

State Council Summary Minutes 6 December 2024

Ordinary meeting no. 5 of 2024 of the Western Australian Local Government Association State Council held at the Undalup Room, City of Busselton at 11:00am.

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1 OPENING, ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

1.1 OPENING

The Chair declared the meeting open at 11:04am.

1.2 ATTENDANCE

Members	WALGA President	President Cr Karen Chappel AM JP
	WALGA Deputy President	
	Central Metropolitan Zone	Cr Paul Kelly
	Avon-Midland Country Zone	President Chris Antonio
	Central Metropolitan Zone	Cr Helen Sadler
	East Metropolitan Zone	President Paige McNeil
	East Metropolitan Zone	Cr Haeden Miles
	Gascoyne Country Zone	President Eddie Smith
	Goldfields Esperance Country Zone	President Cr Laurene Bonza
	Great Eastern Country Zone	Cr Stephen Strange
	Kimberley Country Zone	President Chris Mitchell JP
	Murchison Country Zone	President Cr Les Price
	North Metropolitan Zone	Cr Michael Dudek
	North Metropolitan Zone	Cr John Raftis (Deputy)
	North Metropolitan Zone	Cr Bronwyn Smith
	Peel Country Zone	President Cr Mike Walmsley (Deputy)
	Pilbara Country Zone	Cr Wendy McWhirter-Brooks
	South East Metropolitan Zone	Mayor Patrick Hall
	South East Metropolitan Zone	Mayor Terresa Lynes
	South Metropolitan Zone	Cr Cliff Collinson (Deputy)
	South West Country Zone	President Cr Tony Dean
Secretariat	Chief Executive Officer	Mr Nick Sloan
	Executive Director Member Services	Mr Tony Brown
	Executive Manager Infrastructure	Mr Ian Duncan
	Executive Manger Advocacy	Ms Rachel Horton
	Chief Financial Officer	Mr Rick Murray
	Manager Governance and Procurement	Mr James McGovern
	Manager Association and Corporate Governance	Ms Kathy Robertson
	Policy Manager Emergency Management	Ms Rachel Armstrong
	Policy Manager Community	Ms Hannah Godsave
	Policy Manager Planning and Building	Mr Chris Hossen
	South West Country Zone Executive Officer	
	Executive Officer Governance	Ms Meghan Dwyer

1.3 APOLOGIES

Members	Central Country Zone Central Country Zone Great Southern Country Zone Great Southern Country Zone North Metropolitan Zone Northern Country Zone Northern Country Zone Peel Country Zone South Metropolitan Zone South Metropolitan Zone South Metropolitan Zone South Metropolitan Zone	President Cr Phillip Blight President Leigh Ballard (Deputy) Cr Scott Crosby Mayor Greg Stocks (Deputy) Cr Lewis Hutton President Cr Kirrilee Warr President Cr Liz Sudlow (Deputy) Mayor Rhys Williams Mayor Logan Howlett JP Cr Karen Wheatland Cr Barry Winmar Cr Tony Natale (Deputy) Cr Chontelle Stone (Deputy)
Ex Officio	The Rt. Hon. Lord Mayor – City of Perth Local Government Professionals WA President	Lord Mayor Basil Zempilas Mr Anthony Vuleta
Secretariat	Executive Manager Policy	Ms Nicole Matthews

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

WALGA acknowledges the continuing connection of Aboriginal people to Country, culture and community. We embrace the vast Aboriginal cultural diversity throughout Western Australia, including Undalup (Busselton), on the land of the Wadandi People, where we meet today and we acknowledge and pay respect to Elders past and present.

WALGA is committed to supporting the efforts of WA Local Governments to foster respectful partnerships and strengthen relationships with local Aboriginal communities.

3 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to Cr Haeden Miles, newly elected State Councillor for the East Metropolitan Zone.

4 MINUTES

4.1 MINUTES OF THE STATE COUNCIL MEETING HELD 4 SEPTEMBER 2024

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: President Chris Mitchell JP
Seconded: Mayor Patrick Hall

That the Minutes of the WALGA State Council meeting held on [4 September 2024](#) be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

RESOLUTION 087.5/2024

CARRIED

4.1.1 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE STATE COUNCIL MEETING HELD 4 SEPTEMBER 2024

Nil

4.2 FLYING MINUTE - SUBMISSION TO MAIN ROADS WA ON THE REVISED WESTERN AUSTRALIA TRAFFIC SIGNALS APPROVAL POLICY AND PROCESS

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: President Chris Antonio
Seconded: President Eddie Smith

