

# State Council Summary Minutes 7 May 2025

Ordinary meeting no. 2 of 2025 of the Western Australian Local Government Association State Council held at The Vines Resort, Verdelho Drive, The Vines at 12:15pm.

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# 1 OPENING, ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

## 1.1 OPENING

The Chair declared the meeting open at 12:15pm.

## 1.2 ATTENDANCE

<b>Members</b>	WALGA Deputy President - <b>Chair</b>	Cr Paul Kelly
	Central Metropolitan Zone	
	Avon-Midland Country Zone	President Chris Antonio
	Central Country Zone	President Cr Phillip Blight
	Central Metropolitan Zone	Cr Helen Sadler
	East Metropolitan Zone	President Paige McNeil
	East Metropolitan Zone	Cr Haeden Miles
	Gascoyne Country Zone	President Matthew Niikkula (Deputy)
	Goldfields Esperance Country Zone	President Cr Laurene Bonza
	Great Eastern Country Zone	Cr Stephen Strange
	Great Southern Country Zone	Cr Scott Crosby
	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	Mayor Caroline Knight
	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 Metropolitan Zone	Cr Karen Wheatland
	South Metropolitan Zone	Cr Barry Winmar
	South West Country Zone	President Cr Tony Dean
<b>Ex Officio</b>	Deputy Lord Mayor – City of Perth	Cr Bruce Reynolds
	Local Government Professionals WA	Mr Anthony Vuleta
	President	
<b>Secretariat</b>	Chief Executive Officer	Mr Nick Sloan
	Executive Director Member Services	Mr Tony Brown
	Executive Manager Infrastructure	Mr Ian Duncan
	Executive Manager Policy	Ms Nicole Matthews
	Executive Manger Advocacy	Ms Rachel Horton
	Chief Financial Officer	Mr Rick Murray
	Manager Association and Corporate Governance	Ms Kathy Robertson
	Executive Officer Governance	Ms Meghan Dwyer

## 1.3 APOLOGIES

<b>Members</b>	WALGA President Gascoyne Country Zone North Metropolitan Zone Northern Country Zone  South Metropolitan Zone	President Cr Karen Chappel AM JP President Eddie Smith Cr Lewis Hutton President Cr Elizabeth Sudlow (Deputy) Mayor Logan Howlett JP
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## 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 Boorloo (Perth), on the land of the Whadjuk Noongar People, where WALGA is located 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

Nil

## 4 MINUTES

### 4.1 MINUTES OF THE STATE COUNCIL MEETING HELD 5 MARCH 2025

#### WALGA RECOMMENDATION

**Moved:** Cr Helen Sadler  
**Seconded:** President Chris Mitchell JP

**That the Minutes of the WALGA State Council meeting held on [5 March 2025](#) be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.**

**RESOLUTION 025.2/2025**

**CARRIED**

### 4.1.1 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE STATE COUNCIL MEETING HELD 5 MARCH 2025

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**

Deputy Lord Mayor, Cr Bruce Reynolds provided the City of Perth report to the meeting.

### **6.2 LG PROFESSIONALS REPORT**

Mr Anthony Vuleta, President, LG Professionals WA, provided a report to 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 REGULATIONS FOR CEO KPIS AND ONLINE REGISTERS – WALGA SUBMISSION

*By Tony Brown, Executive Director Member Services and Felicity Morris, Manager Governance and Procurement*

#### COMPOSITE RECOMMENDATION

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

**That WALGA endorse the recommendations contained in the attached *'Regulations for CEO KPIs and public registers submission'*, subject to strengthening recommendation 1c to highlight the additional software and resource implications to the sector due to the introduction of public registers.**

**RESOLUTION 026.2/2025**

**CARRIED**

## 8.2 DOG AND CAT MANAGEMENT ADVOCACY POSITION

By Felicity Morris, Manager Governance and Procurement and Marnie Herrington, Governance Specialist

