE STATUS REPORT

## JUNE 2019

Zone	Agenda Item	Zone Resolution	WALGA Response	Update	WALGA Contact
<b>Sth West C</b>	<b>2019 March 22 Zone Agenda Item 7.7</b> Funding Commitment Towards Strategic Transport Network Infrastructure In South West Western Australia	<p>1. That the South West Zone of WALGA adopts an advocacy position of seeking a commitment to funding from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Western Australian State Government; and/or</li> <li>b. Australian Federal Government; and/or</li> <li>c. Private industry to better manage the ever increasing numbers of heavy vehicle haulage and light vehicle users within the south-west (particularly including South Western Highway), including the possibility of re-instating and re-opening the disused South West Railway, as well as the future expansion and improvements of our road networks for the south-west region as part of the investment of our future infrastructure and road networks.</li> </ul> <p>2. That the South West Zone of WALGA requests the WALGA State Council to consider adopting the advocacy position outlined in Recommendation 1, above.</p>	The Infrastructure Policy Team requested that the Association investigate the need for and feasibility of developing a road project advocacy tool to support Local Governments and Zones in their advocacy for specific road developments given the large number of potential projects across the State.	<b>June 2019</b>	<b>Ian Duncan</b> <b>Executive Manager</b> <b>Infrastructure</b> <a href="mailto:iduncan@walga.asn.au">iduncan@walga.asn.au</a> <b>9213 2031</b>
<b>Sth West C</b>	<b>2019 May 8 State Council Agenda Item 5.3</b> Interim Submission – Draft Position Statement: Tourism Land Uses within Bushfire Prone Areas	That the interim submission to the Western Australian Planning Commission on Draft Position Statement: Tourism land uses within bushfire prone areas, be endorsed.	<p>It is understood that the purpose of the recommendation from the South West Country Zone is to ensure that the intent of the draft position statement clearly covers proposals for tourism uses with overnight stays. We acknowledge the concerns of the zone, however the current wording in WALGA's interim submission, utilising the term, 'short-term accommodation', is appropriate as this definition states:</p> <p>"short-term accommodation means temporary accommodation provided either continuously or from time to time with no guest accommodated for periods totalling more than 3 months in any 12 month period;"</p>	<b>June 2019</b>	<b>Joanne Burges</b> <b>Executive Manager,</b> <b>People and Place</b> <a href="mailto:jburges@walga.asn.au">jburges@walga.asn.au</a> <b>9213 2018</b>

			<p>The definition clearly covers the prospect of overnight stays, and therefore addresses the concerns of the zone.</p> <p>State Council Resolution</p> <p>That the interim submission to the Western Australian Planning Commission on Draft Position Statement: Tourism land uses within bushfire prone areas, be endorsed.</p> <p><u>RESOLUTION 45.4./2019</u></p>		
Sth West C	2019 May 8 State Council Agenda Item 5.5 Community Technical Reference Group	The term "Technical" be changed to "Industry" in the title	<p>State Council Resolution</p> <p>That the establishment of a Community <u>Industry</u> Reference Group be endorsed.</p> <p><u>RESOLUTION 47.4./2019</u></p>	June 2019	<p>Joanne Burges Executive Manager, People and Place <a href="mailto:jborges@walga.asn.au">jborges@walga.asn.au</a> 9213 2018</p>
Sth West C	2019 March 22 Zone Agenda Item 7.3 Domestic Violence Communities	<p>That</p> <p>The SWZ request WALGA to begin to develop an advocacy position on family and domestic violence.</p> <p>A sector working group is formed to guide the consultation process and a state wide forum be held to raise awareness of the issue within the sector</p> <p>A formal request be made that Our Watch and other key stakeholders are invited to present to the sector.</p>	<p>WALGA has met with Mental Health Commission, WA Association of Mental Health and made contact with officers at the Shire of Augusta Margaret River to commence scoping a session that brings key stakeholders together to discuss and learn from recent examples with a proposed date of 20 May 2019 in the pipeline. At confirmation from Local stakeholders, Our Watch can be invited.</p> <p>The Association is currently in conversation with Our Watch to find a suitable date for a WA Local Government Mental Health forum to be convened in the second half of 2019.</p>	June 2019	<p>Joanne Burges Executive Manager, People and Place <a href="mailto:jborges@walga.asn.au">jborges@walga.asn.au</a> 9213 2018</p>
Sth West C	2018 November 23 Zone Agenda Item 7.5 Decreased Funding for the Public Libraries – City of Busselton	<p>That:</p> <p>WALGA lobby the State Government for the provision of a more equitable funding allocation system for public libraries in Western Australia.</p>	<p>WALGA continues to meet with State Library WA, participates in an associated working group and is awaiting decisions from treasury regards 2019-20 funding. Pending such announcements a service and funding innovations discussion paper will be released to the gather sector responses to continue to advocate in this space.</p> <p>Consultation is due to commence on a suitable funding model for public libraries.</p> <p>A forum is being held at WALGA on 21 June from 1pm to consult the sector on the effective transfer of stock to Local</p>	June 2019	<p>Joanne Burges Executive Manager, People and Place <a href="mailto:jborges@walga.asn.au">jborges@walga.asn.au</a> 9213 2018</p>

