

Northern Country Zone MINUTES

26 AUGUST 2019



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Zone Delegates are requested to provide written notice on amendments to recommendations within the State Council agenda ASAP to the Zone Chair and Secretariat, to allow Zone members time to vote on the alternative recommendation.

ATTACHMENTS TO THE AGENDA

- Item 5.0: Minutes of the meeting of the Northern Country Zone of WALGA held 24 June 2019
- Item 8.1: Bank Statements x 3
- Item 8.2: Audit Report 2018-2019
- Item 9.1: Correspondence Wildflower Society WA (Inc)
- Item 9.2: Correspondence Midwest Suicide Prevention Steering Group
- Item 9.3: Correspondence Public Health Advocacy Institute of Western Australia
- Item 10.0: State Council Agenda
- Item 12.1: Midwest Suicide Prevention Steering Group Terms of Reference
- Item 13.1: WALGA President's Report to the Zone July 2019 – to be forwarded when received
- Item 13.2: Zone Status Report

1. OPENING AND WELCOME

The Chair, Cr Karen Chappel, declared the meeting open at 10:04 am. She welcomed members, presenters and guests and noted the apologies.

2. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

MEMBERS

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Shire of Carnamah | Cr Merle Isbister, Shire President
Mr Sean Fletcher, Acting Chief Executive Officer non-voting Delegate |
| Shire of Coorow | Cr Moira Girando, Shire President |
| City of Greater Geraldton | Mayor Shane Van Styn
Mr Ross McKim, Chief Executive Officer non-voting Delegate |
| Shire of Irwin | Cr Mike Smith, Shire President
Cr Ian West
Mr Shane Ivers, Chief Executive Officer non-voting Delegate |
| Shire of Mingenew | Cr Robert Newton
Mr Nils Hay, Chief Executive Officer non-voting Delegate |

Shire of Morawa	Cr Karen Chappel (Shire President and NCZ Chair) Mr Chris Linnell, Chief Executive Officer non-voting Delegate
Shire of Northampton	Cr Shane Krakouer, Deputy Shire President Mr Garry Keeffe, Chief Executive Officer non-voting Delegate
Shire of Perenjori	Commissioner Paul Omodei
Shire of Three Springs	Mr Alan Lamb, Acting Chief Executive Officer non-voting Delegate

EXECUTIVE OFFICER Dianne Daniels

PRESENTERS AND GUESTS

Office of the Auditor General for WA Ms Caroline Spencer, Auditor General

LGIS Mr Michael Sparks, Risk Manager

Department of Sport, Local Government and Cultural Industries Mr Richard Malacari, Regional Manager Midwest Gascoyne

Mid West Development Commission Mr Gavin Treasure, Chief Executive Officer

WALGA Mr Zac Donovan, Executive Manager Finance and Marketing

APOLOGIES

Regional Development Midwest Gascoyne Ms Yvonne Messina, Chair
Mr Mark Holdsworth, CEO

Member for Agricultural Region Hon. Laurie Graham MLC

Member for Agricultural Region Hon. Darren West MLC

Member for Moore Mr Shane Love MLA

Member for Geraldton Mr Ian Blayney MLA

Member for Agricultural Region Hon. Martin Aldridge MLC

Shire of Chapman Valley Cr Anthony Farrell, President
Cr Kirrilee Warr, Deputy President
Mr Maurice Battilana, Chief Executive Officer non-voting Delegate

City of Greater Geraldton Cr Tarleah Thomas

Shire of Coorow	Ms Leanne Parola, Acting Chief Executive Officer non-voting Delegate
Shire of Mingenew	Cr Helen Newton, President
Shire of Perenjori	Mr Mark Chester, Acting Chief Executive Officer non-voting Delegate
Shire of Three Springs	Cr Chris Lane, President

The Order of Business was amended to call for Declarations of Interest:

4. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

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

There were no Declarations of Interest.

3. DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

3.1 Office of the Auditor General for Western Australia

The Auditor General, Caroline Spencer, updated the members on the latest financial and performance audits.

A copy of the Presentation is attached to the minutes

3.2 LGIS

LGIS Risk Manager, Michael Sparks, gave a presentation on 'Elected Members – Managing Risks and Protection.'

A copy of the presentation is attached to the minutes.

