

Great Southern Country Zone

Minutes

Friday, 21 April 2023
Commenced at 10am

Shire of Kojonup
Kojonup Sporting Complex,
entrance off Benn Parade,
Kojonup

Contact WALGA Zone Secretariat:

Lyn Fogg
Zone Executive Officer
WALGA Governance Specialist
lfogg@walga.asn.au
08 9213 2042

Chantelle O'Brien
Governance Support Officer
cobrien@walga.asn.au
08 9213 2013

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. OPENING AND WELCOME	1
1.1. Acknowledgement of County	1
2. ATTENDANCE	1
2.1. Apologies.....	2
3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	3
4. GUEST SPEAKERS / DEPUTATIONS	3
4.1. Members of Parliament.....	3
4.2. Guest Speakers / Deputation	3
4.2.1. Emergency Management Preparedness – NBN Co.....	3
4.2.2. Guest Speaker Proposal – Shire of Kojonup	3
4.2.3. Department of Communities, Emergency Relief and Support.....	4
5. AGENCY REPORTS	4
5.1. Great Southern Development Commission (GSDC)	4
5.2. Regional Development Australia Great Southern WA Inc (RDA-GS)	6
Attachment No. 1 Great Southern Rail Advisory Group Draft Discussion Paper “A Vision for the GSR” and “Precis Presentation” (circulated under separate cover) .	6
5.3. South Coast Natural Resource Management (SCNRM).....	7
5.4. Local Government Agricultural Freight Group (LGAFG).....	7
5.5. Great Southern Human Services Forum	7
Attachment No. 2 CONFIDENTIAL Nominee Biographies (circulated under separate cover)	7
5.6. Great Southern Regional Roads Group	8
5.7. WALGA RoadWise	8
5.8. Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSC)	8
Attachment No. 3 DLGSC Update April 2023.....	9
6. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES	9
6.1. Business Arising from the Minutes	9
6.2. Zone Resolution Status Report	9
Attachment No. 4 Great Southern Country Zone Status Report April 2023	9
6.2.1. Zone Action Items Report.....	10
Attachment No. 5 Great Southern Country Zone Action Items Report April 2023.....	10
7. ZONE BUSINESS	10
7.1. Zone Reports.....	10
7.1.1. Zone Financial Report	10
7.1.2. Zone Chairperson’s Report	12
7.1.3. Great Southern Roads Committee	13
7.1.4. Zone Hosting State Council – September 2023 - Update	15

Great Southern Country Zone
MINUTES 21 April 2023

Attachment No. 6	DAMA Working Group Meeting Notes 20 April 2023.....	15
7.2.	Zone Priority Strategic Issues	16
7.2.1.	Designated Area Migration Agreement (DAMA) – Working Group.....	16
7.2.2.	Telecommunication Blackspots	17
Attachment No. 7	GS Development Commission – Telecommunications Blackspot List 2022.....	17
7.3.	Zone Matters for Decision.....	18
8.	WALGA STATE COUNCIL BUSINESS	19
8.1.	Zone State Council Member Report.....	19
8.2.	State Council Meeting Agenda.....	19
Attachment No. 8	State Council Agenda – via link: State Council Agenda 3 May 2023.	19
8.2.1.	Matters for Decision	20
8.2.2.	Matters for Noting.....	25
8.2.3.	WALGA State President’s Report.....	25
Attachment No. 9	WALGA State President’s Report – circulated under separate cover	25
9.	EMERGING ISSUES / COLLABORATION	26
9.1.	Regions Rising Conference	26
9.2.	MRWA Presentation: Great Southern Secondary Freight Network	26
10.	NEXT ZONE MEETING	26
11.	CLOSURE.....	26

Policy and Advocacy Prioritisation Framework



This tool has been developed to assist the Great Southern Zone to determine the relative priority of a particular issue relative to existing policy and advocacy priorities.

The prioritisation framework does not remove the need for judgements to be made and is intended to *guide*, not replace, decision-making.

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 Zone Prospect of positive consequences for WALGA zone. E.g. enhanced standing among members or leverage for other issues.	High	Medium	Low
Negative consequences for WALGA Zone Prospect of negative consequences for WALGA zone 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)

Using this tool:

- 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

Following prioritisation, an appropriate and proportionate policy and advocacy approach can be determined.

Endorsed by GSCZ Feb 2022

1. OPENING AND WELCOME

The meeting was declared open at 10.00am.

The Chair acknowledged attendance of WALGA Sate Council President, Cr Karen Chappel.

1.1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTY

We, the Great Southern Country Zone of WALGA acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of this land, and pays our respects to their Elders past, present and future.

2. ATTENDANCE

ZONE MEMBER REPRESENTATIVES:

City of Albany

Cr Matt Benson-Lidholm

Cr Sandie Smith

Observer Cr Paul Terry

Shire of Broomehill-Tambellup

CEO Anthony Middleton (non-voting)

Shire of Cranbrook

President, Cr Philip Horrocks

CEO Linda Gray (non-voting)

Shire of Denmark

Cr Donna Carman

Cr Janine Phillips

CEO David Schober (non-voting)

Shire of Gnowangerup

President, Cr Fiona Gaze

Deputy President, Cr Greg Stewart

CEO David Nicholson (non-voting)

Shire of Jerramungup

Deputy President, Cr Julie Leenhouders

Cr Andrew Price

Observer Cr Jo Iffla

CEO Martin Cuthbert (non-voting)

Shire of Katanning

President, Cr Liz Guidera (Zone Deputy Chair)

Cr Serena Sandwell

CEO Julian Murphy (non-voting)

Shire of Kent

President, Cr Scott Crosby

Deputy President, Cr Kate Johnston

CEO Adam Seiler (non-voting)

Shire of Kojonup

Cr Kevin Gale

Cr Alan Egerton-Warburton

Observer President, Cr Ned Radford
CEO Grant Thompson (non-voting)

Shire of Plantagenet **President, Cr Chris Pavlovich (Zone Chair)**
Cr Ken Clements
A/CEO Gary Clarke (non-voting)

Shire of Woodanilling Deputy President, Cr Russel Thomson
Cr Dale Douglas (deputy member)
Cr Peter Morrel (observer)
CEO Kelly Bartley (non-voting)
Mike Hudson, Executive Manager Infrastructure (observer)

GUESTS

Agencies

Great Southern Development Commission Pippa Hepburn, Regional Development Officer
Regional Development Australia – Great Southern WA Inc Simon Lyas, Director, Regional Development
Local Government Agricultural Freight Group Cr Russel Thomson, Zone Delegate, Shire of Woodanilling
Great Southern Human Services Forum Cr Donna Carman, Zone Delegate, Shire of Denmark
Great Southern Regional Roads Group / Zone's Roads Committee Cr Len Handasyde, Shire of Plantagenet
Department of Local Government, Sport, and Cultural Industries Mel Eastough, Regional Manager

Members of Parliament

Nil.

WALGA

WALGA State President Cr Karen Chappel,
Ian Duncan, Executive Manager Infrastructure
Lyn Fogg, Zone Executive Officer
WALGA, Roadwise Vivienne Gardiner, Regional Road Safety Adviser

2.1. APOLOGIES

City of Albany	Mayor Dennis Wellington
Shire of Broomehill-Tambellup	Andrew Sharpe, CEO President, Cr Michael White Deputy President, Cr Doug Barritt
Shire of Cranbrook	Deputy President, Cr George Pollard
Shire of Katanning	Deputy President, Cr John Goodheart
Shire of Plantagenet	Deputy President, Cr Jon Oldfield
Shire of Woodanilling	President, Cr Stephen Jefferies
Great Southern Development Commission	Natasha Monks, Chief Executive Officer

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Pursuant to our Code of Conduct, Councillors 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. Councillors and Deputies may be directly or indirectly associated with some recommendations of the Zone and State Council. If you, as a voting delegate, are affected by these recommendations, please excuse yourself from the meeting and do not participate in deliberations.

President, Cr Scott Crosby disclosed an interest in Item 5.5 Great Southern Human Resources Forum, and advised he would leave the meeting for that item.

4. GUEST SPEAKERS / DEPUTATIONS

4.1. MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

Members of Federal and State Government, representing the Zone Member Local Government Districts, are invited to provide a brief update on matters relevant to Zone Members.

NIL.

4.2. GUEST SPEAKERS / DEPUTATION

Details of guest speakers approved by the Zone for future meetings

Zone Meeting Dates 2023		Speaker Confirmed
21 April	Kojonup	NBN Co – Emergency Management Preparedness (approved GSCZ-25/11/22)
23 June	Plantagenet	Telstra (approved GSCZ-17/02/23)
25 August	Albany	
24 November	Broomehill -Tambellup	

4.2.1. Emergency Management Preparedness – NBN Co

The presentation was provided by **Katina Bowie**, Community Engagement Manager (South East Region WA), nbn Local.

The Zone was advised that the NBN Co representative was unable to attend and had apologised for any inconvenience caused.

4.2.2. Guest Speaker Proposal – Shire of Kojonup

Cr Alan Egerton-Warburton

BACKGROUND

Families and children in the Great Southern Region are often faced with the difficult decision to send children to boarding or residential schools to enable them to continue their secondary education with access to chosen fields of study. For some families this decision is difficult or perhaps impossible due to costs and / or emotional and social impacts for the family and the children.

As a consequence of Covid-19 lockdowns, our communities, businesses and governments are using virtual technologies in day to day operations, which may present opportunities for the Education

Department to deliver a wider variety of study course options to regional students but may also provide opportunities for innovative programs that seek to engage and retain children at risk and indigenous children in formal secondary education. For example; Vocational Education and Training (VET) and apprenticeships.

Delivering secondary education options to students residing in our Regional communities means they stay connected with family and community, whilst they achieve job ready qualifications, that may contribute to improving regional population and employment issues.

RESOLUTION

MOVED Cr Alan Edgerton-Warburton
SECONDED Cr Kevin Gale

That the Great Southern Country Zone request the WALGA secretariat to coordinate a guest speaker for the August Zone meeting, from the Education Department to speak on the topics of; secondary education initiatives, alternative pathways and regional delivery models offered or planned for delivery in the Great Southern Region, with particular focus on programs that retain children at risk and Indigenous children in education.

CARRIED

ACTION ITEMS:

- Zone requested that the Education Department Regional Director, Sue Cuneo, be asked to present to the Zone.
 - Additional topics to include; support programs for regional teachers.
- Following the presentation by the Regional Director, the Zone will consider inviting the Minister for Education to attend a future Zone meeting.

4.2.3. Department of Communities, Emergency Relief and Support

The Chair advised the meeting that a request had been received from Department of Communities to provide the Zone with a presentation outlining the Department's role during an emergency incident and Local Government responsibilities on the ground until the Department resources arrive.

ACTION ITEMS:

- **The Zone AGREED to thank the Department of Communities, however to decline their offer of a presentation on emergency response arrangement as the Zone considers this a matter that appropriately addressed at Local Emergency Management Committees.**

5. AGENCY REPORTS

5.1. GREAT SOUTHERN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (GSDC)

Report by Pippa Hepburn, Development Officer

MOBILE BLACKSPOT

- The State Government is providing co-funding for the Regional Connectivity Program 3 - Mobile Black Spots and is working with service providers looking to submit applications in WA.