That the [Flying Minute - Submission to Main Roads WA on the Revised Western Australia Traffic Signals Approval Policy and Process](#) be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

RESOLUTION 088.5/2024

CARRIED

4.2.1 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE FLYING MINUTE- SUBMISSION TO MAIN ROADS WA ON THE REVISED WESTERN AUSTRALIA TRAFFIC SIGNALS APPROVAL POLICY AND PROCESS

Nil

4.3 FLYING MINUTE - SUBMISSION ON DRAFT OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITIES FOR THE UPCOMING STATE PUBLIC HEALTH PLAN

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: President Chris Antonio
Seconded: President Eddie Smith

That the [Flying Minute - Submission on Draft Objectives and Priorities for the Upcoming State Public Health Plan](#) be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

RESOLUTION 088.5/2024

CARRIED

4.3.1 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE FLYING MINUTE- SUBMISSION ON DRAFT OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITIES FOR THE UPCOMING STATE PUBLIC HEALTH PLAN

Nil

4.4 FLYING MINUTE - SUBMISSION ON THE REGIONAL EDUCATION STRATEGY

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: President Chris Antonio
Seconded: President Eddie Smith

That the [Flying Minute - Submission on the Regional Education Strategy](#) be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

RESOLUTION 088.5/2024

CARRIED

4.4.1 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE FLYING MINUTE - SUBMISSION ON THE REGIONAL EDUCATION STRATEGY

Nil

4.5 FLYING MINUTE - SUBMISSION ON THE DERBAL YIRAGAN (SWAN) DJARLGARRO (CANNING) DRAFT RIVER PROTECTION STRATEGY

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: President Chris Antonio
Seconded: President Eddie Smith

That the [Flying Minute - Submission on the Derbal Yiragan \(Swan\) Djarlgarro \(Canning\) Draft River Protection Strategy](#) be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

RESOLUTION 088.5/2024

CARRIED

4.5.1 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE FLYING MINUTE- SUBMISSION ON THE DERBAL YIRAGAN (SWAN) DJARLGARRO (CANNING) DRAFT RIVER PROTECTION STRATEGY

Nil

4.6 FLYING MINUTE - SUBMISSION ON THE STATE HAZARD PLAN – HUMAN BIOSECURITY

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: President Chris Antonio
Seconded: President Eddie Smith

That the [Flying Minute - Submission on the State Hazard Plan - Human Biosecurity](#) be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

RESOLUTION 088.5/2024

CARRIED

4.6.1 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE FLYING MINUTE - SUBMISSION ON THE STATE HAZARD PLAN – HUMAN BIOSECURITY

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.

- President Chris Antonio, President Cr Laurene Bonza, Cr Wendy McWhirter-Brooks and Cr Stephen Strange declared an interest in Item 8.11 LGIS Board Appointments and item 8.15 Selection Committee Minutes – 13 November 2024
- Cr Helen Sadler declared an impartiality interest in Item 8.3 Aboriginal Communities Advocacy Positions.

6 EX OFFICIO REPORTS

6.1 CITY OF PERTH REPORT

The Rt. Hon. Lord Mayor Basil Zempilas was an apology for 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.

8 MATTERS FOR DECISION

8.1 2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING RESOLUTIONS

By Meghan Dwyer, Executive Officer Governance

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: President Cr Laurene Bonza

Seconded: Cr Helen Sadler

That:

1. the item 7.1 Amendments to *Cat Act 2011*- Allow Local Governments to Make Local Laws to Contain Cats to the Owner's Property be endorsed.
2. the following resolutions from the 2024 WALGA Annual General be referred to the Environment Policy Team for further work to be undertaken:
 - 7.2 Advocacy for Legislative Reforms to Counter Land-Banking
 - 7.4 Action on Asbestos for Western Australia
 - 7.6 Advocacy for Accessibility.
3. the following resolutions from the 2024 WALGA Annual General be referred to the Governance Policy Team for further work to be undertaken:
 - 7.2 Advocacy for Legislative Reforms to Counter Land-Banking
 - 7.3 Advocacy for Expansion of Differential Rating to Include Long Term Unoccupied Commercial Buildings (Property Activation Levy).
4. the following resolution from the 2024 WALGA Annual General Meeting be referred to the People and Place Policy Team for further work to be undertaken:
 - 7.5 Addressing the Impracticality of Local Governments Funding Department of Communities and GROH Houses.

