



Central Metropolitan Zone

Minutes

18 November 2021

Central Metropolitan Zone

Hosted by the Town of Claremont
308 Stirling Highway, Claremont
18 November 2021, commencing at 6:00 pm

Minutes

MEMBERS

2 Voting Delegates from each Member Council

Town of Cambridge	Cr Kate Barlow Cr Alaine Haddon-Casey
Town of Claremont	Cr Paul Kelly Cr Peter Telford
Town of Cottesloe	Cr Helen Sadler Cr Chilla Bulbeck
Town of Mosman Park	Mayor Paul Shaw Cr Georgie Carey
City of Nedlands	Cr Kerry Smyth Cr Rajah Senathirajah Mr Bill Parker, Chief Executive Officer, non-voting delegate
Shire Peppermint Grove	President Rachel Thomas Cr Charles Hohnen
City of Perth	Cr Catherine Lezer
City of Subiaco	Cr Lynette Jennings Cr Rosemarie de Vries
City of Vincent	Cr Ross Ioppolo
WALGA Secretariat	Cr Karen Chappel, Deputy President Mr James McGovern, Manager Governance and Procurement
Guest Speakers	Walter Gomes, WA Manager Community & Stakeholder Engagement, NBN Co

APOLOGIES

Town of Cottesloe	Cr Craig Masarei
City of Perth	Cr Liam Gobbart
City of Vincent	Cr Ashley Wallace
WALGA	Tania Narkevich, Procurement Specialist
DLGSC Representative	

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Agenda Papers were emailed 7 days prior to the meeting date to your Council for distribution to Zone Delegates.

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

Acknowledgement of Country All attendees acknowledged the traditional owners of the land that the meeting is held on and paying respects to Elders past, present and future.

ATTACHMENTS WITHIN THE AGENDA

1. Draft Minutes Previous Meeting
2. President's Report
3. Zone Status Report
4. Standing Orders

1. ELECTIONS

1.1 Elections of Chair and Deputy Chair of the Central Metropolitan Zone

Pursuant to the WALGA Constitution, the WALGA Secretariat assumed the Chair for the conduct of the election of office bearers. As the first order of business, the Secretariat informed the Zone of its right to permit nominations from the floor for all elected positions, which was agreed to.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Charles Hoehnen
Seconded: Cr Alaine Haddon-Casey

That nominations for all elected positions be accepted from the floor.

CARRIED

Guidelines for elections were distributed to Member Councils via email dated 12 October 2021.

The election for the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson shall be conducted and the term set at two years expiring in November 2023, in line with the terms of State Council representatives and in sync with Local Government Elections.

Zone Chair

The following two written nominations were received for the position of Chairperson.

- Cr Paul Kelly Town of Claremont
- Cr Helen Sadler Town of Cottesloe

Ballot papers were distributed and a secret ballot conducted.

DECLARATION

That Cr Paul Kelly is elected as Chairperson of the Central Metropolitan Zone for the term of 2 years, November 2021 to November 2023.

Deputy Zone Chair

The following written nominations were received for the position of Deputy Chairperson.

- Cr Rajah Senathirajah City of Nedlands
- Cr Kerry Smyth City of Nedlands

Cr Smyth formally withdrew her written nomination.

The following nominations were received from the floor for the position of Deputy Chairperson.

- Cr Alaine Haddon-Casey Town of Cambridge
- Cr Helen Sadler Town of Cottesloe

As more than 1 nomination was received, ballot papers were distributed and a secret ballot conducted.

DECLARATION

That Cr Helen Sadler is elected as Deputy Chairperson of the Central Metropolitan Zone for the term of 2 years, from November 2021 to November 2023.

1.2 Elections of State Council Representatives and Deputy State Council Representatives to the Central Metropolitan Zone

Pursuant to the WALGA Constitution, the Secretariat shall assume the Chair for conducting the election of representatives and deputy representatives to the State Council.

Guidelines for elections were distributed to Member Councils via email dated 12 October 2021.

WALGA is governed by a 24 member State Council with its members elected from Metropolitan and Country Zones. The State Council is chaired by the Association President.

In accordance with sub-clause 9(3) of the WALGA Constitution representatives and deputy representatives to the State Council shall be elected by Zones of the Metropolitan and Country constituencies for two (2) year terms, commencing from the Ordinary Meeting of State Council in December 2021 and concluding at the Ordinary Meeting of State Council two years later.

For the Central Metropolitan Zone, there are two (2) representative positions on State Council and two (2) deputy representative positions. The term is from the Ordinary Meeting of State Council in December 2021 and concluding the day before the Ordinary Meeting of State Council in December 2023.

