

South West Country Zone Minutes

25 November 2022

**Lesser Hall
Abel St, Boyup Brook**

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South West Country Zone

Meeting held at
Lesser Hall, Abel St, Boyup Brook
Friday 25 November 2022

Minutes

The Deputy Chair, President Cr Michael Bennett opened the meeting at 9:08am.

1. OPENING AND WELCOME

1.1 Acknowledgement of Country

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

2. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Attendance

| | |
|--|---|
| Shire of Augusta Margaret River | President Cr Paula Cristoffanini Ms Stephanie Addison-Brown, Chief Executive Officer |
| Shire of Boyup Brook | President Cr Richard Walker Mr Dale Putland, Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate |
| Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes | President Cr Jenny Mountford Mr Tim Clynnch, Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate |
| City of Bunbury | Cr Wendy Giles (Deputy) Mr Mal Osborne, Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate |
| City of Busselton | Mayor Grant Henley Mr Tony Nottle, Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate |
| Shire of Capel | President Cr Doug Kitchen Ms Tanya Gillett, Director Infrastructure and Development non-voting delegate |
| Shire of Collie | Mr Stuart Devenish, Chief Executive Officer (Deputy) |
| Shire of Dardanup | President Cr Michael Bennett Mr, André Schönfeldt, Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate Ms Elizabeth Stacey, Migration Agreement Officer non-voting delegate |

| | |
|--|--|
| Shire of Donnybrook Balingup | Cr Lisa Glover (Deputy) Steve Potter, Director Operations |
| Shire of Harvey | President Cr Paul Gillett Ms Annie Riordan, Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate |
| Shire of Manjimup | Hon President Cr Paul Omodei Mr Andrew Campbell, Chief Executive Officer |
| Shire of Nannup | Mr David Taylor, Chief Executive Officer (Deputy) |
| WA Local Government Association Secretariat | President, Cr Karen Chappel Mr Tim Lane, Manager, Association and Corporate Governance (executive officer) Ms Lucy Sheehy, Coast WA, Local Government Facilitator |
| Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries | Mr Brendan McNally, Regional Manager Peel-South West |
| South West Development Commission | Mr Ashley Clements, Director Regional Development – Infrastructure and Lands Mr Andrew McRobert, Director Regional Development – Business and Industry Obby McDonald, Regional Development Officer |
| RDA South West | Mr Charles Jenkinson, Director Regional Development |
| National Emergency Management Agency | Sam Ramsay |
| ECU, WA Creative Tech Innovation Hub | Mat Lewis, Director |

Apologies

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| City of Bunbury | Mayor Jaysen de San Miguel Cr Amanda Yip |
| Shire of Capel | Gordon MacMile, Chief Executive Officer |
| Shire of Collie | President Cr Sarah Stanley |
| Shire of Donnybrook Balingup | President Cr Leanne Wringe Mr Ben Rose, Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate |
| Shire of Nannup | President Cr Tony Dean (Chair) |
| Australia's South West | Ms Catrin Allsop |

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

4.1 Attachments

The following are provided as attachments to the agenda:

1. South West Country Zone Minutes – 26 August 2022
2. WALGA President's Report
3. [State Council Agenda – December 2022](#)

4.2 Congratulations to Mr Tony Nottle

Mayor Grant Henley congratulated Mr Tony Nottle on his appointment as Chief Executive Officer of the City of Busselton.

5. GUEST SPEAKERS / DEPUTATIONS

5.1 Shire of Boyup Brook

President Cr Richard Walker and Mr Dale Putland, Chief Executive Officer

President Cr Richard Walker and Mr Dale Putland, Chief Executive Officer, provided an update to the meeting on priorities and key projects.

Noted

5.2 Edith Cowan University, WA Creative Tech Innovation Hub

Mr Mat Lewis, Director, WA Creative Tech Innovation Hub

Mr Mat Lewis presented on Edith Cowan University's (ECU) WA Creative Tech Innovation Hub which focuses on connecting and collaborating with creatives, techs and innovators in Australia's South West and across the state.

Noted

5.3 WALGA Best Practice Governance Review

Tim Lane, Manager Corporate and Association Governance

Presentation on WALGA's Best Practice Governance Review and the consultation process that is underway.