RESOLUTION 089.5/2024

CARRIED

8.2 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS ADVOCACY POSITIONS

By Tony Brown, Executive Director Member Services & Jason Russell, Senior Governance Specialist

COMPOSITE RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Mayor Patrick Hall
Seconded: President Chris Antonio

That WALGA adopt the following Elections Advocacy Positions:

The Local Government sector supports:

1. Compulsory participation in metropolitan Local Government elections and voluntary participation in country Local Government elections.
2. *Councillors serve four-year terms with elections every two years and half of the Council positions spilled at each election.*
3. *First-Past-The-Post (FPTP) voting system for Local Government elections. If Optional Preferential Voting (OPV) remains as the primary method of voting, the sector supports the removal of the 'proportional' part of the voting method for general elections.*
4. *First-Past-The-Post (FPTP) voting system for internal Council elections.*
5. *Councils holding elections by means of in-person, postal and/or electronic voting.*
6. *Current legislative provisions of Mayor/President of Class 1 and Class 2 Local Governments being directly elected by the community and Class 3 and Class 4 Local Governments determining whether its Mayor or President is elected by the Council or by the community.*

The motion was divided, with item 1 to be voted on, followed by items 2-6 en bloc.

Item 1

The Local Government sector supports:

1. Compulsory participation in metropolitan Local Government elections and voluntary participation in country Local Government elections.

LOST

ALTERNATE MOTION

Moved: President Cr Les Price
Seconded: President Eddie Smith

That item 1 be deferred, and the Secretariat further investigate implications of compulsory and voluntary participation in Local Government elections and report back to State Council.

President Cr Karen Chappel AM JP left the meeting at 11:43am and did not return. Cr Paul Kelly assumed the position of Chair.

RESOLUTION 090.5/2024

CARRIED

Items 2-6

Moved: President Chris Antonio
Seconded: Cr Helen Sadler

That WALGA adopt the following Elections Advocacy Positions:

The Local Government sector supports:

- 2. Councillors serve four-year terms with elections every two years and half of the Council positions spilled at each election.***
- 3. First-Past-The-Post (FPTP) voting system for Local Government elections. If Optional Preferential Voting (OPV) remains as the primary method of voting, the sector supports the removal of the 'proportional' part of the voting method for general elections.***
- 4. First-Past-The-Post (FPTP) voting system for internal Council elections.***
- 5. Councils holding elections by means of in-person, postal and/or electronic voting.***
- 6. Current legislative provisions of Mayor/President of Class 1 and Class 2 Local Governments being directly elected by the community and Class 3 and Class 4 Local Governments determining whether its Mayor or President is elected by the Council or by the community.***

AMENDMENT

Moved: Cr Michael Dudek
Seconded: Cr John Raftis

Remove the words "and/or electronic" from item 5.

LOST

THE SUBSTANTIVE MOTION WAS PUT

RESOLUTION 091.5/2024

CARRIED

8.3 ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES ADVOCACY POSITIONS

By Rebecca Hicks, Policy Officer Community

Cr Helen Sadler declared an impartiality interest in this item.

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: President Chris Antonio

Seconded: Cr Haeden Miles

That State Council:

1. **Replace Advocacy Position 3.1.2 Reconciliation with the following:**

WALGA:

1. ***Acknowledges the continuing connection of Aboriginal people to Country, culture and community and embraces the vast Aboriginal cultural diversity throughout Western Australia.***
 2. ***Supports the efforts of Local Governments to progress reconciliation at the local level.***
2. **Remove Advocacy Position 3.1.3 Constitutional Recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People.**
 3. **Replace Advocacy Position 3.1.4 *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021* and South West Native Title Settlement with the following:**

3.1.4 Aboriginal Heritage Protection

1. ***WALGA supports the recognition, protection, conservation and preservation of Aboriginal cultural heritage and recognises the fundamental importance of Aboriginal cultural heritage to Aboriginal people and the State.***
2. ***The State Government must:***
 - a. ***Ensure that legislative requirements balance the need to protect Aboriginal heritage with the need for Local Government to undertake activities in a timely and affordable manner.***
 - b. ***Provide adequate resourcing to ensure all parties have the capacity, capability and resources to discharge their statutory obligations.***
 - c. ***Provide support and guidance to Local Governments to ensure that they have the resources, capacity and capability to effectively and efficiently deliver essential services to community while protecting Aboriginal heritage.***

RESOLUTION 092.5/2024

CARRIED

8.4 FAMILY AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ADVOCACY POSITION

By Rebecca Hicks, Policy Officer Community

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: President Chris Antonio
Seconded: President Chris Mitchell JP

That State Council replace Advocacy Position 3.10.1 Family and Domestic Violence with the following:

