



**WESTERN AUSTRALIAN
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
SOUTH WEST ZONE**

MINUTES

DATE Friday 30 August 2019

COMMENCING 9.00 am

VENUE City of Bunbury Function Room

PROGRAM	9.00 am	Opening
	9.05 am	Business as per agenda
	10.15 am	Morning Tea
	10.45 am	Meeting resumes
	11.00 am	Presentations
	12.30 pm	Lunch

AGENDA FORMAT

The agenda is sent in two parts. The first, being the Zone Agenda, the second the State Council Agenda in PDF format. The State Council Agenda was emailed separately to members.

Members wishing to submit amendments to proposed motions are requested to forward a copy with a brief explanation to the Executive Officer at least 2 days prior to the meeting to enable distribution to, and consideration by members.

With the increasing size of attachments, which exceed Email, capacity Internet browser links have been provided to enable distribution of documents.

E R Fisher
Executive Officer

Distribution Lists (by Email to the following addressee)

M Archer G Henley Tony Nottle Kate Dudley	D Blurton S Stanley	M Osborne T. Smith	P Omodei A Campbell	Capel (Info) Ian McCabe M Scott
Gaylene Godfrey A Schonfeldt M Bennett	D Taylor T Dean	T Clynych T Pratico	S Addison - Brown P Townshend M Smith	S Carstairs M Lang G Aird

Debbie Brown A Riordan T Jackson	B Piesse B Rose	C O'Brian (WALGA)	Vern McKay (Audit)	L Toohey DLG&CI
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1. Opening and Announcements

The President, Cr. T. Dean opened the meeting at 9.10 am and welcomed all present.

2. Attendance & Apologies

The following attendance and apologies are recorded:

Local Government	Delegate		CEO	
Shire of Augusta – Margaret River	Cr. P Townsend Cr J Meldrum	Apology Present	Ms. S Addison Brown Mr. D Nicholson	Apology Present
Shire of Boyup Brook	Cr. G Aird	Present	Mr. S Carstairs	Present
Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes	Cr. T Pratico	Present	Mr. T Clynch	Present
City of Bunbury	Cr. T Smith	Present	Mr. M Osborne	Present
City of Busselton	Mayor G Henley	Apology	Mr. T Nottle	Present
Shire of Capel	Cr. M Scott	Present	Mr. I McCabe	Present
Shire of Collie	Cr. S Stanley	Apology	Mr. D Blurton	Present
Shire of Dardanup	Cr. M Bennett	Present	Mr. A. Schonfeldt	Apology
Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup	Cr. B Piesse	Present	Mr. B Rose	Present
Shire of Harvey	Cr. T Jackson	Present to 10.30 am	Mrs. A Riordan Mr. G Clarke	Apology Present
Shire of Manjimup	Cr. P Omodei Cr. C Winfield	Apology Present	Mr. A Campbell	Present
Shire of Nannup	Cr. T Dean	Present	Mr. D Taylor	Present
Executive Officer			Mr. E Fisher	Present

3. Visitors:

3.1 WALGA

Mr. James McGovern, Manager Governance and

Ms. Nicky Smith, Road Safety Advisor South West

3.2 Other Guests

3.3 DLGS & CI.

Ms. Liz Toohey & Ms. Jodie Holbrook

4. Presentations

4.1 Host Council Presentation

Host shires are invited to provide a 15-20 minute presentation on current events affecting their local government area or to arrange an inspection of new or significant facilities of interest to members. Mr Osborne spoke on opportunities for Regional Deal Funding.

4.2 Valuer - General Presentation

The Valuer - General has advised in response to a letter from the EO as follows; I note the concerns raised in your letter and I'm determined that they be resolved to meet the needs of your members.

Thank you for inviting Landgate Valuations and Property Analytics (VPA) to attend a meeting of the South West Zone of WALGA to discuss these issues. I propose to attend your meeting in Manjimup on Friday 27 September, with other senior managers from VPA. (Note this date and venue were rescheduled)

At this stage the attendees from Landgate are:

- Myself, Valuer General
- Bronwyn Fletcher, Director VPA
- Carl Cockerham, Senior Manager VPA
- Maureen Heuer, Senior Manager Business Support

The Valuer – General has kindly brought forward the visit from that which was planned for the Manjimup meeting in September.

4.3 LGIS Presentation

LGIS are unavailable to provide a presentation to this meeting as requested but will be available for the November meeting.

4.4 November Presentation

The Auditor General would like to make a presentation to the Meeting in Manjimup. This confirmed.

5. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Corrections

Moved	Cr. M. Bennet	Seconded	Cr. J Meldrum	Carried
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MOTION:

The minutes of the meeting held at the Shire of Harvey on Friday 28th June 2019 are confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

6. Business Arising

6.1 The Zone requested WALGA support a regional annual award program to recognize the significant contribution of community newspapers.

6.2 The Zone recommended to WALGA that WALGA continue to support Western Australia's Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030 and seek firm commitments from the State Government about how the waste avoidance, resource recovery and diversion from landfill targets will be achieved, including local options for reprocessing, recycling and waste to energy.

6.3 The Zone recommended to WALGA advocate for the State Government to make a clear decision on the reactivation of the South West rail line.

6.4 The Zone recommended that WALGA Seek a commitment from the Waste Authority to complete an audit into downstream processing of mixed plastic that are shipped overseas to ensure this waste is not ending up in illegal recycling centres with large amounts either burned or buried in landfill. And advocates to the State government to consider a State Government rescue package using the Waste Levy as is the case in other States.

6.5 On the advice of Mr Don Punch MLA the EO wrote to Honourable Alannah MacTiernan MLC advising that the member Councils of the South West Zone extend their support and advocacy (through the Westport and Government Process) for the Bunbury Port to provide a

greater role in the growing freight task in Western Australia including “roll on-roll off” and container freight.
Recent media reports indicate that the Port of Bunbury cannot be prioritised as a container port.

6.6 The Zone requested Mt B Eldridge to submit a further report on the Access and inclusion Alliance proposal. This report is included a section 7.

7. Reports

7.1 Assessment Standards of Financial Sustainability of Councils.

MOTION

Moved	Mr D Blurton	Seconded	Cr B Piesse	Carried
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That the SW Zone request WALGA lobby;

A. For a review of DLGC sustainability measures (ratio benchmarks) in conjunction with the AOG and consider;

1. That Adverse trends identified by auditors based on ratios should be made on three- or five-year rolling averages rather single years to account for year to year anomalies including revaluations or accounting reclassifications.

2. That Separate benchmarks be established in accordance with individual Councils band level as the current methodology is a one size fits all approach and does not reflect financial capacity or geographical area.

B. DLGC to provide support and advocacy to the local government sector on issues including the rate ability of land under state agreement acts with a view to improving the sustainability of Local governments

Submitting Council	Shire of Collie, Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup and Shire of Nannup
Meeting Date	August 2019
Subject	Assessment Standards of Financial Sustainability of Councils.
In Brief	Several Councils in the Zone received a letter on non-compliance recently relating to Financial Management Reg 7.12A(4) which requires that Councils prepare and publish a response within 3 months where an adverse financial trend has been identified by an Auditor. A number of additional considerations should be taken into account by the OAG and DLGC with regard to

interpreting and measuring the financial sustainability of Councils.

RECOMMENDATION

That the SW Zone request WALGA lobby;

C. for a review of DLGC sustainability measures (ratio benchmarks) in conjunction with the AOG and consider;

3. That Adverse trends identified by auditors based on ratios should be made on three- or five-year rolling averages rather single years to account for year to year anomalies including revaluations or accounting reclassifications.

4. That Separate benchmarks be established in accordance with individual Councils band level as the current methodology is a one size fits all approach and does not reflect financial capacity or geographical area.