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Prepared by: Dianne Daniels, Executive Officer

Attachments: Minutes of the Meeting of the Northern Country Zone of WALGA 24 June 2019

Recommendation:

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Northern Country Zone of WALGA held on 24 June 2019 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

Northern Country Zone Resolution:**Moved:** Cr Isbister**Seconded:** Cr West

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Northern Country Zone of WALGA held on 24 June 2019 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

Carried

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Nil

7. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR / STATE COUNCILLOR – 26 AUGUST 2019

Northern Country Zone of WALGA**August 2019****Zone President and State Councillor's Report.**

It was great to see so many Elected Members and CEO's from our Zone at the WALGA convention. It was a full week, with much to take in. Congratulations to our very own **ROCKSTAR**, CEO of Northampton, Garry Keefe. You were amazing and certainly gave the convention an uplifting start.

Since we last met the Local Govt Amendment Bill was passed and a Select Committee into Local Government has been formed. WALGA is encouraging all Local Governments to provide a submission to the Committee. The closing date has now been extended until the 13th September.

Universal Training will be in place for all Elected Members post the Election on October 19th 2019. WALGA is one of three approved providers. All units will be available online via WALGA and if we choose to work with any of our neighbours and hold a joint training session it will be less costly than individual Councillors attending. WALGA's training division is currently quoting on joint training sessions. Perhaps it's something we could consider doing as a Zone.

The past two months have been busy. I have attended all 3 of the State Council and Zone Structure and Process Working Group meetings. A report is being prepared for the State Council meeting on September 6 in Shark Bay after which it will go out to the sector for consultation.

WALGA State Council has also been workshopping the LGIS model and getting to understand all the complexities. LGIS has written to every Council and it is my understanding that they will be visiting each of us in the future.

WALGA's Business Solutions division is currently also visiting as many Local Governments as possible to encourage support of the Preferred Service Providers programme. If you haven't had a visit and would like one soon, please advise WALGA.

I attended the Regional Road Groups Chairs meeting at the Convention. Sadly, we were advised that Local Government's acquittal performance was lacking once again. We had quite a significant underspend across the State; the Mid West performance was good but as always a little room for improvement. I will be attending a SAC meeting with Main Roads on the 4th September and will be able to update at the RRG meeting in October.

The Local Govt House Trust meeting was last Wednesday, the Trust and the joint venture are travelling well. All of 170 Railway Parade stays occupied with sound leases.

As the Election looms I wish all of you good results and look forward to your return in November. To those of you retiring, if any, all the best and thank you for your commitment to Local Government and your community.

Please contact me if you have any questions re the above or anything WALGA.

Karen Chappel

Northern Country Zone Resolution:

Moved: Cr Isbister

Seconded: Cr Girando

That the Northern Country Zone of WALGA notes the report from the Chair/State Councillor for 26 August 2019.

Carried

8. FINANCE

8.1 Detailed Income and Expenditure Statement and Bank Reconciliation at 31 July 2019

Prepared by: Dianne Daniels, Executive Officer

Attachments: Bank Statements June and July x 2 2019

Recommendation:

That the Northern Country Zone of WALGA receives the Detailed Income Statement and Bank Reconciliation for the period ending 31 July 2019.

Comments:

The Detailed Income Statement shown below represents the cash position of NCZ at 31 July 2019, as reconciled to the Bank Statement.

NORTHERN COUNTRY ZONE OF WALGA				
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT				
For the period ending				
31-Jul-19				
	Date	Ref	Amount	Description
Statement Balance B/F	01-07-19		37,968.63	
Deposits				
Bank Interest Received				
TOTAL RECEIPTS			0.00	
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE			37,968.63	
Payments Made	03-07-19		-2,805.66	Internet tsf - Dianne Daniels - EO services 01/05/2019 - 30/06/2019; Travel expenses
TOTAL PAYMENTS MADE			-2,805.66	
Closing Cash Balance	31-05-19		35,162.97	
NORTHERN COUNTRY ZONE OF WALGA				
BANK RECONCILIATION SUMMARY				
For the period ending				
31-Jul-19				
Statement Balance B/F	01-07-19		37,968.63	
Deposits and Credits			0.00	
Cheques and Payments			-2,805.66	
Total Cleared Transactions	31-07-19		35,162.97	
Add back o/s			0.00	
Reconciled Balance			35,162.97	
Bank Statement	31-07-19		35,162.97	
Difference I&E to Bank Statement			0.00	

Northern Country Zone Resolution:**Moved:** Cr West**Seconded:** Cr Krakouer

That the Northern Country Zone of WALGA receives the Detailed Income Statement and Bank Reconciliation for the period ending 31 July 2019.

Carried**8.2 Audit Report 2018-2019**

Prepared by: Dianne Daniels, Executive Officer

Attachments: Audit Report 2018-2019

Recommendation:

That the Audit Report for the Northern Country Zone of WALGA for the period ended 30 June 2019 be received.

