

# State Council Summary Minutes 4 September 2024

Ordinary meeting no. 4 of 2024 of the Western Australian Local Government Association State Council held at ONE70, LV1, 170 Railway Parade, West Leederville at 4:15pm.

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# 1 OPENING, ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

## 1.1 OPENING

The Chair declared the meeting open at 4:15pm.

## 1.2 ATTENDANCE

<b>Members</b>	WALGA President - <b>Chair</b> WALGA Deputy President Central Metropolitan Zone Avon-Midland Country Zone Central Country Zone Central Metropolitan Zone East Metropolitan Zone East Metropolitan Zone Gascoyne Country Zone  Goldfields Esperance Country Zone Great Southern Country Zone Kimberley Country Zone Murchison Country Zone North Metropolitan Zone North Metropolitan Zone North Metropolitan Zone Northern Country Zone Peel Country Zone Pilbara Country Zone South East Metropolitan Zone South East Metropolitan Zone South Metropolitan Zone South Metropolitan Zone South Metropolitan Zone South West Country Zone	President Cr Karen Chappel AM JP  Cr Paul Kelly President Chris Antonio President Cr Phillip Blight Cr Helen Sadler Cr John Daw (Deputy) President Paige McNeil President Matthew Niikkula (Deputy) President Cr Laurene Bonza Cr Scott Crosby President Chris Mitchell JP President Cr Les Price Cr Michael Dudek Cr Lewis Hutton Cr Bronwyn Smith President Cr Kirrilee Warr Mayor Rhys Williams President Audra Smith (Deputy) Mayor Patrick Hall Mayor Terresa Lynes Cr Tony Natale (Deputy) Cr Karen Wheatland Cr Barry Winmar President Cr Tony Dean
<b>Ex Officio</b>	The Rt. Hon. Lord Mayor – City of Perth	Lord Mayor Basil Zempilas
<b>Observer</b>	President Cr Ross Foulkes-Taylor Cr Haeden Miles	Murchison Country Zone (Deputy) East Metropolitan Zone Delegate
<b>Secretariat</b>	Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Member Services A/Executive Manager Infrastructure Executive Manager Policy Executive Manger Advocacy Manager Governance and Procurement Manager Association and Corporate Governance Manager Economics Principal Policy Advisor Economic Development Policy Manager Community	Mr Nick Sloan Mr Tony Brown Ms Terri-Anne Pettet Ms Nicole Matthews Ms Rachel Horton Mr James McGovern Ms Kathy Robertson  Mr Daniel Thompson Ms Lisa Harwood  Ms Hannah Godsave

Senior Policy Advisor, Waste  
Management  
Policy Manager, Planning and Building  
Executive Officer Governance

Ms Conor Macgill  
Mr Chris Hossen  
Ms Meghan Dwyer

### 1.3 APOLOGIES

<b>Members</b>	Central Country Zone	President Cr Leigh Ballard (Deputy)
	Gascoyne Country Zone	President Eddie Smith
	Great Eastern Country Zone	Cr Stephen Strange
	Great Eastern Country Zone	President Cr Tony Sachse (Deputy)
	Pilbara Country Zone	Cr Wendy McWhirter-Brooks
	South Metropolitan Zone	Mayor Logan Howlett JP
<b>Ex Officio</b>	Local Government Professionals WA President	Mr Anthony Vuleta

## 2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Cr Barry Winmar, Wadjuk Ballardong elder, delivered a Welcome to Country.

*President Cr Kirrilee Warr entered the meeting at 4:19pm.*

## 3 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nil

## 4 MINUTES

### 4.1 MINUTES OF THE STATE COUNCIL MEETING HELD 10 JULY 2024

#### WALGA RECOMMENDATION

**Moved:** President Chris Antonio  
**Seconded:** President Chris Mitchell JP

**That the Minutes of the WALGA State Council meeting held on [10 July 2024](#) be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.**

**RESOLUTION 064.4/2024**

**CARRIED**

### 4.1.1 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE STATE COUNCIL MEETING HELD 10 JULY 2024

Nil

## **5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Pursuant to our Code of Conduct, State Councillors must declare to the Chair any potential conflict of interest they have in a matter before State Council as soon as they become aware of it.