State Councillor

The following four written nominations were received for the position of State Council Representative:

- Cr Paul Kelly Town of Claremont
- Cr Rajah Senathirajah City of Nedlands
- Cr Kerry Smyth City of Nedlands
- Cr Helen Sadler Town of Cottesloe

Cr Senathirajah formally withdrew his written nomination.

In accordance with the guidelines endorsed by State Council, candidates were afforded the opportunity to make a 2 minute election bid prior to the secret ballot being taken.

As more than 2 nominations were received, ballot papers were distributed and a secret ballot conducted.

DECLARATION

That Cr Paul Kelly and Cr Helen Sadler are elected as State Council Representatives of the Central Metropolitan Zone to the State Council for the term of 2 years, from December 2021 to December 2023.

Deputy State Councillor (x 2)

One written nomination was received for the position of Deputy State Council Representative.

- Cr Kerry Smyth City of Nedlands

The following nominations were received from the floor for the position of Deputy State Council Representative.

- Cr Alaine Haddon-Casey Town of Cambridge
- Cr Rajah Senathirajah City of Nedlands

As more than 2 nominations were received, ballot papers were distributed and a secret ballot conducted

DECLARATION

That Cr Kerry Smyth and Cr Alaine Haddon-Casey were elected as Deputy State Council Representatives of the Central Metropolitan Zone to the State Council for the term of 2 years, from December 2021 to December 2023.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Nil.

3. DEPUTATIONS

3.1 NBN Co.

NBN Co is the company that is building and operating Australia's national broadband network (nbn), the digital platform upon which we are delivering digital connectivity to every home and business. Our new purpose is to 'lift the digital capability of Australia' and part of our approach is to support digital literacy in our communities, ensure a positive experience for our customers, and assist them to maximise the social and economic benefits of the nbn network for themselves, their families, their business and communities.

An overview will be provided on the following topics –

- The nbn business grade products and services available to local businesses to support innovation, productivity, jobs growth and local economic recovery in your communities
- How NBN Co is supporting residents, small business owners, seniors and vulnerable community members and groups with digital literacy to build their skills, knowledge and know-how and helping them to live, learn and work a digital society. We will provide case studies and examples of our work to demonstrate how our Community Ambassadors and community engagement team is delivering value in digital literacy.

Walter Gomez provided a detailed presentation on the above.

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Alaine Haddon-Casey
Seconded: Cr Helen Sadler

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Central Metropolitan Zone held on 19 August 2021 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

CARRIED

5. BUSINESS ARISING

Nil.

6. STATE COUNCIL AGENDA - MATTERS FOR DECISION AND NOTING

(Zone delegates to consider the Matters for Decision and Items for Noting contained in the WA Local Government Association State Council Agenda and put forward resolutions to Zone Representatives on State Council)

The full State Council Agenda can be found via link: [State Council Agenda 1 December 2021](#)

The Zone is able to provide comment or submit an alternative recommendation that is then presented to the State Council for consideration.

Matters for Decision

5.1 Paid Family and Domestic Violence Leave Entitlements

That WALGA:

Endorse the submission to the Fair Work Commission (FWC) regarding paid family and domestic violence leave (FDVL) which:

1. highlights that FDVL for employees is an important issue for the sector;
2. supports the introduction of a new entitlement in modern awards for employees to receive five days' paid FDVL per year;
3. advocates for employees to be able to access their paid personal/carer's leave in circumstances of family and domestic violence; and
4. opposes the introduction of a new entitlement in modern awards for employees to receive 10 days' paid FDVL per year as sought by the Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU).

5.2 Payment to Independent Committee Members

That WALGA request the Minister for Local Government to amend the Local Government Act 1995 to allow the payment of meeting attendance fees to, and/or defined reimbursements for time committed by, 'other persons' appointed as Committee members under s.5.8 of the Local Government Act 1995.

5.3 2021 Annual General Meeting

That:

1. The following resolutions from the 2021 WALGA Annual General Meeting be endorsed for action:

Cost of Regional Development

That WALGA makes urgent representation to the State Government to address the high cost of development in regional areas for both residential and industrial land, including the prohibitive cost of utilities headworks, which has led to market failure in many regional towns.

CSRFF Funding Pool and Contribution Ratios

That WALGA lobby the State Government to:

1. Increase the CSRFF funding pool to \$25 million per annum and revert the contribution ratio to 50% split to enable more community programs and infrastructure to be delivered.
2. Increase the \$1 million per annum quarantined for female representation to \$2 million per annum.

Regional Telecommunications Project

That WALGA strongly advocates to the State Government to increase funding for the Regional Telecommunications Project to leverage the Federal Mobile Black Spot Program and provide adequate mobile phone coverage to regional areas that currently have limited or no access to the service.