### COMPOSITE RECOMMENDATION

Moved: President Cr Phillip Blight  
Seconded: Cr Karen Wheatland

That WALGA replace Advocacy Position 2.12 *Puppy Farming* with a revised *Dog and Cat Management* advocacy position, as follows:

*In regard to the Dog Amendment (Stop Puppy Farming) Act 2021 and the PetsWA Centralised Database, the WA Local Government sector advocates:*

- a) *that all Local Governments achieve full cost recovery in ensuring compliance with the Dog Act 1976 or Cat Act 2011 through a combination of appropriate fees and State Government funding that encourages compliance and serves the interests of all Western Australians regardless of where they live.*
- b) *that Fees and Charges set in Regulations are reviewed bi-annually and, at minimum, adjusted by the Local Government Cost Index.*
- c) *that the PetsWA centralised registration database is developed, operated and maintained by State Government, with no loss to Local Government registration fee revenue.*
- d) *that the function of PetsWA be restricted to the registration of dogs and cats, exclude ancillary functions such as animal related complaints and infringement notices, and integrate with existing Local Government corporate systems.*
- e) *for the continued legislative exemptions for livestock working dogs in recognition of their special breeding requirements.*
- f) *for a State Government-led education initiative whereby the community is encouraged to purchase puppies from approved breeders.*

RESOLUTION 027.2/2025

CARRIED

## 8.3 NATIVE VEGETATION CLEARING REGULATIONS ADVOCACY POSITION

By Nicole Matthews, Executive Manager Policy and Ian Duncan, Executive Manager Infrastructure

### COMPOSITE RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Stephen Strange  
Seconded: President Cr Les Price

That WALGA replace the following Advocacy Positions:

- 5.2.1 Environmental Protection Act
- 5.2.2 Land Clearing in Road Reserves

with an updated Native Vegetation Clearing Regulations Advocacy Position as follows:

*WALGA calls on the Western Australian Government, in consultation with Local Government, to undertake legislative and policy reform to improve the effectiveness, efficiency and transparency of the regulatory system for clearing native vegetation in Western Australia, including:*

1. *Amending the Environmental Protection Act 1986 and associated regulations to remove unnecessary process, complexity and improve timeframes, including:*
  - a. *introducing statutory timeframes for the determination of referrals, permit applications and appeals*
  - b. *increasing the default duration of Area and Purpose Permits to 10 years*
  - c. *providing a permanent exemption for clearing of previously legally cleared transport corridors*
  - d. *strengthening environmental data sharing requirements to ensure proponents cannot opt-out of sharing data collected for environmental assessment and monitoring purposes.*
2. *Ensuring the regulatory system is adequately resourced to:*
  - a. *implement an expedited process for clearing permits for projects that prevent death and serious injury (road safety), and state and federally funded or co-funded projects*
  - b. *establish a dedicated Local Government Unit within the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation to:*
    - i. *case manage Local Government referrals and clearing permit applications*
    - ii. *provide guidance and training for Local Governments, particularly in relation to roadside vegetation management*
    - iii. *support partnerships with Local Governments in strategic environmental offsets*
  - c. *enable timely investigation and enforcement action for illegal clearing*
  - d. *increase investment in the collection and provision of statewide biodiversity data, including:*
    - i. *funding and coordinating a state-wide biodiversity survey program to standardise habitat and vegetation mapping*
    - ii. *making biodiversity data more discoverable, accessible and useable*

*iii. ensuring survey data relied upon for decision making is contemporary and accurate, particularly if there has been a change in environmental condition.*

**3. *Undertaking bioregional planning for native vegetation management, with a focus on highly cleared areas and implementing strategic solutions for environmental offsets that can be utilised by Local Government.***

**4. *Ensuring that environmental offsets are relevant and proportionate, including:***

***a. proximity to the area impacted***

***b. the environmental value being impacted.***

**5. *Working with the Australian Government to reduce duplication between the Environmental Protection Act 1986 and the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.***