- DPIRD Regional Telecommunications Project team are coordinating this.
- Applications must be submitted by service providers. DPIRD has provided priorities across the State and the service providers will assess/prioritise the sites and develop a proposal.
- Once a proposal is signed off by the State, letters of support will be sought for the submission by the provider to Australian Government. A WALGA Zone letter would be very welcome.

DAMA

- OMI have received queries from Local Governments with existing DAMAs regarding support services for migrants.
- OMI suggests that groups with DAMAs in progress reach out to existing DAMA groups to explore approaches to DAMA implementation.
- OMI can assist in some areas including cultural awareness training for staff, training in the use of Translation and Interpretation Services, and links to available resources.

2023-24 STATE BUDGET BRIEFING

- 23-24 State Budget Briefing: Retravisation Stadium on Friday 12 May 2023: 11:45am – 2:00pm
- Hon. Reece Whitby MLA, Minister for Environment; Climate Action; Racing and Gaming
- Tickets: \$35 per person inclusive of light lunch.
- All LGs provided with two complimentary tickets (CEO and Shire President) - please RSVP by 10 May.

REGIONAL DROUGHT RESILIENCE PLANS

- Final Draft of the Inland Great Southern Plan is with the Hon. Jackie Jarvis MLC, Minister for Agriculture and Food; Forestry; Small Business, to forward to Senator the Hon Murray Watt, Minister for Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, for approval.
- The Drought Resilience Plan covers 8 Inland Great Southern Shires and was part of pilot program which covered areas of the Mid West, Wheatbelt and Great Southern.

TASTE GREAT SOUTHERN

- 4 – 14 May 2023.
- 40 plus events across the region.
- Please share local and regional events via your socials.

NOTED

5.2. REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA GREAT SOUTHERN WA INC (RDA-GS)

Report by Simon Lyas, Chief Executive Officer

Attachment No. 1 Great Southern Rail Advisory Group Draft Discussion Paper “A Vision for the GSR” and “Precis Presentation” (circulated under separate cover)

DAMA Update

RDA Great Southern has been working with the GSCZ DAMA Working Group on progressing the DAMA on behalf of the region. Key steps in the process are noted below:

- The Service Agreement between RDA Great Southern as the Dedicated Area Representative (DAR) was signed with the Zone Chair on 17 March.
- The draft DAMA Business Case was received by the working group on Wednesday, 12 April.
- The final Business Case is due for completion and submission to the Department of Home Affairs by the end of April.
- The working group members have been chasing up letters of support from politicians, LGA's, industry representatives, key employers and significant projects i.e. Wind Farm, Aquaculture, Heavy Industry, Food Processors and Producers, etc.
- The Business Case prepared by EY presents a strong case for a DAMA including around 300 occupations at different skill levels based on survey responses for skilled and semi-skilled worker shortages. The submission calls for concessions on English language, Age and Salary limits, Skills and Experience, and Permanent Residency incentives.
- RDA Great Southern was asked by the Working Group to coordinate meetings and provide administrative support.

The Great Southern Rail Advocacy Group

The GSRAG is a small informal group of stakeholders and interested people from the Great Southern and Wheatbelt regions who have a common interest in increasing the efficiency and greater use of the rail network.

The group have been meeting every 3-6 months during the past two years to discuss the great southern rail network, its past, current and future potential in serving the economic and transport needs of the region.

The group's draft discussion paper “A Vision for the GSR” has been circulated under separate cover for information. Key Points:

- There are road safety advantages in reducing the number of heavy transport vehicles on our major road networks.
- There are efficiency gains and longer term savings in improving rail use including:
 - Reducing carbon emissions
 - Introducing intermodal transport hubs in strategic locations to improve freight logistics and movement
 - Improvements to be made in track modifications eg, longer and more frequent track loops
 - New corridor and existing rail corridors to be explored for time and cost benefits
 - Highlighting the existing lease limitations
 - Consideration to reintroduction of passenger services and tourism rail experiences
 - Adoption of the latest rail electronic technology train management systems

MEETING COMMENT:

- The Zone Chair extended the Zone's appreciation to the RDA-Great Southern and particularly Renee, for their work in supporting development of the Zone's DAMA Business Plan.

NOTED

5.3. SOUTH COAST NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (SCNRM)

Report by Cr John Oldfield, Zone Delegate, Shire of Plantagenet

NIL.

5.4. LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGRICULTURAL FREIGHT GROUP (LGAFG)

Report by Cr Russel Thomson, Zone Delegate Shire of Woodanilling

NIL.

**** 10.40am President Cr Crosby left the meeting, having previously disclosed a conflict of interest in Item 5.5.**

5.5. GREAT SOUTHERN HUMAN SERVICES FORUM

Report by Lyn Fogg, Zone Executive Officer

Attachment No. 2 **CONFIDENTIAL** Nominee Biographies (circulated under separate cover)

The Zone resolved at its 24 June 2022 meeting (item 9.3) to appoint Cr Donna Carman, Shire of Denmark, as the Zone's delegate to the Great Southern Human Services Forum.

At the Zone's February 2023 meeting it was noted that the Great Southern Human Services Forum was in fact an officer forum and the Forum has requested the Zone to consider nominating a senior officer (i.e. Manage Community Services) as the Zone's representative, in place of a Council Member.

Nominations were sought from Zone Member CEO's for a senior officer with responsibility for community development/services.

Nominations (in order of receipt) for Zone Delegate for the Great Southern Human Services Forum:

Shire of Kent - **Michaela Crosby**, Projects / Grants Officer, Office of the CEO
Shire of Cranbrook – **Jenny Cristinelli**, Community Development Manager

Zone Delegates appointed to external organisations are reviewed at the Zone meeting following each Local Government Ordinary Election Day, however as appointment of the delegate on this occasion is occurring only several months before the 2023 Ordinary Election Day, it is recommended that the appointment is made for the period that the delegate holds their current employment with the nominating Local Government, or until October 2025 (whichever occurs first).

RESOLUTION

MOVED President, Cr Liz Guidera

SECONDED Cr Julie Leenhouders

During debate Cr Janine Phillips proposed amendment to the motion to include nomination of a proxy delegate – the amendment was agreed to by mover and seconder.

That the Great Southern Country Zone nominates Michaela Crosby (Shire of Kent) as its Delegate, and Jenny Cristinelli (Shire of Cranbrook) as its proxy delegate, to the Great Southern Human Services Forum for the period that the delegate holds their current employment with the nominating Local Government or until October 2025 (whichever occurs first).

CARRIED

** 10.45am President Cr Crosby re-joined the meeting.

5.6. GREAT SOUTHERN REGIONAL ROADS GROUP

Report by Cr Len Handasyde, Shire of Plantagenet

The Subgroups have all indicated that projects in their areas are on track for completion and acquittal prior to the end of the financial year. This is of course consistent each year at this time of the year when this assessment is made in February.

This is never in fact the case. Acquittals by percentage by the end of June annually are much lower than the final figures. The accrued monies paid out in July or August each year brings the percentages up to 90+%. This is not ideal.

I recognize that there are many challenges in completing and acquitting roads funding. As a region it would appear that there is room for better collaboration in order to get the acquittals in on time. This is up to the individual Shires to look into. I know many Shires do work together a little and that's certainly commendable.

The Great Southern Secondary Freight Network has been allocated \$8.5 Million in funding and this will assist some key projects to be undertaken under certain criteria. This will be worked through under a Regional Road Group process and I look forward to these projects delivering some key outcomes.

Some of these monies can be used for planning purposes and it is to be suggested at the following meeting that \$500,000 be set aside for planning in order to fully understand the quantum of the issues facing us into the future when it comes to the road network. This work will link in with the Wheatbelt work undertaken a few years ago under their Secondary Freight Network study and it is envisaged that our roads will link in with theirs. It will continue the work of the WALGA GS Zone's Roads Sub-Committee, which began looking into the problems about two and a half years ago.

Ravensthorpe, being a part of the Regional Roads Group will automatically become a part of this work once again into the future.

NOTED

5.7. WALGA ROADWISE

Report by Vivienne Gardner, RoadWise Road Safety Advisor

NIL.

5.8. DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, SPORT AND CULTURAL INDUSTRIES (DLGSC)

Report by Mel Eastough, Regional Manager

Attachment No. 3 [DLGSC Update April 2023](#)

The Department's Regional Manager provided a brief updated.

MEETING COMMENT:

- The Zone **AGREED** for the DLGSC Regional Manager to raise the Zone's concerns regarding regional education services at the next meeting of the 'District Leadership Group'.

6. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES
--

RESOLUTION

MOVED President, Cr Liz Guidera
SECONDED Cr Julie Leenhouders

That the minutes of the Great Southern Country Zone meeting held on 17 February 2023, as previously circulated, be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

CARRIED

6.1. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

NIL.

6.2. ZONE RESOLUTION STATUS REPORT

By Lyn Fogg, Zone Executive Officer

Attachment No. 4 [Great Southern Country Zone Status Report April 2023](#)

The Status Report provides an update on actions taken in response to Zone resolutions at previous meetings. Zone Members are asked to review responses.

RESOLUTION

MOVED President, Cr Scott Crosby
SECONDED Cr Julie Leenhouders

That the Great Southern Country Zone **NOTES** the Status Report dated April 2023, as detailed in Attachment No.4.

CARRIED

6.2.1. Zone Action Items Report

By Lyn Fogg, Zone Executive Officer

Attachment No. 5 [Great Southern Country Zone Action Items Report April 2023](#)

RESOLUTION

MOVED President, Cr Scott Crosby
SECONDED Cr Serena Sandwell

That the Great Southern Country Zone NOTES the Action Items Report dated February 2023, as detailed in Attachment No.5.

CARRIED

7. ZONE BUSINESS

7.1. ZONE REPORTS

7.1.1. Zone Financial Report

By Rick Murray, WALGA Chief Financial Officer

Zone Financial Report for March 2023

(All amounts are excluding GST unless otherwise specified)

The financial statements provided below have been prepared on an accrual basis and show the financial position and financial performance for the period ended 31 January 2023.

Income includes contributions to funding the DAMA project, which have been invoiced. The commitment to consultants EY is recognised as an expense with payments occurring in the future against contracted milestones. If the Zone limits catering expenditure for the April and June meetings to less than \$1500, the Zone will avoid a 2022/23 deficit.