			Government. After which a new consultation piece can begin regarding the tiered funding model.		
<b>Sth West C</b>	<b>2017 November 24</b> <b>Zone Agenda Item 9.2</b> Shire of Capel Submission Local Government Grant Scheme (ESL) Eligible Expenditure	That WALGA be requested to lobby the State Government for: 1. A comprehensive review of items of eligible expenditure under the Local Government Grant Scheme to enable the full costs of operating Volunteer Bush Fire Brigades to be met; and The establishment of the general principle of equality of eligible expenditure across all emergency services for operating costs associated with their activities.	<p>The State Government has advised that the recommendations from the Economic Regulation Authority review of the Emergency Services Levy is being considered as part of the Machinery of Government process currently reviewing the structure of DFES. This process includes a review of the ESL governance and operational arrangements.</p> <p>WALGA will continue to lobby for a review of the items of eligible expenditure under the Local Government Grant Scheme to enable the full costs of operating Volunteer Bush Fire Brigades to be met; and the general principle of equality of eligible expenditure across all emergency services for operating costs associated with their activities.</p> <p>WALGA are in discussions with DFES regarding a comprehensive review of the eligible and ineligible item lists contained within the Local Government Grant Scheme Manual.</p> <p>WALGA most recently met with DFES on 21 May 2018 to discuss the Local Government Grant Scheme. The Association was pleased to hear there is recognition of the need for a review, particularly since the State Governments announcement of a Rural Fire Division and subsequent mitigation funding announced in the recent state budget. This provides a timely opportunity to review the principles and associated procedures manual. WALGA welcomed this approach and it is the Associations aim to build on the contributions of members during the Review of the ESL conducted by the Economic Regulation Authority. Further meetings with DFES will be established in late July to progress the scope of a review.</p> <p>A meeting is scheduled for 17 August and outcomes will be communicated the week following along with updates provided at the zone meetings.</p> <p>WALGA are working with DFES to finalise a discussion paper and workshop to initiate a review Local Government Grants Scheme. The sector will be notified of the engagement and consultation strategy once finalised.</p>	<b>Ongoing</b>	<b>Joanne Burges</b> <b>Executive Manager,</b> <b>People and Place</b> <a href="mailto:jburges@walga.asn.au">jburges@walga.asn.au</a> <b>9213 2018</b>

<b>Sth West C</b>	<b>2018 November 23 Zone Agenda Item 7.1</b> Consistent Communication for Recycling	<p>THAT:</p> <p>The SW Zone of WALGA:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Acknowledge the Bunbury Harvey Regional Council's letter of 19 July 2018, on behalf of the Wellington Waste Working Group, to the Municipal Waste Advisory Council;</li> <li>2. Seeks advice from WALGA on its state-wide response to the "China National Sword" Crisis;</li> <li>3. Obtain advice on the status of member contracts potentially affected by the "China National Sword" Crisis; and</li> <li>4. Formulate a position for the SW Zone Group of Councils on its recycling education and communication strategies.</li> </ol>	WALGA has provided multiple updates to the sector on the China Sword implications, and awaits the further consideration of the other matters by the Zone.	<b>June 2019</b>	<b>Mark Batty</b> <b>Executive Manager</b> <b>Environment and Waste</b> <a href="mailto:Mbatty@walga.asn.au">Mbatty@walga.asn.au</a> <b>9213 2078</b>
<b>Sth West C</b>	<b>2018 24 August Zone Agenda Item 7.1</b> Restrictions on taking gravel from DBCA Reserves	<p>THAT:</p> <p>The South West Zone of WALGA:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Request WALGA to seek reconsideration of present DBCA (Parks and Wildlife Service) policy/position of refusing approval and/or prohibiting access by local governments to extract gravel on DBCA reserves and forest areas.</li> </ol> <p>Propose a policy to DBCA that protects forests from the spread of dieback while allowing access to gravel for road building by local government authorities</p>	<p>WALGA raised with the Director General of the DBCA at the next meeting. The <i>Conservation and Land Management Act (1984)</i> may allow the Director General to enter into agreements that may include such activities. Final agreement will need to be sought by the Conservation Commission.</p> <p>Access needs to be negotiated, in the first instance, with the DBCA Regional Manager.</p> <p>Ongoing.</p>	<b>Ongoing</b>	<b>Mark Batty</b> <b>Executive Manager</b> <b>Environment and Waste</b> <a href="mailto:Mbatty@walga.asn.au">Mbatty@walga.asn.au</a> <b>9213 2078</b>
<b>Sth West C</b>	<b>2019 May 3 Zone Agenda Item 9.4</b> Charitable Organisations – Rate Exemption	That the SWZ request that WALGA continue to lobby the State Government to consider the removal of rate exemptions for charitable organisations under the Local Government Act 1995 and that an alternative position may be implementing a rebate similar to the Pensioners and Seniors Rebate Scheme.	<p>The Zone position is consistent with the following long held sector position;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Amend the Local Government Act to clarify that Independent Living Units should only be exempt from rates where they qualify under the Commonwealth Aged Care Act 1997; and</li> <li>2. Either: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) amend the charitable organisations section of</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<b>June 2019</b>	<b>Tony Brown</b> <b>Executive Manager</b> <b>Governance and Organisational Services</b> <b>9213 2051</b> <a href="mailto:tbrown@walga.asn.au">tbrown@walga.asn.au</a>