Comments:

As has happened historically, the 2018-2019 financial accounts for the Northern Country Zone of WALGA have been audited by Dwayne Wooltorton of North Midlands Accounting Services.

In the opinion of the Auditor, the accounts present fairly the financial position of the NCZ for the financial year ending 30 June 2019. There were no qualifications.

Northern Country Zone Resolution:**Moved:** Cr Girando**Seconded:** Cr Isbister

That the Audit Report for the Northern Country Zone of WALGA for the period ended 30 June 2019 be received.

Carried**8.3 Biennial Conference**

Prepared by: Dianne Daniels

Attachments: Nil

Recommendation:

That the Northern Country Zone biennial Conference planned for 2020 be deferred and consideration be given to removing it from the general calendar.

Comments:

Historically, the Northern Country Zone have held a biennial Conference aimed at bringing members together and offering opportunities to increase their awareness of their roles and responsibilities as elected members.

As the legislative framework of Local Government is changing along with the requirement that elected members undertake training to improve their industry specific knowledge, the Zone-specific Conference may be considered unwarranted and an unnecessary use of limited funds.

The various training opportunities to be provided to Councillors in the future together with the annual WALGA Conference in Perth may be regarded by members as ample opportunity to network and improve skills.

The Zone has the opportunity at any time to organise a conference or get together as required.

Northern Country Zone Resolution:

Moved: Mayor Van Styn

Seconded: Cr Girando

That the Northern Country Zone biennial Conference be cancelled.

Carried (Unanimous)

8.4 Fees 2019-2020

Prepared by: Dianne Daniels, Executive Officer

Attachments: Nil

Recommendation (if at Item 8.3 the NCZ biennial Conference is deferred):

That there be no Member Council membership fees for 2019-2020.

Alternative Recommendation (if at Item 8.3 the NCZ biennial Conference is to continue):

That the Member Council membership fees for 2019-2020 remain at \$1,700.00 per annum per local government.

Comment:

As the Northern Country Zone holds just over \$35k in the bank, there would be no need to levy fees in 2019-2020 if the members decide that the biennial Conference is unwarranted.

However, if members decide that the Conference is good value for money and should go ahead, then the fee per member of \$1,700 seems to be a reasonable figure to cover the conference costs, to ensure that meetings are well catered for and to ensure that the Executive Officer receives fair compensation.

Northern Country Zone Resolution:

Moved: Cr West

Seconded: Mayor Van Styn

That there be no Member Council membership fees for 2019-2020.

Carried (Unanimous)

9. CORRESPONDENCE

9.1 21/07/2019 Wildflower Society of Western Australia (Inc)

Attachment: Letter dated 21 July 2019 from Dr Eddy Wajon, Chair Roadside Vegetation Subcommittee, Wildflower Society of WA (Inc).

The request by the Wildflower Society to meet with the Chair of the Northern Country Zone (as the representative of the member Local Governments) to discuss alternatives to the removal of roadside vegetation as a strategy to save lives, was discussed by members.

It was agreed that the Executive Officer and Chair formulate a letter to the Wildflower Society of WA (Inc) strongly voicing the Northern Country Zone's position that road reserves are not nature reserves and that future road planning and road safety are the Zone's highest priorities in this matter.

The letter, once formulated, is to be circulated to members for comment.

9.2 31/07/2019 Midwest Suicide Prevention Steering Group

Attachment: Email dated 31 July 2019 from Isabel Ross, Mental Health Promotion Coordinator, WA Country Health Service and co-secretary for the Midwest Suicide Prevention Steering Group.

Invitation to the Northern Country Zone of WALGA to nominate a representative to serve as standing invitee to the Midwest Suicide Prevention Steering Group (refer separate item under Item 12.1 Business).

9.3 8/8/2019 Public Health Advocacy Institute of WA

Attachment: Flyer, Public Health Advocacy Institute of WA (PHAIWA).

Information regarding a free service provided by PHAIWA to support and mentor local governments in the preparation of their Public Health Plans, pursuant to phase 5 of the Public Health Act 2016.

Northern Country Zone Resolution:

Moved: Cr Isbister

Seconded: Cr Girando

That the Northern Country Zone of WALGA notes the correspondence received at Items 9.1 through to 9.3.

Carried

10. STATE COUNCIL AGENDA - MATTERS FOR DECISION

The following items have been taken directly from the WALGA State Council Agenda for 6 September 2019.

The Matters for Decision in the State Council agenda are numbered 5.1 to 5.9

The Recommendation and Brief only have been included. Please refer to the attached PDF version of the State Council Agenda for more detail.