Noted

6. MINUTES

6.1 Confirmation of Minutes from the South West Country Zone meeting held Friday 26 August 2022 (Attachment 1)

The Minutes of the South West Country Zone meeting held on Friday 26 August 2022 have previously been circulated to Member Councils and are provided as an attachment to this agenda.

RESOLUTION

Moved: President Cr Paul Gillett

Seconded: Mayor Grant Henley

That the minutes of the South West Country Zone meeting held Friday 26 August 2022 are confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

CARRIED

6.1.1 Business Arising

Nil.

7. ZONE BUSINESS

7.1 DAMA Statistics October 2022

Shire of Dardanup

Ms Elizabeth Stacey provided an update on DAMA to the Zone.

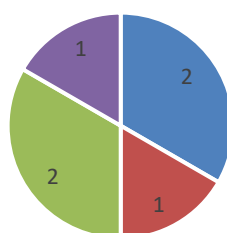
DAMA Incoming Queries Overview as of 31/10/2022

The following is an overview of the incoming queries relating to the DAMA since it was signed in December 2021.

Applications for Endorsement for the South-West DAMA – October

October saw 6 new applications for endorsement under the South-West DAMA, from the following LGAs:

October Applications for Endorsement under the South-West DAMA



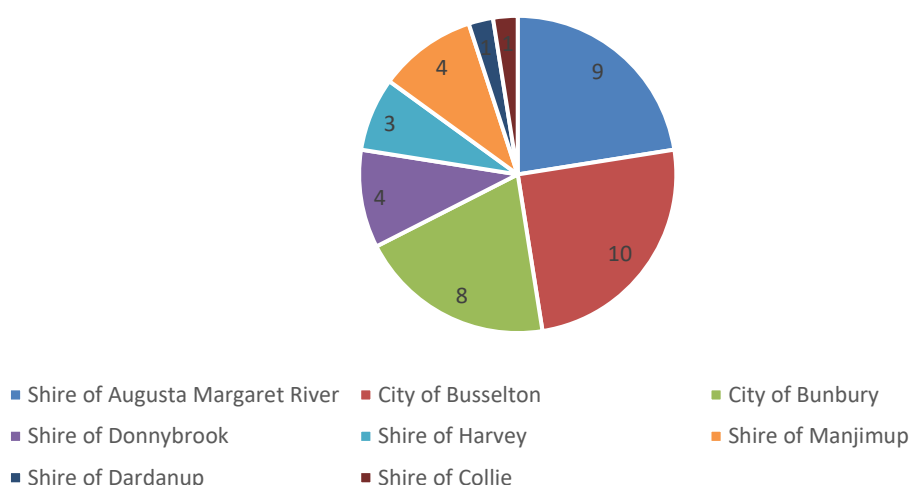
■ Shire of Augusta Margaret River ■ City of Busselton ■ City of Bunbury ■ Shire of Manjimup

Applications for Endorsement for the South-West DAMA – 2022

To date, we have had thirty-nine (39) applications for endorsement, these have come from the following LGAs:

- Shire of Augusta Margaret River (9)
- City of Busselton (10)
- City of Bunbury (8)
- Shire of Donnybrook (4) *One application operates over two LGAs
- Shire of Harvey (3)
- Shire of Manjimup (4) *One application operates over two LGAs
- Shire of Dardanup (1)
- Shire of Collie (1)

Applications for Endorsement under the South-West DAMA



Of these 39 applications, 30 have received a positive endorsement from the Shire of Dardanup. The remaining nine applications are yet to be finalised, due to awaiting further documentation or payment.