3.10.1 Family and Domestic Violence

- 1. Family and domestic violence is unacceptable and has devastating and long-term impacts on individuals, families and communities.***
- 2. Preventing family and domestic violence requires commitment from all levels of government, different sectors, and members of the community.***
- 3. WALGA calls on the State and Australian governments to provide adequate funding and support for family and domestic violence programs and services, in particular:***
 - a. Funding for collaborative and connected family and domestic violence programs and services that are place-based and people-centred; and***
 - b. Better integration of family and domestic violence initiatives, including capacity building across all tiers of government and community services.***

RESOLUTION 093.5/2024

CARRIED

8.5 CONTAINER DEPOSIT SYSTEM POLICY STATEMENT AND ADVOCACY POSITION

By Rebecca Brown, Policy Manager, Environment and Waste

COMPOSITE RECOMMENDATION

Moved: President Cr Les Price
Seconded: President Paige McNeil

That State Council replace the existing Container Deposit Systems Policy Statement and Advocacy Position 7.6 Container Deposit Systems with the following:

7.6 Container Deposit Systems

- 1. Local Government supports the WA Containers for Change Scheme and acknowledges its contribution to reducing litter, increasing material recovery and providing employment opportunities across the state.***
- 2. To maximise the benefits of the WA Scheme, Local Government calls on the State Government to:***
 - a. Maintain a resource recovery target of 85% for eligible containers and a focus on litter reduction.***
 - b. Expand the range of containers accepted in the Scheme, by:***
 - i. 2026: to include wine bottles, spirit bottles and larger sizes of currently eligible containers,***
 - ii. 2030: to include plain milk and milk alternative containers and composite container types, and***
 - iii. 2035: other container types.***
 - c. Ensure national alignment of the materials covered by the Scheme and consistent messaging.***
 - d. Maintain a State-based and managed Scheme.***
 - e. Review the deposit amount to appropriately incentivise community engagement.***
 - f. Increase the number of refund and donation points to ensure community access, including in public places and at events.***
 - g. Ensure refund points are financially sustainable.***
 - h. Leverage the refund point collection network to provide drop off points for other materials covered by effective product stewardship schemes.***

RESOLUTION 094.5/2024

CARRIED

8.6 BUS STOP INFRASTRUCTURE AGREEMENT

By Negar Nili, Policy Officer Transport and Roads

COMPOSITE RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Helen Sadler
Seconded: Cr Stephen Strange

That State Council:

1. Provides in principle support for the proposed Bus Stop Infrastructure Partnership Agreement between WALGA and the Public Transport Authority 2024/25 to 2028/29.
2. Request the WALGA Secretariat negotiate with the Public Transport Authority seeking:
 - a. Deletion of the word "typically" from Clauses 6.2, 8.1 (ii) and 8.6 (i)
 - b. Indexation of funding provided under the Bus Shelter Subsidy Program (BSSP) and Bus Shelter Maintenance Assistance Scheme (BSMAS) during or at the end of the Agreement
3. Authorise the WALGA President to sign the Bus Stop Infrastructure Partnership Agreement, on the completion of best endeavours to negotiate with the Public Transport Authority.
4. Refer the request for WALGA develop an advocacy position that Commonwealth Disability Standards have a provision for minimum standards of public transport shelter to the Infrastructure Policy Team.

RESOLUTION 095.5/2024

CARRIED

8.7 2025 SALARIES AND ALLOWANCES TRIBUNAL REMUNERATION INQUIRY FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND ELECTED MEMBERS

By Kathy Robertson, Manager Association and Corporate Governance

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: President Paige McNeil
Seconded: President Chris Antonio

That State Council endorse the submission to the 2025 Salaries and Allowances Tribunal Remuneration Inquiry for Local Government Chief Executive Officers and Elected Members.

RESOLUTION 096.5/2024

CARRIED

8.8 SUBMISSION ON THE DRAFT STATE HAZARD PLAN - FIRE

By Rachel Armstrong, Policy Manager Emergency Management

COMPOSITE RECOMMENDATION

Moved: President Cr Tony Dean
Seconded: President Chris Antonio

That State Council endorse the Submission on the State Hazard Plan – Fire with wording amendments to Recommendations 2 and 3 as follows:

- 2. Provide a single, streamlined process for Local Governments to recoup costs for bushfire incidents and adequate funding for all aspects of bushfire emergency management responsibilities the State has delegated to Local Governments across, prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery.***
- 3. Provide additional resources, support, and educational materials for Local Governments to engage their communities in bushfire risk reduction, preparedness, and resilience building through the Mitigation Activity Fund Grant Program and/or other mechanisms.***

RESOLUTION 097.5/2024

CARRIED

MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION BY STATE COUNCILLORS (UNDER SEPARATE COVER)

8.9 WALGA STRATEGIC PLAN 2025-2029

By Kathy Robertson, Manager Association and Corporate Governance

WALGA CEO, Nick Sloan provided a presentation to State Council on the proposed Strategic Plan.