**AMENDMENT**

**Moved: President Cr Phillip Blight**

**Seconded: President Chris Mitchell JP**

**Insert the following words at the end of part 1 c *“including allowing Local Governments to clear for safety reasons”.***

**RESOLUTION 028.2/2025**

**CARRIED**

**Cr Karen Wheatland called for a division.**

<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>
President Chris Antonio	Cr Cliff Collinson
President Cr Phillip Blight	President Cr Tony Dean
President Cr Laurene Bonza	Mayor Teresa Lynes
Cr Scott Crosby	Cr Wendy McWhirter-Brooks
Cr Michael Dudek	Cr Haeden Miles
Mayor Patrick Hall	Cr Karen Wheatland
Cr Paul Kelly	President Cr Les Price
Mayor Caroline Knight	Cr Helen Sadler
President Chris Mitchell JP	
President Paige McNeil	
President Matthew Niikkula	
Cr John Raftis	
Cr Bronwyn Smith	
Cr Stephen Strange	
Cr Barry Winmar	

**THE SUBSTANTIVE MOTION AS AMENDED WAS PUT**

That WALGA replace the following Advocacy Positions:

5.2.1 Environmental Protection Act

5.2.2 Land Clearing in Road Reserves

with an updated Native Vegetation Clearing Regulations Advocacy Position as follows:

*WALGA calls on the Western Australian Government, in consultation with Local Government, to undertake legislative and policy reform to improve the effectiveness, efficiency and transparency of the regulatory system for clearing native vegetation in Western Australia, including:*

- 1. Amending the Environmental Protection Act 1986 and associated regulations to remove unnecessary process, complexity and improve timeframes, including:**
  - a. introducing statutory timeframes for the determination of referrals, permit applications and appeals**
  - b. increasing the default duration of Area and Purpose Permits to 10 years**
  - c. providing a permanent exemption for clearing of previously legally cleared transport corridors, including allowing Local Governments to clear for safety reasons.**
  - d. strengthening environmental data sharing requirements to ensure proponents cannot opt-out of sharing data collected for environmental assessment and monitoring purposes.**
  
- 2. Ensuring the regulatory system is adequately resourced to:**
  - a. implement an expedited process for clearing permits for projects that prevent death and serious injury (road safety), and state and federally funded or co-funded projects**
  - b. establish a dedicated Local Government Unit within the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation to:**
    - i. case manage Local Government referrals and clearing permit applications**
    - ii. provide guidance and training for Local Governments, particularly in relation to roadside vegetation management**
    - iii. support partnerships with Local Governments in strategic environmental offsets**
  - c. enable timely investigation and enforcement action for illegal clearing**
  - d. increase investment in the collection and provision of statewide biodiversity data, including:**
    - i. funding and coordinating a state-wide biodiversity survey program to standardise habitat and vegetation mapping**
    - ii. making biodiversity data more discoverable, accessible and useable**
    - iii. ensuring survey data relied upon for decision making is contemporary and accurate, particularly if there has been a change in environmental condition.**
  
- 3. Undertaking bioregional planning for native vegetation management, with a focus on highly cleared areas and implementing strategic solutions for environmental offsets that can be utilised by Local Government.**

**4. Ensuring that environmental offsets are relevant and proportionate, including:**

**a. proximity to the area impacted**

**b. the environmental value being impacted.**

**5. *Working with the Australian Government to reduce duplication between the Environmental Protection Act 1986 and the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.***

**RESOLUTION 029.2/2025**

**CARRIED**

## 8.4 SUBMISSION ON THE STATE RECOVERY ARRANGEMENTS

*By Rachel Armstrong, Policy Manager Emergency Management*

### COMPOSITE RECOMMENDATION

**Moved:** President Cr Tony Dean  
**Seconded:** President Paige McNeil

**That State Council endorse the submission to the Department of Fire and Emergency Services on proposed revisions to the State Recovery Arrangements, subject to incorporating Advocacy Position 8.9 - Expansion of the Community Emergency Services Manager Program.**