10.1 (5.1) Interim Submission - Draft Position Statement: Fibre Ready Telecommunications Infrastructure (05-036-03-0048 VJ)

By Vanessa Jackson, Policy Manager Planning and Improvement

Recommendation:

That the interim submission to the WA Planning Commission on the draft Position Statement: Fibre Ready Telecommunications Infrastructure, be endorsed.

In Brief:

- On 23 May 2019, the Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) released the draft position statement for Fibre Ready Telecommunications Infrastructure, for public comment.
- The position statement aims to provide guidance on greenfield and infill subdivision and development applications of land for residential, commercial and industrial purposes.
- The public comment period closed on the 22 July 2019, therefore an interim submission was prepared.

10.2 (5.2) Interim Submission on the WA Motorsport Strategy (05-053-03-0012 MM)

By Marissa MacDonald, Senior Policy Advisor, Community

Recommendation:

That the interim submission on the WA Motorsport Strategy be endorsed.

In Brief:

- On 18 May 2019 the State Government released the WA Motorsport Strategy for consultation.
- The WA Motorsport Strategy provides a strategic framework to guide the motorsport industry to safely and sustainably develop the sport to benefit the industry and the wider community.
- While motorsport venues are not governed by Local Governments, they are a key stakeholder due to the numerous motorsport venues located on Local Government owned land.
- The Strategy focuses on six current and future bitumen based motorsport venues in Albany, Collie, Kalgoorlie, Keysbrook, Perth (Kwinana), and Wanneroo (Barbagallo).
- WALGA received comments from City of Albany, City of Busselton, Shire of Esperance, Shire of Plantagenet and City of Wanneroo to develop the submission.
- The main recommendation is for the State Government to review non-bitumen based motorsport to ensure representation of all motorsport disciplines and provide appropriate assistance to relevant Local Governments.

10.3 (5.3) Interim Submission on the State Strategy to Respond to the Abuse of Older People (Elder Abuse) (05-057-03-0001 MM)

By Marissa MacDonald, Senior Policy Advisor, Community

Recommendation:

That the interim submission on the State Strategy to Respond to the Abuse of Older People (Elder Abuse) is endorsed.

In Brief:

- The State Government released the Strategy to Respond to the Abuse of Older People (Elder Abuse) on 15 June 2019 for consultation.
- The Strategy provides overarching direction for collaborative action towards greater awareness and understanding of the causes, signs and consequences of elder abuse.
- WALGA requested feedback from all Local Governments to develop this submission.
- The Submission acknowledges that some Local Governments provide direct age care services, while other Local Governments who do not provide direct services work closely with aged services providers, groups and stakeholders to foster healthy, resilient, thriving communities and may also provide facilities for lease and community transport.
- All Local Governments are well placed to increase awareness of positive ageing and to implement age friendly strategies, with many Local Governments having already developed age friendly plans to address this.
- The Strategy is welcomed by Local Governments with a few areas requiring further clarification to ensure that Local Governments can address elder abuse suitably.

10.4 (5.4) WA Public Libraries Strategy Forum (05-012-03-0001 KD)

By Kirstie Davis, Policy Manager, Community

Recommendation:

That WALGA:

1. Supports the proposed repurposing of the accounting treatment of existing capital funds to recurrent funding.

2. Supports the proposed transfer of ownership of stock from State to Local Governments for Tier 1 Local Governments.
3. Requests State Library WA to advise the Local Government sector of the State Government corporate budget schedule and expedite annual funding allocation notifications to Local Government as soon as possible in the new financial year.

In Brief:

- The first Western Australian Public Libraries Strategy Consultation Report was endorsed by WALGA State Council in July 2018.
- WALGA State Council endorsed the new Public Library Tiered Service Model at their May 2019 meeting.
- WALGA delivered a forum on 21 June 2019, to consult with the Local Government sector to design and implement a way forward with the Strategy.
- The draft consultation findings are presented to WALGA State Council for final endorsement.

10.5 (5.5) Submission on the Draft Compliance and Enforcement Policy (01-006-02-0003 MB)

By Mark Batty, Executive Manager Environment and Waste

Recommendation:

That the submission to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation relating to the Compliance and Enforcement Policy be endorsed.

In Brief:

- The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) has released a revised draft Compliance and Enforcement Policy.
- The revised Policy differs minimally from the existing DWER Enforcement and Prosecution Policy (July 2013) and reaffirms DWER's risk based approach in the delivery of its compliance and enforcement functions in a number of operational areas.
- The submission reflects WALGA's significant concerns about whether the draft Policy can be effectively implemented and recommends a review of the effectiveness of the existing approach be undertaken to inform a revised policy.