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Helen Sadler
Seconded: President Chris Mitchell JP

That WALGA's Strategic Plan 2025-2029 be endorsed.

RESOLUTION 098.5/2024

CARRIED

8.10 SUBMISSION ON THE FINAL REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF COMMONWEALTH DISASTER FUNDING (COLVIN REVIEW)

By Rachel Armstrong, Policy Manager, Emergency Management

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: President Chris Antonio
Seconded: Cr Wendy McWhirter-Brooks

That State Council endorse the submission on the Final Report of the Independent Review of Commonwealth Disaster Funding (the Colvin Review).

RESOLUTION 099.5/2024

CARRIED

8.11 LGIS BOARD APPOINTMENTS – CONFIDENTIAL

State Councillors who nominated for a position on the LGIS Board declared an interest in this item and left the meeting at 12:28pm.

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: President Chris Mitchell JP
Seconded: President Paige McNeil

That:

- 1. President Christopher Antonio be appointed to the LGIS Board as Non-Metropolitan Elected Member;**
- 2. Mr John Pearson be reappointed to the LGIS Board as Metropolitan Officer; and**
- 3. Mr Peter Forbes term as Independent Director ~~and Chair~~ of the LGIS Board be extended for an additional 12 months.**

RESOLUTION 100.5/2024

CARRIED

State Councillors who nominated for a position on the LGIS Board returned to the meeting at 12:29pm.

8.12 APPOINTMENT TO STATE COUNCIL POLICY TEAM

By Meghan Dwyer, Executive Officer Governance

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: President Paige McNeil
Seconded: President Chris Antonio

That State Council appoint Cr Haeden Miles, the State Council representative from the East Metropolitan Zone, to the People and Place Policy Team.

RESOLUTION 101.5/2024

CARRIED

8.13 FINANCE AND SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES – 20 NOVEMBER 2024

By Tony Brown, Executive Director Member Services

WALGA's Chief Financial Officer, Rick Murray and Executive Director Member Services provided a presentation on the proposal to consolidate WALGA's subscription services with the general association subscription.

WALGA's Chief Financial Officer, Rick Murray also provided a presentation on the mid-year budget review.

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: President Chris Antonio
Seconded: Cr Haeden Miles

That State Council:

- 1. endorse the Minutes of the Finance and Services Committee meeting held on 20 November 2024; and**
- 2. endorse the revised Budget 2024-25.**

RESOLUTION 102.5/2024

CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY

8.14 LOCAL GOVERNMENT HOUSE TRUST BOARD OF MANAGEMENT MINUTES –20 NOVEMBER 2024

By Tony Brown, Executive Director Member Services

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: President Paige McNeil
Seconded: Cr Helen Sadler

That State Council note the Minutes of the Local Government House Trust Board of Management meeting held on 20 November 2024.

RESOLUTION 103.5/2024

CARRIED

8.15 SELECTION COMMITTEE MINUTES – 13 NOVEMBER 2024

By Chantelle O'Brien, Governance Support Officer

State Councillors who nominated for a position on the LGIS Board declared an interest in this item and left the meeting at 12:50pm.

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: President Cr Les Price
Seconded: Cr Haeden Miles

That State Council:

- 1. note the resolutions contained in the 13 November 2024 Selection Committee Minutes; and**
- 2. endorse the recommendations contained in the 13 November 2024 Selection Committee Minutes.**

RESOLUTION 104.5/2024

CARRIED

State Councillors who nominated for a position on the LGIS Board returned to the meeting at 12:51pm.

**8.16 LGIS BOARD MINUTES – 23 AUGUST AND 25 OCTOBER 2024 –
CONFIDENTIAL**

By Kirsty Martin, Manager Commercial Management

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: President Chris Antonio
Seconded: Cr Haeden Miles

That State Council note the Minutes of the LGIS Board meetings held on 23 August 2024 and 25 October 2024.