**RESOLUTION 030.2/2025**

**CARRIED**

## 8.5 HEALTH (PUBLIC BUILDINGS) REGULATIONS CONSULTATION

*By Coralie Claudio, Senior Policy Advisor, Planning*

### WALGA RECOMMENDATION

**Moved:** Cr Helen Sadler  
**Seconded:** Cr Wendy McWhirter-Brooks

**That WALGA endorse the submission on Health (Public Buildings) Regulations Consultation to the Department of Health.**

**RESOLUTION 031.2/2025**

**CARRIED**

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

**8.6 SUBMISSION FOR 2025 STATE WAGE CASE**

*By Tony Brown, Executive Director Member Services*

**WALGA RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved: President Chris Mitchell JP**  
**Seconded: President Cr Laurene Bonza**

**That State Council endorse the WALGA 2025 State Wage Case submission to the Western Australian Industrial Relations Commission.**

**RESOLUTION 032.3/2025**

**CARRIED**

**8.7 FINANCE AND SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES – 23 APRIL 2025 - CONFIDENTIAL**

*By Tony Brown, Executive Director Member Services*

**WALGA RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved: Cr Helen Sadler**  
**Seconded: President Chris Antonio**

**That State Council endorse the Minutes of the Finance and Services Committee meeting held on 23 April 2025.**

**RESOLUTION 033.2/2025**

**CARRIED**

**8.8 SELECTION COMMITTEE VACANCY OUTCOME – APRIL 2025 – CONFIDENTIAL**

*By Chantelle O'Brien, Governance Support Officer*

**NOTED**

## 8.9 LGISWA BOARD MINUTES - CONFIDENTIAL

*By Sam McLeod, Manager Commercial Services*

**NOTED**

## 9 POLICY TEAM AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

### 9.1 INFRASTRUCTURE POLICY TEAM REPORT

*Presented by Policy Team Chair, Cr Stephen Strange*

**NOTED**

### 9.2 PEOPLE AND PLACE POLICY TEAM REPORT

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

**NOTED**

### 9.3 GOVERNANCE POLICY TEAM REPORT

*Presented by Policy Team Chair, Mayor Patrick Hall*

**NOTED**

### 9.4 ENVIRONMENT POLICY TEAM REPORT

*Presented by Policy Team Chair, Cr Les Price*

**NOTED**

### 9.5 MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL (MWAC) REPORT

*Presented by Chair, Cr Karen Wheatland*

**NOTED**

## 10 MATTERS FOR NOTING / INFORMATION

### 10.1 2025 STATE ELECTION OUTCOME

*By Dana Mason, External Affairs Manager*

**NOTED**

### 10.2 DRAFT STATE PUBLIC HEALTH PLAN SUBMISSION

*By Hannah Godsave, Policy Manager Communities*

**NOTED**

### 10.3 RECYCLING AND WASTE REDUCTION ACT 2020 (RAWR ACT) REVIEW RESPONSE

*By Conor Macgill, Senior Policy Advisor Waste Management*

**NOTED**

### 10.4 PLANNING AND BUILDING PERFORMANCE MONITORING PROJECT

*By Chris Hossen, Policy Manager, Planning and Building*

**NOTED**

### 10.5 LARGE SCALE RENEWABLE ENERGY UPDATE

*By Lisa Harwood, Principal Policy Advisor Economic Development*

**NOTED**

*Cr Bruce Reynolds left the meeting at 1:30pm and did not return.*

### 10.6 POLYPHAGOUS SHOT-HOLE BORER RESPONSE

*By Nicole Matthews, Executive Manager Policy*

**NOTED**

## **11 ORGANISATION REPORTS**

### **11.1 KEY ACTIVITY REPORTS**

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

*By Rachel Horton, Executive Manager Advocacy*

**NOTED**

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

*By Ian Duncan, Executive Manager Infrastructure*

**NOTED**

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

*By Tony Brown, Executive Director Member Services*

**NOTED**

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

*By Nicole Matthews, Executive Manager, Policy*