D. DLGC to provide support and advocacy to the local government sector on issues including the rate ability of land under state agreement acts with a view to improving the sustainability of Local governments

Action – EO to advise OAG of this item

Background

The Shires of Collie, Donnybrook-Balingup, Nannup and possibly others in the Zone recently received a letter from the Department of Local Government and Communities to advise of noncompliance with Financial Management Regulation 7.12A(4). For the above shires, the notification relates to the Annual Financial Report 2018 documents specifically where auditors have identified areas of concern based on financial Ratio results, which do not meet established Departmental standards.

As members would be aware, the Office of the Auditor General (AOG) has assumed responsibility for local government audits from 2017 and it would appear that auditors have been given direction by the OAG to raise any instance of failure to meet established DLGC standards as cause for concern.

Legislation

Regulation 7.12A(4) was introduced in 2017 via amendment and states;
A local government;

(a) must prepare a report addressing any matters identified as significant by the auditor in the audit report, and stating what action the local government has taken or intends to take with respect to each of these matters; and

(b) give a copy of that report to the Minister within 3 months after the audit report is received by the local government.

Within 14 days after a local government gives a report to the Minister under subsection (4)(b), the CEO must publish a copy of the report on the local government's official website

Comment

The ratio results should be read for what they are, a very simplistic measure which does not take into consideration abnormal "one-off" items of income or expense from year to year or any reclassification of expenses from capital to operating as is required from time to time. The Department should accept that such anomalies will often occur on a year to year basis and sustainability measures should be considered on trends of rolling averages over three years or five years rather than single years in isolation.

In addition to the above recommendation, the following suggestions are provided and may warrant further discussion.

- The State Government could play its part to improve the sustainability for local government in regional areas with changes to state policy. For example, the Council has long advocated for rates to be paid by companies who operate under state agreements within local communities. This matter has been on the State Council of WALGA agenda for some time with limited success being made on the matter with successive state governments. The Department of Local Government and Communities could take on an advocacy role with this issue on behalf of the sector.
- Concessional arrangements to provide more financial support to regional and remote communities could be considered as part of a methodology review by the WA Grants Commission for the distribution of Federal Assistance Grants. The funding allocation provided to localities recognised as regional centres under the current methodology should be reviewed in consideration of the financial impost on services and infrastructure generated by predominantly transient employees.
- The current assessment by the DLGC is a one size fits all approach. It is recommended that the Department consider reviewing what it considers an acceptable result in terms of the ratios from Regional and remote Councils. This could be determined by the band level of a local government as it is unreasonable to expect Councils with vastly different resource levels to return similar ratio results. Consideration should also be given to individual Council circumstances such as the limited amount of rateable land, population and growth rates and rateable property values as examples.

The requirement of section 7.12A to produce a report addressing the issues raised by the auditor were introduced by amendment in 2017 and anecdotally, it would appear to have taken at least 50% of the sector by surprise.

7.2 WALGA State President's Report September

MOTION

Moved	Cr M Bennett	Seconded	Cr M Scott	Carried
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THAT the report be received.

2019 Local Government Convention

The WA Local Government Convention 2019 was a great success, with nearly 450 delegates and 150 Local Government Officers in attendance along with the 89 exhibitors who populated the Trade Exhibition.

A Mayors' and Presidents' Forum was held on Tuesday, 6 August, featuring presentations from Local Government New Zealand President Mayor Dave Cull and Professor Tilman Ruff speaking about the Mayors for Peace initiative. A late inclusion on the program of Chair, Select Committee into Local Government the Hon Simon O'Brien provided opportunity for robust debate around the Committee's role and approach to the sector.

Wednesday's program comprised a political forum with rotational dialogues from key policy areas relating to Local Government, followed by the WALGA AGM at which nine items were debated with consequent resolutions recorded.

The Convention program featured a number of outstanding speakers, across both plenary and topic specific concurrent sessions. Opening keynote speaker Lord Sebastian Coe spoke about the importance of building a strong team and remaining focused on the over-arching vision when confronted with obstacles.

A panel featuring Local Government Minister David Templeman MLA, Professor Roberta Ryan, Manjimup Shire President Paul Omodei and Civic Legal's Anthony Quahe discussed the role of Local Government in addressing place-based challenges as well as possible changes arising from the review of the Local Government Act. Professor Ryan's opening remarks highlighted the important role Local Government plays economically and socially in all of our communities.

Friday's political session featuring Gary Adshead and Hugh Riminton provided substantial insight into the broader political context in Western Australia and at the Federal level.

New Zealand's Cr Dale Williams provided his inspirational perspective on local solutions to local problems driven by the knowledge and passion of local people working together.

Australian football legend Rodney Eade gave an engaging breakfast presentation focused on leadership and building successful teams. The Conference ended on Friday with Andy Dexterity's unique take on inclusion.

WALGA appreciates any feedback or suggestions from Members on the convention that can assist in our preparation for next year.

Select Committee into Local Government

As you are aware the Legislative Council in WA has established a Select Committee into Local Government.

The Select Committee, which has a 12 month timeframe to finalise its Inquiry, was originally seeking submissions to be provided to the committee with a closing date of 23 August 2019.

WALGA was T: (08) 9213 2000 www.walga.asn.au CONTACTS

successful in our request on behalf of the sector for the submission date be extended to 13 September 2019 to allow all Local Governments to consider a submission in their monthly meeting cycle.

I encourage all Local Governments to prepare a submission and present a story on your achievements and challenges.

WALGA has prepared a submission on behalf of the sector. In addition WALGA will be attending a private hearing with the committee on 2 September 2019 where the committee has requested information on WALGA and what activities it carries out.

I will keep the sector informed as the Committee process progresses over the next 12 months.

Local Government Amendment Bill

The Local Government Legislation Amendment Act 2019 received the Governor's Assent on 5 July 2019. This Act legislation included amendments to the Local Government Act that align with WALGA's advocacy on the following matters:

- Gifts
- Universal Training
- Standards of Behaviour
- CEO Recruitment and Performance Review
- Public Notices and Access to Information
- Administrative Efficiencies

Following success in our request on behalf of the sector for the submission date be extended to 13 September 2019 to allow all Local Governments to consider a submission in their monthly meeting cycle.

I encourage all Local Governments to prepare a submission and present a story on your achievements and challenges.

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- Public Notices and Access to Information
- Administrative Efficiencies

Only some of the provisions have commenced at the time of reporting. The public information access and the Universal training amendments have been proclaimed, with associated Regulations being developed by the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries in consultation with WALGA.

Further regulations are currently being developed in respect to the other Act Amendment issues around Gifts, Codes of Conduct, CEO Recruitment and Performance

Local Government Act Review – Phase 2

Phase 2 of the Act review process, where a new Local Government Act will be developed. Following the close of submissions on 31 March 2019, the Department of Local Government, Sport & Cultural Industries received over 3000 submissions and are currently reviewing and collating the submissions.

Climate Change - Coastal Erosion

As part of my advocacy on the urgent need to address the lack of clarity on funding, risk and liability for coastal members dealing with coastal erosion and inundation, on Wednesday 31 July, I participated in a lengthy ABC TV news report on this important issue. My focus was squarely on the State Government and the need for mature and comprehensive partnership approach to coastal erosion and inundation, which is largely absent at the moment.

To put it into context, Western Australia has nearly four times as much coastline as South Australia – and yet the WA State Government is currently committing less than \$2 million to this issue as compared to \$52 million from the South Australian government. There's definitely a gap there.

I recognise that many Councils are being proactive in this space, undertaking activities such as sand renourishment, revegetating dunes and installing protective structures such as groynes and sea walls. Extensive community consultation in undertaking risk management plans to identify the level of risk in their area and possible actions they might take is also occurring, but Local Government can't do it all on its own.