10.6 (5.6) Submission on the Environmental Protection Authority's Greenhouse Gas Emissions Guidance (05-025-03-0001 LS)

By Laura Simes, Environment Policy Advisor

Recommendation:

That the WALGA submission on the Environmental protection Authority's proposed Greenhouse Gas Emissions Guidance be endorsed

In Brief:

- On 10 June 2019 the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) released updated draft Guidelines regarding how it considers greenhouse gas emissions when assessing significant proposals in Western Australia for public comment, along with an explanatory background paper.
- The Guidelines are being updated to ensure they reflect contemporary climate science, emissions trends, existing policies and regulation and risks to the Western Australian environment.
- The release of the draft guidelines for consultation follows the withdrawal of updated guidance in March 2019 which was criticised by some parts of the resources sector.
- WALGA's submission supports the proposed guidelines as consistent with the WALGA Climate Change Policy Statement, endorsed by State Council in July 2018. In particular the WALGA Statement calls for the

EPA to take a stronger regulatory role in assessing and recommending conditions to mitigate the greenhouse gas emissions associated with major projects, within its Environment Impact Assessment process.

10.8 (5.8) Interim Submission - Revitalising Agricultural Region Freight Strategy (05-006-02-0006 ID)

By Ian Duncan, Executive Manager Infrastructure

Recommendation:

That the interim submission to the Department of Transport on the draft Revitalising Agricultural Region Freight Strategy be endorsed.

In Brief:

- The draft Revitalising Agricultural Region Freight Strategy identifies and prioritises specific infrastructure upgrades, and suggests regulatory and policy measures that will help make freight transport in WA's agricultural regions (which covers 63 Local Government areas) more productive, efficient and safer. Roads under the control of Local Governments are an integral part of these supply chains.
- Local Governments were invited to comment on the draft during a six week consultation period ending 12 July 2019.
- Local Government representatives from the Agricultural Regions have indicated general support for the proposals set out in the Strategy and have identified opportunities to strengthen the approach.
- The draft Strategy does not provide any framework or direction to move from the list of potential investment opportunities identified to a funded program of work.
- The draft strategy proposes significant rail and intermodal investment to ensure that freight rail is increasingly efficient, assisting industries to remain internationally competitive and for it to be economically attractive for freight to be moved by rail. These measures are supported by Local Governments to the extent that they attract more freight from road to rail and improve industry competitiveness. Measures are required to be put in place to ensure that the benefits of any public investment are not privately captured by above or below rail operators.
- A detailed interim submission was prepared in consultation with the Local Government Agricultural Freight Group and other stakeholders. This was supported by the Infrastructure Policy Team and the Executive Committee.

10.9 (5.9) Policy Templates: (1) Works in the Local Government Road Reserve; and (2) Events in the Local Government Road Reserve (05-001-02-0008) MS)

*By Mal Shervill, Policy Officer Road Safety
and Mark Bondiatti, Policy Manager Transport and Roads*

Recommendation:

That the following Policy Templates be endorsed:

1. Works in the Local Government Road Reserve; and
2. Events in the Local Government Road Reserve

In Brief:

- Local Governments have a responsibility to govern works or events in the road reserve subject to relevant legislation and Local Laws.
- There have been instances of work being executed without the knowledge of the Local Government and failures of poor quality reinstatement.
- Local Governments have asked WALGA to develop policy templates for works and events in the road reserve to complement existing legislation including Local Laws and provide guidance to applicants.
- Two Policy Templates have been developed: (1) Works in the Local Government Road Reserve, and (2) Events in the Local Government Road Reserve.
- The Policy Templates are based on Regulations, Local Laws and existing relevant Local Government policies.

- The Policy Templates define the different categories of works and events and cover permitting, traffic management and reinstatement requirements.
- Consultation has included all Local Governments and the Utility Providers Services Committee.
- The Policy Templates provide a foundation for Local Governments to develop their own policies should they elect.

Northern Country Zone Resolution:

Moved: Cr Isbister

Seconded: Cr Krakouer

That the Northern Country Zone of WALGA endorses, en bloc, the WALGA Officers' recommendation for State Council Agenda Item 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 5.5, 5.6, 5.8 and 5.9.

Carried

Item 10.7 was considered separately.

10.7 (5.7) Road Safety Strategy for WA Beyond 2020 (05-009-03-0014 TAP)

By Terri-Anne Pettet, Manager RoadWise Program

Recommendation:

That the submission to the Road Safety Council, for consideration in developing the next road safety strategy for Western Australia, be endorsed.

