

South West Country Zone Minutes

19 June 2026

**Hosted by the Shire of Collie
Throssell Street, Collie**

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PRIORITISATION FRAMEWORK

The below Prioritisation Framework was endorsed at the April 2024 South West Country Zone meeting.

Zone Delegates when drafting Agenda items and motions on policy or advocacy issues, using the below criteria as prompts for what kind of information to include. The Prioritisation Framework does not remove the need for judgements to be made and is intended to guide, not replace, decision-making.

How to use the Framework:

- If the majority of the factors are towards the left column, the issue is a high priority.
- If the majority of the factors are towards the middle, the issue requires action, but is not a high priority.
- If the majority of the factors are towards the right column, the issue is a low priority.

Impact on Local Government Sector Impact on Local Government sector without intervention	High	Medium	Low
Reach Number of member Local Governments affected	Sector-wide	Significant (multiple regions, Zones, or bands)	Few
Influence Capacity to influence decision makers	High	Medium	Low
Principles Alignment to core principles such as autonomy, funding, general competence	Strong	Partial	Peripheral
Clarity Policy change needed is clear and well-defined	Clear	Partial	Unclear
Decision-maker support Level of support among decision-makers (political and administrative)	High	Medium	Low
Public support Level of support among the public or other stakeholders	High	Medium	Low
Positive consequences for WALGA Prospect of positive consequences for WALGA. E.g. enhanced standing among members or leverage for other issues.	High	Medium	Low
Negative consequences for WALGA Prospect of negative consequences for WALGA for not undertaking the advocacy effort. E.g. diminished standing among members or other stakeholders.	High	Medium	Low
Partnerships Potential for partnerships with other stakeholders	Yes (3+)	Possibly (1-2)	No (0)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Zone Delegates were requested to provide sufficient written notice, wherever possible, on amendments to recommendations within the State Council or Zone agenda to the Zone Chair and Secretariat prior to the Zone meeting.

Agenda Papers were emailed 7 days prior to the meeting date.

Confirmation of Attendance – an attendance sheet was circulated prior to the commencement of the meeting.

ATTACHMENTS

1. LGIRS Local Government Division Report
2. Previous Meeting Minutes
3. Zone Status Report
4. President's Report
5. Zone Constitution
6. SWCZ Constitution – marked up (attached with the Agenda)
7. IIF 2026 Prospectus (attached with the Agenda)

1 OPENING, ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

1.1 OPENING

Zone Chair, President Cr Donnelle Buegge opened the meeting at 9:00am.

1.2 ATTENDANCE

MEMBERS	1 Voting Delegate from each Member Local Government
Shire of August Margaret River	Ms Andrea Selvey, Chief Executive Officer, non-voting
Shire of Boyup Brook	President Cr Helen O'Connell Mr Leonard Long, Chief Executive Officer, non-voting
Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes	President Cr Stephen Carstairs
City of Bunbury	Mayor Jaysen De San Miguel
City of Busselton	Mayor Phill Cronin Dr Garry Hunt PSM, Chief Executive Officer (Temporary) - non-voting
Shire of Collie	President Cr Ian Miffling Mr Phil Anastasakis, Chief Executive Officer - non-voting Deputy President Cr Joe Italiano (Observer) Brad Grinter, Director Operations (Observer)
Shire of Dardanup	Cr Stacey Gillespie

	Ms Natalie Hopkins, Director Corporate and Governance - non-voting
Shire of Donnybrook Ballingup	President Cr Vivienne MacCarthy Mr Nick O'Connor, Chief Executive Officer - non-voting
Shire of Harvey	President Cr Michelle Campbell Ms Annie Riordan, Chief Executive Officer - non-voting
Shire of Manjimup	President Cr Donnelle Buegge - Chair Mr Ben Rose, Chief Executive Officer - non-voting
WALGA Secretariat	Ms Coralie Claudio, Acting Policy Manager Planning and Building Mr Kieran McGovern, Acting Senior Policy Advisor Planning
AGENCIES	
Department of Premier and Cabinet	Mr John Kearney Ms Naomi Davey
South West Development Commission	Ms Kat McKinnon, Director People and Place
RDA South West	Ms Vickie Walker, Projects Officer
GUEST SPEAKERS	Nil

1.3 APOLOGIES

Shire of August Margaret River	President Cr Julia Jean-Rice Deputy President Cr Tracey Muir
Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes	Mr Garry Adams, Chief Executive Officer, non-voting
City of Bunbury	Mr Alan Ferris, Chief Executive Officer, non-voting
Shire of Capel	President Cr John Fergusson Ms Samantha Chamberlain, Chief Executive Officer – non-voting
Shire of Dardanup	President Cr Tyrrell Gardiner Mr André Schönfeldt, Chief Executive Officer – non-voting
Shire of Nannup	President Cr Tony Dean Cr Vicki Hansen (deputy) Mr David Taylor, Chief Executive Officer – non-voting

South West Development
Commission

Ms Cate Brooks, Chief Executive Officer

RDA South West

Mr Charles Jenkinson, Director Regional
Development

Australia's South West

Ms Catrin Pickworth, Chief Executive Officer

Australian Government
Department of Employment and
Workplace Relations

Mr Matt Beahan, Program Officer

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We, the South West Country Zone of WALGA, acknowledge the Nyoongar people, the Traditional Custodians of this land, and pay our respects to their Elders past, present and future.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Zone Delegates must declare to the Chair any potential conflict of interest they have in a matter before the Zone as soon as they become aware of it. Zone Delegates and deputies may be directly or indirectly associated with some recommendations of the Zone and State Council. If you are affected by these recommendations, please excuse yourself from the meeting and do not participate in deliberations.

Nil.

4 DEPUTATIONS

4.1 SHIRE OF COLLIE

Cr Ian Miffling, Shire President and Mr Phil Anastasakis, Chief Executive Officer

Shire of Collie President Cr Ian Miffling, CEO Mr Phil Anastasakis and Ms Naomi Davey provided an update to the Zone on current priorities and key projects.

Noted

5 AGENCY REPORTS

5.1 SOUTH WEST DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Ms Kat McKinnon, Director People and Place, provided an update to the Zone.

Noted

5.2 REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA – SOUTH WEST

Ms Vickie Walker, Projects Officer, provided an update to the Zone.