			<p>the Local Government Act 1995 to eliminate exemptions for commercial (non-charitable) business activities of charitable organisations; or</p> <p>(b) establish a compensatory fund for Local Governments, similar to the pensioner discount provisions, if the State Government believes charitable organisations remain exempt from payment of Local Government rates.</p> <p>In addition the following position has been added following the recent consultation on phase 2 of the Local Government Act review:</p> <p>Request that a broad review be conducted into the justification and fairness of all rating exemption categories currently prescribed under Section 6.26 of the Local Government Act.</p> <p>WALGA will continue to advocate for this position through Phase 2 of the Act Review process.</p>		
<b>Sth West C</b>	<b>2019 May 3 Zone Agenda Item 9.5</b> Landgate Valuation Services	<p>That the SWZ:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Request that WALGA lobby the State Government for the provision of increased funding to address resourcing issues within Landgate Valuation Services to ensure timely processing of valuation services for Local Governments;</li> <li>2 Writes to the Valuer-General indicating its concern regarding the deterioration of services to Local Government over the past 12 to 24 months; and</li> <li>3 Invites a representative from Landgate's Valuation and Property Analytics Team to a future meeting of the SWZ to discuss some of the issues faced by the members.</li> <li>4 Request Landgate to review Timelines of Mining revaluations.</li> </ol>	<p>WALGA has recently written to the Government regarding the provision of increased resources for the processing of valuations.</p> <p>A response will be provided to the Zone when received.</p>	<b>June 2019</b>	<p><b>Tony Brown</b> <b>Executive Manager</b> <b>Governance and</b> <b>Organisational Services</b> <b>9213 2051</b> <a href="mailto:tbrown@walga.asn.au">tbrown@walga.asn.au</a></p>

## 11. Finance

### 11.1 Financial Reports

#### SOUTH WEST ZONE WA LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

##### FINANCIAL FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MAY 2019

DETAILS	2017/18 ACTUAL \$	2018/19 ANNUAL BUDGET \$	2018/19 ACTUAL TO DATE \$
<b>Opening Funds at 1 July</b>	<b><u>12,387</u></b>	<b><u>12,427</u></b>	<b><u>12,323</u></b>
<b><u>Revenue</u></b>			
Interest on Investment	84	100	0
Member Council Contributions	7,200	7,200	7,200
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>7,284</b>	<b>7,300</b>	<b>7,200</b>
<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>			
Secretarial Service	(7,000)	(7,000)	(5,600)
Miscellaneous Expenses	(348)	(100)	(160)
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>(7,348)</b>	<b>(7,100)</b>	<b>(5,760)</b>
<b>Surplus (Deficit) for Period</b>	<b>(64)</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>1,440</b>
<b>Closing Funds at 31 May 2019</b>	<b>12,323</b>	<b>12,627</b>	<b>13,763</b>

#### Closing Funds at 31 May 2019 Represented By:

##### Cash at Bank

Cheque Account \$3,233

Term Deposit 1.1% - Holding Investment \$11,930

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**\$15,163**

**Less Creditor – Secretarial Fee 3 May Meeting (\$1,400)**

**Net Assets Available at 31 May 2019 \$13,763**



## 11.2 Payments

Executive Officer for administrative services	\$1400
Guest presenter reimbursement of fuel	\$50