In Brief:

- *Towards Zero*, the current road safety strategy for Western Australia will expire in 2020.
- The Road Safety Council has initiated a consultation process to inform the development of a draft strategy which will be recommended to the Minister responsible for road safety for endorsement by the Government of Western Australia.
- A draft submission, with a Local Government perspective, has been prepared to highlight some of the challenges and opportunities and make recommendations for improving road safety beyond 2020.
- Endorsement by State Council of the submission is sought to provide a representative response from the Western Australian Local Government sector.

Northern Country Zone Resolution:

Moved: Cr Girando

Seconded: Commissioner Omodei

That the Northern Country Zone of WALGA endorses the WALGA Officers' recommendation for State Council Agenda Item 5.7, with the proviso that the Northern Country Zone does not support the reduction of the speed limit to 100 km an hour on rural roads.

Carried

11. STATE COUNCIL AGENDA - MATTERS FOR NOTING / INFORMATION

The following items have been taken directly from the WALGA State Council Agenda for 6 September 2019.

The Matters for Noting/Information in the State Council agenda are numbered 6.1 to 6.8.

The Recommendation and Brief only have been included. Please refer to the attached PDF version of the State Council Agenda for more detail.

11.1 (6.1) Submission to the Select Committee into Local Government (05-034-02-0014 TB/TL)

*By Tony Brown, Executive Manager Governance and Organisational Services,
and Tim Lane, Manager Strategy and Association Governance*

Recommendation:

That State Council note:

1. Establishment of the Select Committee into Local Government; and,
2. The Process for the development of WALGA's submission to the Committee.

In Brief:

- The Legislative Council has established a Select Committee into Local Government, with a broad terms of reference and a 12 month Inquiry window;
- WALGA has prepared a [draft submission](#) addressing the Committee's terms of reference and feedback on the draft is sought from the Local Government sector by 13 August 2019;
- Local Governments are also encouraged to provide a submission to the Select Committee by the closing date of 23 August 2019, noting that WALGA has requested for Local Governments to be granted an extension for the preparation of submissions.

11.2 (6.2) Cooperation and Shared Services (05-105-03-0001 ABM)

By Anne Banks-McAllister, Regional Capacity Building Manager

Recommendation:

That State Council notes the *Cooperation & Shared Services* (June 2019) document.

In Brief:

- Local Governments in Western Australia have a strong history of working collaboratively to maximise resources to deliver services and outcomes that are often more efficiently and effectively delivered together
- WALGA has conducted an audit of current collaboration and the delivery of shared services across the sector
- The audit has resulted in the production of *Cooperation and Shared Services* which documents a range of examples across many areas of Local Government operations, including information about the governance arrangements that support collaboration and the delivery of shared services
- WALGA will continue to update this resource and work to support the sector with advice, tools and templates that support these arrangements
- A copy of *Cooperation and Shared Services* has been provided to the Minister of Local Government, Sport & Cultural Industries to demonstrate the range and extent of collaborative effort across the sector.

11.3 (6.3) Draft Terms of Reference for an Inquiry into Local Government Fees and Charges (05-001-03-0006 NF)

By Nebojsa Franich, Policy Manager – Economics

Recommendation:

That State Council note the Draft Terms of Reference for an Inquiry into Local Government Fees and Charges.

In Brief:

- An Inquiry into Local Government Fees and Charges has been a longstanding item on WALGA's advocacy agenda, and has been a policy position for WALGA since 2012.
- The State Local Government Partnership Group were provided, for approval, a Draft Terms of Reference for an Inquiry into Local Government Fees and Charges.

- WALGA endorsed the Terms of Reference provided to the State Local Government Partnership Group, subject to there being more emphasis on the Inquiry looking into the need for regulation on statutory Local Government fees and charges, and the suitability of Local Governments independently setting fees and charges for all of the services they provide. The changes recommended by WALGA are now reflected in the Draft Terms of Reference provided to State Council.
- Once the review is initiated by the Economic Regulation Authority and more information becomes available on timeframes for public submissions, WALGA will look to engage the membership in order to provide a sector-wide submission.

11.4 (6.4) Public Health Advocacy Plan (05-031-01-0001 KD)

By Kristie Davis, Policy Manager Community

Recommendation:

That State Council note the WALGA Public Health Advocacy Plan.

In Brief:

- The WA State Government is currently introducing a new *Public Health Act 2016* (the Public Health Act) for Western Australia which will require Local Governments to develop Local Public Health Plans.
- The Public Health Act is progressing through a five-stage process of implementation and is currently at Stage 4.
- WALGA as the peak body for Local Governments has been advocating to State Government for the appropriate resourcing for Local Governments to develop public health plans as essential to plan, implement and report against the new *Public Health Act 2016*.
- Alongside the advocacy plan, WALGA is engaged with Local Governments, including representatives of the Metropolitan Environmental Health Managers Group (MEHMG) to prepare submissions to develop the new regulations. All regulations from the previous *Health Act 1911* will be replaced, and repealed at the commencement of State 5, which is anticipated to commence in 2021.