Noted

5.3 LGIRS LOCAL GOVERNMENT DIVISION REPORT

The June 2026 report from the Department of Local Government, Industry Regulations and Safety (LGIRS) Local Government Division was provided as an attachment to the Agenda.

Noted

5.4 AUSTRALIA'S SOUTH WEST

Ms Catrin Allsop, Chief Executive Officer at Australia's South West was an apology.

5.5 AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS

Mr Matt Beahan from the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations was an apology.

6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The previous meeting Minutes of the South West Country Zone have been circulated to Zone Delegates and is provided as an attachment to the Agenda.

RESOLUTION

Moved: President Cr Ian Miffling

Seconded: Mayor Phill Cronin

That the Minutes of the meeting of the South West Country Zone held on 24 April 2026 are confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings, with the following amendment:

- Update the attendance list to show President Cr Ian Miffling as attending.

CARRIED

7 BUSINESS ARISING

7.1 STATUS REPORT

A Status Report outlining any recent updates and/or actions taken on the Zone's previous meetings resolutions for both State Council and Zone items is enclosed as an attachment. These item updates will remain on the Status Report until completed or no further action is required by WALGA.

Noted

8 ZONE BUSINESS

8.1 CORRESPONDENCE - GREAT SOUTHERN COUNTRY ZONE'S ADVOCACY REQUEST

BACKGROUND

Zone Chair, President Cr Donnelle Buegge received the below correspondence from Cr Scott Crosby, Chair of the Great Southern Country Zone. This letter was sent to Chairs of all 17 Zones across the state.

Members of the Great Southern Country Zone are seeking other Zones support on the topic of cost shifting to Local Government. The letter is being tabled for discussion.

GREAT SOUTHERN COUNTRY ZONE

PO Box 1544
WEST PERTH 6872

Ph: (08) 9213 2042
email: cobrien@walga.asn.au

20 May 2026

President Donelle Buegge
Zone Chair
South West Country Zone

Representing the
Local Governments of:
Albany
Broomehill-Tambellup
Cranbrook
Denmark
Gnowangerup
Jerramungup
Katanning
Kent
Kojonup
Plantagenet
Ravensthorpe
Woodanilling

Email: shire.president@manjimup.wa.gov.au

Dear Donelle

Cost Shifting to Local Government – Great Southern Country Zone Advocacy

On behalf of the Great Southern Country Zone, I am writing to express our Zone's position regarding the increasing and unsustainable impacts of cost shifting onto Local Governments and seek all Zones support on this matter.

Local Governments across our Zone are frequently required to allocate significant resources to implement Federal and State legislation, regulations, and policy initiatives. However, the true cost of delivering these functions is often under-recognised and inadequately funded. This growing imbalance is placing considerable pressure on already constrained local resources.

Our recent observations across the Zone highlight substantial variation in circumstances, organisational structures, and operating systems among Local Governments. These differences directly influence the extent and impact of cost shifting, yet a consistent theme remains: Local Governments are increasingly expected to absorb responsibilities more appropriately held by State or Federal Governments, often without clear legislative frameworks or sufficient financial support.

This trend is evident across several key areas, including:

- Provision of housing to support State Government workforces;
- Expanding emergency management responsibilities;
- Increasing social and community service pressures; and
- Managing local impacts associated with the energy transition.

In particular, the State Government's commitment to achieving net-zero emissions by 2050 has not been accompanied by a clear or legislated planning framework for renewable energy development. As a result, Local Governments are left to manage complex land use conflicts, respond to heightened community concerns, and carry significant assessment risks without adequate policy guidance or resourcing.

The cumulative effect of these pressures is that Local Governments are being forced to divert ratepayer funds away from core services and infrastructure — including roads, sport

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and recreation facilities, waste management, and community amenities — towards functions that are externally imposed. Critically, many of these responsibilities do not provide mechanisms for revenue generation and are not supported by appropriate administrative funding from higher levels of government. This situation is not sustainable.

The Great Southern Country Zone strongly believes there is an urgent need for earlier, coordinated, and genuine collaboration between all tiers of government. Policy priorities must be developed in partnership with Local Government before implementation, ensuring that roles, responsibilities, and funding arrangements are clearly defined.

Accordingly, the Great Southern Country Zone is seeking the support of Zones to request that WALGA advocate on behalf of the sector to both State and Federal Governments on this issue. This advocacy should aim to:

- Raise awareness of the cumulative financial and operational impacts of cost shifting;
- Promote fair and transparent funding arrangements aligned with responsibilities;
- Ensure Local Governments are not disproportionately burdened with functions beyond their core role; and
- Reinforce the need for proper policy frameworks, particularly in emerging areas such as renewable energy and climate transition.

We believe a unified position across Zones will strengthen our collective voice and improve outcomes for Local Governments and the communities we serve.

We respectfully request your Zone's support in progressing this advocacy effort and welcome the opportunity to work collaboratively on this important issue.

Yours sincerely,



Cr Scott Crosby
Chair, Great Southern Country Zone

Noted

8.2 SOUTH WEST COUNTRY ZONE CONSTITUTION

By Kathy Robertson, Manager Association and Corporate Governance

BACKGROUND

At the April 2026 meeting, the South West Country Zone requested that WALGA:

1. *Provide information in regard to the consistency of the Zone's Constitution with other Zones and the WALGA Constitution; and*
2. *Initiate a review of the Zone Constitution to be consistent with the WALGA Constitution.*

The vast majority of WALGA Zones do not have a Constitution. Only 3 other Zones have a Constitution (Northern, Central and Great Eastern Country Zones). Of the remaining Zones, some have Standing Orders that detail meeting rules (primarily the Metropolitan Zones) and some do not. There is no requirement for a Zone to have a Constitution or Standing Orders. However, Zones that are audited require governing documents (i.e. a Constitution) to claim tax concessions as a not-for-profit organisation.

The South West Country Zone's Constitution (Zone Constitution) was adopted in 2002. The body of the Constitution is based on the Constitution of WALGA, with small changes to reflect the perspective of a Zone rather than the Association.

The WALGA Constitution is the instrument of establishment of the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA). The 17 Zones of WALGA, including the South West Country Zone, are established by the WALGA Constitution. The WALGA Constitution was

adopted upon the creation of WALGA in 2001 and has been amended eight times since then.