### MOTION:

#### THAT:

- The financial report be received and account be approved for payment.*

Moved	Mayor G Henley	Seconded	Cr B Piesse	Carried
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## 12. Schedule of meetings 2019

Month	Location
27 <sup>th</sup> September	Manjimup
22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Nannup

## 13. Closure

The Acting President thanked members and visitors for their attendance and the Shire of Harvey members and their staff for the hospitality extended to the Zone Delegates and closed the meeting at 12.15pm

## 14. Attachments

- Letter from the Commonwealth Department of Agriculture and Water Resources
- Access and Inclusion Alliance South West – Briefing Paper
- DEMC minutes – PDF circulated separately
- Article from Farm Weekly – Abandoning the ship on Biosecurity by Hon. Dr. Steve Thomas
- DLG&CI Update



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Agriculture**  
**and Water Resources**

Ref: MC19-003210

Mr Elliot Fisher  
Executive Officer  
WALGA - SWZ  
Via email: [erfisher@iprimus.com.au](mailto:erfisher@iprimus.com.au)

Dear Mr Fisher

Thank you for your email of 5 April 2019 to the Minister, the Hon. David Littleproud MP, about the resourcing of the South West Zone (SWZ) of Western Australia. As the government is currently in an election period, I am responding on behalf of the Minister.

I acknowledge the significant contributions Natural Resource Management organisations make to the conservation and management of Australia's diverse natural resources, including those organisations located in the SWZ of Western Australia. This work has supported communities, land managers and farmers to care for their land, water and biodiversity helping to improve community health and resilience, sustainable agriculture and farm profits.

The National Landcare Program is continuing to support Australian agriculture through the Regional Land Partnerships (RLP) and the Smart Farms programs to effectively and efficiently deliver sustainable agriculture outcomes.

RLP has been allocated \$450 million over five years until 2023. Additionally, the Smart Farms program has provided additional funds to support innovative technologies to increase sustainable agriculture practices. In the first round of Smart farms funding, WA received \$3,123,616 for Smart Farming Partnerships and \$1,402,520 in the Smart Farms Small Grants. A significant proportion of this was provided to communities located in the SWZ of WA.

I encourage all NRM organisations to continue taking advantage of the Smart Farms Initiative, noting that Smart Farming Partnerships Round 2 closes on 17 May 2019. These grants aim to encourage innovation and partnerships to help achieve significant sustainable agriculture outcomes. Round 3 of the Smart Farms Small Grants is expected to open in the first half of 2019-2020. Further information can be found on the department's website.

If you wish to raise your matter again please do so by contacting the incoming government.

Yours sincerely

Tim Fisher  
Assistant Secretary  
Farm Performance Branch  
7 May 2019

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## **Access & Inclusion Alliance South West**

**Aim:** To improve Access & Inclusion outcomes for councils through efficient sharing of knowledge, resources and economy of scale. Increasing the regions appeal to accessible tourism and as a place to live for all people.

**Initial Plan in Summary:** To foster conversations between Local Governments around Access & Inclusion to create a culture of collaboration and knowledge sharing in the region.

**Stakeholders:** A large scale project such as this will have a wide range of stake holders that will need to be engaged including but not limited to:

- People with Disability, Family, Friends and Carers
- City and Shire Councils
- Members of Access & Inclusion Committees
- Department of Communities (Disability Services)
- Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries
- Service Providers

**Region Boundaries:** South West region consisting of the following LGA's

- City of Bunbury
- City of Busselton
- Shire of Augusta-Margaret River
- Shire of Boyup Brook
- Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes
- Shire of Capel
- Shire of Collie
- Shire of Dardanup
- Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup
- Shire of Harvey
- Shire of Manjimup
- Shire of Nannup

### **Background:**

With an aging population, and the fact that there are approximately one in five Australians who experience impairment, the South West is facing major challenges to ensure that these members of the community, their families and friends continue visit, live in, move to and stay in this region.

This, against a background of reduced resourcing and lack of research in areas such 'The effect of Access on Community Retention Rates' and 'Accessible Tourism', along with the lack of consistent standards across the region, effectively places individuals with an impairment, along with councils in the region, at a distinct disadvantage.

This region has a significant economic reliance on tourism with a direct and indirect contribution of 14% in 2016-2017 and 14% of jobs in the region. Australian tourism research has found that there is a segment of Australians with a disability (including adults caring for a child with a disability) who are not currently travelling, but who would likely travel with certain industry improvements (in accommodation, transport, current technologies). In WA alone this

is estimated to be worth approximately \$225 million, which is on top of the \$916 million already expended by people who require accessible tourism and services.