11.5 (6.5) Completion of the Managing Alcohol in Our Communities Guide (06-045-01-0001 KD)

By Kristie Davis, Policy Manager Community

Recommendation:

That State Council note the completion of the Managing Alcohol in Our Communities Guide.

In Brief:

- In August 2010 WALGA State Council resolved to maintain its partnership with the Drug and Alcohol Office WA (DOA) in relation to the 'Local Government Alcohol Management Package – A Toolkit to assist Western Australian Local Government' and other alcohol related matters.
- WALGA received a total of \$50,000 from the then DOA to complete the project.
- In December 2018 WALGA State Council endorsed the completed Guide. (Resolution 142.7/2018).

11.6 (6.6) Local Government Coastal Hazard Planning – Issues Paper (05-036-03-0065 AR)

By Ashley Robb, Project Officer, Planning and Improvement

Recommendation:

That State Council note the Association's preparation of the *Local Government Coastal Hazard Planning – Issues Paper (2019)*.

In Brief:

- The purpose of the Local Government Coastal Hazard Planning Issues Paper (the Issues Paper) is to clearly identify: (1) issues that Local Governments are experiencing in meeting coastal hazard planning responsibilities established by *State Planning Policy 2.6: Coastal Planning Policy*; and (2) options for resolving these issues, which may include research, state agency advice, legal advice, peer reviewed guidance, and/or advocacy.
- The Issues Paper uses nine scenarios to present a range of situations which coastal communities, and their Local Governments, are experiencing now or may experience in the near future given current climate change and associated sea level rise projections.
- In October, WALGA and the Local Government Coastal Hazard Risk Management and Adaptation Planning (LG CHRMAP) Forum will meet to begin preparing a plan of action for addressing these issues, through issue prioritisation, identifying resource requirements and discussing opportunities for collaborative funding of further research and advice.

11.7 (6.7) Climate Resilient Councils – Preparing for the Impacts of Climate Change (06-076-01-0001 LS)

By Laura Simes, Environment Policy Advisor

Recommendation:

That State Council note the commencement of the Climate Resilient Councils project, following WALGA's successful bid for Commonwealth Natural Disaster Resilience Program funding.

In Brief:

- WALGA was advised on 26 June 2019 that its application for \$175,000 from the Natural Disaster Resilience Program (NDRP) for a project, Climate Resilient Councils - preparing for impacts of climate change, was successful.
- Project partners are the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSC), Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES), Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) and LGIS who are all providing financial and in-kind support.
- The aim of the project is to assist WA Local Governments to prepare for the increased incidence and severity of natural disasters as a result of climate change. The project will:
 1. Through a desktop governance assessment, provide an evidence base of the extent to which climate change and disaster management are embedded in the decision-making and governance documents of all Western Australian Local Governments. This includes identifying gaps, barriers and opportunities to incorporating climate change adaptation into WA Local Government decision-making.
 2. Build upon these findings to inform State Government and WALGA initiatives to support the capacity of Local Governments to adopt better climate change adaptation and disaster mitigation and preparedness practices:
 - a. Run Local Government workshops to distribute individualised findings, gap analysis and 'what next'; and
 - b. Produce targeted guidance materials for members.
- The project is being promoted to Local Governments through WALGA's newsletters, social media and via direct contact with Local Governments to raise awareness and seek their active engagement with the project.

11.8 (6.8) Report Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) (01-006-03-008 RNB)

By Rebecca Brown, Manager, Waste & Recycling

Recommendation:

That State Council note the resolutions of the Municipal Waste Advisory Council at its 26 June 2019 meeting.

In Brief:

- This item summaries the outcomes of the MWAC meeting held on 26 June 2019.

Northern Country Zone Resolution:

Moved: Cr West

Seconded: Cr Isbister

That the Northern Country Zone of WALGA notes State Council Agenda Items 6.1 to 6.8.

Carried

12. BUSINESS

12.1 Midwest Suicide Prevention Steering Group – Nomination of Invitee

Prepared by: Dianne Daniels

Attachments: Midwest Suicide Prevention Steering Group Terms of Reference

Recommendation:

That the Northern Country Zone of WALGA nominates a representative to serve as a standing Invitee on the Midwest Suicide Prevention Steering Group (MSPSG).