We are now awaiting the release of a key government document that indicates the state-wide extent of the coastal erosion issue, which I expect to be a major input into the development and implementation of the State Climate Change Policy.

Road Safety Strategy

I would like to acknowledge and thank all who have invested time to provide considered and informed advice to the Road Safety Council about what is needed to eliminate death and

serious injury on the roads. The Road Safety Council has held eight community consultation workshops and stakeholder meetings at the time of writing with more than 20 further meetings scheduled over coming weeks. In the past five years, 58% of those killed or seriously injured on Western Australian roads have been on a road under the control of a Local Government at the time. If this awful toll is to be eliminated, Local Government must be a leader, not just responsible for implementing occasional road improvements. This is our opportunity to influence the State road safety strategy for the coming decade and I urge you to get involved.

Community Industry Reference Group

The first meeting of a newly formed working group met on Friday 26 July at WALGA.

WALGA's Community Industry Reference Group has been established to provide overarching strategic direction and guidance to the community services functions in Local Government, to improve the delivery of community programs and services to local communities, and to strengthen WALGA's whole of sector advocacy efforts.

The formation of the Community Industry Reference Group was endorsed by WALGA State Council in May 2019. The group consists of Local Government Directors and Managers in the area of community development.

The Community Industry Reference Group terms of reference are to:

- ☐ _improve coordination and oversight of key issues relating to communities;
 - ☐ _increase understanding of roles and responsibilities of Local Government in regard to the delivery of services to community that reflect legislation and compliance together with social responsibilities to meet the needs of community;
 - ☐ _strengthen relationships and partnerships between State and Local Government;
 - ☐ _achieve greater consistency of information being provided that further defines best practice for implementation of State and Local Government resources, reduces duplication and minimises service gaps;
 - ☐ _influence the review of State Government programs and related grants and budgets to ensure they reflect and incorporate Local Government, and
 - ☐ _assist and support WALGA State Councillors and WALGA Policy Team members with prioritisation of workflow and the increasing workload of submissions and other agenda items.
- The next meeting of the group will be held on 22 November 2019.

President's Contacts

From the 4 July to the 4 September period, contacts that have occurred or are scheduled to take place prior to the September State Council meeting are as follows:

State Government Relations:

Hon. David Templeman MLA , Minister for Local Government; Heritage; Culture and the Arts
x 1

Hon. Bill Marmion MLA, Shadow Minister for Mines and Petroleum; Local Government; Defence Issues; Science

Hon. Mia Davies MLA, Leader of The Nationals WA

Hon. Liza Harvey MLA Shadow Minister for Public Sector Management; State Development; Jobs and Trade; Federal-State Relations; Citizenship & Multicultural Affairs
State and Local Government Forum
State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee Meeting
Hon. Alannah MacTiernan Minister for Regional Development; Agriculture and Food; Ports; Minister Assisting the Minister for State Development, Jobs and Trade

Local Government Relations

Shire of Gingin, President, Cr Ian Collard, CEO Aaron Cook
City of Swan, Mayor David Lucas, CEO Mike Foley
Ms Caroline Spencer, Auditor General, OAG
Ms Candy Choo, CEO, LG Professionals WA
Mr Ian Cowie, CEO, City of Gosnells – LG Professionals President
State Council & Zone Structure Working Group Meeting x 2
Executive Committee Meeting
ALGA - Post NGA Teleconference
Mr Tarun Weeramanthri, Former WA Chief Health Officer, Climate Change
Dr Sarah Joyce, Climate Change
Mr Boyd Brown, Regional Manager, Telstra City of Stirling, Mayor Mark Irwin, CEO Stuart Jardine
State Council/LGIS Workshop
Mayors and Presidents Forum
State and Local Government Forum
WALGA AGM
WALGA Convention 2019
Shire of Capel, President, Cr Murray Scott, CEO Ian McCabe
Shire of Donnybrook - Balingup, President, Cr Brian Piesse, CEO Ben Rose & Council
City of Joondalup, Mayor Albert Jacob, CEO Garry Hunt
Executive Committee Meeting
Local Government House Trust Meeting
LGIS Board Meeting x 2
Select Committee Private Hearing
NVC Board Meeting Tuesday 20 August
State Council Strategic Forum
State Council Meeting

Conferences / Workshops / Public Relations

NAIDOC Ceremony
Lord Sebastian Coe phone briefing

Regional Health Panel Session
ABC TV Interview on Coastal Erosion
RAC, regarding Federal/State Government Investment
Women in Government – Inaugural Leadership Dinner

Zone Meetings

Peel Country Zone Meeting

7.3 WA Zone Update from Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries

MOTION

Moved	Cr. M Bennett	Seconded	Cr M Scott	Carried
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THAT the report be received.

Report

This report is attached as a separate document.

7.4 Access & Inclusion Alliance South West Proposal

MOTION

Moved	Cr. T Smith	Seconded	Cr. T Jackson	Carried
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THAT this report (Item 6.6) be referred to the CEOs for further report

Report

At the last meeting Mr. Aldridge was asked to submit a proposal for consideration.

Aim: To improve Access & Inclusion outcomes for councils through efficient sharing of knowledge, resources and economy of scale. Increasing the regions appeal to accessible tourism and as a place to live for all people.

Initial Plan in Summary: To foster conversations between Local Governments around Access & Inclusion to create a culture of collaboration and knowledge sharing in the region. This will be achieved through regular meetings between LGA's facilitated by a neutral party.

Stakeholders: A large scale project such as this will have a wide range of stake holders that will need to be engaged including but not limited to:

- People with Disability, Family, Friends and Carers
- City and Shire Councils
- Members of Access & Inclusion Committees
- South West Development Commission
- Department of Communities (Disability Services)
- Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries
- Service Providers

Region Boundaries: South West region consisting of the following LGA's

- City of Bunbury
- City of Busselton
- Shire of Augusta-Margaret River
- Shire of Boyup Brook
- Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes
- Shire of Capel
- Shire of Collie
- Shire of Dardanup
- Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup
- Shire of Harvey
- Shire of Manjimup
- Shire of Nannup

Background:

With an aging population, and the fact that there are approximately one in five Australians who experience impairment, the South West is facing major challenges to ensure that these members of the community, their families and friends continue visit, live in, move to and stay in this region.

This, against a background of reduced resourcing and lack of research in areas such 'The effect of Access on Community Retention Rates' and 'Accessible Tourism', along with the lack of consistent standards across the region, effectively places individuals with an impairment, along with councils in the region, at a distinct disadvantage. Compounding this disadvantage is the upcoming opportunities for both federal and state support as a result on increased issue visibility from the State Disability Plan and the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability. As a region we are currently badly placed to take advantage of the opportunities created by this visibility.

Increasing Access and Inclusion outcomes would not just increase the level of service in the region but would also affect the region's economy in many diverse ways. For example, this region has a significant economic reliance on tourism with a direct and indirect contribution of 14% in 2016-2017 and approximately 20% of jobs in the region¹. Australian tourism research² has found that there is a segment of Australians with a disability (including adults caring for a child with a disability) who are not currently travelling, but who would likely travel with certain industry improvements (in accommodation, transport, current technologies). In WA alone this is estimated to be worth approximately \$225 million, which is on top of the \$916 million already expended by people who require accessible tourism and services. With an increase in tourism there would be an increase in residents, this is due to the increased exposure of the region as a great place to live and obtain accessible services. Other side effects of increasing the standards of access is a decrease in resident loss due to a lack of accessible services.

How can Local Government ensure that their resources are being used in cost effective ways and that all revenue opportunities are utilised. Additionally, how can they ensure they are compliant with legislative requirements whilst working with their community members?