As per clause 14(5) of the WALGA Constitution, the “management and affairs of the Zone” is vested in the Zone Delegates as appointed by Member Local Governments. The function of the Zones is detailed in 14(6) as being to:

- (a) elect a representative(s) to State Council;
- (b) consider the State Council Agenda;
- (c) provide direction and/or feedback to their State Council representative; and
- (d) any other functions deemed appropriate by the members of the Zone.

Ultimately, the WALGA Constitution is the decisive governance text that lays out the formal rules of WALGA including State Council and the Zones. Where there is discrepancy between the Zone Constitution and WALGA Constitution, the WALGA Constitution would prevail.

It appears the Zone Constitution has not been reviewed or amended since it was adopted by the Zone in 2002 (at least, it has not been amended since WALGA took over the Zone secretariat services in 2020).

ATTACHMENT

- South West Country Zone Constitution with proposed amendments shown as tracked changes

COMMENT

The text of the Zone Constitution is essentially a duplication of the WALGA Constitution as it was in 2001. Given that amendments and updates to the Zone Constitution have not kept pace with changes to the WALGA Constitution, and that there has not been a comprehensive review of the Zone Constitution in many years, the Zone Constitution is due for a review and update.

As per the request of the Zone, a desktop review of the Constitution has been undertaken, with reference to WALGA's Constitution and Constitutions of similar Zones. In particular, the Great Eastern Country Zone recently undertook a similar review and update of its Constitution. The updated Great Eastern Constitution has been used as a reference document for this desktop review.

The intended outcome of this review and proposed amendments is to modernise language, remove duplication, and ensure the Constitution is aligned with the current practices of the Zone.

A marked-up version of the proposed Constitution is attached, with amendments summarised below.

Clause no.	Proposed amendment
1. Name	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Removed the reference to the Zone as 'Association' to avoid confusion or conflation with WALGA.• Updated the name of the Zone to reflect its full title as "South West <u>Country</u> Zone".• Added the short form name of "South West Country Zone"
2. Interpretation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Removed redundant references.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated the name of “representatives” to reflect the commonly used titles of “Delegates” and “Deputy Delegates” to the Zone. Updated the name of “President” and “Deputy President” to reflect the commonly used titles of “Chair” and “Deputy Chair” of the Zone.
3. Objects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minor changes to reflect new terms. Addition of a new subclause (b) to reflect the collaborative and strategic work of the Zone.
4. Powers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deleted – this clause and the accompanying Schedule of Powers was a direct copy of the Powers clause contained in the WALGA Constitution. It is not relevant to the Zone.
5. Membership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deletion of reference to ‘Life Members’ (this is a membership type for WALGA that is not relevant to the Zone). Deletion of reference to the Local Government Managers Association as an Associate Member of the Zone.
6. Changes of Membership Status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarification that a Local Government will cease to be a Member of the Zone if they are no longer a Member of WALGA.
7. Budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amended to make an annual budget optional, rather than compulsory. The Zone’s current finances do not require a formal budget. If circumstances change in the future, the Zone still has the option to request a budget be produced.
8. Subscription	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amended to remove the reference to an annual budget.
9. Zone Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarification that each Member Local Government appoints one Delegate to the Zone and can appoint Deputy Delegates. Deletion of reference to the Zone being responsible for the processes used by Member Local Governments to elect or appoint Delegates. This allows for flexibility amongst Member Local Governments as to the process or procedures they employ to elect or appoint Delegates.
10. Notice of Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated terminology.
11. Resolutions of Zone Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Removal of unnecessary description (all voting types are defined in the terminology clause).
12. Secretariat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updates to terminology and removal of reference to Schedule Three.
13. Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deleted. The Zone does not hold an Annual Conference or prepare an annual report.
14. Election Procedure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Further clarification added regarding notice of election and receipt of nominations.
15. Zone Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated terminology. Clarification that only Councillors can be elected as Zone Chair. Inclusion of term limits (as per the Deputy President/Chair). <p>The Zone may like to consider whether to amend or remove the term limits for Chair and Deputy Chair.</p>
16. Zone Deputy Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated terminology.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarification that only Councillors can be elected as Zone Deputy Chair. • Addition of Deputy Chair's role to preside at meetings when Chair is not present. <p>The Zone may like to consider whether to amend or remove the term limits for Chair and Deputy Chair.</p>
17. Vacancy – Chair and Deputy Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated terminology.
18. Vacation of Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated terminology.
NEW - Representative to State Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New clause added to outline the Zone's duty to elect a State Councillor and Deputy State Councillor.
19. Committees and Sub-Committees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated terminology.
20. Annual Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deleted. The Zone does not hold Annual Meetings.
21. Special Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deleted. Details of Special Meetings of the Zone have been captured in clause 10. Notice of Meetings.
22. Representation and Voting at Annual and Special Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deleted – not relevant.
23. Constitutional Disputes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Process for arbitrating Constitutional disputes has been streamlined.
24. Finances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renamed from 'Audit' to 'Finances'. • Amended to make an annual audit optional, rather than compulsory. The Zone's current finances do not require auditing. If circumstances change in the future, the Zone still has the option to request an audit be conducted.
25. Banking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated terminology and subclause numbering.
26. Common Seal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deleted – the Zone does not have a common seal.
27. Amendment to the Constitution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deletion of reference to Annual Conference.
28. Expulsion of Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated terminology.
29. Winding Up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated terminology.
(Generally)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated fonts and formatting to modernise the document. • Deleted Schedules One and Three.

The support of a majority of not less than 75% of representatives (Delegates) present at an Ordinary Meeting of the Zone is required to amend the Constitution.

This item is presented for discussion at this meeting, to allow for comment and additional proposed amendments before a decision is considered at the August Zone meeting.

Any comments or queries can be raised at the meeting, or by email to WALGA following this Zone meeting. All comments received prior to 31 July will be considered in finalising the proposed amendments for inclusion in the August Zone Agenda.