Table 1 Statement of Income and Expenditure – period ended 31 March 2023

Great Southern Country Zone Statement of Income and Expenditure as at 31 March 2023		
	Actual \$	Budget \$
Income		
Subscriptions	6,050	6,050
Project Income	70,000	70,000
Total Income	76,050	76,050
Expenses		
Bank Fees	100	120
Meeting Costs	4,442	6,784
Project Expenses	70,000	70,000
Total Expenses	74,542	76,904
Surplus/(Deficit)	1,508	-\$854
Notes		
1. Budget approved 25 November 2022 (Item 7.1.2)		
2. Subscriptions excl GST 11@ \$550 each since received in full.		
3. Project Consultant costs accrued reflecting legal commitment to contract which is now in progress		
4. Payment of the consultant will be against agreed milestones		

Table 2: Balance Sheet presenting the Zone's financial position as at 31 March 2023

Great Southern Country Zone Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2023	
	\$
Assets	
Bank	7,750
Debtors - DAMA Project Contributions	70,000
Total Assets	77,750
Liabilities	
Creditors	4,442
Accruals - DAMA Project Consultant	70,000
GST Payable	-
Total Liabilities	74,442
Net Assets	3,308
Equity	
Members Funds B/F	1,800
Current year earnings	1,509
Total Equity	3,308

Notes to Balance Sheet

1. The balance sheet shows positive equity of \$3308.
2. Debtors – DAMA \$70,000: consists of Project contributions held by WALGA to be applied against the consultant cost. All contributions are now received.
3. Creditors balance of \$4,442 is for catering costs paid by WALGA to be recharged to the Zone in April now that bank funds are sufficient.

4. Accruals - \$70,000 represents the committed DAMA Project cost of engaging consultants EY.
 - a. Unspent DAMA Project contributions will be refunded proportionally to contributors.

2023/24 Zone Budget / Subscription Fees

The Zone Subscription Fees are to cover meeting/catering costs and to provide a small surplus providing the Zone with the capacity to address any potential increased or unexpected costs. It is proposed to increase the Zone Subscription fee from \$550 to \$600 in 2023/24.

2023/24 Budget	\$
INCOME	
Zone Member Subscriptions @ \$600	6,600*
Total Income	\$6,600*
EXPENDITURE	
Catering 5 meetings @ \$1000 per meeting <i>(Providing morning tea and light lunch only)</i>	5,000
Bank Fees	150
Total Expenditure	\$5,150
SURPLUS	\$1,450*

**Figures corrected: increase income by \$600*

RESOLUTION

MOVED Cr Janine Phillips
SECONDED Cr Fiona Gaze

That the Great Southern Country Zone:

1. **RECEIVES** the Zone Financial Report for March 2023.
2. **APPROVES** the 2023/24 Zone Budget and 2023/24 Subscription Fee of \$600.

CARRIED

7.1.2. Zone Chairperson's Report

By Zone Chair, President Cr Chris Pavlovich

Well, our local governments are now well into 2023 and preparing for budgets and programs for the new financial year. The Great Southern Region is generally faring well in these challenging and uncertain times with industry, tourism and population growth are all in positive territory. This puts us in a good position and future strategic planning is increasingly important as we look forward and work back.

In the year 2050 I wonder what our communities will look like and what our people's needs will be. No doubt public infrastructure (especially roads and other forms of transport), health, education and digital connectivity will be high level essentials. Population growth is predicted to increase via immigration to levels not seen since post WW2. Australia has a very high standard of living and opportunity compared to world standards that makes us very attractive. The Great Southern is perfectly placed for structured growth if we continue to attract investment in public infrastructure from all three levels of government.

With this, I believe this is a good time to reflect on my last four years as a delegate to the WALGA GS Zone and the achievements made. Some examples are:

- Phone tower power backup in times of emergency. The GS Zone initiated the lobbying for battery and generator backups when the SWISS grid is out for long periods around bushfires and cyclones. There is now a rollout for high priority towers to increase the reliability in times of need.
- Small areas of roads side clearing. The GS Zone was concerned with the unnecessary red tape in applying for clearing permits to maintain existing LG road maintenance zones. LG's now can apply to clear small areas of roadside vegetation with the authority of the DWER which is a big operational win.
- Water supply. With most of the GS Zone declared drought affected the Zone lobbied for unused assets to be handed over to LG and funded for upgrades. This common sense solution to essential stock water, road construction and other in need requirements has been well received and can take pressure of the finite Water Corp potable water supply.
- Great Southern Housing initiative. *While technically not a zone-initiated program, many GS Zone members took part collectively in the initiative with positive outcomes.*
- Power Supply. Western Power initiated a program to restrict the SWISS power availability to 32 amp for each supply which was half that of our metro cousins. The GS Zone has lobbied for equality and now 64amp is the standard for all new and modified connections.
- Designated Area Migration Agreement (DAMA). This process is well down the track and timely with our widespread labour shortage and with predictions of population growth through immigration.
- Funding for strategic road freight network. GS Zone has actioned a plan to upgrade key freight routes.

While the GS Zone has made significant contributions to the betterment of the wider LG sector and community issues, other WALGA Zones have also instigated quests for change.

Each LG alone has limited reach and influence, however if sector wide issues are introduced through the Zone process, we can make a difference. The executive team at WALGA have tentacles and networks that reach well into the Government controlled areas which we should not underestimate the ability to influence in a collective environment.

WALGA also is fundamental in fostering, managing and delivering the State Roads to Local Government (SRTLGF) funding agreement along with the SRTLGF Advisory Committee (SAC) and Regional Road Groups (RRG). The funding program of around \$1.25b over the next five years is the most significant and fundamental funding agreement to our member LG's.

I appreciate all the effort with limited time and resources, made by all delegates to contribute to the GS Zones issues and that of the LG sector and look forward to continued success in future lobbying from the Great Southern.

NOTED

7.1.3. Great Southern Roads Committee

By Cr Len Handasyde (Shire of Plantagenet), Chair

Notes from the GS Roads Committee (GSRC) Meeting held at Tambellup on 3 March 2023. The main outcomes from the meeting were:

Main Roads WA (MRWA) Great Southern GM, Andrew Duffield attended and noted the funding that had become available through what is known as the Great Southern Secondary Freight Network (GSSFN). This funding is for \$8.5 Million with a final acquittal date of 30 June 2025. There are criteria around this funding, but it can be used for planning and so fits with the process of completing a study of this nature. This funding will be handled through normal MRWA and Regional Road Group (RRG) processes and it was thought that there is not a lot of point in continuing the GSRC unless it had further purpose to fulfil.

A number of resolutions were passed for consideration at the next WALGA GS Zone meeting.

Up to the time of the meeting there were no Shire Councils willing to undertake the role of gathering data and handling the administration. This is understandable as most if not all Councils are busy undertaking multiple roles in their local communities and have little spare time to take on such a role.

The maps and roads list was endorsed as the final list and the committee was seeking endorsement at the next WALGA GS Zone meeting. This information should be handed on to the RRG.

It was felt that the committee was no longer required given the funding announcement and the ability to secure funds for planning of the network. It was recommended that the committee be wound up.

WALGA Head Office were instrumental in assisting the GSRC to work up a draft Request For Quote to begin the substantial work to bring the data and understanding of the roads issues into sharp focus. This might still be of assistance within the MRWA and RRG processes.

It must also be noted the substantial work and time committed by committee members, both elected members and officers, over the last two and a half years.

It was also felt that Ravensthorpe should be included in the study. They were a part of it to start with but with only 11 Councils being involved in the WALGA GS Country Zone they were left out over the last 18 months or so. It was recommended that Ravensthorpe be invited to be a part of the study. With the committee being wound up and the RRG taking the role over as a result of the funding, Ravensthorpe will automatically be included as they are in the Regional Road Group.

The recommendation for discussion at the next WALGA GS Zone meeting:

That the Great Southern Roads Committee be wound up with the work undertaken thus far forwarded onto the Regional Road Group for further action.

This should be debated for further clarification at the meeting as a part of the work was to consider the effect on the roads of the Harvest Mass Management System (HMMS) and the Accredited Mass Management System (AMMS). It might be that the meeting considers the HMMS and AMMS issues to be significant enough to continue the GSRC to consider these issues alone.

RESOLUTION

MOVED President, Cr Scott Crosby

SECONDED President, Cr Liz Guidera

That the Great Southern Country Zone DEFER consideration of the Zone's Roads Committee status until additional information is provided by MRWA regarding the State and Federal Government funding allocation for the Great Southern Secondary Freight Network

CARRIED

ACTION ITEM:

- A copy of the Zone's Roads Committee meeting notes is circulated under separate cover with the minutes

7.1.4. Zone Hosting State Council – September 2023 - Update

Shire of Katanning CEO, Julian Murphy

Attachment No. 6 [DAMA Working Group Meeting Notes 20 April 2023](#)

Each year, the WALGA State Council meets in a regional location hosted by a Zone. Regional meetings afford State Council the opportunity to meet with Elected Members and senior officers from Local Governments within a Zone, to discuss issues of local and regional significance. They also allow State Councillors to meet with other regional groups of interest to gain a first-hand appreciation of the various issues confronting Local Governments in each Zone.

The September 2023 Regional State Council meeting is being hosted by the Great Southern Country Zone. At the October 2022 meeting, the Zone appointed the Shire of Katanning as the host Council and liaison between WALGA and the Zone for planning purposes.

It was originally proposed that the 2023 Regional meeting be held on Thursday-Friday, 7-8 September, however due to a clash with the 2023 National Local Roads and Transport Congress and an ALGA Board meeting, the dates have now been changed to **Tuesday-Wednesday, 12-13 September**.

A copy of the draft program is below:

Tuesday, 12 September, Shire of Katanning Leisure Centre, Pioneer Room

12:30pm	Lunch
1:30pm	Zone Forum (format to be decided by the Zone)
6:30pm	WALGA dinner (venue TBC)

Wednesday, 13 September, The Premier Mill Hotel, Old Power Station Room

8:30am	State Council Strategic Forum
10:30am	Morning tea
11:00am	State Council meeting
12:30pm	Lunch

Email correspondence will be sent to all Zone Elected Members and CEOs closer to the date, inviting them to attend any part of the meeting program, but particularly the Zone Forum on the afternoon of Tuesday, 12 September.

If you are interested in attending, or if you have any questions about any of the above, please contact Kathy Robertson, Executive Officer Governance, on (08) 9213 20236 or krobertson@walga.asn.au.

NOTED

ACTION ITEM:

- The Zone **AGREED** for the Chair, President Cr Chris Pavlovich, to coordinate a meeting (mid-June) with the Zone's Mayor and President's for the purpose of coordinating the Zone's presentation to the Regional State Council Zone Forum.

7.2. ZONE PRIORITY STRATEGIC ISSUES

7.2.1. Designated Area Migration Agreement (DAMA) – Working Group

Cr Chris Pavlovich, Zone Chair

Our small committee has been working hard since the start of this year and special mention to Renee from RDA Great Southern who has kept us on track. We are in the fundamental stage of ensuring all the required skilled occupations from the RDA survey are included in the consultants (EY) data feeds for the Great Southern DAMA submission for lodgement with Department of Home Affairs.

This process has included a number of letters of support from stakeholders in the Great Southern including industry, local government and local politicians. As everybody is so busy this has been quite a task however our industry representatives are very supportive of our quest. In fact, many had not considered immigration as a real possibility to relieve some of their labour shortages but now are very keen to progress as a real solution to a long term problem.

As of 17 April 2023, EY has most of the data required to complete the draft DAMA submission and provide the committee with a copy for review. The DAMA committee will review the document and if lines up with the Great southern region's requirements, will be lodged by EY to the Department of Home Affairs in the near future.