Nil

## **6 EX OFFICIO REPORTS**

### **6.1 CITY OF PERTH REPORT**

The Rt. Hon. Lord Mayor Basil Zempilas provided a report to the meeting.

### **6.2 LG PROFESSIONALS REPORT**

Mr Anthony Vuleta, President, LG Professionals WA, was an apology for the meeting.

## **7 EMERGING ISSUES**

Notification of emerging issues must be provided to the Chair no later than 24 hours prior to the meeting.

Nil

## 8 MATTERS FOR DECISION

### 8.1 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS ANALYSIS 2015-2023

*By Emma Heys, Governance Specialist*

#### COMPOSITE RECOMMENDATION

**Moved:** Cr Paul Kelly  
**Seconded:** Mayor Patrick Hall

**That WALGA advocate to the State Government:**

1. *For an independent Local Government election audit, focusing on the Western Australia Electoral Commission's (WAEC) service delivery and cost allocation methods and costing applications used, to confirm that marginal cost recovery principles are applied and that the costing program is being effectively managed.*
2. *For the requirement for the WAEC to develop and implement Service Level Agreements with Local Governments, similar to those agreements currently used in New South Wales and Victorian Local Government elections and that includes:*
  - a. *transparency of costing methodology,*
  - b. *direct engagement with Local Governments pre and post elections, and*
  - c. *the roles and responsibilities of the WAEC and Local Governments in the conduct of elections.*
3. *For a review of the legislative framework that would allow for more than one election services provider to conduct Local Government elections.*
4. *For a mandated WAEC Report to Parliament specific to Local Government elections post each election cycle, outlining costs, results, voter turnout and matters for improvement both in the conduct of elections and the legislation, if relevant.*

**RESOLUTION 065.4/2024**

**CARRIED**

## 8.2 ENERGY TRANSITION ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNITY BENEFIT FRAMEWORK ADVOCACY POSITION

*By Daniel Thompson, Manager Economics*

*The Rt. Hon Lord Mayor Basil Zempilas left the meeting at 4:35pm and did not return.*

### COMPOSITE RECOMMENDATION

**Moved:** President Cr Kirrilee Warr  
**Seconded:** President Chris Mitchell JP

**That State Council endorse a new Energy Transition Engagement and Community Benefit Framework Advocacy Position as follows:**

*It is essential that the energy transition currently underway delivers economic opportunities, ensures reliable and affordable electricity, and the greatest possible benefits for the community.*

*WALGA calls on the State Government to develop a comprehensive framework to manage the impact of the energy transition that includes local engagement and the realisation of local community benefits from energy transition projects as a priority.*

**RESOLUTION 066.4/2024**

**CARRIED**



## 8.3 RENEWABLE ENERGY FACILITIES ADVOCACY POSITION

By Kieran McGovern, Policy Officer Planning

### COMPOSITE RECOMMENDATION

Moved: President Chris Antonio  
Seconded: Mayor Teresa Lynes

That State Council endorse a new Renewable Energy Facilities Advocacy Position as follows:

*The growth in the number, size, and complexity of renewable energy facilities across Western Australia is expected to continue as energy generation and other traditional industries de-carbonise their facilities and operations. The renewable energy state planning framework requires changes to ensure it is fit for purpose to guide the ongoing development of this sector.*