Discussion: *In considering the proposed amendments above, the Zone also proposed the following additional changes:*

- *In clause 2, Interpretation, include a definition for "Associate Member".*
- *In clause 8, Subscription, include reference to when the subscriptions will be set.*

RESOLUTION

Moved: Mayor Phill Cronin
Seconded: President Cr Helen O'Connell

That the South West Country Zone request that:

- 1. WALGA prepare a review of the pros and cons of maintaining the Zone's Constitution or rescinding the Constitution;**
- 2. any further comments on proposed amendments to the Zone Constitution are provided to the Zone Executive Officer date by 31 July; and**
- 3. a final proposed form of Constitutional amendments be presented to the August Zone meeting for consideration and endorsement.**

CARRIED

8.3 PSYCHOSOCIAL HAZARDS FOR ELECTED MEMBERS

By Chantelle O'Brien, Zones Governance Officer

BACKGROUND

At the April South West Country Zone meeting the City of Busselton raised the topic of psychosocial hazards for Elected Members. In particular, that there should be a support system around psychosocial hazards, especially for Mayors/Presidents and Deputies. The City suggested making the 'Dealing with Difficult People' WALGA training compulsory for Elected Members.

As part of those discussion, the Zone agreed to:

...add an item for discussion in the June Agenda around this issue. WALGA will provide information about what current support exists, including training on leadership and communication skills, and support available through LGIS.

The below information has been provided by WALGA's Training Manager and LGISWA.

WALGA acknowledges that Elected Members face unique challenges in dealing with community criticism and engaging in effective debate and collective decision making with their fellow Elected Members. A specialised skillset for dealing with conflict allows Elected Members to safeguard their personal wellbeing, contribute to positive cultures and perform their roles effectively.

WALGA offers a 2-day course for Elected Members on *Dealing with Conflict*. The course is always well attended, and the next one is scheduled to be held in November this year. Local Governments can also contact WALGA if they want to arrange training in their local area for neighbouring Local Governments at a time that is convenient for them. Sometimes participating in training with fellow Elected Members can create an optimal learning environment to work through specific scenarios.

The course develops the skills to manage conflict within the Council and between the Local Government and the community. Elected Members will be able to identify common communication roadblocks, common sources of conflicts within groups and develops techniques for resolving conflict situations. These are essential skills needed with the additional role of Councillors in the Local Government Act "facilitating and maintains good working relationships with other Councillors, the Mayor or President and the CEO."

Participants examine communication strategies, interpersonal skills and emotional intelligence and how to navigate through confronting and challenging situations.

This course is not part of the mandatory Council Member Essentials training and WALGA is not able to mandate training for the sector.



Zone meeting briefing note

Prepared by: Pia Duxbury, Marketing and Communications Executive

Date: 4 April 2026

Query:

Psychosocial hazards for elected members

The City of Busselton raised the topic of psychosocial hazards for Elected Members. In particular, that there should be a support system around psychosocial hazards, especially for Mayors/Presidents and Deputy members.

The City suggested making the "Dealing with Difficult People" WALGA training compulsory for Elected Members.

The Zone AGREED to add an item for discussion in the June Agenda around this issue. WALGA will provide information about what current support exists, including training on leadership and communication skills, and support available through LGIS.

Response:

LGIS Provides members with a range of resources and services to assist them in identifying psychosocial hazards and implementing controls. General there are two types of services, the first being education to build the skills, knowledge, capability and capacity of members and individuals to be able to identify and mitigate psychological hazards in their workplace. The second type are those which intervene early in response to a specific issue – such as a critical incident occurring.

These services can be accessed by members to support all internal stakeholders including elected members.

Proactive services

Resources and articles: various articles have been published in Risk Matters and Healthy Intel as well as specific resources such as Health and Safety Toolbox guides, or specific guides for people leaders.

Support and advice: The People Risk team works with members to support them in developing strategic programs for teams or larger groups to identify gaps and priorities to support members in targeting specific psychosocial risks.

Workshops: These workshops are all about supporting employees and equipping all stakeholders in the workplace with the skills and knowledge to create psychologically safe workshops. These workshops are delivered as requested at the members location. The workshops include:

- **Mental health awareness** – reducing the stigma of discussing mental health and asking for help.
- **Resilience** – enhancing emotional and cognitive resilience to deals with adversity
- **Mentally healthy workplace** – explores the individuals role and how the promote, prevent, intervene and support recovery operates in the workplace.
- **Workplace behaviours** – educates employees on their legal duty of care requirements
- **Dealing with difficult behaviours** – developed for staff with community facing roles



- **Psychosocial hazards in the workplace** – how to use a risk management approach to manage psychosocial hazards.

Regional risk services: members who participate in the regional risk program may choose to make the identification and management of psychosocial hazards a focus of their service plan. If this is a priority our Regional Risk Specialist works collaboratively with the member to develop a plan to address the priority. Each regional risk service plan is unique and tailored to the priorities and needs of the member.

Intervene early

Member support program: This provides a holistic wellbeing solution to employees, volunteers and elected-members and their immediate family members. In addition to counselling services it also offers a range of health coaching services for nutrition, diet, finance and legal concerns. It includes online support as well as resources and learning tools. Members can choose to opt-in to the service at an additional cost to their LGISWA membership contribution. In the South West zone Donnybrook and Nannup have subscribed to this additional service. This service is currently under review by the LGIS Board of Directors.

Work-related counselling: LGIS recommends members utilise an EAP service to address employees' personal and work-related concerns. LGIS counsellors provide support specifically with workplace issues, such as conflict with colleagues, leadership or management issues, within local government, an area which our counsellors are experienced and trained in.

Critical incident support: delivered in to a specific incident the critical incident debriefing provides an evidence-based service for supporting employees and other stakeholders after a critical incidents occurs.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Mayor Phill Cronin
Seconded: President Cr Donnelle Buegge

That the South West Country Zone request WALGA to:

1. **establish a working group to discuss this issue and get feedback as to what the next steps could be (i.e. training options);**
2. **following this working group, prepare a survey to send to all Elected Members to collect data regarding this issue; and**
3. **explore other options for addressing this matter, such as Employee Assistance Programs and legal mechanisms, such as restraining orders and access to the State Protection Unit.**

CARRIED

8.4 SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY: INNOVATIVE INDUSTRIES OF THE FUTURE (IIF) CONFERENCE

By the Shire of Manjimup

ATTACHMENT

- SWDC Sponsorship Prospectus

BACKGROUND

The Shire of Manjimup is proposing that the South West Country Zone (the Zone) consider a Sponsorship Agreement with the South West Development Commission (SWDC) for the Innovative Industries of the Future (IIF) Conference, scheduled for October 2026.