Timing then will be on feedback from the Department and turn around times will be out of our hands however we remain on track for completion in quarter three this year.

I would like to thank all the committee members for their assistance while juggling day to day activities.

NOTED

MEETING COMMENT:

- Grant Thompson, CEO Shire of Kojonup extended appreciation to all member Local Governments for their work, contributions and support to the Working Group, providing the information necessary to complete the Business Case.
- The DAMA Working Group meeting notes its meeting on 20 April 2023 were tabled at the meeting and are provided as Attachment No.6.

RESOLUTION

MOVED: President, Cr Chris Pavlovich

SECONDED: Cr Kevin Gale

That the Great Southern Country Zone:

1. **NOTES** the Designated Area Migration Agreement Working Group Report;
2. **AUTHORISED** the Designated Area Migration Agreement Working Group to:

- a. Finalise the Business Case for submission to the Department of Home Affairs, subject to the Business Case being circulated to Zone Members and CEOs for comment prior to it being submitted to the Department; and
- b. Negotiate with the Department of Home Affairs to further refine the Business Case and then submit to the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs for approval.

CARRIED

7.2.2. Telecommunication Blackspots

Lyn Fogg, Zone Executive Officer, WALGA

Attachment No. 7 [GS Development Commission – Telecommunications Blackspot List 2022](#)

The Great Southern Development Commission has kindly provided the list of telecommunication blackspots which was compiled and ranked by the Zone Local Governments. This list has been provided to the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development – Regional Telecommunications Project, that is working with service provider to coordinate Mobile Black Spot funding (see below) applications.

The Zone also agreed the following Action Item at its 17 February 2023 meeting (item 6.2):

Ask if WALGA Secretariat has more information on the Starklink / Pivot technology.

The following information has been collated in response:

Starlink (Low Earth Orbit satellite network provider)

- Starlink has partnered with a US telco, T-Mobile, to provide basic texting, MMS and some messaging app services to that telco's customers only, commencing late 2023. Voice and data services will not be available for some time yet. Starlink has put an open invitation to telco's worldwide. Access to the Starlink network is subject to each telco entering into individual contracts with Starlink to enable that telco's customers to access the network.
- A Starlink representative advised in a November 2022 meeting with WALGA, that they were close to concluding commercial arrangements with a number of high profile retailers in Australia and were about to have a much clearer presence in the marketplace. Starlink was however, waiting to complete coverage of the Australian continent.
- Further, the Northern Beaches Council (NSW) has signed an agreement with Vocus (reseller of Starlink services) to improve network connections and address black spot locations, ensuring critical communications during a natural disaster. The agreement provides 37 linked locations including the Council's operation, child care centres, lifesaving clubs and NSW rural fire services.

Other Low Earth Orbit Satellite Service Providers

- An [online report](#), indicates:
 - Telstra has recently entered into a 16yr contract with Viasat to use it's future constellation satellite network and Telstra is quoted as indicating that its deal with Viasat would not prevent Telstra from entering into a deal with another satellite network provider.

- Optus and TPG are also trialling the use of satellite technology
- There are potentially multiple commercial entities capable of providing, or are developing capability to provide, satellite services to telco's. It will therefore be a market decision made by each telco as to which provider, if any, they engage with and consequentially customers will make decisions about which telco provides the most appropriate services to meet their needs.

Commonwealth Funding Opportunities

- The Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts administers a [Mobile Black Spot Program](#) that provides grants, with co-contributions from State and Local Governments, to mobile network operators and infrastructure providers to expand regional mobile coverage. Round 7 funding applications close 31 May 2023. Further funding rounds will be announced.

WALGA has been unable to identify relevant information associated with an entity named "Pivot".

RESOLUTION

MOVED Cr Kevin Gale
SECONDED Cr Ken Clements

That the Great Southern Country Zone:

1. **NOTE, with appreciation, the Telecommunications Blackspot list, provided by the Great Southern Development Commission (refer Attachment).**
2. **RECEIVE the information provided regarding Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellite network service providers.**
3. **REQUEST the Telstra presentation at the June Zone meeting to address progress and timelines for when LEO technologies will be available in the Great Southern Region.**

CARRIED

ACTION ITEM:

- **Request Telstra comment on whether or not access points are, or can be, installed at high points in the topography during new fibre optic builds, to ensure reduced costs when new tower installations are subsequently required.**

7.3. ZONE MATTERS FOR DECISION

Items submitted to the Agenda by Zone Members or the WALGA Secretariat for Zone consideration.

NIL.

8. WALGA STATE COUNCIL BUSINESS

8.1. ZONE STATE COUNCIL MEMBER REPORT

By Zone State Councillor: President Cr Chris Pavlovich

The first State Council meeting for 2023 was held on Wednesday, 1 March 2023 which includes updates from the policy team areas which act like sub-committees of the State Council. These small teams are a vital part of acting on the zone resolutions before final approval from State Council is considered. As Chair of the Infrastructure Policy Team, I can attest to the quantity and quality of work done in these areas.

Major discussion at State Council was around the following matters:

- The debate on **Constitutional Recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People** is hotting up and State Council is no exception.

“State Council resolved to support respectful conversations about constitutional recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and the Voice to Parliament, and requested that the Commonwealth Government ensure that Local Governments are communities are kept informed on the proposal”.

This is to ensure that WALGA do not have a specific opinion on the outcome of the proposed referendum however do request fair and unbiased information to be provided to the LG sector to be more knowledgeable on the mechanism in relation to this reform.

- The issue of **Minimising Noise Impact from Outdoor Community Basketball Facilities**.

The draft guidelines have been withdrawn from the Minister to deal with this issue. WALGA requests that “the formation of a cross-Government working group to consider and develop solutions to balance urban density and infill, public recreation and noise management”.

- State Council received the stage three report for the **WALGA Best Practice Governance Review**.

To date feedback is that Model 1 is slightly preferred over the current model and some amendments have been made on the back of sector feedback. Every LG has been requested to provide further feedback, preferably on the back of a council resolution so the final constitution amendment can be presented to the AGM at the WALGA convention.

I personally had reservations at first for change however the more we look into and develop a preferred model I see the potential for a more effective and functional WALGA in serving the LG sector.

More detail is in the [State Council 1 March 2023 minutes](#) or status reports however there is a lot of work in progress which will be presented to State Council later in 2023.

NOTED.

8.2. STATE COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

Attachment No. 8 State Council Agenda – via link: [State Council Agenda 3 May 2023](#)

WALGA State Council meets five times each year and the State Council's consideration of items is informed through consultation with Zone Member Local Governments.

The Zone, by resolution, may provide comment or submit an amended or alternative recommendation to those included in the State Council Agenda. The Zone resolution is then presented to the State Council for consideration.

'Matters for Decision' and 'Matters for Noting' by State Council are extracted and listed for Zone consideration in items 8.2.1 and 8.2.2 below.

8.2.1. Matters for Decision

[State Council Agenda 3 May 2023](#) 'Matters for Decision' Items:

STATE COUNCIL Item 7.1 Best Practice Governance Review – Feedback on Governance Model

Executive Summary

- State Council commissioned the Best Practice Governance Review with the appointment of a Steering Committee in March 2022.
- The Steering Committee, which met nine times over the course of the project to date and reported back to State Council several times, finalised its [Final Report](#) in February 2023.
- On the basis of member feedback, the Steering Committee recommended Model 1 as the alternate governance model, which would result in the retention of State Council and Zones and the creation of a Board, with the majority of members elected from and by State Council.
- At their March 2023 meeting, State Council resolved to seek feedback from Members on the proposed model.
- To facilitate feedback from Members, the Final Report was distributed and a webinar was held, which was attended by 48 Local Government leaders;
- Feedback was received from 17 Member Local Governments, with nine Member Local Governments expressing support for the proposed Model 1, and eight Member Local Government outlining concerns with the proposed Model 1 or expressing support for the Current Governance Model.
- Concerns with the proposed Model 1 mostly related to concerns around representation at Board level, including the potential for representational imbalances, and the appointment of independent members, including a suggestion that independent members would be more likely to be metropolitan based.
- Next steps for the project are for two sets of constitutional amendments to be presented to State Council at the July 2023 meeting with the view that these amendments would be presented to Members at the 2023 Annual General Meeting.

Recommendation

That:

- 1. This report summarising feedback from Members on the Best Practice Governance Review Final Report be received; and**
- 2. Two sets of constitutional changes be developed for consideration by State Council at the July 2023 meeting to be put to the 2023 Annual General Meeting, that:**
 - a. Give effect to the revised Model 1, as per the Best Practice Governance Review Final Report; and**
 - b. Refine the constitution to address inconsistencies and other issues while maintaining the current governance model.**

STATE COUNCIL Item 7.2 Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries' Child Safe Awareness Policy Template

Executive Summary

- Since 2020, the State Government has consulted with the Local Government sector in relation to Recommendation 6.12 from the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse (Royal Commission), which recommended that Local Governments should designate Child Safety Officers, with support from governments at the National and State level.
- In 2022, the Department of Communities (DoC) facilitated a series of co-design sessions which involved 35 representatives from Local Government, the Commissioner for Children and Young People (CCYP), WALGA, and the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSC) to develop the Child Safe Awareness Policy Template for Local Government (the Policy) to support implementation of Recommendation 6.12.
- The Policy supports initial action by Local Governments in addressing Recommendation 6.12, and forms part of the broader environment of child safe reforms developed out of the findings of the Royal Commission that will impact Local Government.
- DLGSC is seeking WALGA support for the Policy.
- WALGA considers support for the Policy is appropriate but notes that Local Governments will require ongoing support and resourcing assistance consistent with WALGA's Advocacy Position 3.10.2 Child Safeguarding.
- WALGA will continue to advocate to the State Government for the Policy to be considered in the context of a broader implementation plan for all the Royal Commission's recommendations relevant to Local Government.

Recommendation

That State Council:

1. ***Supports the draft Child Safe Awareness Policy Template being provided to Local Governments to assist with their implementation of Recommendation 6.12 of the Royal Commission (Child Safety Officers in Local Government); and***
2. ***Notes the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries' commitment to providing ongoing support and resourcing assistance to Local Governments to assist with implementation of the draft Child Safe Awareness Policy Template and other relevant actions relating to child safeguarding, through the Child Safeguarding Implementation Unit.***

STATE COUNCIL Item 7.3 Abandoned Shopping Trolleys Advocacy Position

Executive Summary

- Abandoned trolleys in the public domain, create safety hazards for pedestrian and vehicular traffic and negatively impact public amenity and the natural environment.
- Some retailers prioritise their civic and social responsibilities, however the cost of physically retrieving illegally dumped trolleys is now substantially more than the cost of replacing trolleys.
- The absence of economic or legally enforceable imperative means retailers are increasingly not responding to this issue within reasonable timeframes, if at all.
- In response to community expectations, Local Governments bear the increasing cost burden to remove, impound and eventually dispose of abandoned trolleys.