RESOLUTION 105.5/2024

CARRIED

9 POLICY TEAM AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

9.1 INFRASTRUCTURE POLICY TEAM REPORT

Presented by Policy Team Chair, Cr Stephen Strange

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Helen Sadler
Seconded: President Cr Les Price

That State Council note the report from the Infrastructure Policy Team meeting for the 6 December 2024 meeting.

RESOLUTION 106.5/2024

CARRIED

9.2 PEOPLE AND PLACE POLICY TEAM REPORT

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Helen Sadler
Seconded: President Cr Les Price

That State Council note the report from the Infrastructure Policy Team meeting for the 6 December 2024 meeting.

RESOLUTION 106.5/2024

CARRIED

9.3 GOVERNANCE POLICY TEAM REPORT

Presented by Policy Team Chair, Mayor Patrick Hall

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Helen Sadler
Seconded: President Cr Les Price

That State Council:

- 1. Note the report from the Governance Policy Team for the 6 December 2024 meeting.**
- 2. Determine to:**
 - a. retain the following Advocacy Positions with amendment:**
 - i. Advocacy Position 2.8.1 Industry Award Coverage**
 - ii. Advocacy Position 2.8.3 Registration of WALGA as an Employer Organisation**
 - b. retire Advocacy Position 2.8.2 Local Government Long Service Leave Regulations.**

RESOLUTION 106.5/2024

CARRIED

9.4 ENVIRONMENT POLICY TEAM REPORT

Presented by Policy Team Chair, Cr Les Price

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Helen Sadler
Seconded: President Cr Les Price

That State Council note the report from the Environment Policy Team to the 6 December 2024 meeting.

RESOLUTION 106.5/2024

CARRIED

9.5 MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL (MWAC) REPORT

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Helen Sadler
Seconded: President Cr Les Price

That State Council note the report from the Municipal Waste Advisory Council to the 6 December 2024 meeting.

RESOLUTION 106.5/2024

CARRIED

10 MATTERS FOR NOTING / INFORMATION

10.1 WALGA STRATEGIC PLANNING UPDATE

By Kathy Robertson, Manager Association and Corporate Governance

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Mayor Patrick Hall
Seconded: President Chris Antonio

That the update on the WALGA Strategic Plan 2025-2029 be noted.

RESOLUTION 107.5/2024

CARRIED

10.2 SUBMISSION ON REFORM OF PACKAGING REGULATION

By Rebecca Brown, Policy Manager, Environment and Waste

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Mayor Patrick Hall
Seconded: President Chris Antonio

That State Council note the submission to the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water on the Consultation Paper on Reform of Packaging Regulation.

RESOLUTION 107.5/2024

CARRIED

10.3 SUBMISSION ON THE DRAFT STATE SUPPORT PLAN – ANIMAL WELFARE IN EMERGENCIES

By Rachel Armstrong, Policy Manager, Emergency Management

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Mayor Patrick Hall
Seconded: President Chris Antonio

That State Council note WALGA's submission to the State Emergency Management Committee on the Draft State Support Plan – Animal Welfare in Emergencies.

RESOLUTION 107.5/2024

CARRIED

10.4 LOCAL GOVERNMENT PRIMARY HEALTHCARE SURVEY REPORT

By Hannah Godsave, Policy Manager Community

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Mayor Patrick Hall
Seconded: President Chris Antonio

That State Council note the Primary Healthcare Services Survey Report.

RESOLUTION 107.5/2024

CARRIED

10.5 RENEWABLE ENERGY SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS

By Lisa Harwood, Principal Policy Advisor (Economic Development)

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Mayor Patrick Hall
Seconded: President Chris Antonio

That State Council note the update on the Renewable Energy Survey.

RESOLUTION 107.5/2024

CARRIED

10.6 FLYING MINUTE: SUBMISSION TO MAIN ROADS WA ON THE REVISED WESTERN AUSTRALIA TRAFFIC SIGNALS APPROVAL POLICY AND PROCESS

By Max Bushell, Senior Policy Advisor, Road Safety and Infrastructure

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Mayor Patrick Hall
Seconded: President Chris Antonio

That State Council note the submission to Main Roads WA on the Revised Main Roads Western Australia Traffic Signals Approval Policy and Process as endorsed by State Council via Flying Minute.

RESOLUTION 107.5/2024

CARRIED

10.7 FLYING MINUTE: SUBMISSION ON THE DRAFT OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITIES FOR THE UPCOMING STATE PUBLIC HEALTH PLAN

By Hannah Godsave, Policy Manager Community

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Mayor Patrick Hall
Seconded: President Chris Antonio

That State Council note the submission to the Department of Health on the draft Objectives and Priorities for the upcoming State Public Health Plan as endorsed by State Council via Flying Minute.