**WALGA calls on the State Government to:**

1. **Adopt a new State Planning Policy for renewable energy facilities, to replace the existing Position Statement: Renewable energy facilities, that:**
  - a. *Facilitates the orderly development of renewable energy facilities across Western Australia;*
  - b. *Outlines the key planning and environmental considerations, for the location, siting, design and operation of renewable energy facilities and their associated infrastructure;*
  - c. *Provides a framework that clearly stipulates the minimum required documentation and technical reports that need to be submitted with proposals for renewable energy facilities;*
  - d. *Supports the development of Local Planning Policies by Local Governments to further guide locally appropriate planning consideration of renewable energy facilities;*
  - e. *Provides a clear relationship with:*
    - i. *State Planning Policy 2.5 - Rural planning and Development Control Policy 3.4 - Subdivision of rural land, to ensure planning decisions adequately balance the need to protect and preserve rural land for rural purposes;*
    - ii. *State Planning Policy 2.4 - Planning for Basic Raw Materials to ensure proposals for renewable energy facilities consider their impact on basic raw material supply at the earliest stage of the planning process; and*
    - iii. *State Planning Policy 2.9 - Planning for Water to ensure water resources impacted by renewable energy facilities are identified and adequately managed.*
  - f. **Includes policy measures to address:**
    - i. **possible negative impacts on or alienation of productive agricultural land;**
    - ii. **their proximity to lot boundaries with particular attention to potential negative, impact on town sites and sensitive land uses;**
    - iii. **potential negative impacts on airport operations;**

- iv. *their appropriateness in the 'General Industry' zone and impacts and suitable location on heavy industry sites;*
- v. *the need for local engagement and the realisation of community benefits from the development of renewable energy facilities.*

2. *Review the definition of 'renewable energy facility' considering the increasing size and scope of facilities and consider creating definitions based on the scale of the facility (Utility-scale and other), and the form of facility (solar energy and wind energy).*

3. *Provide guidance to Local Governments on the consideration of green hydrogen production facilities on rural land where it is an incidental use to a renewable energy facility.*

**RESOLUTION 067.4/2024**

**CARRIED**

## 8.4 PRIORITY AGRICULTURE ADVOCACY POSITION

*By Kieran McGovern, Policy Officer Planning*

### **WALGA RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved:** President Cr Tony Dean  
**Seconded:** President Cr Phillip Blight

**That State Council endorse a new Priority Agriculture Advocacy Position as follows:**

*The state planning framework should provide sufficient statutory protections for areas identified as high quality agricultural land.*

***WALGA calls on the State Government to:***

- 1. Amend the Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015 to:***
  - a. Create a new model zone under Schedule 1, Part 3, Clause 16 for land identified as high quality agricultural land known as the 'Priority Agriculture' zone, with the following objectives:***
    - i. to retain priority agricultural land for agricultural purposes; and***
    - ii. limit the introduction of sensitive land uses which may compromise existing, future and potential agricultural production.***
  - b. Define 'Priority Agriculture' zone under Schedule 2, Part 1, Clause 1 to align with the definition provided in State Planning Policy 2.5 - Rural planning.***
- 2. Review the areas which have been identified by the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development as high quality agricultural land and expand the extent of mapping to address the whole of Western Australia.***
- 3. Undertake a 'health check' of State Planning Policy 2.5 - Rural planning and Development Control Policy 3.4 - Subdivision of rural land, in consultation with relevant stakeholders.***

**RESOLUTION 068.4/2024**

**CARRIED**

## 8.5 PLANNING PRINCIPLES AND REFORM ADVOCACY POSITION

*By Coralie Claudio, Senior Policy Advisor Planning*

### COMPOSITE RECOMMENDATION

**Moved:** President Paige McNeil  
**Seconded:** Mayor Rhys Williams

**That State Council:**

1. Retire Advocacy Position 6.2 Planning Reform; and
2. Replace Advocacy Position 6.1 Planning Principles with the following:

#### ***6.1 Planning Principles and Reform***

1. ***The Local Government sector supports an efficient and effective planning system guided by legislation, policy, and processes that:***
  - a. ***facilitates the creation of sustainable and liveable communities and places;***
  - b. ***has a focus on strategic planning that delivers on long-term objectives and outcomes that balance social, environmental, cultural, and economic interests;***
  - c. ***is easy to understand, accessible and transparent;***
  - d. ***recognises the diversity of Western Australia and ensures that local environment, context, communities and character are appropriately reflected in planning frameworks and decision making;***
  - e. ***ensures decisions are made by the level of government closest to and most impacted by a planning proposal; and***
  - f. ***establishes consistent planning frameworks and streamlines planning processes where there is a demonstrated benefit in doing so.***
2. ***Reforms to the planning system should:***
  - a. ***be guided by the above principles;***
  - b. ***deliver community benefit;***
  - c. ***promote system efficiency, including through the use of technology;***
  - d. ***be evidence-based and informed by robust, transparent data;***
  - e. ***proceed at an appropriate pace to enable effective implementation;***
  - f. ***be informed by engagement with the community; and***
  - g. ***be amended only with WALGA involvement and consultation/involvement with Local Government.***

**RESOLUTION 069.4/2024**

**CARRIED**

## 8.6 PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP POLICY STATEMENT AND ADVOCACY POSITION

*By Rebecca Brown, Policy Manager, Environment and Waste*

### **WALGA RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved:** Cr Karen Wheatland  
**Seconded:** President Chris Mitchell JP

**That State Council:**

- 1. Rescind the existing Extended Producer Responsibility Policy Statement and Advocacy Position 7.5 Extended Producer Responsibility.**
- 2. Endorse a new Product Stewardship Advocacy Position as follows:**
  - 1. *Industry should take responsibility (physical and/or financial) for the waste that it generates through the entire life cycle of the products it produces through the implementation of effective product stewardship. Without effective Product Stewardship, there will be increasing costs for the community, resource recovery targets will be difficult to reach and a transition to a circular economy is unlikely.***
  - 2. *Effective Product Stewardship is characterised by:***
    - a. *Producers and importers taking responsibility for post consumption product impacts.***
    - b. *Schemes covering the entire cost of product recycling or recovery, including transport.***
    - c. *Leveraging existing Schemes and collection locations.***
    - d. *Being easy and convenient for the community to access.***
    - e. *Having equitable national coverage and access for all, including regional and remote locations.***
    - f. *Being evidence based.***
    - g. *Consistent regulation and implementation across Australia using national Product Stewardship legislation.***
    - h. *Timely action and industry cooperation during Scheme development and implementation.***
    - i. *Being demand based and aiming to recover the maximum amount of material, rather than being limited by targets.***
    - j. *No additional cost to consumers when the product is disposed of post consumption.***
  - 3. *Local Government calls on the Commonwealth Government to implement effective Product Stewardship schemes for all products that drive environmentally and socially sustainable outcomes through the design, manufacture and distribution of products that can be more easily reused, repaired, recovered or recycled.***

- 4. *If national action is not progressed within a reasonable timeframe, or in a way that meets the needs of the Western Australian community, then Local Government supports a State based approach to Product Stewardship.***

**RESOLUTION 070.4/2024**

**CARRIED**

## 8.7 SUBMISSION ON THE DRAFT STATE WASTE STRATEGY

*By Rebecca Brown, Policy Manager, Environment and Waste*

### **WALGA RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved: Cr Karen Wheatland**  
**Seconded: President Chris Mitchell JP**

**That State Council endorse the Draft State Waste Strategy Submission.**

**RESOLUTION 071.4/2024**

**CARRIED**

## MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION BY STATE COUNCILLORS (UNDER SEPARATE COVER)

### 8.8 SHIRE OF RAVENSTHORPE APPLICATION TO TRANSFER ZONES

*By Tony Brown, Executive Director Member Services*

#### **WALGA RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved:** President Cr Phillip Blight  
**Seconded:** Cr Scott Crosby

**That State Council approves the Shire of Ravensthorpe's application to transfer from the Goldfields Esperance Country Zone to the Great Southern Country Zone, in accordance with clause 14 of the Association Constitution.**