The City of Bunbury's MARCIA program is an example of what can be achieved when a council collaborates with members of the community to improve its services. MARCIA is a whole-of-community aspiration to make Bunbury the Most Accessible Regional City in Australia, and was adopted by the City of Bunbury in 2014 at the recommendation of their Community Access Committee. The City has since partnered with Edith Cowan University to conduct research into the barriers and facilitators to access and inclusion in Bunbury, that could be used to inform the progress of the MARCIA aspiration. The latest MARCIA report³ (released 18 May 2018) summarises some of the amazing progress that has been made including commitments to infrastructure improvement, organisation wide training and commercial sector improvements.

Why is change needed?

Whilst each council has a Community Development associated budget, these budgets are often siloed and not sufficient in size to make any meaningful progress. This is especially relevant in the smaller councils of the region and as a result important services are often overlooked such as:

- Engagement of reputable Access Consultants
- Practical and in-depth Staff Training
- Subscription to relevant Australian Standards
- Consistency in access ratings across councils
- Consistent Physical Development Standards
- Tender and partnership opportunities
- Sharing of knowledge and skills
- And many more

Regional collaboration will also allow it to become more competitive when applying for funding, especially in the grants arena where there are limited windows of opportunity. This is especially pertinent when the current and future focuses on disability in the form of State and

Federal Disability Plans and the upcoming Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability.

Proposed Solution:

The formation of a 'South West Access & Inclusion Alliance'. This Alliance would be a forum where LGA and organisation representatives can all get together and collaborate on common issues. To ensure that this alliance remains neutral and focused on the needs of people with a disability it will be facilitated and organised by 30 Foot Drop. Additionally, each member council would be responsible for facilitating the attendance of a member of their Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee either in person or via online means.

Proposed Specifics:

Please see Appendix 1 for Options around Proposed Specifics and their associated resource costs.

Meeting Frequency: Varies depending on option (See Appendix 1)

Meeting Length: Varies depending on option (See Appendix 1)

Location: Rotating between Bunbury, Busselton and Manjimup, allowing representatives from all areas of the south west to attend in person at least once and sharing out hosting costs. Host to also provide video meeting facilities for those who cannot attend in person.

Invitees: Representatives from each LGA in the South West region and a member of their DAIP committee who is not under shire employ.

Discussion Points: Each LGA and DAIP committee to give a summary report on the issues that have come up in their community, what progress has been made, upcoming projects, funding opportunities, events etc. Allowing time after each report for comments and or knowledge sharing from other councils.

Short Term Goals: To foster dialog between LGA's on Access and Inclusion to reduce the existing siloed culture. To share knowledge and stop reinventing the wheel. To form a network that can be called upon with common goals.

Mid-Term Goals: For all involved LGA's to agree, in principal, to the implementation of consistent region wide Access and Inclusion Standards that go above legislated minimums. The creation and implementation of a framework for progress.

Long Term Goals: The long-term goal of this alliance is for the LGA's to agree on, and be accountable to, one consistent standard for Access and Inclusion across the region. A possible side product of this standard may be the formation of a Regional Organisation of Councils agreement to help provide structure for ongoing funding applications.

Potential Council Benefits

- Cost related Benefits

- Creating an economy of scale
- Increased revenue
 - Increased grant opportunities and success rate
 - Increase in residents
 - Decrease in resident loss
- Cost reductions
 - Reduced maintenance (Economy of Scale) – for example, maintenance contracts, repair costs, reduction in downtime.
 - Reduced staff costs – for example, more efficient staffing/consulting arrangements, less overtime, less costly skills, reduced turnover, improved productivity.
 - Environmental savings.
 - Reduced operational costs (non-staff) – rent, power, licence fees, communications, stationery, stock, etc.
- Cost avoidance
 - Increased service/same staff.
 - New service/same staff.
 - Increased capacity/same cost.
- Service Related Benefits
- Achievement of policy objectives
 - Better council services.
 - Safer work places.
 - Better environment.
 - Sustainable development.
- Increased service type availability
 - New services available to the community that would not be available without a partnership.
- Existing service enhancement
 - Faster service.
 - Wider range of services.
 - Services tailored to the specific needs of client groups.
 - Better geographic access to services.
 - Greater equity of access.
 - Better infrastructure support to councils' staff.
- Improved productivity
 - More with same resources.
 - Increased client access.
 - Increased service capacity.
 - Increased assets/better utilisation.
 - Increased information accuracy.
 - Faster decision-making.
- Improved skills
 - Shared experience.
 - Shared skills.
 - Access to expertise not otherwise available.

Funding Options:

The costs for this project could be subsidised through a variety of means outlined in Appendix 2 and the proposed funding split between councils is outlined in Appendix 3.

Conclusion:

With an increased focus on the disability sector and the opportunities they represent Local Governments need to adapt in order to take advantage. The current siloed culture present in the region greatly restricts the efficiency of budgets and creating a collaborative approach with a neutral facilitator will result in greater, widespread results.

References:

¹ *Economic Contribution of Tourism to Western Australia's Tourism Regions 2016-17*, Prepared by Tourism Western Australia based on Tourism Research Australia's Regional Tourism Satellite Accounts 2016-17, June 2018

² *Accessible Tourism in Victoria and Queensland*, Prepared by Tourism Research Australia, in partnership with Tourism, Events and Visitor Economy branch of the Victorian Government, and Tourism and Events Queensland, January 2018

³ *MARCIA Research Final Report*, Prepared by Adam Johnson for the City of Bunbury, May 2018

Appendix 1: Options and Costings**Option 1: Meeting Managed and Facilitated by 30 Foot Drop**

Meeting Frequency: Bi Monthly or Monthly

Meeting Length: 3 Hours

Pro's: Centralised meeting planner reduces chances of miscommunication. Independent professional meeting facilitator ensures that discussions stay on point and neutral. Involving 30 Foot Drop will ensure that our significant knowledge can be leveraged in discussions. Allowing a company that is focused on having people with a disability central to decisions that affect them will lend credibility to the endeavour.

Con's: Cost and Outsourcing to external provider may be an issue for some councils.

Resources Required:Physical:

- Access to a Venue and Catering from the hosting council
- Video conferencing equipment from host council

Intellectual

- 30 Foot Drop knowledge of upcoming opportunities and development in this space.

Human

- Minimum of two attendees per council each meeting either by video or in person including:
 - Community Development Officer or equivalent
 - Member of councils DAIP committee who is not under shire employ
 - Assistance with venue setup and break down
 - Time to follow up on information gained

Financial

- Travel costs for staff and volunteers from each council
- Independent Facilitator and Meeting Organiser supplied by 30 Foot Drop - \$3000.00 + GST for Project Implementation and \$6,000.00 + GST per meeting. There are possible external funding opportunities outlined in Appendix 2 and proposed cost to council breakdown in Appendix 3. These costs include the following:
 - Project Implementation (\$3000.00 + GST)
 - Location scouting and scheduling
 - IT check at venues
 - Attendee list compilation
 - Compile meeting information and expectations for distribution
 - Set up and send out meeting invites including automation
 - Meeting Costs (\$6000.00 + GST)
 - Pre-Meeting
- Review previous minutes
- Follow up outstanding tasks
- Research for any outstanding items and upcoming opportunities
- Agenda compilation and distribution
- Venue and Catering Confirmation
- Confirm attendees and any access requirements
 - Meeting
- Venue set up
- Independent chair
- Minutes recorder
 - Post Meeting
- Publish meeting minutes
- Clarify and research any points raised
- Approval of minutes

Option 2: Meeting Managed by LGA's and Facilitated by 30-Foot Drop

Meeting Frequency: Bi Monthly or Monthly

Meeting Length: 3 Hours

Pro's: Less costly than option 1. Independent professional meeting facilitator ensures that discussions stay on point and neutral. Involving 30 Foot Drop will ensure that our significant knowledge can be leveraged in discussions.