**NOTED**

### **11.2 PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**NOTED**

### **11.3 CEO'S REPORT**

**NOTED**

## 12 ADDITIONAL ZONE RESOLUTIONS

### **WALGA RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved:** President Cr Phillip Blight

**Seconded:** President Chris Antonio

**That the additional Zone resolutions from the April 2025 round of Zone meetings as follows be referred to the appropriate Portfolio for consideration and appropriate action.**

**RESOLUTION 034.2/2025**

**CARRIED**

### **AVON MIDLAND COUNTRY ZONE (Infrastructure Portfolio)**

#### **Draft Sewer Infill Program Demand Assessment and Advocacy Position**

That the Avon-Midland Country Zone supports and endorses the Peel Country Zone's request for WALGA to undertake an assessment of the extent of the sewer infill gaps in Western Australian towns and cities and develop an advocacy position supporting a new State Government sewer infill program to assist with subdivision, housing, health and environmental values.

### **CENTRAL COUNTRY ZONE (Policy Portfolio)**

#### **Advocacy for Statewide Community Enhancements Fund (CEF) Framework & Renewable Energy Guidelines**

That the Central Country Zone of WALGA:

1. Supports the Shire of Narrogin's Community Enhancements Fund (CEF) Policy as a best-practice model for equitable benefit-sharing from large-scale renewable energy projects;
2. Requests WALGA State Council to advocate to the State Government for the development of a Statewide Community Enhancements Fund Framework, consistent with the key principles of the Shire of Narrogin's CEF Policy, including:
  - A minimum indexed contribution from renewable energy proponents based on installed capacity;
  - Local Government management of restricted cash reserves for community benefit;
  - A dedicated component for Indigenous Nations Funds (recommended 10%);
  - Alignment with Local Government strategic planning;
  - Transparent governance, community engagement, and annual reporting.
3. Further requests WALGA to advocate for the adoption of a broader Renewable Industry Framework for WA as outlined in the Shire of Narrogin's Advocacy Position, including:
  - Consistent planning standards for renewable energy development (e.g., setbacks, zoning);
  - A State-mandated community engagement framework;
  - Legacy workforce housing solutions in lieu of short-term TWAs;
  - A uniform Payment in Lieu of Rates (PILoR) model for wind, solar and BESS facilities;
  - Empowerment of Local Governments to manage benefit-sharing and rating mechanisms.

## **CENTRAL METROPOLITAN ZONE (Member Services Portfolio)**

### **Rising Costs for Local Government in Meeting Compliance Obligations**

That the Central Metropolitan Zone request that WALGA:

1. adopt an advocacy position to request the State Government to liaise with the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) to look at ways to reduce costs for the carriage of annual financial audits;
2. advocate on behalf of the sector by writing to the OAG requesting that consideration be given when setting their audit plans to cap the number of performance audits individual Local Governments may be selected to participate in to one every two years; and
3. advocate on behalf of the sector by writing to DLGSC requesting that consideration be given to reducing 'red tape' in Local Government by ensuring the review of existing obligations ahead of introducing new obligations, in order to eliminate duplication in effort and controls.

## **GASCOYNE COUNTRY ZONE (Policy Portfolio)**

### **Indigenous Land Use Agreements for Towns/Cities**

That WALGA State Council request the State Government on behalf of all town's where there are Unallocated Crown Lands within townsites that are subject to Native Title negotiate an ILUA, at the State's cost, for the extinguishment of Native Title.