RESOLUTION 107.5/2024

CARRIED

10.8 FLYING MINUTE: SUBMISSION ON THE DRAFT REGIONAL EDUCATION STRATEGY

By Hannah Godsave, Policy Manager Community

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Mayor Patrick Hall
Seconded: President Chris Antonio

That State Council note the submission to the Department of Health on the draft Regional Education Strategy as endorsed by State Council via Flying Minute.

RESOLUTION 107.5/2024

CARRIED

10.9 FLYING MINUTE: SUBMISSION ON DERBAL YIRAGAN (SWAN) DJARLGARRO (CANNING) DRAFT RIVER PROTECTION STRATEGY

By Rebecca Brown, Policy Manager, Environment and Waste.

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Mayor Patrick Hall
Seconded: President Chris Antonio

That State Council note the submission to Swan River Trust on the Derbal Yiragan (Swan) Djarlgarro (Canning) Draft River Protection Strategy as endorsed by State Council via Flying Minute.

RESOLUTION 107.5/2024

CARRIED

10.10 FLYING MINUTE: SUBMISSION ON THE STATE HAZARD PLAN - HUMAN BIOSECURITY

By Rachel Armstrong, Policy Manager, Emergency Management

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Mayor Patrick Hall
Seconded: President Chris Antonio

That State Council note WALGA's submission on the State Hazard Plan – Human Biosecurity provided to the State Emergency Management Committee as endorsed by State Council via Flying Minute.

RESOLUTION 107.5/2024

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 Stephen Strange
Seconded: President Chris Antonio

That State Council note the Key Activity Report from the Advocacy Portfolio to the December 2024 State Council meeting.

RESOLUTION 108.5/2024

CARRIED

11.1.2 REPORT ON KEY ACTIVITIES, INFRASTRUCTURE PORTFOLIO

By Ian Duncan, Executive Manager Infrastructure

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Stephen Strange
Seconded: President Chris Antonio

That State Council note the Key Activity Report from the Infrastructure Portfolio to the December 2024 State Council meeting.

RESOLUTION 108.5/2024

CARRIED

11.1.3 REPORT ON KEY ACTIVITIES, MEMBER SERVICES PORTFOLIO

By Tony Brown, Executive Director Member Services

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Stephen Strange
Seconded: President Chris Antonio

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

RESOLUTION 108.5/2024

CARRIED

11.1.4 REPORT ON KEY ACTIVITIES, POLICY PORTFOLIO

By Nicole Matthews, Executive Manager, Policy

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Stephen Strange
Seconded: President Chris Antonio

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

RESOLUTION 108.5/2024

CARRIED

11.2 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Stephen Strange
Seconded: President Chris Antonio

That the President's Report for December 2024 be received.

RESOLUTION 108.5/2024

CARRIED

11.3 CEO'S REPORT

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Stephen Strange
Seconded: President Chris Antonio

That the CEO's Report for December 2024 be received.

RESOLUTION 108.5/2024

CARRIED

12 ADDITIONAL ZONE RESOLUTIONS

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Haeden Miles
Seconded: President Paige McNeil

That the additional Zone Resolutions from the November 2024 round of Zones meetings as follows be referred to the appropriate portfolio for consideration and appropriate action.

RESOLUTION 109.5/2024

CARRIED

CENTRAL COUNTRY ZONE (Member Services Portfolio)

PetsWA Centralized Pet Registry Scheme Revenue

That the Central Country Zone request WALGA;

1. advocate to the Government of Western Australia that 100% of the revenue derived from pet registrations (both dogs and cats) continue to be returned directly to local governments to effectively administer the Dog Act 1976 and Cat Act 2011.
2. recommend that the new centralized PetsWA Pet Registry Scheme, administered by the State Government, should not retain any commission or portion of the registration fees for its operations, as the current fee structure does not adequately cover the costs associated with pet management at the local government level.

EAST METROPOLITAN ZONE (Member Services Portfolio)

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Governance

That the East Metropolitan Zone requests WALGA to:

1. Establish the fundamental principles and governance framework needed to ensure that Artificial Intelligence systems are developed and deployed ethically and responsibly across the Local Government sector; and
2. Develop risk and opportunity guidelines for Artificial Intelligence usage that prioritises fairness, accountability, transparency, and inclusivity.

GASCOYNE COUNTRY ZONE (Policy Portfolio)

Social Issues Ministerial Council Advocacy

The Gascoyne Country Zone request State Council to advocate with the State Government to establish a dedicated Social Issues Ministerial Council.