With an increasingly competitive marketplace it makes sound economic sense to consolidate current practices, in order to develop and promote 'Accessible Tourism'. How can Local Government ensure that their resources are being used in cost effective ways and that all revenue opportunities are utilised. Additionally, how can they ensure they are compliant with legislative requirements whilst working with their community members?

How can LGA's provide seamless experiences for those planning to visit the region which are compliant with existing statutory and regulatory requirements?

The City of Bunbury's MARCIA program is an example of what can be achieved when a council collaborates with members of the community to improve its services. MARCIA is a whole-of-community aspiration to make Bunbury the Most Accessible Regional City in Australia, and was adopted by the City of Bunbury in 2014 at the recommendation of their Community Access Committee. The City has since partnered with Edith Cowan University to conduct research into the barriers and facilitators to access and inclusion in Bunbury, that could be used to inform the progress of the MARCIA aspiration. The latest MARCIA report (released 18 May 2018) summarises some of the amazing progress that has been made including commitments to infrastructure improvement, organisation wide training and commercial sector improvements.

### **Why is change needed?**

Whilst each council has a Community Development associated budget, these budgets are often siloed and not sufficient in size to make any meaningful progress. This is especially relevant in the smaller councils of the region and as a result important services are often overlooked such as:

- Engagement of reputable Access Consultants
- Practical and in-depth Staff Training
- Subscription to relevant Australian Standards
- Consistency in access ratings across councils
- Consistent Physical Development Standards
- Tender and partnership opportunities
- Sharing of knowledge and skills
- And many more

Regional collaboration will also allow it to become more competitive when applying for funding, especially in the grants arena where there are limited windows of opportunity.

### **Proposed Solution:**

The formation of a 'South West Access & Inclusion Alliance'. This Alliance would be a forum where LGA and organisation representatives can all get together and collaborate on common issues.

### **Proposed Specifics:**

Meeting Frequency: Bi Monthly

Meeting Length: 3 Hours

Location: Rotating between Bunbury, Busselton and Manjimup, allowing representatives from all areas of the south west to attend in person at least once and sharing out hosting costs. Host to also provide video meeting facilities for those who cannot attend in person.

Invitees: Representatives from each LGA in the South West region and a member of their DAIP committee who is not under shire employ.

Discussion Points: Each LGA and DAIP committee to give a summary report on the issues that have come up in their community, what progress has been made, upcoming projects, funding opportunities, events etc. Allowing time after each report for comments and or knowledge sharing from other councils.

Short Term Goals: To foster dialog between LGA's on Access and Inclusion to reduce the existing siloed culture. To share knowledge and stop reinventing the wheel. To form a network that can be called upon with common goals.

Mid-Term Goals: For all involved LGA's to agree, in principal, to the implementation of consistent region wide Access and Inclusion Standards that go above legislated minimums. If funding is required then it will be sought and applied for at this stage

Long Term Goals: The long-term goal of this alliance is for the LGA's to agree on, and be accountable to, one consistent standard for Access and Inclusion across the region. A possible side product of this standard may be the formation of a Regional Organisation of Councils agreement to help provide structure for funding applications.

### **What is in it for the councils?**

- Cost related Benefits
  - Increased revenue
  - Cost reductions
    - Reduced maintenance (Economy of Scale) – for example, maintenance contracts, repair costs, reduction in downtime.
    - Reduced staff costs – for example, more efficient staffing/consulting arrangements, less overtime, less costly skills, reduced turnover, improved productivity.
    - Environmental savings.
    - Reduced operational costs (non-staff) – rent, power, licence fees, communications, stationery, stock, etc.
  - Cost avoidance
    - Increased service/same staff.
    - New service/same staff.
    - Increased capacity/same cost.
- Service Related Benefits
  - Achievement of policy objectives
    - Better council services.
    - Safer work places.
    - Better environment.
    - Sustainable development.
  - Increased service type availability
    - New services available to the community that would not be available without a partnership.
  - Existing service enhancement
    - Faster service.
    - Wider range of services.
    - Services tailored to the specific needs of client groups.
    - Better geographic access to services.

- Greater equity of access.
  - Better infrastructure support to councils' staff.
- Improved productivity
  - More with same resources.
  - Increased client access.
  - Increased service capacity.
  - Increased assets/better utilisation.
  - Increased information accuracy.
  - Faster decision-making.
- Improved skills
  - Shared experience.
  - Shared skills.
  - Access to expertise not otherwise available.

### **Resources Required:**

Initial meeting to discuss the proposal and look at developing a model of operations.

Commitment of LGA's to proceeding with this project.

Independent facilitator for meetings to maximise productivity.

### **Conclusion:**

With an increased focus on the disability sector and the opportunities they represent Local Governments need to adapt in order to take advantage. The current siloed culture present in the region greatly restricts the efficiency of budgets and creating a collaborative approach will result in greater, widespread results.