**RESOLUTION 072.4/2024**

**CARRIED**

### 8.9 FINANCE AND SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES – 21 AUGUST 2024

*By Tony Brown, Executive Director Member Services*

#### **WALGA RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved:** President Chris Antonio  
**Seconded:** Cr Paul Kelly

**That State Council endorse the Minutes of the Finance and Services Committee meeting held on 21 August 2024.**

**RESOLUTION 073.4/2024**

**CARRIED**

### 8.10 LOCAL GOVERNMENT HOUSE TRUST BOARD OF MANAGEMENT MINUTES – 21 AUGUST 2024

*By Tony Brown, Executive Director Member Services*

#### **WALGA RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved:** Mayor Patrick Hall  
**Seconded:** President Chris Mitchell JP

**That State Council note the Minutes of the Local Government House Trust Board of Management meeting held on 21 August 2024.**

**RESOLUTION 074.4/2024**

**CARRIED**



## 8.11 SELECTION COMMITTEE MINUTES - 20 AUGUST 2024

*By Chantelle O'Brien, Governance Support Officer*

### **WALGA RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved: President Cr Les Price**  
**Seconded: Cr Karen Wheatland**

**That State Council:**

- 1. note the resolution contained in the 20 August 2024 Selection Committee Minutes; and**
- 2. endorse the recommendation contained in the 20 August 2024 Selection Committee Minutes.**

**RESOLUTION 075.4/2024**

**CARRIED**

## 8.12 LGIS BOARD MINUTES –12 JULY 2024: CONFIDENTIAL

*By Kirsty Martin, Manager Commercial Management*

### **WALGA RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved: Cr Paul Kelly**  
**Seconded: President Cr Phillip Blight**

**That State Council note the minutes of the LGISWA Board meeting held on 12 July 2024.**

**RESOLUTION 076.4/2024**

**CARRIED**

## 9 POLICY TEAM AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

### 9.1 ENVIRONMENT POLICY TEAM REPORT

*Presented by Policy Team Chair, Cr Les Price*

*President Chris Antonio left the meeting at 4:56pm.*

*Cr Barry Winmar left the meeting at 4:57pm.*

*President Chris Antonio returned to the meeting at 4:58pm.*

*Mayor Rhys Williams left the meeting at 4:58pm.*

*Cr Barry Winmar returned to the meeting at 4:58pm.*

*Cr Michael Dudek left the meeting at 5:00pm and did not return.*

*Mayor Rhys Williams returned to the meeting at 5:00pm.*

#### **WALGA RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved: President Cr Les Price**

**Seconded: President Cr Phillip Blight**

**That State Council note the report from the Environment Policy Team to the 4 September 2024 meeting.**

**RESOLUTION 077.4/2024**

**CARRIED**

### 9.2 GOVERNANCE POLICY TEAM REPORT

*Presented by Policy Team Chair, Mayor Patrick Hall*

#### **WALGA RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved: Mayor Patrick Hall**

**Seconded: Cr Barry Winmar**

**That State Council note the report from the Governance Policy Team meeting for the 4 September 2024 meeting.**

**RESOLUTION 078.4/2024**

**CARRIED**

### 9.3 INFRASTRUCTURE POLICY TEAM REPORT

*Presented by Policy Team Member, Cr Karen Wheatland*

#### **WALGA RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved:** Cr Karen Wheatland  
**Seconded:** President Cr Les Price

#### **That State Council:**

- 1. Note the report from the Infrastructure Policy Team to the 4 September 2024 meeting.**
- 2. Determine to retire the following Advocacy Positions:**
  - a. 5.2.4 Seat Belt Legislation**
  - b. 5.8 Ports**
  - c. 5.12 Infrastructure WA**

**RESOLUTION 079.4/2024**

**CARRIED**

### 9.4 PEOPLE AND PLACE POLICY TEAM REPORT

*Presented by Policy Team Chair, President Cr Phillip Blight*

#### **WALGA RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved:** President Cr Phillip Blight  
**Seconded:** Cr Scott Crosby