GOLDFIELDS ESPERANCE COUNTRY ZONE (Policy Portfolio)

Management of Whale Carcasses

Request WALGA to advocate for a government policy change to allow the towing of whale carcasses away before they wash ashore from populated areas to reduce significant impacts to community and costs involved to the landowners.

MURCHISON COUNTRY ZONE (Policy Portfolio)

Need for Accessible Medical Services in the Murchison Region

That the Murchison Country Zone request WALGA to make representation to the Minister for Health and lobby the State Government to implement the following:

1. Extended and On-Call Nursing Support: Establishing after-hours nursing support in the Murchison Region, either through rotating or on-call staff arrangements, to help address the gap in care over weekends and after hours, reducing the need for ambulance support in non-emergency cases.
2. Elderly and Aboriginal Care Services: Specialised services for elderly and aboriginal residents, such as regular home visits, monitoring for chronic conditions, medication management and to allow them to receive essential care without the need for travel or dependence on ambulance transport.
3. Relief for Volunteer St John Ambulance Services: Reducing reliance on St John Ambulance for routine care and transport services to alleviate some of the strain on the organisation's critically limited number of volunteers. Enhanced nursing and elderly support services would mean volunteers are only called upon for genuine emergencies, improving response times and resource availability.
4. Mobile Health Clinics: A mobile health service to provide essential care in various Murchison communities, addressing basic needs such as welfare care, wound redressing, and chronic disease management. This service would reduce travel and help bridge the gap when nursing posts are closed.
5. Telehealth and Remote Monitoring for Elderly Care: Equipping elderly residents with telehealth and monitoring devices to provide immediate support and enable healthcare professionals to remotely manage patients' needs, reducing the need for in-person care outside of emergency situations.

NORTH METROPOLITAN ZONE (Policy Portfolio)

State Planning Policy 3.6 - Infrastructure Contributions (Community Infrastructure Cap)

That WALGA advocate to the state government for indexation of the community infrastructure cap defined in State Planning Policy 3.6 (SPP3.6) – Infrastructure Contributions.

NORTH METROPOLITAN ZONE (Member Services Portfolio)

PetsWA Centralised Registration Database

That WALGA advocate to the State Government for the PetsWA Centralised Registration Database scope to be restricted to a centralised registration system (excluding complaints and infringements) that integrates with Local Government's existing corporate systems.

SOUTH METROPOLITAN ZONE (Policy Portfolio)

Service Stations/Sensitive Land Uses – Regulatory Framework

That the South Metropolitan Zone requests WALGA:

1. Supports the Review of *Environmental Protection Authority's (EPA) Guidance Statement No.3 - Guidance for the Assessment of Environmental Factors – Separation Distances between Industrial and Sensitive Land Uses No.3, June 2005 (GS3)* as it relates to Service Station proposals.
2. Advocates for the Review of GS3 to the Minister for Environment, Minister for Health and Minister for Planning, to ensure that the environmental, health and planning regulatory frameworks, as they relate to Service Station proposals and potential impacts on human health from benzene emissions are aligned.

SOUTH EAST METROPOLITAN ZONE (Member Services Portfolio)

Amendment to the *Local Government Act 1995* in relation to the Disqualification of Elected Members due to Criminal Convictions

That the South East Metropolitan Zone asks WALGA to advocate for an amendment to the *Local Government Act 1995* along the following lines:

That the *Local Government Act 1995* be amended to give the Minister for Local Government the power to:

1. Disqualify a person from membership of a Council if the person has been convicted of a criminal offence that, in the opinion of the Minister for Local Government, under the advice of the State Solicitor's Office, has the potential to damage the reputation of a local government or the local government sector more broadly;
2. Suspend an Elected Member who is charged with a criminal offence that has the potential to damage the reputation of a local government or the local government sector more broadly, until the charges are dealt with; and
3. Require a person to be paid fees and allowances until they are disqualified.

13 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next ordinary meeting of the WALGA State Council will be held in the Boardroom at WALGA, ONE70, 170 Railway Parade, West Leederville on Wednesday, 5 March 2025 commencing at 4:15pm.

The State Council meeting schedule for 2025 is as follows:

Date	Venue
Wednesday, 5 March	WALGA
Wednesday, 7 May	East Metropolitan Zone City of Swan
Wednesday, 2 July	WALGA
Thursday-Friday, 4-5 September	Goldfields Esperance Country Zone Shire of Dundas
Wednesday, 3 December	WALGA

14 CLOSURE

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 1:06pm.