- The Public Spaces (Unattended Property) Act 2021 (NSW), presents an example of how legislation can be used to address issues arising from shopping trolleys.

Recommendation

***That State Council endorse the following position on Abandoned Shopping Trolleys:
The Local Government Sector advocates for State Government to consult with the Sector and prioritise legislative reforms that require retailers to contain shopping trolleys within shopping centre property boundaries, inclusive of enforcement and modified penalty mechanisms that are a realistic economic imperative for retailers to comply with containment requirements.***

STATE COUNCIL Item 7.4 Speed Management Reform Advocacy Position

Executive Summary

- WALGA's existing policy on speed management is narrow in scope and is inadequate for advocating the varying needs of the Local Government sector.
- Speed management is an important tool for Local Governments, for managing the safety performance of local roads and to help create healthy, vibrant, and connected communities.
- Changing speed limits is an important element of speed management but the application process can be difficult and Local Governments currently have limited influence in the determination of speed limit changes on local roads.
- A contemporary advocacy position on speed management will enable WALGA to advocate for reforms that are needed to better reflect the diverse needs of Local Governments and enable effective and responsible management of travel speeds on local roads.

Recommendation

That the Speed Management Advocacy Position as follows, be endorsed:

- 1. That WALGA supports Local Governments wishing to manage travel speeds, including speed limit changes, as a means of achieving the many health, social and environmental benefits for communities.***
- 2. That Main Roads WA (MRWA) retain the overarching authority for speed limit setting/zoning.***
- 3. That Main Roads WA speed zoning policies and processes be reformed so that Local Governments are more influential in the determination of speed limit decreases or increases for local roads.***
 - a. This will include applications that are deemed to be approved when the application:***
 - i. is based on assessments by competent Local Government practitioners,***
 - ii. contains evidence-based identification of the benefits,***
 - iii. contains preliminary designs for infrastructure safety upgrades associated with applications to increase speed limits, and iv. includes an engagement strategy for managing community and stakeholder expectations.***
 - b. Allows for Main Roads WA to decline an application, within a mutually agreed timeframe, on the basis that it:***
 - i. does not meet the above criteria, and***
 - ii. provides specific evidence for declining the application.***
- 4. The WALGA seeks to work with Main Roads WA and other stakeholders, to develop a speed management guide for Local Governments.***

STATE COUNCIL Item 7.5 State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement 2023/24 to 2027/28

Executive Summary

- The State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement (Agreement) provides funding for Local Governments to improve and maintain the local road network.
- The new Agreement continues to provide 20% of vehicle license fee revenue collected by the State Government to be applied to Local Government roads and paths.
- The proposed Agreement is for a five-year term from 2023/24 to 2027/28.
- The overall structure and intent of the Agreement remains largely unchanged from the previous Agreement.
- Commitments to road safety, aboriginal employment and recycled materials have been expanded.
- The Agreement was developed through consultation with Local Government members of the State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee (SAC), Main Roads WA and Regional Road Group representatives.

Recommendation

That the State Roads Funds to Local Government Agreement 2023/24 – 2027/28 be endorsed.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Great Southern Country Zone supports the following Matters for Decision as detailed in the State Council Agenda 3 May 2023 provided as Attachment No.7, inclusive of:

1. Item 7.1 Best Practice Governance Review – Feedback on Governance Model
2. Item 7.2 Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries' Child Safe Awareness Policy Template
3. Item 7.3 Abandoned Shopping Trolleys Advocacy Position
4. Item 7.4 Speed Management Reform Advocacy Position
5. Item 7.5 State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement 2023/24 to 2027/28

RESOLUTION 1:

MOVED Cr Donna Carman
SECONDED Cr Janine Phillips

That the Great Southern Country Zone SUPPORTS the Item 7.1 recommendation detailed in the State Council Agenda 3 May 2023, as follows:

That:

1. ***This report summarising feedback from Members on the Best Practice Governance Review Final Report be received; and***
2. ***Two sets of constitutional changes be developed for consideration by State Council at the July 2023 meeting to be put to the 2023 Annual General Meeting, that:***

- a. **Give effect to the revised Model 1, as per the Best Practice Governance Review Final Report; and**
- b. **Refine the constitution to address inconsistencies and other issues while maintaining the current governance model.**

Motion to Amend the Substantive Motion:

MOVED Cr Sandie Smith
SECONDED President, Cr Scott Crosby

That the substantive motion be amended by deleting part 2(b).

CARRIED

During debate of the motion to amend the substantive motion, President, Cr Liz Guidera foreshadowed a motion to separate the substantive motion to be dealt with in two parts – motion parts 1 and 2(a) and then separately motion part 2(b).

Substantive Motion as amended, was put:

That the Great Southern Country Zone SUPPORTS the Item 7.1 recommendation detailed in the State Council Agenda 3 May 2023, as follows:

That:

1. ***This report summarising feedback from Members on the Best Practice Governance Review Final Report be received; and***
2. ***Two sets of constitutional changes be developed for consideration by State Council at the July 2023 meeting to be put to the 2023 Annual General Meeting, that:***
 - a. ***Give effect to the revised Model 1, as per the Best Practice Governance Review Final Report.***

CARRIED 11/8

The foreshadowed motion was therefore not brought forward for consideration.

RESOLUTION 2:

MOVED Cr Paul Terry
SECONDED Cr Janine Phillips

That the Great Southern Country Zone SUPPORTS the following Matters for Decision as detailed in the State Council Agenda 3 May 2023 provided as Attachment No.7, inclusive of:

1. **Item 7.2 Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries' Child Safe Awareness Policy Template**
2. **Item 7.3 Abandoned Shopping Trolleys Advocacy Position**
3. **Item 7.4 Speed Management Reform Advocacy Position**
4. **Item 7.5 State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement 2023/24 to 2027/28**

CARRIED 16/3

8.2.2. Matters for Noting

[State Council Agenda 3 May 2023](#) 'Matters for Noting' as listed below, are provide for Zone consideration and noting.

STATE COUNCIL Item 8 – Policy Team Reports

- 8.1 Environment and Waste Policy Team Report
- 8.2 Governance and Organisational Services Policy Team Report
- 8.3 Infrastructure Policy Team Report
- 8.4 People and Place Policy Team Report

STATE COUNCIL Item 9 – Matters for Noting / Information

- 9.1 2023 Policy Priorities
- 9.2 Local Emergency Management Arrangements (LEMA) Review Project
- 9.3 Submission to the Independent Review of WA's COVID-19 Management and Response
- 9.4 Submission to the DWER E-waste to Landfill Ban Consultation Paper
- 9.5 Report Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC)
- 9.6 March 2023 Economic Briefing

STATE COUNCIL Item 10 – Organisational Reports

- 10.1.1 Report on Key Activities, Advocacy Portfolio
- 10.1.2 Report on Key Activities, Infrastructure Portfolio
- 10.1.3 Report on Key Activities, Member Services Portfolio
- 10.1.4 Report on Key Activities, Policy Portfolio

RESOLUTION

MOVED Cr Julie Leenhouders
SECONDED Cr Sandie Smith

That the Great Southern Country Zone NOTES all Matters for Noting and Organisational Reports as detailed in the State Council Agenda 3 May 2023 provided as Attachment No.7.

CARRIED

8.2.3. WALGA State President's Report

Attachment No. 9 WALGA State President's Report – circulated under separate cover

WALGA State President, Cr Karen Chappel spoke to her report and provided the Zone with an update.

RESOLUTION

MOVED President, Cr Lis Guidera
SECONDED Cr Donna Carman

That the Great Southern Country Zone NOTES the WALGA President's Report – May 2023.

CARRIED

9. EMERGING ISSUES / COLLABORATION

Zone Members are encouraged to provide a brief update on emerging issues in their District or matters on which they are seeking to connect with other Zone Members for direct collaboration or support.

9.1. REGIONS RISING CONFERENCE

President, Cr Liz Guidera, Shire of Katanning

President, Cr Liz Guidera provided Zone Members with information on the conference.

Rebalancing the Nation Report - [Click here for link to the report](#)

NOTED.

**** 11.50am MRWA representatives arrived at the meeting.**

9.2. MRWA PRESENTATION: GREAT SOUTHERN SECONDARY FREIGHT NETWORK

Andrew Duffield, Director, MRWA Great Southern

Mr Duffield provided an overview of the project and funding administration:

- The project and funding is to be delivered through the Regional Roads Group.
- This project builds on the Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Network.
- \$34M allocation, with \$8M allocated to the Great Southern Secondary Freight Network.
 - Local Governments will apply for funding, maintenance and upgrade works
 - 20% funding at project approval
 - 60% funding for project delivery
 - 20% funding at project completion
- Funding may be used to develop the 'Business Case'
- Revitalising Agricultural Regional Freight Strategy identified 27 priorities for the Great Southern Regional, however opportunity for other priorities to be identified and included, subject to the condition that the road is included in the Roads 2040.
 - Priorities will be consulted and agreed through the Regional Roads Group

The Chair extended the Zone's appreciation to Mr Duffield for providing this information to the Zone.

10. NEXT ZONE MEETING

The next meeting of the Great Southern Country Zone is scheduled to be held on:

- **23 June 2023 at the Shire of Plantagenet**

11. CLOSURE

ATTACHMENTS

ATTACHMENT No.3 Refers Item 5.8 Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries Update April 2023

[Back to Item 5.8](#)



Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries Report

April 2023

Local Government Act Reform

- On 23 February 2023, the Local Government Amendment Bill 2023 was introduced.
- The Bill passed in the Legislative Assembly on 23 March 2023 and is currently before the Legislative Council.
- Subject to Parliamentary processes, the anticipated passage of the Bill will be May 2023.
- As you are aware, the Minister has advised that he will be introducing the legislative reform proposals in two tranches.
- The first tranche was introduced in March 2023 covering:
 - electoral reforms such as:
 - number of council members
 - optional preferential voting
 - public vote to elect the Mayor/President for bands 1 and 2
 - removal of electoral wards for bands 3 and 4
 - filling of extraordinary vacancies without need for extraordinary elections.
 - standardised council meeting procedures
 - live streaming of meetings for bands 1 and 2
 - recording of meetings for bands 3 and 4
 - State-wide caretaker period
 - publication of CEO performance indicators and results
 - community engagement charters and surveys
 - council/CEO communications agreements
 - payment of fees and expenses for independent committee members.
- The second tranche will cover all other matters and will be introduced to Parliament later in the year.
- On 9 March 2023, the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSC) hosted a webinar discussing the Local Government Amendment Bill 2023 in further detail. If you would like a link to the webinar recording, this is available on the [DLGSC website under local government reforms](#).
- DLGSC is running a series of monthly webinars and deep dives into specific topics regarding the reforms in the upcoming months. The topic for April's webinar will be optional preferential voting. Please ensure you are signed up to LG alerts for these announcements.

October 2023 Local Government Elections

- The first Bill introduces optional preferential voting (OPV) for all local government elections to allow electors to preference as many or as few candidates as they decide.
- It is important to note that preferential voting is only form of voting for local government elections however the elector has the option to vote for:
 - one candidate; or
 - more than one candidate in their order of their preference.