The SWDC is seeking sponsorship from for its IIF conference, to be held on 26-29 October 2026 at the Bunbury Regional Entertainment Centre.

The first IIF Conference was held in Bunbury in November 2024, with the Zone contributing \$10,000 via a Sponsorship Agreement. The resolution of the Zone on that matter (via Circular Resolution) was as follows:

RECOMMENDATION

That the South West Country Zone endorse the proposal to provide sponsorship of \$20,000 towards the Welcome to Country and First Nations Clean Energy Panel events at the 2024 IIF conference.

LOST 2/8

ALTERNATIVE MOTION

That the South West Country Zone endorse the proposal to provide sponsorship of \$10,000 towards the Welcome to Country and First Nations Clean Energy Panel events at the 2024 IIF conference.

TIE 5/5


The Chair President Cr Tony Dean used his casting vote in support of the alternate motion.

ALTERNATIVE MOTION CARRIED 6/5

SPONSORSHIP PROPOSAL

The Sponsorship packages for the IIF Conference are as follows:

iifconference.com.au



Our sponsorship packages

	CATALYST	INNOVATOR	STRATEGIST	EXPERT	EXHIBITOR	SPEAKER
Introductory Presentation	Yes	-	-	-	-	-
Workshop Presentation	Yes	-	-	-	-	Yes
Registrations	10	8	8	4	2	2
Logo display	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
Social Posts	4	2	1	1	1	1
Podcast	1	1	-	-	-	-
Stall	Yes - Priority Location	Yes - Priority Location	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Investment (ex GST)	\$40,000	\$30,000	\$20,000	\$10,000	\$1,500	-

It is recommended that the Zone select the 'Expert' Sponsorship Package at \$10,000.

The Zone's available funds as at March 2026 are as follows:

Closing Cash Balance			30,404		
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MOTION

Moved: President Cr Donnelle Buegge

Seconded: Mayor Jaysen De San Miguel

That the South West Country Zone support the 2026 Innovative Industries of the Future Conference (by the South West Development Commission) through an 'Expert' Sponsorship Package to the value of \$10,000.

LOST 3/6

RESOLUTION

Moved: **President Cr Michelle Campbell**

Seconded: **Mayor Phill Cronin**

That the South West Country Zone support the 2026 Innovative Industries of the Future Conference (by the South West Development Commission) to the value of \$5,000.

CARRIED

9 WALGA STATE COUNCIL AGENDA

Zone Delegates are invited to read and consider the WALGA State Council Agenda which can be found via the link [here](#).

The Zone can provide comment or submit an alternative recommendation on any of the items, including the items for noting. The Zone comment will then be presented to the State Council for consideration at their meeting.

The State Council Agenda items requiring a decision of State Council are extracted for Zone consideration below.

9.1 CLIMATE CHANGE ADVOCACY POSITION

By Rebecca Brown, Policy Manager, Environment and Waste

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- A new climate change Advocacy Position is proposed to replace the position endorsed by State Council in 2018.
- WALGA released a Consultation Paper and draft Climate Change Advocacy Position in January 2026 for Council endorsed feedback by 1 May 2026.
- 39 Council endorsed submissions and two officer level comments were received:

- 18 (44%) supported the draft Position.
- 18 (44%) supported the draft Position with comments and/or proposed changes.
- four (10%) did not support the draft Position and proposed an alternative.
- one (2%) did not support the Advocacy Position.
- The draft Advocacy Position has been refined in response to the feedback received, noting that the majority of submissions either supported the draft position in its entirety or supported with comment and/or amendment:
 - "*to meet the needs of their communities*" has been added to Point 1 to better reflect Local Government context.
 - Point 2b has been revised to:
 - Include explicit reference to increasing risk and expanded legislative requirements and align with language in the *Local Government Act* (mitigation, rather than emissions reduction).
 - Be clear that Local Government must be provided with the funding, guidance and practical support required to meet increasing risk and legislative requirements.
- At its meeting on 25 May 2026, the Environment Policy Team considered this item and recommended that State Council replace the current Climate Change Policy Statement and Advocacy Position 4.1 with the new Advocacy Position.

ATTACHMENT

- [Climate Change Advocacy Position Consultation Report](#)

STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLICATIONS

This item aligns with WALGA's Strategic Pillars:

- **Influence:** Lead advocacy on issues important to Local Government and lead policy development for the Local Government sector.
- **Support:** Anticipate, understand and respond to Member needs.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

It is proposed that the [Climate Change Policy Statement](#) and **current** Advocacy Position 4.1 Climate Change as follows:

Local Government acknowledges:

1. *The science is clear: Climate change is occurring and greenhouse gas emissions from human activities are the dominant cause.*
2. *Climate change threatens human societies and the Earth's ecosystems.*
3. *Urgent action is required to reduce emissions, and to adapt to the impacts from climate change that are now unavoidable.*
4. *A failure to adequately address this climate change emergency places an unacceptable burden on future generations.*

Local Government is committed to addressing climate change.

Local Government is calling for:

1. *Strong climate change action, leadership and coordination at all levels of government.*
2. *Effective and adequately funded Commonwealth and State Government climate change policies and programs.*

be **replaced** with (changes following consultation underlined):

1. *Local Government acknowledges the risks associated with, and is committed to addressing, climate change to meet the needs of their communities.*
2. *WALGA calls on the Australian and Western Australian Governments to:*
 - a. *provide the necessary climate leadership, coordination and action to ensure an orderly transition to achieve emission reduction targets and address the impacts of climate change.*
 - b. *ensure that Local Government has the funding, guidance and practical support required to meet increasing risk and expanded legislative requirements to plan for, mitigate and adapt to climate impacts.*

BACKGROUND

In 2018, State Council endorsed a [Climate Change Policy Statement](#) and Advocacy Position, following extensive sector consultation. Since this position was adopted there have been significant legislative, policy, technological and scientific changes, including:

- The national *Climate Change Act 2022* and the Western Australian Climate Change Bill 2023.
- Increased legislative responsibilities, including the *Local Government Amendment Act 2023*, which expanded Western Australian Local Governments' general function under Part 3 s3.1(1A) of the *Local Government Act 1995*:
 - a. To promote the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the district;
 - b. To plan for, and to plan for mitigating, risks associated with climate change; and
 - c. In making decisions, to consider potential long-term consequences and impacts on future generations
- The release of the Australian Government's [National Climate Risk Assessment](#) and [National Adaptation Plan](#) in 2025.
- Escalation of the transition to renewable energy, uptake of electric vehicles and energy efficiency standards under the National Construction Code.
- Climate science and projections ([international](#), [national](#) and [WA specific](#)) have also become clearer regarding the risks posed by climate change and the need for action to address the consequential impacts.