## Farm Weekly

Thursday 20/6/2019

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# Abandoning the ship on biosecurity

By **STEVE THOMAS**  
Member for the  
South West Region



IN late 2006 the lower House of the Parliament of Western Australia was debating the Biosecurity and Agricultural Management Bill, which would become law a year later after passing the Upper House in mid 2007.

The Opposition's focus in the debate in the Lower House, led by the then Liberal agriculture spokesman Gary Snook and myself, as environment spokesman, was to ensure that government departments remained accountable for controlling pests on the lands they managed and that then and future governments could be held to account for overall biosecurity across WA.

This important piece of legislation was a focus for me, because I had long felt that the management of pests had lost its government imperative and was at real risk of being abandoned altogether.

There was once a government body set up to oversee and manage biosecurity in WA, called the Agriculture Protection Board (APB).

Set up under its own 1950 Act, the APB became the bastion of biosecurity in WA because it was empowered by the act to control, prohibit and regulate declared plants and animals.

It had its own board and own employees, who were tasked with doing just that and was supported by the WA Department of Agriculture.

While it was not a perfect solution to the risks of invasive species, it was at least a serious attempt to manage those risks.

Of course, the Department of Agriculture never liked having an independent body competing in the administration of agriculture and long nurtured a desire to remove it.

Using their influence over successive agriculture ministers, the Department of Agriculture succeeded in gutting the powers and capacity of the APB from the 1990s until 2010 when the APB Act was repealed and the unit lost for ever.

The Biosecurity and Agricultural Management Act 2007 was integral in the takeover of the then Department of Agriculture and Food of all the State's biosecurity functions and when we were in

opposition in the Lower House, we determined to make sure those functions were not ignored.

In the debate, it was the disparity between public and private land owners and managers which drew our ire.

Private land owners including farmers faced fines of \$20,000 to \$50,000 for failing to control pest species, while a government department that was found wanting faced only the chance that it would have that failure reported in the Department of Agriculture's annual report, a document almost nobody reads.

This inadequate measure prompted me to say this in 2006: "If the Department of Agriculture and Food is to take the lead in biosecurity, it should do so. It should be able to hold to account the greatest enemy of biosecurity in this State; that is, the government and its crown land."

Little did we know that even this tiny measure of accountability for government managed land – being referenced in a future annual report – would be scrapped by the Upper House in 2007, so that when it became law, there was zero government accountability left.

Instead the law now allows government to abandon the biosecurity ship, putting all the responsibility on community groups, called Recognised Biosecurity Groups (RBGs).

These well-meaning groups raise funds through a tax on landhold-

ers, with the State's now sole contribution of matching that funding.

This has allowed the State of WA to ignore the pests that impact local communities and focus solely on the glamorous part – exotic diseases that are not here yet.

So the net result of these changes is a poor outcome for biosecurity.

Where previously a dedicated State government authority funded mostly by the State, but partly through industry levies, acted to manage invasive species, today local community groups have had to take responsibility for them.

There is also an enormous paradox in charging all landowners and managers the new biosecurity tax.

Obviously it is a way for the government to get out of contributing adequately to biosecurity costs, especially in areas where more than half of the land is crown land.

Some South West shires for example are 70 per cent to 80pc crown land, yet private landholders are paying 50pc of the funds.

More importantly, most private

land managers including farmers undertake significant pest control on their own lands, managing weeds and feral animals.

Those private landholders now pay for their own biosecurity and also pay the new biosecurity tax so that a volunteer community group can attempt with very limited resources to manage the biosecurity on the land of those who don't bother, including lands managed by the government itself.

It is this paradox, the result of a decade's long lack of interest by government in real biosecurity, that has outraged farmers and private landowners in WA.

So much so that local governments have been refusing to provide land ownership details to the Department of Agriculture so the new tax can be levied.

Of course, in short time the State government will overcome this protest action, but it is a measure of the anger in the community that

Welcome to our WALGA Zone update. We are nearly halfway through the year and what a busy year it's been.

Reconciliation Week took place from 27 May to 3 June and I attended a number of events throughout the week. Well done to the 17 local governments that took part in sponsoring a record number of Reconciliation Week street banners this year. The banners feature the eye-catching work of Valmayi Nampitjinpa, an artist based at Tjarlirli Art Centre in the Ngaanyatjarra Lands of the Western Desert, about 350 kilometres north-east of Warburton.