Department of
**Local Government, Sport
and Cultural Industries**

- It also includes related new provisions to provide for the backfilling of vacancies in situations such as when a member of a council is directly elected as the Mayor or President, or if a vacancy arises within one year of a council member being elected.
- OPV and related new provisions will come into operation for the October 2023 local government elections.
- In considering potential arrangements, councils must decide whether to declare the Western Australian Electoral Commissioner to conduct the election or appoint the local government's Chief Executive Officer (or other appointee) as the Returning Officer.
- Declaring the Electoral Commissioner to conduct the election will mean that they will be responsible for managing the election, including the conduct of the count and the introduction of the new OPV counting and backfilling provisions.
- If local governments chose to appoint the local government's Chief Executive Officer (or other appointee) as the Returning Officer to conduct the election, they will be wholly responsible for managing the election.
- If local governments chose to manage the election themselves, they will have the option to purchase a licence for access to the WAEC's CountWA software to facilitate the counting of votes.
- The WAEC will only be able to provide general assistance on accessing and using the software if this option is chosen.
- Local governments have received a letter from the Minister encouraging them to consider options for the conduct of the October 2023 elections no later than 31 March 2023.

Regulatory approach and framework for local government

- The DLGSC has reviewed its regulatory framework for local government.
- The previous local government Compliance Framework was out of date, and it was identified by the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) to not be meeting the needs of the sector.
- The updated regulatory framework addresses recommendations of the OAG Performance Audit Report – DLGSC Regulation and Support of Local Government, which was tabled in Parliament on 30 April 2021.
- The DLGSC is currently working to finalise an assessment and triage tool to guide consistent decision-making in responding to instances of regulatory non-compliance. It is anticipated that this tool will be completed in the coming months.
- To complement and support DLGSC's approach to regulating the sector, a compliance and risk assessment framework is currently being developed by DLGSC which will set out how it deals with non-compliance and rates LGs risk levels.
- It is expected that the compliance framework will be completed and implemented by end of June 2023.
- A new information and data collection system to streamline and replace previous platforms, SmartHub and CRM is being developed to ensure that DLGSC has appropriate and current information to inform its regulatory framework and risk assessment tools.

Local government early intervention strategies

- There has been an increased emphasis on early intervention where local governments are experiencing a level of dysfunction, that if persists, could have consequences on the local government's provision of good governance to their community and district.
- Currently, the DLGSC is engaging with a small number of local governments in the early intervention space.



Complaints handling

- To assist the local government sector with handling council member behavioural issues and resulting complaints, DLGSC is developing a preferred model that can be adopted by local governments.
- The preferred model involves a local government establishing a dedicated council member behavioural complaint committee that will determine complaints and refer to Council in relation to penalty and/or action plans.
- The council member behavioural complaint committee may have jurisdiction to deal with council member non-compliance with policy and code of conduct requirements.

Stop Puppy Farming

- *The Dog Amendment (Stop Puppy Farming) Act 2021* (SPF Act) requires the design and development of a centralised registration system (CRS) for dogs. The CRS will also assist with the registration of cats under the *Cat Act 2011*, and the development of regulations in consultation with stakeholders.
- A Request for Tender (RFT) for the implementation of the CRS was released to the market on 24 January 2023 and closed on 8 March 2023.
- DLGSC is currently evaluating the tenders received.
- Pending the result of the tender, DLGSC are working towards the indicative operational date for the CRS in late 2023.
- A consultation paper is being drafted, to seek feedback from stakeholders and interested members of the community, to assist in developing workable regulations.

DLGSC Contacts

LG Support and Engagement	lghotline@dlgsc.wa.gov.au
LG Policy and Legislation	legislation@dlgsc.wa.gov.au
CRS – Stop Puppy Farming	puppyfarming@dlgsc.wa.gov.au
Grants Commission - Financial Assistance Grants	grants.commission@dlgsc.wa.gov.au
LG accounting enquiries	LG.accounting@dlgsc.wa.gov.au
LG Act reform	actreview@dlgsc.wa.gov.au

ATTACHMENTS

ATTACHMENT No.4 Refers Item 6.2 Great Southern Country Zone Status Report – April 2023

[Back to item 6.2](#)

Zone	Agenda Item	Zone Resolution	WALGA Response	Update	WALGA Contact
Grt Southern C	17 February 2023 Zone Agenda Item 5.9. National Recovery and Resilience Agency	That the Great Southern Country Zone requests WALGA to survey Local Governments to quantify the impact to Local Government of Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements WA reimbursement delays, including for each affected Local Government the \$ value and timeframe for which reimbursements have been outstanding / delayed, and for WALGA to advocate to the Department of Fire and Emergency Services expedite resolution of this issue.	The Infrastructure Policy Team considered this matter and resolved that WALGA survey Local Governments to quantify the extent and impact of Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangement reimbursement delays. This has been added to the work program, with timing and resources to be determined.	April 2023	Ian Duncan Executive Manager Infrastructure iduncan@walga.asn.au 9213 2031
Grt Southern C	25 November 2022 Zone Agenda Item 6 Confirmation of Previous Minutes	That the Great Southern Zone requests WALGA to advocate for the upgrade of existing infrastructure [telecommunication] (towers).	This matter has been referred by State Council for consideration by the Infrastructure Policy Team.	February 2023	Ian Duncan Executive Manager Infrastructure iduncan@walga.asn.au 9213 2031
Grt Southern C	25 November 2022 Zone Agenda Item 6.2 Zone Status Report	That the Great Southern Zone request WALGA to consider an advocacy position on the South Coast Highway reconstruction in relation to the proposed cost and invite all Local Governments along the South Coast corridor to participate.	This matter has been referred by State Council for consideration by the Infrastructure Policy Team.	February 2023	Ian Duncan Executive Manager Infrastructure iduncan@walga.asn.au 9213 2031
Grt Southern C	25 November 2022 Zone Agenda Item 6.2 Zone Status Report	That the Great Southern Zone request WALGA to advocate for a review of the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA, WA) to reduce the extensive delays in the reporting system.	This is consistent with existing advocacy priorities. Delays in the reporting system is one of the matters identified by Local Governments for resolution.	Ongoing	Ian Duncan Executive Manager Infrastructure iduncan@walga.asn.au 9213 2031

Zone	Agenda Item	Zone Resolution	WALGA Response	Update	WALGA Contact
Grt Southern C	<p>2019 Nov 25 Zone Agenda Item 8.1 .4 Prioritise Key Strategic Issues for the Zone in 2020 Lobby against Legislation (CA07) That Will Prevent Local Governments from Restricting Access to Local Government Roads</p>	<p>The Great Southern Zone of WALGA does <u>not</u> support the removal of the CA07 condition on RAV approval, and replacement with the CA88 condition in its current form.</p> <p>WALGA therefore be requested to endorse this position and to write to the Minister for Transport that an alternative condition is formulated following discussion with Asset Managers to provide greater control and management of their asset base.</p>	<p>The RAV Access working group met by teleconference in early December. Based on the resolution of this meeting a letter detailing Local Government expectations was sent to Main Roads WA.</p> <p>The Association discussed this matter with Main Roads WA in November 2020. They are engaging with the State Solicitors Office prior to a proposed consultation with Local Government concerning a proposed approach.</p> <p>WALGA has subsequently met with Main Roads who confirm that the status quo remains until further notice.</p>	Ongoing	<p>Ian Duncan Executive Manager Infrastructure iduncan@walga.asn.au 9213 2031</p>
Grt Southern C	<p>1 March 2023 State Council Agenda Item 7.1 Proposed Advocacy Position on Constitutional Recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People</p>	<p>That the Great Southern Country Zone resolve that WALGA does not take a political position on the matter of Constitutional Recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People.</p>	<p>State Council Resolution: That WALGA:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Supports respectful conversations about constitutional recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and the Voice to Parliament. 2. Requests that the Commonwealth Government ensure that Local Governments and communities are kept informed on the proposal. 	April 2023 COMPLETE	<p>Nicole Matthews Executive Manager Policy nmatthews@walga.asn.au 9213 2039</p>
Grt Southern C	<p>2019 Nov 25 Zone Agenda Item 8.1 .2 Prioritise Key Strategic Issues for the Zone in 2020 Clearing Requirements in Town Sites – Align with Metropolitan Requirements</p>	<p>That WALGA writes to the Minister for Emergency Services, the Minister for Planning, Lands and Heritage and the Minister for Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety to request an amendment to the Action Plan for Bushfire Framework Review 2019, to increase in the minimum area of declared bushfire prone vegetation from one hectare to four hectare to be valid for regional and remote townsites and villages in addition to metropolitan areas.</p>	<p>In July 2019, Government announced an Action Plan for Bushfire Framework Review that outlined key changes to be implemented by DPLH, DFES and DMIRS including a new map of Bushfire Prone Areas, and a revised State Planning Policy 3.7 and associated Guidelines for Planning in Bushfire Prone Areas. Both are due to be advertised in Feb 2023.</p> <p>More information can be found here: https://www.dplh.wa.gov.au/bushfireframeworkreview2019</p> <p>DPLH has advised that the review of SPP3.7 and the associated guidelines were considered by the WAPC in March 2023. Consultation of these documents is expected to occur from late April.</p> <p>The State Bushfire Prone Area Map will be amended as part of this process.</p> <p>WALGA will prepare a submission on behalf of the sector on these proposals.</p>	April 2023	<p>Nicole Matthews Executive Manager Policy nmatthews@walga.asn.au 9213 2039</p>

ATTACHMENTS

ATTACHMENT No.5 Refers Item 6.2.1 Great Southern Country Action Items Report – April 2023

[Back to Item 6.2.1](#)

Great Southern Country Zone – ACTION ITEMS				
ZONE MEETING DATE / ITEM	ZONE RESOLUTION	ZONE RESPONSE	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE PERSON
2023, 17 Feb Item 5.5. Great Southern Human Resources Forum	ACTION REQUIRED: Zone CEOs to advise the Zone Executive Officer if they wish to nominate a suitable senior officer that has responsibilities in community development / services.	Zone CEO's emailed on 4 April, requesting nomination by 12 April, for inclusion in the April Agenda	IN PROGRESS	Zone Executive Officer Lyn Fogg
2023, 17 Feb Item 6 Confirmation of Previous Minutes	That the minutes of the Great Southern Country Zone meeting held on 25 November 2022 as previously circulated, be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings, SUBJECT TO: Item 2 Attendance, being corrected to include Shire of Kent CEO, Adam Seiler, who attended the meeting.	Minutes of the 25 November 2023 have been corrected.	COMPLETED GSCZ – 21/04/2023	Zone Executive Officer Lyn Fogg
2023, 17 Feb Item 6.2 Zone Resolution Status Rpt	ACTION ITEM: Ask if WALGA Secretariat has more information on the Starklink / Pivot technology.	Information on Low Earth Orbit satellite network service providers and recommendation provided for Zone's consideration at Item 7.2.2.	COMPLETED GSCZ – 21/04/2023	Zone Executive Officer Lyn Fogg
	That the Great Southern Country Zone: 2. REQUESTS Telstra to provide a presentation (April or July Zone Meeting) on the network upgrade planning and works program.	A request has been lodged with Telstra for a presentation to the June Zone meeting (Shire of Plantagenet) addressing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update of Telstra's forward planning schedule to address communication blackspots, including use of LEO satellite services; and Decommissioning of the 3G networks, implications for the Great Southern Region. 	IN PROGRESS	Zone Executive Officer Lyn Fogg
2023, 17 Feb Item 7.2.2 Designated Area Migration Agreement (DAMA) Working Group – Designated Area Representative	That the Great Southern Country Zone: 1. RECEIVES the Zone's DAMA Working Group report dated February 2023; 2. ENDORSES the draft Designated Area Representative (DAR) Service Agreement, as tabled at the meeting; and 3. AUTHORISES the Zone Chair, President Cr Chris Pavlovich to execute the DAR Service Agreement with the Regional Development Authority Great Southern.	21 April 2023: The agreement with RDAGS has been executed.	COMPLETED GSCZ – 21/04/2023	Zone Chairperson President, Cr Chris Pavlovich