Work commenced on the review of the current position in 2024. An updated draft position was considered at the March 2025 State Council meeting, with the position referred back to the Environment Policy Team for further development. In January 2026, WALGA released a Consultation Paper and draft Advocacy Position, with Council endorsed feedback requested by 1 May 2026.

COMMENT

Responses were received from 41 Local Governments, 39 Council endorsed submissions and two officer level comments (Karratha and Melville):

- 18 (44%) supported the draft Advocacy Position:
 - Metropolitan: Joondalup, Stirling, Bayswater, Kalamunda, Bassendean, Canning, Cockburn, Melville, Rockingham, Cambridge, Subiaco and Serpentine Jarrahdale.
 - Regional: Harvey, Victoria Plains, Gnowangerup, Kalgoorlie Boulder, Ngaanyatjaraku and Karratha.
- 18 (44%) were supported with comment and/or proposed changes:
 - 7 sought minor wording refinements or small additions:
 - Metropolitan: Belmont, Gosnells and Kwinana.
 - Regional: Dumbleyung, West Arthur, York and Mingenew.

- 11 proposed more substantial amendments:
 - Metropolitan: Mundaring, Armadale, Victoria Park, East Fremantle, Fremantle, Perth and Vincent.
 - Regional: Augusta Margaret River, Busselton, Kent and Cocos (Keeling) Islands.
- Four (10%) did not support the draft Advocacy Position and proposed an alternative position:
 - Regional: Waroona (alternative position). Quairading, Wagin and Cue provided the Central Country Zone position.
- One (2%) did not support the draft Advocacy Position and did not provide an alternative:
 - Regional: Collie.

Responses were received from Local Governments across all Metropolitan Zones and from all but two Country Zones.

Across both metropolitan and regional submissions, Local Governments emphasised that the roles and responsibilities of each level of government in climate change mitigation and adaptation remain unclear, while legislative obligations placed on Local Governments have expanded without a sustainable funding model to support implementation. Small, rural and remote Local Governments raised concerns about their communities' heightened exposure to heat, extreme weather and infrastructure failure, combined with limited local capacity and resources to respond effectively.

The draft Advocacy Position has been refined in response to the feedback received, noting that the majority of submissions either supported the draft position in its entirety or supported with comment and/or amendment:

- "*to meet the needs of their communities*" has been added to Point 1 to better reflect Local Government context.
- Point 2b has been revised to:
 - Include explicit reference to increasing risk and expanded legislative requirements and align with language in the Local Government Act (mitigation, rather than emissions reduction).
 - Be clear that Local Government must be provided with the funding, guidance and practical support required to meet increasing risk and legislative requirements.

The Position has been kept high level, noting that many of the specific matters raised in the feedback are included in other WALGA Advocacy Positions (or will be incorporated when these positions are reviewed) and/or will inform WALGA's more detailed climate advocacy.

A [Climate Change Advocacy Position Consultation Report](#) providing a summary of feedback received and rationale for the changes to the position is attached.

At its meeting on 25 May 2026, the Environment Policy Team considered this item and recommended that State Council replace the existing Climate Change Policy Statement and Advocacy Position 4.1 with the new Climate Change Advocacy Position.

RECOMMENDATION

That State Council replace the Climate Change Policy Statement and Advocacy Position 4.1 with a new Climate Change Advocacy Position as follows:

1. *Local Government acknowledges the risks associated with, and is committed to addressing, climate change to meet the needs of their communities.*
2. *WALGA calls on the Australian and Western Australian Governments to:*
 - a. *Provide the necessary climate leadership, coordination and action to ensure an orderly transition to achieve emission reduction targets and address the impacts of climate change.*
 - b. *Ensure that Local Government has the funding, guidance and practical support required to meet increasing risk and expanded legislative requirements to plan for, mitigate and adapt to climate impacts.*

RESOLUTION

Moved: President Cr Vivienne MacCarthy

Seconded: Mayor Phill Cronin

That the South West Country Zone supports the WALGA recommendation for State Council Agenda item 8.1 as contained in the State Council Agenda and as provided above.

CARRIED

9.2 TRAIN STATION PRECINCTS ADVOCACY POSITION

By Coralie Claudio, A/Manager Planning and Building

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- In November 2025, the State Government [announced](#) it would commence the preparation of Improvement Plans and Improvement Schemes for ten train station precincts across the Perth metropolitan region.
- A new Train Station Precinct Advocacy Position is proposed, which identifies the need for collaborative, place-based, and infrastructure-led precinct planning that enables housing delivery while respecting local planning frameworks and maintaining community confidence, supported by strong State Government coordination and funding.
- The position is intended to support timely and direct engagement with the State Government on sector priorities for current and future State-led train station precincts.
- The draft position has been informed by a review of Council resolutions and feedback from Local Governments, including those associated with the initial ten identified train station precincts.
- The Environment Policy Team endorsed the position at its meeting on 18 May 2026.

ATTACHMENT

- [Rationale New Advocacy Position: Train Station Precincts](#)

STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLICATIONS

This item aligns with WALGA's Strategic Pillars:

- **Influence** – Lead advocacy on issues that are important to Local Government, including coordinated precinct planning and housing delivery.
- **Support** – Anticipate, understand, and respond to Member needs, ensuring Local Governments are effectively engaged in State-led precinct planning processes.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

It is proposed that the **new** Train Station Precincts Advocacy Position be **endorsed**.

This draft position is consistent with, and builds upon, Advocacy Position 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 be amended only with WALGA involvement and consultation with Local Government.*

BACKGROUND

Planning around train stations, including the establishment of local planning frameworks and the determination of development applications, has historically been the responsibility of Local Governments.