Con's: LGA's shouldering the loads for the organisational and recording aspects of the meeting.

Resources Required:

Physical:

- Access to a Venue and Catering from the hosting council
- Video conferencing equipment from host council

Intellectual

- 30 Foot Drop knowledge of upcoming opportunities and development in this space.

Human

- Minimum of two attendees per council each meeting either by video or in person including:
 - Community Development Officer or equivalent
 - Member of councils DAIP committee who is not under shire employ
 - Assistance with venue setup and break down
 - Time to follow up on information gained
 - LGA employees to organise the implementation and planning of meetings including:
 - Project Implementation
 - Location scouting and scheduling
 - IT check at venues
 - Attendee list compilation
 - Compile meeting information and expectations for distribution
 - Set up and send out meeting invites including automation
 - Meeting
 - Pre-Meeting
 - Review previous minutes
 - Follow up outstanding tasks
 - Research for any outstanding items and upcoming opportunities
 - Agenda compilation and distribution
 - Venue and Catering Confirmation
 - Confirm attendees and any access requirements
 - Post Meeting
 - Publish meeting minutes
 - Clarify and research any points raised
 - Approval of minutes

Financial

- Travel costs for staff and volunteers from each council
 - Independent Facilitator supplied by 30 Foot Drop - \$2,000.00 + GST per meeting.
- These costs include the following:
 - Independent Meeting Facilitator

- Access to 30 Foot Drops knowledge of economic, legislative and service information relating to disability.

Appendix 2: Cost Subsidy Options

Background

With the introduction of the NDIS, the State's commitment to creating a State Disability Plan and the future Royal Commission there has been an increased focus on the treatment of people with a disability. Couple this with the focus on developing regional areas for future economic and social stability, there are a number of different options for funding to help subsidise the financial cost of this project. As a disability focused company, we stay abreast of funding opportunities relating to our sector and there may be others that we are unaware of.

Note: 30 Foot Drop will not be able to apply for some of these funding sources due to our status as a Proprietary Limited Company. Our recommendation is that participating councils apply for the funding in a collaborative application. If the funding is to be applied for by 30 Foot Drop then we will need a written confirmation of each individual council's commitment to the project before proceeding.

Department of Communities: There are no current funding opportunities available through Department of Communities but this situation should be monitored as grant opportunities are regularly opened.

Regional Economic Development Grants (South West Development Commission): This proposed project is, at first glance, disability focused but as discussed earlier in the document the outcomes from this project will help to develop the region in regards to tourism and associated outcomes. The wording of this submission would need to be careful to emphasise this.

Direct State and Federal Funding: This proposed project can easily fall under the funding portfolios of multiple Government Departments. As a result, it may be more efficient to apply for funding directly on a State and Federal Level.

Philanthropic/Corporate Donations: Many of the large, resource-based operations in our region have an obligation to help and develop the region. Leveraging the goals of this alliance may open the doors for their support.

Appendix 3: Funding Split Options

Due to the size and population differences that are present in our region 30 Foot Drop recommends dividing the costs of these meetings proportional to each council population. This will ensure that all councils, regardless of size and budget, have the opportunity to take part at a cost appropriate to their population. Below you will find an array of costing options to take in account various levels of subsidised funds.

Population of councils and their percentage of the region's population.

Council	Population (2016)	Percentage
Augusta MR	13168	8%
Boyup Brook	1738	1%
Bridgetown	4513	3%
Bunbury	36623	21%
Busselton	34290	20%
Capel	16447	10%
Collie	9692	6%
Dardanup	13791	8%
Donnybrook	5753	3%
Harvey	25924	15%
Manjimup	9427	5%
Nannup	1316	1%
Total	172682	100%

Appendix 1 / Option 1 Costs

Council	Implementation Cost	Cost / Meeting	Bi Monthly / Year	Bi Monthly / Year / 50% Subsidy	Monthly / Year	Monthly / Year / 50% Subsidy
Augusta MR	\$228.77	\$457.53	\$2,973.98	\$1,486.99	\$5,719.18	\$2,859.59
Boyup Brook	\$30.19	\$60.39	\$392.52	\$196.26	\$754.86	\$377.43
Bridgetown	\$78.40	\$156.81	\$1,019.26	\$509.63	\$1,960.11	\$980.05
Bunbury	\$636.25	\$1,272.50	\$8,271.26	\$4,135.63	\$15,906.26	\$7,953.13
Busselton	\$595.72	\$1,191.44	\$7,744.35	\$3,872.18	\$14,892.98	\$7,446.49
Capel	\$285.73	\$571.47	\$3,714.53	\$1,857.27	\$7,143.33	\$3,571.67
Collie	\$168.38	\$336.76	\$2,188.93	\$1,094.46	\$4,209.47	\$2,104.74
Dardanup	\$239.59	\$479.18	\$3,114.68	\$1,557.34	\$5,989.77	\$2,994.88
Donnybrook	\$99.95	\$199.89	\$1,299.31	\$649.65	\$2,498.67	\$1,249.33
Harvey	\$450.38	\$900.75	\$5,854.90	\$2,927.45	\$11,259.42	\$5,629.71
Manjimup	\$163.78	\$327.55	\$2,129.08	\$1,064.54	\$4,094.38	\$2,047.19
Nannup	\$22.86	\$45.73	\$297.22	\$148.61	\$571.57	\$285.79
Total	\$3,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$39,000.00	\$19,500.00	\$75,000.00	\$37,500.00

Appendix 1 / Option 2 Costs

Council	Cost / Meeting Only	Bi Monthly / Meeting Only	Monthly / Meeting Only
Augusta MR	\$152.51	\$915.07	\$1,830.14

7.5 Public Health Plans (For Information)

Report

The Public Health Advocacy Institute of WA has received funding to provide a service to support and mentor local governments to assist them in developing their Public Health Plans, in line with the upcoming implementation of phase 5 of the Public Health Act 2016. PHAIWA has extensive experience working with local governments, has presented at a number of forums on this subject and has developed a Public Health Planning Guide that breaks down the process for local government into less daunting steps. Further details are provided in the attachment.

7.6 Amendments to CALM Act

MOTION

Moved	Cr. T Dean	Seconded	Cr. B Piesse	Carried
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That the SW Zone request WALGA lobby;

- A. For policy change of the Conservation and Land Management Act 1984 to ensure impacted landholders are adequately supported and recompensed in the instance where State Government activities and/or incidents resulting in damage to property; and***
- B. Seek clarification on the status of the Department of Conservation and Attractions Good Neighbor Policy and when (or if) it applies; and***
- C. That the State Government widely communicate the amendments made in 2016 to Section 132 of the Conservation and Land Management Act 1984 and the implications of these amendments on landholders.***
- D. That the State Government recompense impacted landholders from the Lewana and Blackwood Complex bushfires.***

Submitting Council
Meeting Date
Subject
In Brief

Shire of Nannup
August 2019
Amendments to the CALM Act 1984.
Recovery activities after recent bushfires caused by State Government pine plantation activities has revealed that amendments to the CALM Act 1984 exempt the State Government, its contractors and personnel from any liabilities to private property damage as a result of bushfire caused by State Government activities and/or incidents.