Applications for Endorsement – Occupations

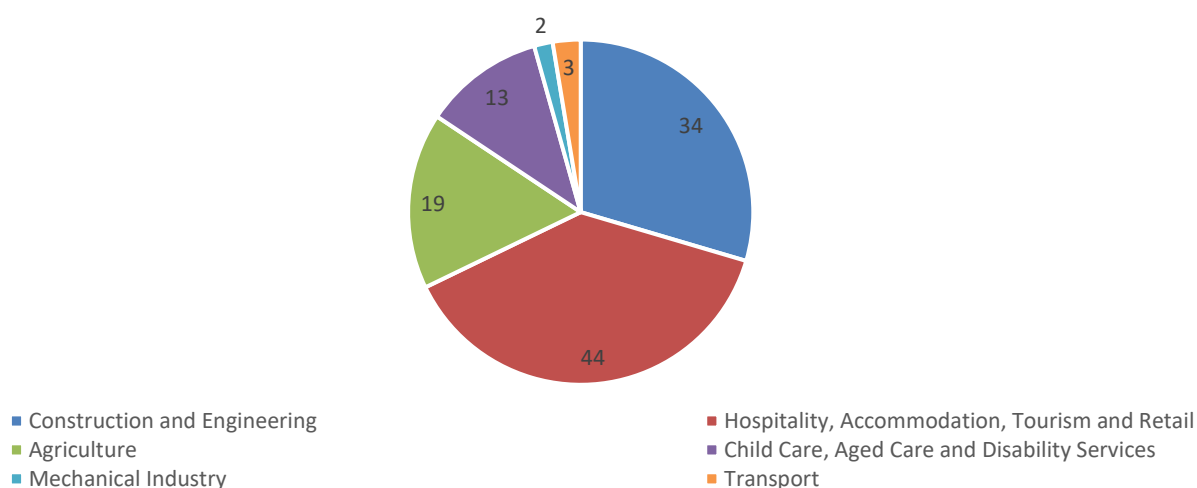
As of 31 October 2022, 115 positions have been nominated of an annual ceiling of 200 positions (due for renewal Jan 2023). The nominated occupations are as follows:

| No. of positions | Occupation |
|------------------|-----------------------------|
| 26 | Earthmoving Plant Operators |
| 11 | Fruit and Nut Farm Workers |
| 10 | Nursing Support Worker |
| 8 | Cooks |
| 8 | Waiters |
| 7 | Bakers |
| 6 | Truck Drivers |
| 5 | Bar Supervisors |
| 4 | Restaurant Managers |
| 4 | Retail Managers |
| 3 | Child Care Workers |
| 3 | Diesel Mechanics |
| 3 | Waiter (Supervisor) |

| | |
|------------|--|
| 2 | Bar Attendant (Supervisor) |
| 2 | Dairy Farm Worker |
| 2 | Hospitality, Retail and Service Managers |
| 2 | Logging Plant Operator |
| 2 | Steel Fixers |
| 1 | Construction Project Manager |
| 1 | Driller |
| 1 | Loader Operator |
| 1 | Motor Mechanic (General) |
| 1 | Motor Vehicle Parts and Accessories Fitter |
| 1 | Mushroom Picker |
| 1 | Pastrycook |
| | |
| 115 | TOTAL |

These following industries are represented in the nominations received so far:

Industries represented in applications for nominations



Labour Agreements, Nomination and Visa Applications - Department of Home Affairs (as of last update on 30 September 2022)

| | |
|---|----|
| Number of positive endorsements from DAR | 24 |
| Labour Agreements lodged | 21 |
| Labour Agreements executed | 2 |
| Skilled Employer-Sponsored Regional (SESR) Nominations lodged | 5 |
| Temporary Skills Shortage (TSS) Nominations lodged | 1 |
| Skilled Employer-Sponsored Regional (SESR) visa applications lodged | 5 |
| Temporary Skills Shortage (TSS) visa applications lodged | 1 |