2. The following resolution passed at the 2021 WALGA Annual General Meeting be referred to the Mining Communities Policy Forum and the People and Place Policy Team for advocacy work to be undertaken:

Review of the Environmental Regulations for Mining

Regarding a review of the Mining Act 1978:

1. To call on Minister Bill Johnston, Minister for Mines and Petroleum; Energy; Corrective Services to instigate a review of the 43-year-old Mining Act to require mining companies to abide by environmental regulations, and to support research and development into sustainable mining practices that would allow mining without detriment to diversification and community sustainability through other industries and development.

That abandoned mines in regional Western Australia receive a priority action plan with programmes developed to work with rural and remote communities to assist in the rehabilitation of these mines as a job creation programme, with funding allocated for diversification projects for support beyond mine life across Western Australia.

5.4 Review of advocacy positions relating to the Building Act 2011 and Building Regulations 2012

That State Council endorses the replacement of Section 6.7: Building Act and Fees of WALGA's advocacy positions document relating to the Building Act 2011 and Building Regulations 2012 with the following:

1. Support the retention of Local Government as the primary permit authority in Western Australia for decisions made under the Building Act 2011.
2. Supports mandatory inspections for all classes of buildings, however, Local Government should not be solely responsible for all mandatory inspections.
3. Advocate for the State Government to urgently prioritise legislative reform that addresses systemic failures in the current building control model and to provide clarification on the role of Local Government in building control to ensure building legislation supports the following objectives:
 - a. Quality buildings that are cost efficient.
 - b. Functional, safe and environmentally friendly buildings.
 - c. Good decision making in all aspects of building.
 - d. Efficiency and effectiveness in building management, administration and regulation.
 - e. Openness and accountability with respect to all building matters.
 - f. Recognition of the rights and responsibilities of all parties in building matters in an equitable manner.
4. Existing and proposed building control related fees and charges to be cost recovery for Local Government.
5. WALGA will work with members, state agencies and industry groups to develop training opportunities and to promote the Local Government building surveying profession to ensure sustainability of Local Government building control services.

WALGA supports the Australian Building Codes Boards Trajectory for Low Energy Buildings by supporting Local Governments to meet community strategic objectives of a net zero carbon future by 2050 through work with members, state agencies and industry groups.

5.5 Draft WA Building Surveyors Code of Conduct

That WALGA:

1. Recommend to the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DMIRS) that the Draft WA Building Surveyors Code of Conduct be reviewed to ensure it addresses the following matters:
 - a) The impact of the obligations recommended in the draft Code be considered in relation to the current Western Australian building control model to ensure Local Government are able to maintain their statutory functions in line with community expectations.
 - b) That other building reform that will greatly impact the role of Local Government in the current Western Australian building control model, such as mandatory inspections and minimum documentation, be formalised prior to the Code of Conduct being introduced to ensure Local Government in Western Australia are able to maintain their statutory functions in line with community expectations.
 - c) Ensure that communities in remote and regional areas are considered when developing policy to restrict building surveyors being involved in design consultation work.

Endorse the attached consultation response summary on the draft Code.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Helen Sadler
Seconded: Cr Catherine Lezer

That the Central Metropolitan Zone

1. **Supports all Matters for Decision as listed above in the December 2021 State Council Agenda; and**
2. **Notes all Matters for Noting and Organisational Reports as listed in the December 2021 State Council Agenda.**

CARRIED

7. ZONE BUSINESS

7.1 Request to Present – Local Jobs Program

By Chantelle O'Brien, Zone Executive Officer

The Local Jobs Program supports tailored approaches to accelerate reskilling, upskilling and employment pathways in 51 Employment Regions, supporting Australia's economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

COVID-19 has had an unprecedented impact on the Australian labour market. Together with longer term economic trends that are changing skill requirements in many jobs and occupations, there is urgency in assisting job seekers to navigate this change. Through the Local Jobs Program, Employment Facilitators work with employers and other key local stakeholders to develop employment solutions at a local level, and support Australians back into work across 51 regions in Australia.

Representatives from Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment would like to attend a future Zone meeting to provide further information on this Program.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Elaine Haddon-Casey
Seconded: Cr Catherine Lezer

That the Central Metropolitan Zone **DECLINES** the invitation from Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment, to provide a deputation on the Local Jobs Program at a future Zone meeting.

CARRIED

7.2 Request to Present – Public Health

By Chantelle O'Brien, Zone Executive Officer

BACKGROUND

Vilma Palacios, Health Promotion Coordinator, from Public Health has requested to attend the April 2022 Central Metropolitan Zone meeting to provide a presentation to the Zone on “Prompting, preventing and promoting the health and wellbeing of our residents”.