RECOMMENDATION

That the SW Zone request WALGA lobby;

- E. For policy change of the Conservation and Land Management Act 1984 to ensure impacted landholders are adequately supported and recompensed in the instance where State Government activities and/or incidents resulting in damage to property; and***
- F. Seek clarification on the status of the Department of Conservation and Attractions Good Neighbor Policy and when (or if) it applies; and***
- G. That the State Government widely communicate the amendments made in 2016 to Section 132 of the Conservation and Land Management Act 1984 and the implications of these amendments on landholders.***
- H. That the State Government recompense impacted landholders from the Lewana and Blackwood Complex bushfires.***

Background

In March 2019 a number of private properties in the Shire of Nannup and the Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup were impacted by the Lewana Bushfire. This bushfire was ignited by contractor harvesting equipment in a Forest Products Commission (FPC) plantations at the time. During post incident community meetings, impacted property owners were requested by FPC to submit compensation claims for damaged property. Property owners along with the Nannup Recovery Co-Ordinator completed costings with quotations from contractors and submitted to FPC for processing.

Similarly, in June 2019 the Blackwood Complex (Jarrahwood) bushfire impacted two private properties in the Shire of Nannup. This bushfire was caused by the ignition of post-harvest pine heaps being burnt by the Department of Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) who conduct all bushfire management activities on behalf of FPC. Post incident contact with DBCA indicated that the 'Good Neighbour Policy' would apply and damages would be rectified once quotes were received for processing.

In July 2019 impacted landholders received communications from Risk Cover (State Governments Insurer) to advise that the State will not accept liability for private property damage as a consequence of these bushfires as *Section 132 of the Conservation and Land Management Act 1984* exempts the State Government, its contractors and personnel from liabilities arising as a result of bushfire caused by State Government activities and/or incidents. These amendments were introduced in 2016 and do not appear to be communicated to the wider community, local governments, departmentally or interagency.

It does not appear that these amendments were or have been widely communicated and therefore landowners were unaware/misinformed when making insurance decisions for infrastructure relating to bushfire.

There are some property owners in the Lewana (Southampton) district that due to a number of fires originating from State Government managed plantations occurring over the past 6 years are being refused insurance.

Legislation

CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT ACT 1984

132. *Protection from personal liability*

- (1) A person does not incur civil liability for anything done by the person in good faith in, or in connection with, the performance or purported performance of functions under this Act.*
- (2) The State is also relieved of any civil liability for anything done or omitted to be done in good faith in, or in connection with, the performance or purported performance of a function under this Act in relation to preventing, managing or controlling fire on land to which this Act applies, section 8A land or section 8C land.*
- (3) Without limiting subsection (1), a person who is –*
 - (a) a party to an agreement made under section 8A; or*
 - (b) a member of a joint management body established in accordance with 8A; or*
 - (c) a party to a section 56A agreement for land; or*
 - (d) a member of a joint management body for the land established in accordance with section 56A, has, in relation to the management of the agreed area or other land for the purposes of this Act, the same protection from liability under subsection (1) as if the management were a function under this Act performed by that person.*
- (4) The protection given by this section applies even though the thing done in the performance or purported performance of a function under this Act may have been capable of being done whether or not those Acts had been enacted.*
- (5) In this section, a reference to the doing of anything includes a reference to the omission to do anything.”*

Department of Conservation and Attractions ‘Good Neighbour Policy’

8. State Council Agenda

The State Council Agenda numbers and page numbers have been retained for easy reference.

5. MATTERS FOR DECISION	5
5.1 Interim Submission - Draft Position Statement: Fibre Ready Telecommunications Infrastructure (05-036-03-0048 VJ).....	5
5.2 Interim Submission on the WA Motorsport Strategy (05-053-03-0012 MM)	11
5.3 Interim Submission on the State Strategy to Respond to the Abuse of Older People (Elder Abuse) (05-057-03-0001 MM)	16
5.4 WA Public Libraries Strategy Forum (05-012-03-0001 KD).....	26
5.5 Submission on the Draft Compliance and Enforcement Policy (01-006-02-0003 MB).....	42
5.6 Submission on the Environmental Protection Authority's Greenhouse Gas Emissions Guidance (05-025-03-0001 LS)	54
5.7 Road Safety Strategy for WA Beyond 2020 (05-009-03-0014 TAP).....	64
5.8 Interim Submission - Revitalising Agricultural Region Freight Strategy (05-006-02-0006 ID)	79
5.9 Policy Templates: (1) Works in the Local Government Road Reserve; and (2) Events in the Local Government Road Reserve (05-001-02-0008 MS)	92
 6. MATTERS FOR NOTING / INFORMATION	 111
6.1 Submission to the Select Committee into Local Government (05-034-02-0014 TB/TL). 111	
6.2 Cooperation and Shared Services (05-105-03-0001 ABM)	113
6.3 Draft Terms of Reference for an Inquiry into Local Government Fees and Charges (05-001-03-0006 NF).....	115
6.4 Public Health Advocacy Plan (05-031-01-0001 KD)	119
6.5 Completion of the Managing Alcohol in Our Communities Guide (06-045-01-0001 KD)	121
6.6 Local Government Coastal Hazard Planning – Issues Paper (05-036-03-0065 AR)	123
6.7 Climate Resilient Councils – Preparing for the Impacts of Climate Change (06-076-01-0001 LS)	125
6.8 Report Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) (01-006-03-0008 RNB).....	128
7.1 Key Activity Reports	131
7.1.1 Report on Key Activities, Environment and Waste Unit (01-006-03-0017 MJB).....	131
7.1.2 Report on Key Activities, Governance and Organisational Services (01-006-03-0007 TB)	135
7.1.3 Report on Key Activities, Infrastructure (05-001-02-0003 ID)	138
7.1.4 Report on Key Activities, People and Place (01-006-03-0014 JB)	141
7.2 Policy Forum Reports (01-006-03-0007 TB).....	147

8.1 Endorsement of State Council Recommendations

MOTION

Moved	Cr. B Piesse	Seconded	Cr. J Meldrum	Carried
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THAT the recommendations in the State Council Agenda Being items 5.1 – 5.9 be endorsed.

8.2 Matters for Noting/Information - Item 6.1 – 6.8

MOTION

Moved	Cr. M Scott	Seconded	Mr D Blurton	Carried
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THAT the items be received

Organisational Reports Items 7.1.1 – 7.1.4 & 7.2

Moved	Cr. M Scott	Seconded	Mr D Blurton	Carried
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THAT the items be received

9. Discussion Forum/Zone Agenda Items/Strategic Issues

Items submitted for discussion

- Roads to Recovery
- Biosecurity issues,
- Significant delays in approvals for permits to clear roads
- Verge clearing

SOUTH WEST COUNTRY ZONE STATUS REPORT AUGUST 2019

Zone	Agenda Item	Zone Resolution	WALGA Response	Update	WALGA Contact
South West C	2019 June 28 Zone Agenda Item 7.5 Reactivation of South West Rail Line	THAT WALGA advocate for the State Government to make a clear decision on the reactivation of the South West rail line.	Talison and Arc Infrastructure are continuing to develop a feasibility study in relation to utilizing rail to transport lithium ore from Greenbushes to Kemerton. The Department of Transport is preparing a south west regional freight strategy that will consider supply chains for agricultural and other products (including lithium). This will integrate information from the draft Westport Strategy and the Arc / Talison work. Advice to Government is anticipated to be completed in late 2019.	November 2019	Ian Duncan Executive Manager Infrastructure iduncan@walga.asn.au 9213 2031
South West C	2019 June 28 Zone Agenda Item 7.4 Support for Waste to Energy	THAT WALGA continue to support Western Australia's Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030 and seek firm commitments from the State Government about how the waste avoidance, resource recovery and diversion from landfill targets will be achieved, including local options for reprocessing, recycling and waste to energy.	This item will be referred to the Municipal Waste Advisory Committee for their consideration.	August 2019	Mark Batty Executive Manager Environment and Waste Mbatty@walga.asn.au 9213 2078
South West C	2019 June 28 Zone Agenda Item 8.1 State Council Agenda Items Excluded for further discussion	That WALGA 1. Seek a commitment from the Waste Authority to complete an audit into downstream processing of mixed plastic that are shipped overseas to ensure this waste is not ending up in illegal recycling centres with large amounts either burned or buried in landfill. 2. Advocates to the State Government to consider a State Government rescue package using the Waste Levy as is the case in other States.	This item will be referred to the Municipal Waste Advisory Committee for their consideration.	August 2019	Mark Batty Executive Manager Environment and Waste Mbatty@walga.asn.au 9213 2078
South West C	2019 June 28 Zone Agenda Item 7.2 Community Newspaper	The Zone requests WALGA support a regional annual award program to recognize the significant contribution of community news publications.	The proposal by the Zone will be forwarded to the 2020 Local Government Convention executive organizing committee to consider the establishment of such awards as part of the 2020 program.	August 2019	Zac Donovan Executive Manager, Finance and Marketing zdonovan@walga.asn.au 9213 2038