#### **That State Council:**

- 1. Note the report from the People and Place Policy Team to the 4 September 2024 meeting.**
- 2. Determine to:**
  - a. retain the following Advocacy Positions with amendment:**
    - i. 3.2.1 Local Public Health Plans**
  - b. rescind the following Advocacy Position:**
    - i. 3.5 Crime Prevention**

**RESOLUTION 080.4/2024**

**CARRIED**

## 9.5 MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL (MWAC) REPORT

*Presented by Deputy Chair, Cr Karen Wheatland*

### **WALGA RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved: Cr Karen Wheatland**  
**Seconded: President Chris Antonio**

**That State Council note the report from the Municipal Waste Advisory Council to the 4 September 2024 meeting.**

**RESOLUTION 081.4/2024**

**CARRIED**

*Cr Barry Winmar left the meeting at 5:32pm and did not return.*

## 10 MATTERS FOR NOTING / INFORMATION

### 10.1 LOCAL GOVERNMENT LEGISLATIVE REFORM

*By Tony Brown, Executive Director Member Services*

#### **WALGA RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved: President Paige McNeil**  
**Seconded: President Chris Antonio**

**That State Council note the update on the Local Government Legislative Reform update.**

**RESOLUTION 082.4/2024**

**CARRIED**

### 10.2 REPORT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT ROAD ASSETS AND EXPENDITURE 2022/23

*By Mark Bondiotti, Policy Manager Transport and Roads*

#### **WALGA RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved: President Chris Antonio**  
**Seconded: President Chris Mitchell JP**

**That State Council note the Report on Local Government Road Assets and Expenditure 2022/23.**

**RESOLUTION 083.4/2024**

**CARRIED**

## 11 ORGANISATION REPORTS

### 11.1 KEY ACTIVITY REPORTS

#### 11.1.1 REPORT ON KEY ACTIVITIES, ADVOCACY PORTFOLIO

*By Rachel Horton, Executive Manager Advocacy*

##### **WALGA RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved:** Cr Karen Wheatland  
**Seconded:** President Cr Laurene Bonza

**That State Council note the Key Activity Report from the Advocacy Portfolio to the 4 September 2024 State Council meeting.**

**RESOLUTION 084.4/2024**

**CARRIED**

#### 11.1.2 REPORT ON KEY ACTIVITIES, INFRASTRUCTURE PORTFOLIO

*By Ian Duncan, Executive Manager Infrastructure*

##### **WALGA RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved:** Cr Karen Wheatland  
**Seconded:** President Cr Laurene Bonza

**That State Council note the Key Activity Report from the Infrastructure Portfolio for September 2024.**

**RESOLUTION 084.4/2024**

**CARRIED**

#### 11.1.3 REPORT ON KEY ACTIVITIES, MEMBER SERVICES PORTFOLIO

*By Tony Brown, Executive Director Member Services*

##### **WALGA RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved:** Cr Karen Wheatland  
**Seconded:** President Cr Laurene Bonza

**That State Council note the Key Activity Report from the Member Services Portfolio to the 4 September 2024 State Council meeting.**

**RESOLUTION 084.4/2024**

**CARRIED**

#### 11.1.4 REPORT ON KEY ACTIVITIES, POLICY PORTFOLIO

*By Nicole Matthews, Executive Manager, Policy*

##### **WALGA RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved:** Cr Karen Wheatland  
**Seconded:** President Cr Laurene Bonza

**That State Council note the Key Activity Report from the Policy Portfolio to the September 2024 State Council meeting.**

**RESOLUTION 084.4/2024**

**CARRIED**

#### 11.2 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

##### **WALGA RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved:** President Chris Mitchell JP  
**Seconded:** President Cr Phillip Blight

**That the President's Report for September 2024 be received.**

**RESOLUTION 085.4/2024**

**CARRIED**

#### 11.3 CEO'S REPORT

##### **WALGA RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved:** President Chris Mitchell JP  
**Seconded:** President Cr Phillip Blight