In November 2025, the State Government announced it was commencing the establishment of Improvement Plans and Schemes around ten train station precincts across the Perth metropolitan region to streamline planning and development and facilitate housing development. Through this process, the State would become responsible for setting planning frameworks, including elements such as height and zoning, and determining development applications.

The ten station precincts, involving 14 directly affected Local Governments, are listed below:

- Ballajura (City of Swan);
- Bassendean (Town of Bassendean);
- Carlisle/Oats Street (Town of Victoria Park);

- Claisebrook (City of Perth and City of Vincent);
- Cottesloe (Town of Cottesloe and Shire of Peppermint Grove);
- Glendalough (City of Vincent and City of Stirling);
- Morley (City of Bayswater);
- Mosman Park (Town of Mosman Park and Shire of Peppermint Grove);
- Redcliffe (City of Belmont); and
- Swanbourne (Town of Claremont, City of Nedlands and Town of Cottesloe).

Improvement Plans and Schemes for the Ballajura and Redcliffe stations were already underway prior to this announcement. Importantly, the announcement noted these were only the first stations, indicating additional state-led station precincts may be identified in the future.

At its December 2025 meeting, State Council resolved that:

1. *State Council request WALGA to prepare an Advocacy Position in consultation with Members, regarding the transport and planning principles required to ensure quality outcomes in the newly announced "Station Precinct Improvement Plans and Schemes" in Metropolitan Perth and regional stations if included.*
2. *The Advocacy Position will include transport and place-making outcomes on both government controlled and private land that maximise liveability and use of the public transport network.*

RESOLUTION 069.5/2025

To inform the development of the Advocacy Position, WALGA sought feedback from Local Governments associated with the initial ten station precincts, including collecting and reviewing relevant Council reports and resolutions from ten Local Governments.

The draft position supports a coordinated approach to station precinct planning and makes the following key recommendations to support effective development and implementation of Improvement Plans and Schemes:

- Promote housing density, diversity and delivery while ensuring place-responsive and transit-oriented development outcomes.
- Recognise the State Government's critical role in coordination and investment, including redevelopment of underutilised State land.
- Call for recognition of existing and progressing local planning frameworks and meaningful engagement with Local Governments and communities.
- Support a strategic, evidence-based and transparent approach to identifying and delivering future State-led station precincts.

The draft advocacy position was circulated to the sector for feedback over a two-week period until 7 May. WALGA received 22 responses, all from metropolitan Local Governments, including nine of the 14 Local Governments directly affected by the initial ten identified train station precincts.

COMMENT

This Advocacy Position is intended to enable WALGA to make timely and direct representations to the State Government on the sector's priorities for State-led train station precincts.

The proposed new Advocacy Position will complement WALGA's planning Advocacy Position, 6.1 Planning Principles and Reform, which notes that planning frameworks and

decision-making should reflect local environment, context, communities and character, and that decisions should be made by the level of government closest to and most impacted by a planning proposal.

The draft position has been informed by a review of relevant Council resolutions and Local Government officer input, including feedback from WALGA's Planning Advisory Group.

The draft advocacy position was refined following sector consultation to emphasise that a planning framework alone will not deliver on-the-ground outcomes. Instead, it highlights the substantial scale of State Government collaboration, coordination and funding required to enable and accelerate precinct delivery, including a stronger focus on the redevelopment of underutilised State Government land.

The position was also refined to avoid blanket support for all State Improvement Plans and Schemes, instead clarifying the circumstances in which State-led planning may be appropriate for future station precincts.

The Environment Policy Team recommended that State Council endorse the position at its meeting on 18 May 2026.

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

That State Council endorse the following new Advocacy Position:

Train Station Precincts

1. *Local Government supports a coordinated approach to the planning and development of train station precincts that is transport-orientated, place responsive and provides for increased housing density and diversity.*
2. *In developing Train Station Precinct Improvement Plans and Schemes the State Government should:*
 - a. *Respect, acknowledge and build on existing and progressing local planning frameworks.*
 - b. *Ensure effective collaboration, partnerships and coordination across Government agencies and with Local Government.*
 - c. *Prioritise redevelopment of State-owned land to deliver optimal housing and mixed-use outcomes.*
 - d. *Undertake meaningful and ongoing community engagement.*
 - e. *Directly fund and/or implement funding mechanisms to deliver public realm and infrastructure requirements.*
3. *Decisions on any future State-led train station precincts must be evidence-based, transparent and made in consultation with Local Government.*

RESOLUTION

Moved: President Cr Donnelle Buegge
Seconded: President Cr Michelle Campbell

That the South West Country Zone supports the WALGA recommendation for State Council Agenda item 8.2 as contained in the State Council Agenda and as provided above.

CARRIED

9.3 SUBMISSION ON THE CAT ACT REVIEW

By Rebecca Brown, Policy Manager Environment and Waste and Felicity Morris, Manager Governance and Procurement

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- On 13 February 2026 the Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety (LGIRS) opened consultation on the second statutory review of the *Cat Act 2011* (the Cat Act).
- All elements of the Cat Act are under review, including registration, enforcement/compliance, sterilisation, microchipping, breeding and limits on the number of cats.
- WALGA used current Advocacy Positions, previous submissions, a webinar with the sector and opportunity to comment on a draft submission to gather feedback.
- The submission identifies that reform to the legislation is required, in relation to:
 - Consolidation of the Cat Act and *Dog Act 1976*;
 - Stronger provisions for consistent non-compliance;
 - Clear definitions for owned and unowned cats;
 - Development of a Model Cat Local Law;
 - A limit on the number of cats; and
 - Lowering the age of sterilisation.
- Consultation by LGIRS closes at 5:00pm on Monday, 31 August 2026.
- A joint meeting of the Governance and Environment Policy Teams on 25 May 2026 recommended that State Council endorse the submission.

ATTACHMENT

- [Submission on the Review of the *Cat Act 2011*](#)

STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLICATIONS

This item aligns with WALGA's Strategic Pillars:

- **Influence:** Lead advocacy on issues important to Local Government and lead policy development for the Local Government sector.
- **Support:** Anticipate, understand and respond to Member needs.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This submission has been developed based on current WALGA [Advocacy Positions](#):

- 2.12.1 Review of the *Cat Act 2011* and *Dog Act 1976*, and
- 2.12.2 Dog and Cat Management.

And previous submissions and positions on the legislation.