	Awards				
Sth West C	2019 March 22 Zone Agenda Item 7.7 Funding Commitment Towards Strategic Transport Network Infrastructure In South West Western Australia	<p>1. That the South West Zone of WALGA adopts an advocacy position of seeking a commitment to funding from:</p> <p>a. Western Australian State Government; and/or</p> <p>b. Australian Federal Government; and/or</p> <p>c. Private industry to better manage the ever increasing numbers of heavy vehicle haulage and light vehicle users within the south-west (particularly including South Western Highway), including the possibility of re-instating and re-opening the disused South West Railway, as well as the future expansion and improvements of our road networks for the south-west region as part of the investment of our future infrastructure and road networks.</p> <p>2. That the South West Zone of WALGA requests the WALGA State Council to consider adopting the advocacy position outlined in Recommendation 1, above.</p>	The Infrastructure Policy Team requested that the Association investigate the need for and feasibility of developing a road project advocacy tool to support Local Governments and Zones in their advocacy for specific road developments given the large number of potential projects across the State.	February 2020	Ian Duncan Executive Manager Infrastructure iduncan@walga.asn.au 9213 2031
Sth West C	2019 March 22 Zone Agenda Item 7.3 Domestic Violence Communities	<p>That</p> <p>The SWZ request WALGA to begin to develop an advocacy position on family and domestic violence.</p> <p>A sector working group is formed to guide the consultation process and a state wide forum be held to raise awareness of the issue within the sector</p> <p>A formal request be made that Our Watch and other key stakeholders are invited to present to the sector.</p>	<p>WALGA has met with Mental Health Commission, WA Association of Mental Health and made contact with officers at the Shire of Augusta Margaret River to commence scoping a session that brings key stakeholders together to discuss and learn from recent examples with a proposed date of 20 May 2019 in the pipeline. At confirmation from Local stakeholders, Our Watch can be invited.</p> <p>The Association is currently in conversation with Our Watch to find a suitable date for a WA Local Government Mental Health forum to be convened in the second half of 2019.</p> <p>A Mental Health and Local Government Forum is being held in Perth on 11 November 2019 with the program currently being developed. WALGA continues to meet with the Mental Health Commission to strengthen the partnership potential to garner further support for Local Government.</p>	Ongoing	Joanne Burges Executive Manager, People and Place jburges@walga.asn.au 9213 2018
Sth West C	2017 November 24	That WALGA be requested to lobby the State Government for:	The State Government has advised that the recommendations from the Economic Regulation Authority review of the Emergency	August 2019	Joanne Burges Executive Manager, People and

	Zone Agenda Item 9.2 Shire of Capel Submission Local Government Grant Scheme (ESL) Eligible Expenditure	<p>1. A comprehensive review of items of eligible expenditure under the Local Government Grant Scheme to enable the full costs of operating Volunteer Bush Fire Brigades to be met; and</p> <p>The establishment of the general principle of equality of eligible expenditure across all emergency services for operating costs associated with their activities.</p>	<p>Services Levy is being considered as part of the Machinery of Government process currently reviewing the structure of DFES. This process includes a review of the ESL governance and operational arrangements.</p> <p>WALGA will continue to lobby for a review of the items of eligible expenditure under the Local Government Grant Scheme to enable the full costs of operating Volunteer Bush Fire Brigades to be met; and the general principle of equality of eligible expenditure across all emergency services for operating costs associated with their activities.</p> <p>WALGA are in discussions with DFES regarding a comprehensive review of the eligible and ineligible item lists contained within the Local Government Grant Scheme Manual.</p> <p>WALGA most recently met with DFES on 21 May 2018 to discuss the Local Government Grant Scheme. The Association was pleased to hear there is recognition of the need for a review, particularly since the State Governments announcement of a Rural Fire Division and subsequent mitigation funding announced in the recent state budget. This provides a timely opportunity to review the principles and associated procedures manual. WALGA welcomed this approach and it is the Associations aim to build on the contributions of members during the Review of the ESL conducted by the Economic Regulation Authority. Further meetings with DFES will be established in late July to progress the scope of a review.</p> <p>A meeting is scheduled for 17 August and outcomes will be communicated the week following along with updates provided at the zone meetings.</p> <p>WALGA are working with DFES to finalise a discussion paper and workshop to initiate a review Local Government Grants Scheme. The sector will be notified of the engagement and consultation strategy once finalised.</p> <p>WALGA have been successful in advocating and establishing a working group led by DFES to review the LGGS. Please refer to Item for noting in the State Council agenda.</p>		Place jborges@walga.asn.au mailto:wcarter@walga.asn.au 9213 2018
Sth West C	2018 November 23 Zone Agenda	THAT:	WALGA has provided multiple updates to the sector on the China Sword implications, and awaits the further consideration of the	Ongoing August	Mark Batty Executive Manager Environment

	Item 7.1 Consistent Communication for Recycling	The SW Zone of WALGA: 1. Acknowledge the Bunbury Harvey Regional Council's letter of 19 July 2018, on behalf of the Wellington Waste Working Group, to the Municipal Waste Advisory Council; 2. Seeks advice from WALGA on its state-wide response to the "China National Sword" Crisis; 3. Obtain advice on the status of member contracts potentially affected by the "China National Sword" Crisis; and 4. Formulate a position for the SW Zone Group of Councils on its recycling education and communication strategies.	other matters by the Zone. Ongoing.	2019	and Waste Mbatty@walga.asn.au 9213 2078
Sth West C	2018 24 August Zone Agenda Item 7.1 Restrictions on taking gravel from DBCA Reserves	THAT: The South West Zone of WALGA: 1. Request WALGA to seek reconsideration of present DBCA (Parks and Wildlife Service) policy/position of refusing approval and/or prohibiting access by local governments to extract gravel on DBCA reserves and forest areas. Propose a policy to DBCA that protects forests from the spread of dieback while allowing access to gravel for road building by local government authorities	WALGA raised with the Director General of the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) at the next meeting. The <i>Conservation and Land Management Act (1984)</i> may allow the Director General to enter into agreements that may include such activities. Final agreement will need to be sought by the Conservation Commission. Access needs to be negotiated, in the first instance, with the DBCA Regional Manager. Ongoing.	August 2019 Ongoing	Mark Batty Executive Manager Environment and Waste Mbatty@walga.asn.au 9213 2078
Sth West C	2019 May 3 Zone Agenda Item 9.4 Charitable Organisations – Rate Exemption	That the SWZ request that WALGA continue to lobby the State Government to consider the removal of rate exemptions for charitable organisations under the Local Government Act 1995 and that an alternative position may be implementing a rebate similar to the Pensioners and Seniors Rebate Scheme.	The Zone position is consistent with the following long held sector position; 1. Amend the Local Government Act to clarify that Independent Living Units should only be exempt from rates where they qualify under the Commonwealth Aged Care Act 1997; and 2. Either: (a) amend the charitable organisations section of the Local Government Act 1995 to eliminate exemptions for commercial (non-charitable) business activities of charitable organisations; or	August 2019	Tony Brown Executive Manager Governance and Organisational Services 9213 2051 tbrown@walga.asn.au