**That the CEO's Report for September 2024 be received.**

**RESOLUTION 085.4/2024**

**CARRIED**

## 12 ADDITIONAL ZONE RESOLUTIONS

### **WALGA RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved:** Cr Scott Crosby  
**Seconded:** President Chris Antonio

**That the additional Zone Resolutions from the August round of Zones meetings as follows be referred to the appropriate portfolio for consideration and appropriate action.**

**RESOLUTION 086.4/2024**

**CARRIED**

### **PILBARA COUNTRY ZONE (Member Services and Policy Portfolio)**

#### **Request for WALGA State Council Support and Endorsement of a Local Government Bank of Australia Banking Model**

That the Pilbara Country Zone:

1. Seeks WALGA State Council support in principle for the endorsement of the 'Local Government Bank of Australia' initiative which will provide an alternative model of banking across regional Australia as to provide support to the feasibility study which is to be presented to the Australian Local Government Association at the National General Assembly in 2025.
2. Supports the Shire of Ashburton in developing a detailed business paper for further consideration of the Pilbara Country Zone once available.

### **SOUTH EAST METROPOLITAN ZONE (Policy Portfolio)**

#### **Child Care Proposal to Distinguish Between Large and Small Child Care Providers**

That WALGA advocate to the State Government to amend the Consistent Local Planning Schemes – Final Report and Planning, and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015 to introduce 'Child Care Premises – Small' and 'Child Care Premises – Large' land uses to encourage larger Centres to operate in activity centres.

### **SOUTH METROPOLITAN ZONE (Policy Portfolio)**

#### **AUKUS Agreement**

That the South Metropolitan Zone requests that WALGA coordinate an overview report on aspects of the AUKUS agreement that will affect the South Metropolitan Zone.

### **SOUTH METROPOLITAN ZONE (Policy Portfolio)**

#### **Polyphagous Shot Hole Borer (PSHB) Advocacy**

1. Acknowledges and congratulates the WALGA team for their tireless advocacy to raise awareness and action on the PSHB epidemic. A clear outcome of this advocacy was the State Government announcement on the 25<sup>th</sup> of August for a \$7.2 million tree recovery package. Prior to that the Federal Government committed \$19.995 million.
2. Supports WALGA in continued advocacy to be a strong and committed voice to help contain and eradicate the borer and also retain our trees.



## **SOUTH WEST COUNTRY ZONE (Infrastructure Portfolio)**

### **TELCO Communication Coverage in Rural Areas**

That WALGA:

1. advocate through the State Government for an independent investigation into mobile phone coverage in rural Western Australia particularly the Lower South West land division and
2. advocate via both the State and Federal Government for a greater and more reliable mobile coverage network throughout the rural areas of Western Australia.

## **SOUTH WEST COUNTRY ZONE (Policy Portfolio)**

### **Review of Local Government Grant Scheme (LGGs)**

That WALGA:

1. Advocate through the State Government for an independent review and redesign of the LGGs, carried out in consultation with Local Governments, prior to releasing to the guidelines for the 2025/26 LGGs application process in December 2024.
2. Advocate for timely definition by DFES of minimum operating standards, equipment, training, and service requirements for BFB facilities, appliances and volunteers.
3. Advocate for DFES to undertake an audit of all existing BFB facilities within the 2024/25 Financial year, to inform the development of a comprehensive strategic Asset Management Plan to guide whole of life management of BFB facilities and future funding requests.
4. Advocate the State Government to increase available funding in the 2025/26 State budget, for LGGs to sufficiently fund whole of life management of BFB facilities, in a manner compliant with the minimum standards DFES has set for VFRS facilities and sufficient to ensure BFB facilities can be managed in the accordance with obligations of the *Work Health and Safety 2020* Legislation.

## **13 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next ordinary meeting of the WALGA State Council will be a Regional State Council Meeting, hosted by the South West Country Zone at the City of Busselton on Friday, 6 December 2024.

## **14 CLOSURE**

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 5:49pm.