WALGA requested to ensure that the presentation be contextualised to Local Government’s public health roles and responsibilities.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Kate Barlow
Seconded: Cr Rosemarie de Vries

That the Zone **ACCEPTS** Vilma’s request to attend the April 2022 Central Metropolitan Zone meeting to provide a presentation on prompting, preventing and promoting the health and wellbeing of our residents.

CARRIED

The Zone reminded WALGA of a previously-minuted request to invite the Strata Community Association (WA) to present at a future Zone meeting.

7.3 2022 Proposed Schedule of Meetings

By Chantelle O'Brien, Zone Executive Officer

BACKGROUND

A schedule of the proposed meeting dates for the Central Metropolitan Zone 2022 has been prepared and is set out below. The dates have been set to coincide with the WALGA State Council meetings.

The proposed meeting dates for the Central Metropolitan Zone for 2022 require adoption by delegates.

As with previous years, the venue for each meeting has been rotated amongst Members.

NOTICE OF MEETINGS
CENTRAL METROPOLITAN ZONE MEETING
2022

Zone Meeting Dates Thursday	Time	HOST COUNCIL	State Council Meeting Date 2022
17 February	Thursday 6.00 pm	Town of Cottesloe	Wednesday 2 March 2022
21 April	Thursday 6.00 pm	Town of Mosman Park	Regional Metro Wednesday 4 May 2022
23 June	Thursday 6.00 pm	City of Nedlands	Wednesday 6 July 2022
25 August	Thursday 6.00 pm	Shire of Peppermint Grove	Regional Meeting 8-9 September 2022
24 November	Thursday 6.00 pm	City of Perth	Wednesday 7 December 2022

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Alaine Haddon-Casey
Seconded: Cr Lynette Jennings

That the 2022 proposed schedule of meetings for the Central Metropolitan Zone be adopted.

CARRIED

7.4 Local Government Legislative Reform

By Tony Brown, Executive Manager, Governance and Organisational Services

Background

The Minister for Local Government, the Hon John Carey, MLA announced Local Government legislative reform initiatives on Wednesday 10 November 2021.

The reform proposals are based on the following six major themes:

1. Earlier intervention, effective regulation and stronger penalties
2. Reducing red tape, increasing consistency and simplicity
3. Greater transparency and accountability
4. Stronger local democracy and community engagement
5. Clear roles and responsibilities
6. Improved financial management and reporting.

The reform proposals are based on consultation undertaken over the last five years, and have been developed considering:

- The Local Government Review Panel Final Report (mid 2020)
- The City of Perth Inquiry Report (mid 2020)
- Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSC) consultation on Act Reform (2017-2020)
- The Victorian Local Government Act 2020 and other State Acts
- The Parliament's Select Committee Report into Local Government (late 2020)
- Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) Submissions
- Direct engagement with local governments
- Correspondence and complaints

- Miscellaneous past reports.

The information on the reform initiatives can be found [here](#) and are attached.

The State Government have advised of a 3 month consultation period ending on 4 February 2022.

Comment

Many of the initiatives outlined as a part of this package have been informed by engagement between our Members and the Minister for Local Government. The Local Government sector will welcome the tiered approach to many requirements according to the differing size and scale of Local Governments.

The Local Government sector has been advocating for the following reform initiatives including:

- introduction of a contemporary intervention framework
- greater clarity of roles and responsibilities of Elected Members and Chief Executive Officers
- tiered compliance approach to financial reporting requirements according to size and scale of Local Governments
- model financial statements and fit for purpose financial ratios
- improved processes relating to regional subsidiaries to facilitate collaborative service delivery
- reducing unnecessary red-tape and a more flexible approach to enable resource sharing
- retention of current election cycle for Elected Members, and
- simplification of strategic planning processes and community engagement models.

WALGA will prepare information to the sector analysing the proposals against current sector positions and recommending positions on proposals that currently do not have a formal position. Sector feedback will be requested with a view to providing a sector response to all of the proposals.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Alaine Haddon-Casey

Seconded: Cr Chilla Bulbeck

That the Central Metropolitan Zone strongly objects to the short consultation period and request an extension of time to 4th March 2022. Such a short consultation process does not allow proper consultation and is inconsistent with some of the suggested changes to legislation and sound governance.

CARRIED

8. OTHER BUSINESS

Nil

9. EXECUTIVE REPORTS

9.1 President's Report to the Zone

Noted

9.2 State Councillor's report to the Zone

Cr Paul Kelly presented on the previous State Council meeting.

Noted

9.3 Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries Representative Update Report.

Nil.

10. DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

In accordance with the adopted schedule, the next meeting of the Central Metropolitan Zone will be held on 17 February 2022 at the Town Cottesloe, commencing at 6:00 pm.

11. CLOSURE

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 8.20pm.