## **GASCOYNE COUNTRY ZONE (Policy Portfolio)**

### **Vote of No Confidence in Government Handling of Children at Risk**

That the Gascoyne Country Zone:

1. Approves a Vote of No Confidence in the State and Federal Governments for their systemic failure to address the worsening crisis affecting vulnerable children and youth, leading to increased crime, social breakdown, and harm to our communities.
2. Condemns the Government's ongoing neglect and failure to act on well-documented inquiries, expert recommendations, and community-led solutions that could have prevented the crisis from reaching its current state.
3. Demands urgent and immediate intervention, including:
  - A full-scale overhaul of the current youth intervention strategies in WA, including the failed Target 120 program, and an urgent redirection of funding to community-led initiatives that actually work.
  - The immediate restoration and expansion of essential youth services that have been cut from regional WA, including mental health, diversion programs, crisis housing, and family support services.
  - An increase in frontline service resources in regional areas, including Carnarvon, to address the youth crisis with a combination of enforcement and prevention, rather than reactive policing alone.
  - The establishment of a dedicated Regional Youth Crisis Response Taskforce, in consultation with Local Governments, Aboriginal community organisations, and law enforcement, to implement a real and measurable strategy to tackle this crisis.
  - The State and Federal Governments to formally report on the progress of previous inquiries, royal commissions, and policy commitments, ensuring transparency and accountability on their failures to act.
4. Urges the State and Federal Governments to recognise that their current approach is failing, and that without decisive action, they will continue to abandon the most vulnerable children in our communities, further fuelling crime, social collapse, and intergenerational harm.
5. Request the State Council to consider this at the next available State Council meeting.

## **GOLDFIELDS ESPERANCE COUNTRY ZONE (Policy Portfolio)**

### **Local Government (Development Assessment Panels) Regulations 2025**

GVROC note the WALGA update on the new *Local Government (Development Assessment Panels) Regulations 2025*, which were gazetted on 1 April 2025 and provide its concerns and comments above for consideration by WALGA and State Council on this matter.

GVROC comments:

The GVROC have serious concerns about the new *Local Government (Development Assessment Panels) Regulations 2025* as listed in the points below and request that WALGA and the State Council consider these in their advocacy and discussions on this item.

- The new regulations around DAPs erode democracy and the principles of community concerns by taking away the Local Governments role and responsibilities in the planning process.
- The new regulations also create conflicts between the developers and the Local Governments around the requirements to still approve and issue building permits but not having authority over the planning approval process. It also places cost burdens on the Local Governments through the changes being implemented with no funding provided by the State Government to meet additional costs.
- Under the new DAP regulations, it is expected that major developers will just bypass Local Governments and not address any community concerns on large scale developments, only doing what is best to maximise their financial returns from developments.
- GVROC notes and supports WALGA's call for greater transparency around DAP processes and decisions, as community distrust of DAP decision-making is a key area of concern for many Local Governments.

## **MURCHISON COUNTRY ZONE (Policy Portfolio)**

### **Increasing the Department of Communities Presence in Regional and Remote Western Australia**

That the Murchison Country Zone of WALGA request that WALGA advocate for increasing the Department of Communities presence in regional and remote Western Australia.

## **MURCHISON COUNTRY ZONE (Policy Portfolio)**

### **Climate Change Policy Statement**

That State Council replace the 2018 Climate Change Policy Statement Advocacy Position 4.1 Climate Change with the following advocacy position.

WALGA calls on the Australian Federal Government and Western Australian State Government to:

- Prioritise and provide the necessary climate leadership, coordination, and action to deliver a climate change response that improves the quality of life for all Australians*
- Provide the required level of funding, resources and support to Local Governments to enable local communities to respond to climate change; and*
- Ensure that any climate change action does not impact the standard of living of local communities.*

## **MURCHISON COUNTRY ZONE (Policy Portfolio)**

### **Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements**

The Murchison Country Zone request, that should Yalgoo Council agree to pursue a judicial review of the DFES decision in relation to reimbursement of flood damage expenditure, WALGA seek evidence from Local Governments of advice received from DFES concerning application of the DRFA WA in relation to acceptable procurement processes and evidence requirements; and report to the Zone.