Great Southern Country Zone
MINUTES 21 April 2023

Great Southern Country Zone – ACTION ITEMS				
ZONE MEETING DATE / ITEM	ZONE RESOLUTION	ZONE RESPONSE	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE PERSON
2023, 17 Feb Item 5.9 National Recovery and Resilience Agency	That the Great Southern Country Zone requests WALGA to survey Local Governments to quantify the impact to Local Government of Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements WA reimbursement delays, including for each affected Local Government the \$value and timeframe for which reimbursements have been outstanding / delayed, and for WALGA to advocate to the Department of Fire and Emergency Services expedite resolution of this issue.	Zone’s resolution was presented to State Council at its 1 March 2023 meeting – refer item 11, and was referred to the Infrastructure Policy Team. The Item will now be monitored via the Zone Status Report (WALGA Secretariat).	COMPLETED GSCZ – 21/04/2023	Zone Executive Officer Lyn Fogg
2022, 28 Oct Item 7.1.3 Great Southern Zone Roads Committee	That the Great Southern Roads Report be received and the \$4000.00 per Zone Local Government funding request be forwarded to all Local Governments for their consideration and that a formal request be made to the Great Southern Development Commission as well as RDA Great Southern.	08/11/2022 Emailed Zone Members and CEO’s requesting action: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Road Data Collection funding contribution requested (Great Southern Roads Committee) – Local Governments will need to consider a request for a contribution of \$4000 (each) – refer resolution at Item 7.1.3 in the attached minutes. 21 April 2023: Progress suspended subject to clarification of MRWA funding / project scope for a Great Southern secondary freight network.	SUSPENDED Subject to development of RFQ / potential MRWA Funding	Zone Executive Officer Lyn Fogg
2022, 28 Oct Item 7.2.4 Designated Area Migration Agreement (DAMA) Project	5. Endorse WALGA invoicing: b. Regional Development Authority Great Southern Inc and Great Southern Development Commission for \$10,000 each as their individual agency contributions to the project.	MOU executed by GS Development Commission 23/01/2023 and GSCZ Chair on 08/03/2023.	COMPLETED GSCZ – 21/04/2023	Zone Chair, President Cr Chris Pavlovich
	7. Endorse the Shire of Kojonup CEO and the Regional Development Authority Great Southern Inc CEO to act jointly as the Zone representatives for communication between the consultant and the Zone and member Local Governments to facilitate preparation of the Business Plan.	21 April 2023: Phase 1 and 2 of the EY consultancy have been completed – refer DAMA Working Group and RDAGS reports at the April 2023 meeting.	IN PROGRESS	Kojonup CEO RDAGS CEO
	8. Requests the Regional Development Authority Great Southern Inc to formally present its DAR operating model, service agreement and fee structure for consideration at the first 2023 meeting of the Great Southern Country Zone.	14/11/2022 Emailed RDA-GS, CEO requesting the required details to be provided by week ending 3 February, for consideration at the Zone’s February 2023 meeting. 24/01/2022 Draft MOU provided to Zone Chair by RDA-GS, with further consultation in emails dated 06 – 09/02/2023.	COMPLETED GSCZ-21/04/2023	Lyn Fogg Zone Executive Officer

Great Southern Country Zone
MINUTES 21 April 2023

Great Southern Country Zone – ACTION ITEMS				
ZONE MEETING DATE / ITEM	ZONE RESOLUTION	ZONE RESPONSE	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE PERSON
		GSCZ 21/04/2023: The draft DAR service agreement was endorsed at the Zone’s 17/02/2023 (item 7.2.2) meeting, with the Zone’s resolution authorising the Zone Chairperson to execute the agreement with Regional Development Authority Great Southern.		
2022, 26 Aug Item 7.2.1 Designated Area Migration Agreement (DAMA)	<p>That a working group consisting of three Great Southern Local Government Authority CEOs from the Shires of Kojonup, Katanning and Plantagenet, and the Great Southern Country Zone President, be established to progress the DAMA on behalf of all committed Great Southern Local Governments.</p> <p><u>DAMA Working Group Charter:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recommending the committed Local Government’s consult with their respective industries on skill shortages and gather supporting evidence by Friday, 23 Sept 2022. 2. (a) Review the other WA DAMA business cases and their learnings to determine our process and next steps; and (b) Prepare a draft budget and scope of works for the business case and prepare a shortlist of suitable contractors to quote on the business case by 17 Oct 2022. 3. Prepare the final report with recommendations for the next Great Southern Country Zone meeting on Friday, 28 October 2022. <p>The meeting AGREED that the DAMA Working Group meetings should include representation from the Great Southern Development Commission (GSDC) and Regional Development Australia Great Southern (RDA-GS)</p>	<p>Working Group Terms of Reference conclude as at 28 October 2022.</p> <p>GSCZ 28/10/2022 - refer item 7.2.4 -Resolution to extend Charter:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 10. Endorse the Great Southern Country Zone DAMA Working Group Charter being extended to include review and recommendation to the Zone of the Draft Business Case. 	ONGOING	DAMA Working Group (Zone)
2022, 26 Aug Item 7.3.2 Reliable Digital Connectivity / Telecommunications	<p>Action (GSCZ 24/06/2022): Each Zone council to discuss and prioritise key outcomes to be achieved to improve telecommunications in regional areas and report back to the Zone.</p> <p>Action (GSCZ 26/08/2022): If Local Governments could respond by 31 October 2022, so that this issue can be considered at the November 2022 meeting.</p>	<p>GSCZ 28/10/2022 Item 7.2.2 - Responses received: - Denmark, Gnowangerup, Kent,</p> <p>Resolved:</p> <p>1. That Local Governments identify to the Zone Executive Officer at least one priority digital / telecommunications blackspot area within their District, supported by evidence and justification, to enable a targeted advocacy to be undertaken.</p>	IN PROGRESS	ZONE MEMBER LGs

Great Southern Country Zone – ACTION ITEMS				
ZONE MEETING DATE / ITEM	ZONE RESOLUTION	ZONE RESPONSE	STATUS	RESPONSIBLE PERSON
2022, 26 Aug Item 10.6 Great Southern Roads Sub-Committee	<p>3. That the Great Southern Country Zone WALGA formally request from Co-operative Bulk Handling a copy of their prioritized list of routes for the Great Southern Region.</p> <p>4. That the Great Southern Council Zone WALGA formally request from Bunge Grain Services a copy of their Prioritised list of routes for the Great Southern Region.</p>	<p>Resolution 3: Rob Dickie, CBH Head of Government and Industry Relations advised 07/10/2022: ~ CBH has provided advice to the Secondary Freight Group regarding priority roads. ~ CBH is unable to extract / provide additional data (to that already provided) as they are already in 'harvest' ~ CBH suggest that the State Government's Revitalising Agricultural Region Freight Strategy, may assist the Zone. https://www.transport.wa.gov.au/Freight-Ports/revitalising-agricultural-region-freight-strategy.asp</p> <p>Resolution 4: Emailed request to Bunge Group Logistics, Steve Camarri on 07/10/2022. Awaiting response</p>	SUSPENDED – SUBJECT TO CONSULTANCY RFQ	Lyn Fogg Zone Executive Officer
2022, 22 Apr Item 8.2 Creation of the Great Southern Roads Sub-Committee	<p>Sub-Committee Terms of Reference:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> To investigate the current road infrastructure right across the networks (State, Regional Road Group roads and other local roads) as to their fit for purpose from a freight task and road safety and efficiency perspective both now and in the next 20 years. Once the data is known, make recommendations to the Great Southern Zone of WALGA in order for them to advocate and seek funding to remedy the shortfalls. Co-opt members as required to fulfil the above task as there will be outside technical expertise required from time to time. Report progress of sub-committee to the Great Southern Zone of WALGA at each of its meetings. Finalise a report for publishing prior to the end of 2023-24 financial year. Group to cease operations on 30 June 2024. <p>Members: Cr Mark Paganoni, Cr Kevin Gale, Cr Dale Douglas, Cr George Pollard, Cr Scott Crosby, Simon Lyas (RDA Great Southern) and Cr Len Handasyde.</p>	<p>28 Oct 2022: Zone Executive consulted with the 'Sub-Committee' Chair, who confirmed transition to the name 'Great Southern Roads Committee'. Zone Agenda template updated.</p>	ONGOING to 30 June 2024	

ATTACHMENTS

ATTACHMENT No.6 Refers Item 7.2.1 DAMA Working Group Meeting Notes 20 April 2023

[Back to Item 7.2.1](#)

GREAT SOUTHERN ZONE



DAMA Committee meeting notes 20th April 2023

The Committee met on the 20th April via “Teams” along with Alice Chen from EY consulting and Renee Tan as the admin support for RDA GS in regard to this project.

The purpose of this meeting was to fine tune the required skill jobs relative to the Great Southern Region and review the English language level required for some more hands on tasks.

Salary concessions are another option considered if relevant to this region.

With most of the letter of support received from LG, local members of Parliament and a diverse range of industry, the Business case for the Great Southern DAMA will be ready for submission to the Department of Home Affairs late this month.

Discussion from this meeting is noted below in point form,

- Alice (ETY) walked us through the submission.
- Noted that 300 occupations are listed.
- 90% of survey respondents reported workforce supply difficulties.
- The submission emphasises the demand for semi-skilled workers by quoting respondents and getting letters of support from them.
- Doctors were discussed however they won't be included because the DAMA provides most benefit in improving access to workers with lower standards of English.
- Housing availability is an issue and the submission will aim to show that the region is working on housing supply.
- The submission won't be asking for lower salary concessions because the market rate is generally higher than the minimum. This will improve the chances of the submission succeeding.
- The submission seeks English language concessions for 3, 4 and 5 skill levels plus selected occupations in levels 1 and 2.
- The submission will seek to lift the age threshold from 45 to 55.
- WALGA has sent an email about the Zone signing off on the submission because it will need to be done before the next Zone meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

That WALGA GS Zone accept the meeting notes and,

1. Authorise the DAMA Committee to approve the final version of the Business Plan to be lodged by EY to the Department of Home Affairs and,
2. To authorise WALGA to pay the invoices provided by EY when each state of consultancy is completed.