The banners were displayed at Elizabeth Quay and the local government areas of Armadale, Bassendean, Broome, Bunbury, Cockburn, Gosnells, Greater Geraldton, Kalamunda, Kalgoorlie-Boulder, Mandurah, Perth, Rockingham, South Perth, Subiaco, Swan, Victoria Park and Vincent. The banners are a very visible sign of the Reconciliation Action Plans that many councils have developed to recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the traditional owners of the land.

I'm also pleased to announce that the Community Sport and Recreation Facilities Funding is now open. You can read more about the fund within.

I'd like to acknowledge WA Local Government Association State Councillor and City of Kwinana Mayor Carol Adams who was recently awarded an Order of Australia Medal – one of Australia's highest Honours – as part of the Queen's Birthday Honours List.

Carol was recognised for her 22 years of service to the sector and the community. Mayor Adams was first elected as a Town of Kwinana Councillor in 1997 before becoming the Council's first female Mayor in 2006.

Looking ahead, we have the 2019 local government elections in October. Each election year is an opportunity to help shape the future of local communities. I would encourage all local governments to strongly promote the upcoming elections in their communities. The department and WALGA will soon have a promotional campaign ready that you will be able to access and use for promotion in your community. You can read more about election resources within.

The Department is pleased to be sponsoring the 2019 WALGA Convention 7-9 August 2019 and the opportunity to meeting with Local Governments over the three days. Please drop by and meet department staff at the DLGSC exhibition booth.

Until next time.

Duncan Ord OAM

Director General

Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries





LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT REVIEW ►► DELIVERING FOR THE COMMUNITY

## **Local Government Legislation Amendment Bill 2019**

The Local Government Legislation Amendment Bill 2019 passed the Legislative Assembly on 10 April and is before the Legislative Council. The focus of the first tranche of reforms is on better equipping council members to undertake their complex and important role. It also provides for greater transparency and accountability to the community.

The Minister is keen to have the training reforms in place for the October 2019 ordinary elections. One of the reforms within the Bill is for all candidates to complete an online induction prior to nomination. The induction package is being finalised now and should be available in July. This is a free online module which covers both the rules governing elections and the role of the council member.

More information on the Bill is available on the Parliament House website [www.parliament.wa.gov.au](http://www.parliament.wa.gov.au) and in Minister's Circular 01-2019 and Department Circular 03-2019. The latter details the information that local governments will be required to make available on their websites. This will be of benefit to council members and community members alike.

The Department will continue to work with the sector on the development and implementation of the CEO Recruitment and Performance Review Best Practice Standards and the Code of Conduct for council members. The proposed CEO standards, Code of conduct and associated guidelines are expected to be released within the next month for comment.

Regulations to give effect to these changes, including on gifts and training, will be prepared and come into effect in stages over the next six months.

For more information please visit

<https://www.dlgsc.wa.gov.au/localgovernment/strengthening/Pages/LG-Act-Review.aspx>

or Email [actreview@dlgsc.wa.gov.au](mailto:actreview@dlgsc.wa.gov.au)

## **Governance Update – local government elections**

Local government elections will be held on Saturday 19 October and the [latest timetable is now available on the department's website](#). Further resources and updates will be provided via LG alerts shortly. In addition, the department, in partnership with WALGA are working on a joint campaign to encourage diversity on council. The campaign will include a social media video and local governments are strongly encouraged to share them amongst their communities when available.

## Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries Making a Difference

The Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries' Making a Difference Award will recognise collaborative efforts by Local Governments to ensure positive outcomes for WA's regional communities. This award recognises and celebrates the importance of Local Government working for the benefit of our regional communities and the valuable contribution that Local Government makes every day.



Department of  
Local Government, Sport  
and Cultural Industries

REGIONAL ACHIEVEMENT  
& COMMUNITY AWARDS



Department of  
Primary Industries and  
Regional Development

GWN7

Go West Grow Regional

TRIPLE M

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Enter now at [www.awardsaustralia.com/waraca](http://www.awardsaustralia.com/waraca)

### Making a Difference Award 2019

The Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries' Making a Difference Award will recognise collaborative efforts by Local Governments to ensure positive outcomes for WA's regional communities. This award recognises and celebrates the importance of Local Government working for the benefit of our regional communities and the valuable contribution that Local Government makes every day. For more information and to nominate visit [www.awardsaustralia.com/waraca](http://www.awardsaustralia.com/waraca).

### MyCouncil Update

In April 2019 the Department partnered with the Department of Water, Environment and Regulation (DWER) to publish local government waste management on the MyCouncil website.

The data, sourced from the annual Local Government Waste and Recycling Census commissioned by the Waste Authority, includes the quantities of waste collected, disposed of to landfill and recovered by local governments for each type of waste service offered.