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

### **Advocacy for the Establishment of a Translocation Centre for Mass Wildlife Displacement**

That the North Metropolitan Zone requests the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) to advocate to the State Government for the immediate establishment of permanent translocation centres across WA to manage mass wildlife displacement caused by urban expansion, renewable energy projects and infrastructure development.

These centres must be:

- a) Strategically located within high-risk urban growth corridors to prevent mass mortality events.
- b) Properly funded and managed; to ensure humane sedation and removal from development sites.
- c) To ensure animals are kept together and released together in original numbers and that sites are large enough to take all the displaced animals from development sites to the new translocation sites.
- d) Ensure up to three stages of the translocation process occurs and allows time to ensure animals can adapt to the new vegetation habitat and find water prior to stage 3 release.
- e) Translocation centres must be funded for cost of supplemental vegetation and food during staging to ensure animals are given sufficient time to adapt to the new vegetation.
- f) Veterinary care and post-release monitoring is provided and allowed under the conservation act.
- g) That translocation centres and wildlife corridors are legally recognised as essential infrastructure within urban planning and environmental impact assessments.

Failure to act will result in the largest wildlife crisis WA has ever faced, drawing national and international scrutiny, and damaging WALGA's reputation as an advocate for responsible environmental governance.

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

### **Social Housing**

That the North Metropolitan Zone calls on WALGA to advocate to State Government to better support the community inclusion of social housing tenants within the wider community by:

1. Informing local communities when social and affordable housing build projects are in development to allow for community feedback.
2. Consult with Local Government and WA Police to better manage social cohesion and service requirements in response to new social housing builds, especially those with high density.
3. Commit to funding wraparound support services for social housing to support tenants with complex needs.

4. Commit to funding additional community safety services provided by Local Government or WAPOL to support tenant interactions with the wider community and public space.
5. Management of social housing tenancy agreement breaches.

#### **PEEL COUNTRY ZONE (Member Services Portfolio)**

##### **Rating of Large Scale Renewable Energy Facilities**

That the Peel Country Zone:

1. supports the rating of large-scale renewable energy facilities as gross rental value (GRV) improvements on land;
2. supports a review through WALGA of the legal case history across Australia of item 1 above, for a legal opinion and recommendations regarding any legislative changes that will ensure GRV rating for renewable energy facilities in Western Australia; and
3. subject to item 2 outcomes, supports the development of this position by WALGA as an advocacy position.

#### **PEEL COUNTRY ZONE (Office of the CEO)**

##### **LGIS Claims Management**

That WALGA:

1. engage an independent investigator to review the performance, structure and time taken to process workers compensation claims since 12 months prior to the current CEO until now, and that the selection panel for this investigator be chosen by a panel that includes Local Governments affected by the performance of LGIS;
2. ensure that this report is made available unredacted to each Local Government;
3. ensures that the report is completed by 30 September 2025; and
4. are at arms-length from this report.

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

##### **Biennial Climate Change Conference**

That WALGA organises (commencing in 2026) a biennial conference or get-together in the alternate year to the WALGA Urban Forest Conference, focused on taking stock of progress and opportunities for further action as per the WALGA Climate Change advocacy position.

#### **SOUTH EAST METROPOLITAN ZONE (Member Services Portfolio)**

##### **WALGA's Advocacy Position on the Frequency of Elections**

That WALGA amends advocacy position 2.5.16 on elections and supports all in/all out elections.

### **13 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next ordinary meeting of the WALGA State Council will be held in the Boardroom at WALGA, ONE70, LV3, 170 Railway Parade, West Leederville on Wednesday, 2 July 2025 commencing at 4:15pm.

### **14 CLOSURE**

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 2:06pm.