ATTACHMENTS

ATTACHMENT No.7 Refers Item 7.2.2 Telecommunication Blackspots – GS Development Commission Compiled Blackspot List 2022

[Back to Item 7.2.2](#)

WA Nomination Criteria

Jobs = Opportunities for job creation and economic development in regional, rural and remote areas, especially areas of high economic activity and opportunity.

Alignment = Alignment with other digital connectivity initiatives in the State.

Business support = Support for business development in minerals processing, agriculture and food, and service sectors such as retail, transport, logistics, hospitality and tourism.

Public safety = Locations with compelling public safety issues.

#	LG Priority	Location Name and/or Address	Region	Shire	Coordinates		WA Nomination Criteria				Distance to Closest Mobile Base Station (km)	Closest Mobile Base Station Name	Carrier
					Latitude	Longitude	Jobs	Alignment	Business Develop.	Public Safety			
GS1	2	Kendenup West	Great Southern	Plantagenet	-34.477255	117.446199	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	12.4	KENDENUP	Telstra
GS2	3	Narrakup East	Great Southern	Plantagenet	-34.754015	117.784514				Yes	12.3	Narrakup	Telstra
GS3	4	Washpool	Great Southern	Plantagenet	-34.593351	117.979898					10.3	PORONGURU PS	Telstra
GS4	5	Napier North	Great Southern	Plantagenet	-34.746389	117.952222					10.6	Napier	Telstra
GS5		Palmdale	Great Southern	Albany	-34.770433	118.064641	Yes	Yes	Yes		10.6	Napier North	Telstra
GS6		North West Jerramungup	Great Southern	Jerramungup	-33.928245	118.83753					6.8	Needilup Exchgange	Telstra
GS7	1	Pardelup	Great Southern	Plantagenet	-34.63734	117.38285					10.2	DENBARKER	Telstra
GS8	6	Boscabel East	Great Southern	Kojonup	-33.746188	117.226189	Yes	Yes	Yes		7.9	KOJONUP	Telstra
GS9	2	Eclipse Island	Great Southern	Albany	-35.181219	117.88512	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	6.9	Cave Point Lighthouse	Telstra

Great Southern Country Zone
MINUTES 21 April 2023

#	LG Priority	Location Name and/or Address	Region	Shire	Coordinates		WA Nomination Criteria				Distance to Closest Mobile Base Station (km)	Closest Mobile Base Station Name	Carrier
					Latitude	Longitude	Jobs	Alignment	Business Develop.	Public Safety			
GS10	1	Rocky Gully North	Great Southern	Cranbrook	-34.38976	116.930671	Yes	Yes	Yes		11.3	FRANKLAND WEST	Telstra
GS11	1	Salmon Holes, Torndirrup National Park	Great Southern	Albany	-35.102737	117.966842	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	6.5	Cave Point Lighthouse	Telstra
GS12	4	Redmond	Great Southern	Albany	-34.885978	117.690846	No		No	Yes	4.9	Narrikup	Telstra
GS13		Gnowangerup South	Great Southern	Gnowangerup	-34.00892	117.920356	Yes	Yes	Yes		11.3	GNOWANGERUP	Telstra
GS14		Pallingup	Great Southern	Gnowangerup	-33.821783	117.952808	Yes	Yes	Yes		13.8	GNOWANGERUP	Telstra
GS15		Needilup South	Great Southern	Jerramungup	-34.06061	118.754325	Yes	Yes	Yes		12.1	NEEDILUP	Telstra
GS16	3	Green Range North	Great Southern	Albany	-34.558656	118.530163	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	3.5	Mettler	Telstra
GS17		Inverdon Rd Cranbrook	Great Southern	Cranbrook	-34.335689	117.459009	Yes	Yes	Yes		9.0	Tenterden	Telstra
GS18		Gnowangerup North	Great Southern	Gnowangerup	-33.844027	118.105216	Yes	Yes	Yes		13.8	GNOWANGERUP	Telstra
GS19		Swamp Road Gairdner	Great Southern	Jerramungup	-34.29916	119.066538	Yes	Yes	Yes		15.9	GAIRDNER RIVER	Telstra
GS20	1	Kordabup	Great Southern	Denmark	-34.942009	117.21833	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	6.2	MT SHADFORTH	Telstra
GS21	1	Scotsdale	Great Southern	Denmark	-34.92059	117.350885	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	4.7	DENMARK	Telstra
GS22		John Cove	Great Southern	Jerramungup	-34.39474	119.40059	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	1.9	BREMER BAY	Telstra
GS23		Ongerup North	Great Southern	Gnowangerup	-33.862736	118.365904	Yes	Yes	Yes		14.5	MARDIEYERRUP HILL	Telstra

Great Southern Country Zone
MINUTES 21 April 2023

#	LG Priority	Location Name and/or Address	Region	Shire	Coordinates		WA Nomination Criteria				Distance to Closest Mobile Base Station (km)	Closest Mobile Base Station Name	Carrier
					Latitude	Longitude	Jobs	Alignment	Business Develop.	Public Safety			
GS24		Cairlocup	Great Southern	Kent	-33.637685	118.69507	Yes	Yes	Yes		20.4	PINGRUP	Telstra
GS25	6	Woogenellup South	Great Southern	Plantagenet	-34.61372	117.815721	Yes	Yes	Yes		8.7	Porongurup	Telstra
GS26		Gairdner River East	Great Southern	Jerramungup	-34.116595	119.062387	Yes	Yes	Yes		14.9	GAIRDNER RIVER	Telstra
GS27		Needilup North	Great Southern	Jerramungup	-33.826435	118.718778	Yes	Yes	Yes		14.8	NEEDILUP	Telstra
GS28	2	South Glencoe	Great Southern	Katanning	-33.484847	117.710177	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	19.2	DUMBLEYUNG TOWN	Telstra
GS29	1	Woodanilling East	Great Southern	Katanning	-33.534983	117.597895	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	13.8	WOODANILLING	Telstra
GS30		Datatine	Great Southern	Kent	-33.487392	117.980039	Yes	Yes	Yes		16.9	NYABING TOWN	Telstra
GS31		Jerramungup North	Great Southern	Kent	-33.727437	118.911838	Yes	Yes	Yes		23.7	JERRAMUNGUP TOWN	Telstra
GS32		Pingrup North	Great Southern	Kent	-33.393432	118.654083	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	15.1	PINGRUP EAST	Telstra
GS33	2	Changerup South	Great Southern	Kojonup	-33.749144	116.904024	Yes	Yes	Yes		15.0	ARMSTRONG ROAD, BOSCABEL	Telstra
GS34	5	Chowerup	Great Southern	Kojonup	-34.023584	116.766943	Yes	Yes	Yes		13.6	Tone Road	Telstra
GS35		Gairdner River South	Great Southern	Jerramungup	-34.309578	118.937786	Yes	Yes	Yes		11.8	GAIRDNER RIVER	Telstra
GS36		Nyabing South	Great Southern	Kent	-33.754451	118.154199	Yes	Yes	Yes		20.6	MARDIEYERRUP HILL	Telstra
GS37		Townsend Road	Great Southern	Kent	-33.56754	118.84133	Yes	Yes	Yes		12.3	PINGRUP EAST	Telstra

Great Southern Country Zone
MINUTES 21 April 2023

#	LG Priority	Location Name and/or Address	Region	Shire	Coordinates		WA Nomination Criteria				Distance to Closest Mobile Base Station (km)	Closest Mobile Base Station Name	Carrier
					Latitude	Longitude	Jobs	Alignment	Business Develop.	Public Safety			
GS38	4	Mobrup	Great Southern	Kojonup	-34.060592	116.972973	Yes	Yes	Yes		5.3	Ryansbrook	Telstra
GS39	3	Mobrup South	Great Southern	Kojonup	-34.167353	116.893563	Yes	Yes	Yes		13.4	Ryansbrook	Telstra
GS40	1	Toolbrunup	Great Southern	Tambellup	-34.130111	117.863482	Yes	Yes	Yes		20.0	TAMBELLUP EAST	Telstra
GS41		Moir Hill, Stirling Range National Park	Great Southern	Gnowangerup	-34.3232	118.34582	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.0	STIRLING RANGE	Telstra
GS42	1	Muradup	Great Southern	Kojonup	-33.858282	116.94317	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	10.9	Tone Road	Telstra
GS43	2	Frankland North	Great Southern	Cranbrook	-34.294737	117.141227	Yes	Yes	Yes		8.9	FRANKLAND	Telstra
GS44		Bordan SECWA	Great Southern	Gnowangerup	-34.140316	118.528797	Yes	Yes	Yes		19.9	ONGERUP	Telstra
GS45		Karingup	Great Southern	Gnowangerup	-34.01782	118.141369	Yes	Yes	Yes		12.6	Borden	Telstra
GS46		Monjebup	Great Southern	Jerramungup	-34.205549	118.672083	Yes	Yes	Yes		18.5	BOXWOOD HILL	Telstra
GS47	2	Tambellup South	Great Southern	Tambellup	-34.190564	117.774083	Yes	Yes	Yes		20.6	SUKEY HILL	Telstra
GS48	7	Woogenellup West	Great Southern	Plantagenet	-34.553959	117.734073					8.7	Woogenellup	Telstra
GS49	2	Dingo Flat Road Tingledale	Great Southern	Denmark	-34.92406	116.807366					7.3	Nornalup	Telstra
GS50		Merilup	Great Southern	Kent	-33.376806	118.254511					12.8	NYABING	Telstra
GS51	3	William Bay DBCA Office and William Bay NP Green Pool	Great Southern	Denmark	-34.997201	117.22452					5.9	DENMARK WEST (MT SHADFORTH)	Telstra

Great Southern Country Zone
MINUTES 21 April 2023

#	LG Priority	Location Name and/or Address	Region	Shire	Coordinates		WA Nomination Criteria				Distance to Closest Mobile Base Station (km)	Closest Mobile Base Station Name	Carrier
					Latitude	Longitude	Jobs	Alignment	Business Develop.	Public Safety			
GS52	3	William Bay NP Greens Pool	Great Southern	Denmark	-35.023107	117.2354					7.3	DENMARK WEST (MT SHADFORTH)	Telstra
GS53	3	Woodanilling East	Great Southern	Katanning	-33.5635	117.516					5.8	WOODANILLING	Telstra
GS54		Moingup Springs Campground	Great Southern	Gnowangerup	-34.4006	118.1028					10.1	TOOLBRUNUP (WOOGENELLUP)	Telstra
GS55	5	Waychinicup Inlet Camping Area	Great Southern	Albany	-34.8928	118.334				Yes	17.3	MANYPEAKS EXCHANGE	Telstra
GS56		Cheynes Beach	Great Southern	Albany					Yes	Yes			
GS56		Cape Riche	Great Southern	Albany						Yes			
GS57		South Stirling / Kojanerup South	Great Southern	Albany					Yes	Yes			