Background:

Refer Item 9.2 Correspondence Midwest Suicide Prevention Steering Group and its Terms of Reference, attached.

A recent review of the Steering Group's Terms of Reference recognised a lack of involvement and input from people in rural and remote areas. Therefore, the Steering Group have asked if the Northern Country Zone would be willing to nominate one representative to serve as a standing Invitee, providing input to the meetings and helping to identify local emerging issues that could lead to suicide.

The Steering Group meets bi-monthly on the 4th Wednesday of the month, or as decided by the Group. The representative could participate in person or via teleconference.

Comments:

Even though the core business of the Northern Country Zone of WALGA is to consider WALGA business, the coming together of representatives of the ten member councils on a regular basis offers perfect opportunity to consider issues that have regional impact.

Suicide has impacted all our communities and often goes hand-in-hand with other regional issues such as slow (or negative) economic growth, socio-economic disadvantage (refer latest Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas – SEIFA - from the Bureau of Statistics) and drug and alcohol abuse, to name but a few.

Involvement by the Zone in the Steering Group via a regular report from the Zone Representative may provide beneficial information to member councils who are concerned with supporting the health and well-being of their communities.

Northern Country Zone Resolution:

Moved: Cr West

Seconded: Commissioner Omodei

That the Northern Country Zone of WALGA nominates Cr Isbister to serve as a standing Invitee on the Midwest Suicide Prevention Steering Group.

Carried

13. REPORTS

13.1 WALGA President's Report to the Zone

The August 2019 WALGA President's Report was circulated prior to the meeting. The Chair introduced Zac Donovan, Executive Manager, Finance and Marketing at WALGA, who spoke to the report.

Northern Country Zone Resolution:

Moved: Cr Girando

Seconded: Cr Isbister

The Northern Country Zone of WALGA notes the August 2019 WALGA President's Report to the Zone.

Carried

13.2 Zone Status Report

A Status Report outlining the actions taken on the Zone's resolutions is attached.

Northern Country Zone Resolution:

Moved: Cr West

Seconded: Cr Isbister

The Northern Country Zone of WALGA notes the August 2019 Status Report outlining actions taken on the Zone's resolutions.

Carried

13.3 Rural Water WA (Inc) Meeting July 5 2019 Report

A summary of the July 5 2019 meeting of Rural Water WA (Inc) was tabled by the NCZ Representatives, Cr Girando, supported by Cr Lane in absentia. It was agreed unanimously that there was little benefit to the Northern Country Zone of ongoing membership and the motion to join Rural Water WA (Inc) and to appoint Cr Girando and Cr Lane as representatives, was rescinded.

Northern Country Zone Resolution:

Moved: Cr Girando

Seconded: Mayor Van Styn

The Northern Country Zone of WALGA rescinds the resolution of Item 12.2 of the March 21 2019 meeting 'That the Northern Country Zone of WALGA join Rural Water Council of WA (Inc) and that Cr Girando and Cr Lane be the Zone's voting delegates.'

Carried

14. OTHER BUSINESS

14.1 Regional Issues

Background:

As per the resolution at Item 9.1 of the February 2018 minutes, Regional Issues are open for discussion.

The Chair discussed the possibility of regional Councillor training sessions and it was agreed that the Executive Officer would approach WALGA regarding training options and costs, after canvassing members regarding the place(s), times and dates that would be most suitable. Findings to be reported back to the Zone.

14.2 Regional Tourism Initiatives

Background:

As per the resolution at Item 10.1 of the April 2019 minutes, Regional Tourism Initiatives are open for discussion.

Nil forthcoming.

The Chair offered guests Richard Malacari, Regional Manager Midwest Gascoyne DSLGC and Gavin Treasure' CEO Mid West Development Commission, the opportunity to address the meeting. Both gave updates from their organisation, relevant to the Zone.

The Chair thanked presenters, Carolyn Spencer, Auditor General and Michael Sparks, LGIS Risk Manager for their valuable contribution to the meeting.

15. DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

Recommendation:

That the next ordinary meeting of the Northern Country Zone of WALGA be held on Monday 25 November 2019 commencing at 10 am, at the Mingenew Sports Pavilion.

Comment:

As elections for Office Bearers are to be held at the November 2019 meeting, the meeting will need to be in-person rather than by Flying Minute.

Northern Country Zone Resolution:

Moved: Cr Isbister

Seconded: Cr West

That the next ordinary meeting of the Northern Country Zone of WALGA be held on Monday 25 November 2019, commencing at 10:00 am, at the Mingenew Sports Pavilion.

Carried

16. MEETING CLOSURE

The meeting was declared closed at 12:05 pm.