BACKGROUND

On 13 February 2026, the Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety (LGIRS) opened [consultation](#) on the review of the *Cat Act 2011* (the Cat Act), the second

statutory review of the legislation. The previous review was undertaken in 2019. The Cat Act provides for the control and management of cats and aims to promote and encourage the responsible ownership of cats, and for related matters.

As articulated in the Second Reading Speech, the Cat Act was introduced with the aim to reduce the number of stray cats being euthanised each year, encourage responsible cat ownership and provide for better management of the unwanted impacts of cats on the community and environment.

The submission provides recommendations on provisions in the Cat Act and identifies some of the issues Local Governments experience with implementing the legislation. WALGA used current Advocacy Positions, previous submissions, a webinar with the sector and opportunity to comment on a draft submission to gather feedback.

The webinar, held on 26 March 2026, had 61 registrations from Local Government. Feedback was received, and incorporated, on the draft submission.

The submission was considered, and is recommended to State Council for endorsement, by a joint meeting of the Governance and Environment Policy Teams on 25 May 2026.

COMMENT

In this submission WALGA has identified several areas where reform to the legislation is required, including:

- Consolidation of the Cat Act and *Dog Act 1976*;
- Stronger provisions for consistent non-compliance;
- Clear definitions for owned and unowned cats;
- Development of a Model Cat Local Law;
- A limit on the number of cats; and
- Lowering the age of sterilisation.

In drafting the submission, WALGA has also identified implementation challenges for the sector in particular low registration rates for cats, the lack of a centralised database for registration and limited resourcing.

Cat containment is out of scope of this submission, as the State Government is progressing the [Cat Amendment \(Local Laws\) Bill](#) 2026 to enable Local Governments to make cat containment Local Laws. WALGA is engaging separately with the sector on this matter.

WALGA RECOMMENDATION

That State Council endorse the submission on the Review of *Cat Act 2011*.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Mayor Phill Cronin
Seconded: President Cr Vivienne MacCarthy

That the South West Country Zone supports the WALGA recommendation for State Council Agenda item 8.3 as contained in the State Council Agenda and as provided above.

CARRIED

9.4 OTHER STATE COUNCIL AGENDA ITEMS

Zone Delegates are invited to raise for discussion, questions or decision any of the items in the State Council Agenda, including the items for noting, Policy Team and Committee Reports or the Key Activity Reports.

9.4.1 ALGA 2025 Local Government Emergency Management Survey Findings – State Council Agenda Item 10.1

The 2025 WALGA Local Government Emergency Management Survey, undertaken in partnership with Edith Cowan University (ECU), highlights ongoing resource, workforce and funding pressures across the Local Government sector, including rising emergency management expectations, structural funding challenges, grant access difficulties, and increasing staffing and capacity constraints.

An additional confidential attachment was available for Zone Delegates.

Noted

10 OTHER BUSINESS

10.1 WALGA ZONE CHAIR INDUCTION

Zone Chair, President Cr Donelle Buegge and Deputy Chair, President Cr Julia Jean-Rice attended a WALGA Zone Chair Induction on Monday, 25 May.

President Cr Donelle Buegge provided a brief overview and learnings from the induction to the Zone, in particular:

- Agency Reports - providing questions to Agencies ahead of time
- Zone strategic priorities - potential workshop
- Zone Executive Committees

The Zone REQUESTED that this item be included in the August Zone Agenda for further discussion.

11 EXECUTIVE REPORTS

11.1 WALGA PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The July 2026 WALGA President's Report was provided as an attachment to the Agenda.

Noted

11.2 WALGA STATE COUNCILLOR REPORT

State Councillor, President Cr Donelle Buegge presented on the previous State Council meeting.

Noted

12 FINANCIAL REPORT

12.1 SOUTH WEST COUNTRY ZONE MEMBER SUBSCRIPTIONS

As with previous years, Zone member subscriptions are due for the 2026-27 financial year.

Should the Zone wish to continue to contribute a \$600 subscription fee, or another agreed amount to fund regional projects and Zone activities when they arise, the Secretariat is seeking the Zone's endorsement to prepare invoicing for each member of the Zone.

RESOLUTION

Moved: President Cr Ian Miffling

Seconded: President Cr Michelle Campbell

That member Local Governments of the South West Country Zone be requested by invoice to contribute \$600 to the Zones account for the 2026-27 financial year.

CARRIED

12.2 SOUTH WEST COUNTRY ZONE FINANCIAL REPORT

At the April Zone meeting, the total closing cash balance of the financial report was missing from the Agenda. As there have been no additional transactions since the last Zone meeting, the current and complete financial report for June 2026 is provided below for review.

June 2026 Financial Report		
	Actual	Comments
	\$	
Opening Cash Balance	19,883	
Income		
Subscription Income	7,200	All members invoiced & funds collected
Total Income	7,200	
Expenses		
Bank Charges	59.62	
Sponsorship	-	
Plaques	383.25	
Total Expenses	442.87	
Closing Cash Balance	30,393.56	

RESOLUTION

Moved: President Cr Helen O'Connell

Seconded: Mayor Phill Cronin

That the South West Country Zone request WALGA to investigate the figures of the financial report for June 2026.

CARRIED

Secretariat Comment

The above table noted an incorrect opening balance for the June meeting due to an administrative error. This has been corrected and is provided below. An updated financial report will be provided for noting at the August Zone meeting.

South West Country Zone

Cashflow

Period Ending 31 May 26

	Actual \$	Note
Opening Cash Balance	23,636.43	
Income		
Subscription Income	<u>7,200.00</u>	1
Total Income	7,200.00	
Expenses		
Bank Charges	59.62	
Sponsorship	-	
Plaques	<u>383.25</u>	
Total Expenses	442.87	
Closing Cash Balance	30,393.56	

Note

1: Subscription invoices have been issued and all payments have been received.

13 EMERGING ISSUES

Nil.

14 2026 MEETING DATES AND LOCATIONS

Meeting dates for the remainder of 2026 are listed below. Please note if any changes need to be made.

MEETING DATE	HOST LOCAL GOVERNMENT
Friday, 21 August 2026	Harvey
Friday, 20 November 2026	Capel

15 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the South West Country Zone will be held on Friday, 21 August 2026 at the Shire of Harvey commencing at 9:00am.

16 CLOSURE

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 11:34am.