			<p>(b) establish a compensatory fund for Local Governments, similar to the pensioner discount provisions, if the State Government believes charitable organisations remain exempt from payment of Local Government rates.</p> <p>In addition the following position has been added following the recent consultation on phase 2 of the Local Government Act review:</p> <p>Request that a broad review be conducted into the justification and fairness of all rating exemption categories currently prescribed under Section 6.26 of the Local Government Act.</p> <p>WALGA will continue to advocate for this position through Phase 2 of the Act Review process.</p> <p>Ongoing</p>		
Sth West C	2019 May 3 Zone Agenda Item 9.5 Landgate Valuation Services	<p>That the SWZ:</p> <p>1 Request that WALGA lobby the State Government for the provision of increased funding to address resourcing issues within Landgate Valuation Services to ensure timely processing of valuation services for Local Governments;</p> <p>2 Writes to the Valuer-General indicating its concern regarding the deterioration of services to Local Government over the past 12 to 24 months; and</p> <p>3 Invites a representative from Landgate's Valuation and Property Analytics Team to a future meeting of the SWZ to discuss some of the issues faced by the members.</p> <p>4 Request Landgate to review Timelines of Mining revaluations.</p>	<p>WALGA has recently written to the Government regarding the provision of increased resources for the processing of valuations.</p> <p>A response will be provided to the Zone when received.</p>	September 2019	<p>Tony Brown Executive Manager Governance and Organisational Services 9213 2051 tbrown@walga.asn.au</p>

11. Finance

11.1 Financial Reports

**SOUTH WEST ZONE WA LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
FINANCIAL FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2019**

DETAILS	2017/18 ACTUAL \$	2018/19 ANNUAL BUDGET \$	2018/19 ACTUAL TO DATE \$
Opening Funds at 1 July	12,387	12,427	12,323
Revenue			
Interest on Investment	84	100	163
Member Council Contributions	7,200	7,200	7,200
Total Revenue	7,284	7,300	7,363
Expenditure			
Secretarial Service	(7,000)	(7,000)	(7,000)
Miscellaneous Expenses	(348)	(100)	(165)
Total Expenditure	(7,348)	(7,100)	(7,165)
Surplus (Deficit) for Period	(64)	200	198
Closing Funds at 30 June 2019	12,323	12,627	12,521

Closing Funds at 30 June 2019 Represented By:

Cash at Bank

Cheque Account	\$1,828
Term Deposit 1.5% - Holding Investment	\$12,093

\$13,921

Less Creditor – Secretarial Fee June 2019 meeting

(1,400)

Net Assets Available at 30 June 2019

\$12,521

SOUTH WEST ZONE WA LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

FINANCIAL FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 JULY 2019

DETAILS	2018/19 ACTUAL \$	2019/20 ANNUAL BUDGET \$	2019/20 ACTUAL TO DATE \$
Opening Funds at 1 July	<u>12,323</u>	<u>12,521</u>	<u>12,521</u>
<u>Revenue</u>			
Interest on Investment	0	100	0
Member Council Contributions	7,200	7,200	0
Total Revenue	7,200	7,300	0
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Secretarial Service	(7,000)	(8,400)	(0)
Miscellaneous Expenses	(165)	(150)	(6)
Total Expenditure	(7,165)	(8,550)	(6)
Surplus (Deficit) for Period	35	(1,250)	(6)
Closing Funds at 31 July 2019	12,358	11,271	12,515

Closing Funds at 31 July 2019 Represented By:

Cash at Bank

Cheque Account	\$422
Term Deposit - Holding Investment	\$12,093
	\$12,515

Less Creditor – Secretarial Fee

(\$0)

Net Assets Available at 31 July 2019

\$12,515

SOUTH WEST LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL BUDGET FOR YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2020 (amended from agenda copy)

DETAILS	2018/19 ANNUAL BUDGET \$	2018/19 ACTUAL \$	2019/20 ANNUAL BUDGET \$	COMMENTS
Opening funds at 1 July	12427	12323	12521	
<u>Revenue</u>				
Interest on Investment	100	163	100	Interest on \$12,000 12 councils @ \$600
Member Councils contributions	7200	7200	7200	
Total Revenue	7300	7363	7300	
<u>Expenditure</u>				
Secretarial service	(7200)		(7200)	6 meetings @ \$1400
Miscellaneous Expenses	(100)		(150)	
Total Expenditure	(7100)	(7165)	(7350)	
Surplus (Deficit) for period	200	198	50	
Estimated Closing Funds at 30 June 2020	12627	12521	12571	

Estimated closing funds at 30 June 2020 represented by:

Cash at Bank

Cheque account	\$271
Term Deposit – holding investment 1.5%	\$11000
Less Creditor – Secretarial Fee	(\$0)
Net assets available as at 30 June 2020	\$11,271

11.2 Payments

Executive Officer for administrative services \$1400

MOTION:

THAT:

1. *The financial report be received and account be approved for payment.*

Moved	Cr. Scott	Seconded	Cr. M Bennett	Carried
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- 2 *That the budget for the 2019 -2020 year be adopted and the fees set at \$600 per member Council,*

Moved	Cr. J Meldrum	Seconded	Cr. G Aird	Carried
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12. Schedule of meetings 2019

Advice from WALGA is that the remaining meeting for 2019 will be held on 4th December 2019.

This obviates the need for a meeting in September as previously planned

The following changes will apply the meeting on 22nd November planned for Nannup will be held at Manjimup.

Month	Location
22 nd November	Manjimup

13. Closure

The President thanked members and visitors for their attendance and the City of Bunbury members and their staff for the hospitality extended to the Zone Delegates and especially for agreeing to host this additional meeting out of sequence and closed the meeting at 11.45am

14. Attachments

14.1. DEMC Minutes May 2019 were circulated separately. The next DEMC meeting will be held on 15th October 2019.

14.2 DLGS&CI Zone Update – Circulated with agenda as a separate document

14.3 Email from Public Health Advocacy Institute of WA Curtin University regarding Public Health Plans

I have received your contact details from Marissa MacDonald at WALGA after I met with the Policy team about a project PHAIWA (Public Health Advocacy Institute of WA) has been funded to deliver. I am hoping that I can include some information regarding it in your upcoming August Zone meeting. WALGA will also be including information in their next newsletter, however I see this as a great opportunity for the information to go directly to local governments, especially smaller regional ones.

PHAIWA has received funding to provide a service to support and mentor local governments to assist them in developing their Public Health Plans, in line with the upcoming implementation of phase 5 of the Public Health Act 2016. PHAIWA has extensive experience working with local governments, has presented at a number of forums on this subject and has developed a Public Health Planning Guide that breaks down the process for local government into less daunting steps. Further information can be found here - <https://www.phaiwa.org.au/local-government/>

Many local governments are at different stages with this process with some having adopted plan and others unsure exactly how to even start it, therefore the level of support will be very broad based and more suited to those yet to commence a plan, still in the process of preparing a plan, or in between plans rather than for those almost ready to implement their plan.

Please let me know if it is possible to provide some more information for your Zone meeting and in what format you would prefer this. I have inserted below a brief summary which was distributed in our PHAIWA e-news today (please note – this below was not written targeted at a specific local government audience, your correspondence and information will be).

Kind Regards

Jo Malcolm

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