Including the data on the MyCouncil website contributes to commitments under the Government's Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030, which includes reporting against waste avoidance and resource recovery targets for Western Australia. Local governments are welcome to provide feedback to inform future improvements to [waste.data@dwer.wa.gov.au](mailto:waste.data@dwer.wa.gov.au)

Improvements have also been made to enable viewing local government financial data from 2010-11 through to 2017-18. Users can also view additional information including the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal band and Socio-economic Index score for each local government at a glance.

Local governments that are part of the Small Business Friendly Local Governments initiative will also be recognised on MyCouncil. Visit <https://www.smallbusiness.wa.gov.au/about/projects-and-initiatives/small-business-friendly-local-governments>

## **Community Sporting and Recreation Facilities Fund Applications now open**



Sport in Western Australia is set to benefit from an increased funding allocation to make facilities accessible to women in the latest round of the Community Sporting and Recreation Facilities Fund (CSRFF) program

- Applications now open for McGowan Government's \$12 million grassroots sporting infrastructure program

- More funding set aside for

change rooms and facilities to support women's sport

- Small grants maximum project cost increased, cutting red tape and paperwork for applicants

The CSRFF provides \$12 million a year to community groups and local governments to develop infrastructure for sport and recreation. Applications for the latest round of funding are now open, with changes to the program for 2020-21 including:

- An increase in base funding set aside for women's facilities, to \$500,000; and
- A 50 per cent increase in the maximum project cost for small grants, from \$200,000 to \$300,000, reducing red tape and paperwork for applicants.

The CSRFF aims to increase participation in sport and recreation by helping build well-designed and well-utilised facilities for grassroots sporting organisations around the State.

For more [information on CSRFF application guidelines and to apply](#).

## **Regional Arts and Cultural Investment Program 2019-2023**

The new Regional Arts and Culture Investment Program will deliver almost \$20 million in funding to regional Western Australia over the next four years.

The program will increase the capacity for the regions to engage with arts and culture, improving the social cohesion, liveability and vibrancy of local communities.

The RACIP will be delivered by the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries, with funding from the Department of Primary Industries and Regional

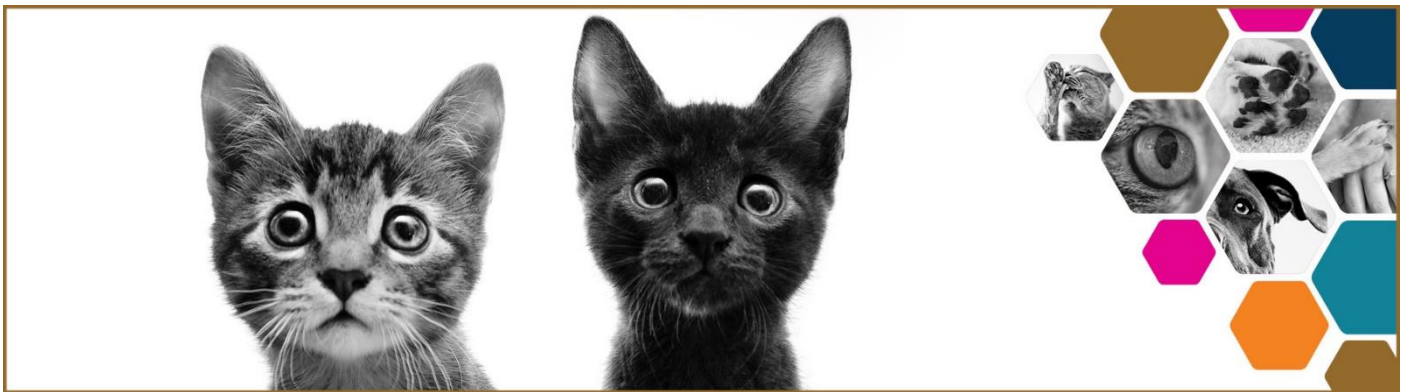
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[Read the Ministerial media release on the RACIP.](#)

### **WA Government News**

For the latest updates, visit the official Facebook for WA Government News.  
<https://www.facebook.com/wagovnews/>

### **Pause for paws – feedback on dog and cat laws in WA**



The Dog Amendment Act 2013 and Cat Act 2011 commenced five years ago. Both Acts are now being reviewed to see how effective the changes have been in the control and management of cats and dogs in Western Australia.

The department has released a consultation paper to gather feedback from the community, local governments and stakeholders about how the 2013 changes are working, whether they have been effective, and to identify any areas that could be improved.

For more information please visit

<https://www.dlgsc.wa.gov.au/localgovernment/strengthening/Pages/Feedback-on-cat-and-dog-laws.aspx> or email [catanddogreview@dlgsc.wa.gov.au](mailto:catanddogreview@dlgsc.wa.gov.au).