

Sector Reference Group

23 February 2022

WALGA, ONE70, LV1, 170 Railway Parade, West Leederville

SECTOR REFERENCE GROUP (SRG) MEETING

Date	Wednesday, 23 February 2022
Time	2pm – 3.30pm
Attendees	17 participants via Zoom
WALGA Representatives	Tony Brown, Davina Hunter, Sam Lyon and Vicky Cullen

SUMMARY OF MEETING

- The following Local Governments were represented at the SRG meeting:
 - City of Albany
 - Town of Bassendean
 - City of Canning
 - Shire of Capel
 - City of Greater Geraldton
 - City of Kwinana
 - Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale
 - City of South Perth
 - Southern Metropolitan Regional Council/Resource Recovery Group
 - City of Rockingham
 - Town of Port Hedland
 - City of Wanneroo
 - Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley
- The meeting commenced with a welcome, introductions and acknowledgement of country by Tony Brown (**TB**).
- Sam Lyon (**SL**) then provided an update on the progress of *the Industrial Relations Legislation Amendment Act 2021 (WA)* and WALGA's operational update including development of resources and webinars for both the sector and WALGA Employee Relations subscribers.
- Davina Hunter (**DH**) provided an update on WALGAs advocacy position and steps taken since the last SRG meeting in December 2021, including:

- Seeking a 6-month transitional period for commencement of the legislation for Local Government from the relevant day.
 - Engagement with Federal and State Minister for Industrial Relations, and future plans for engagement with Federal Members on behalf of the sector via a letter to be signed by all CEOs that support the advocacy position in the letter.
 - For Regional Councils.
 - Future Task Force Considerations.
- THE SRG then workshopped and discussed the following questions:
 - What knowledge do your employees currently have about the proposed transition?
 - What do you think your employees need to know?
 - How do Local Governments communicate information about the transition in a simple way?
 - When should Local Governments inform employees of the proposed transition?
 - What employee engagement resources do Local Governments need?
 - Do you have any further feedback regarding general resources required by your Local Government to assist with the transition?
 - Each Local Government then discussed the key issues and needs facing them in the transitional space and outlined the steps taken in respect of employee engagement, including engagement strategies and questions from employees.
 - SL closed the meeting by summarising the resources available to assist with the proposed transition to the State IR system and confirmed the next SRG meeting was likely to be held in May (unless there were developments) and that the location would be subject to COVID-19 restrictions. She also provided an update on team members in the Employee Relations Services team and confirmed how to get in contact with the team.