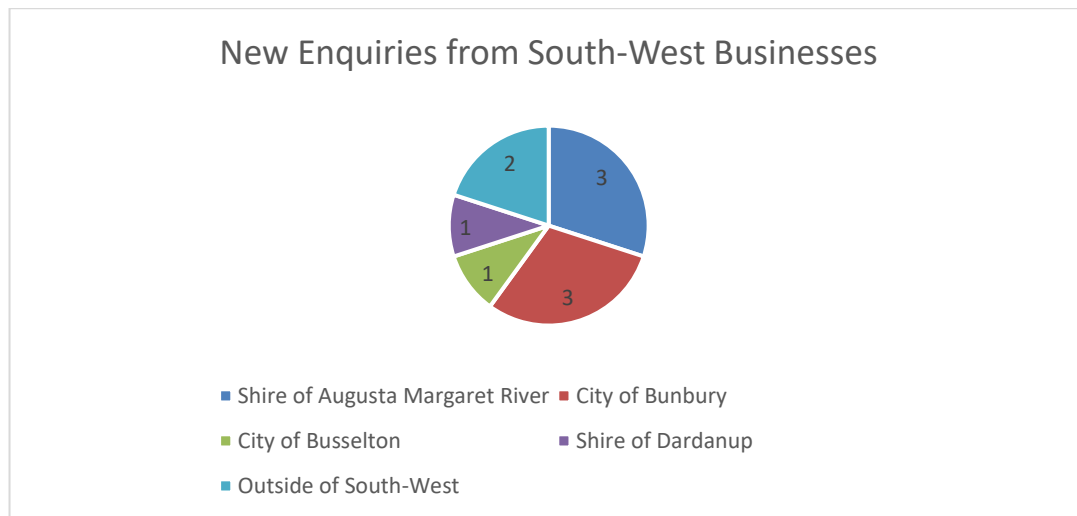
Businesses in the South-West

New enquiries from businesses in the South-West (01 October 2022 – 31 October 2022)

There have been 10 new unique enquiries from businesses since the last update, these are from the following LGAs:

- Shire of Augusta Margaret River (3)

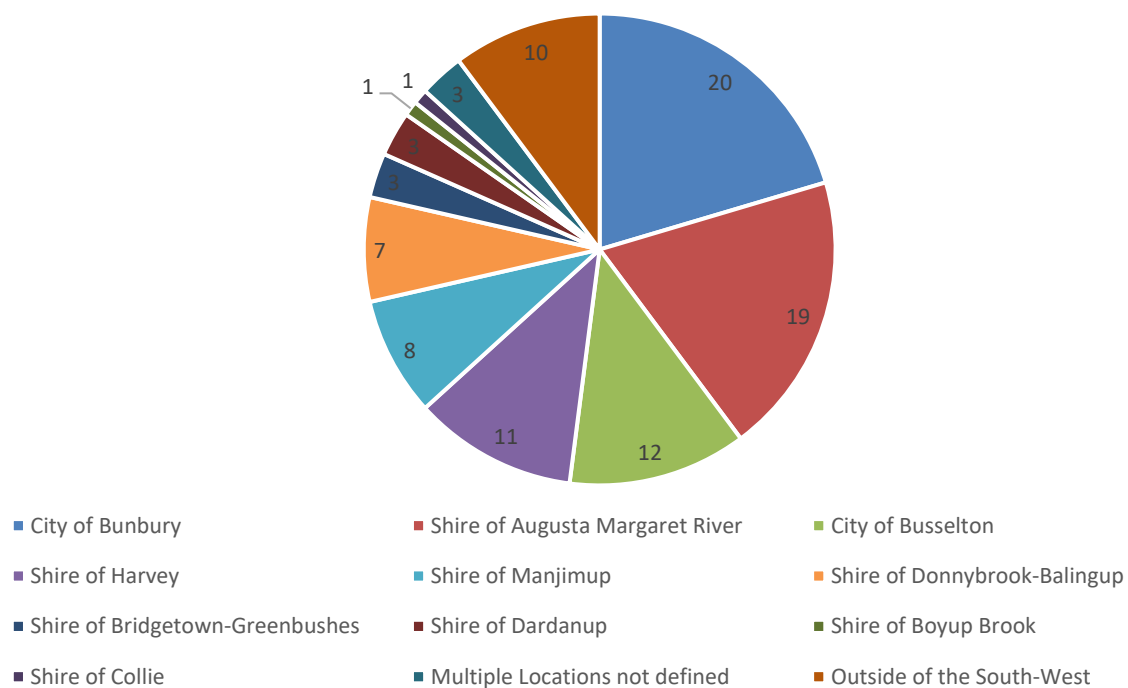
- City of Bunbury (3)
- City of Busselton (1)
- Shire of Dardanup (1)
- Outside of South-West (2)



The total number of unique queries (to 31 October 2022) from businesses in the South-West are represented by the following LGAs:

- City of Bunbury (20)
- Shire of Augusta Margaret River (19)
- City of Busselton (12)
- Shire of Harvey (11)
- Shire of Manjimup (8)
- Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup (7)
- Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes (3)
- Shire of Dardanup (3)
- Shire of Boyup-Brook (1)
- Shire of Collie (1)
- Multiple South-West locations not defined (3)
- Outside of the South-West (10)

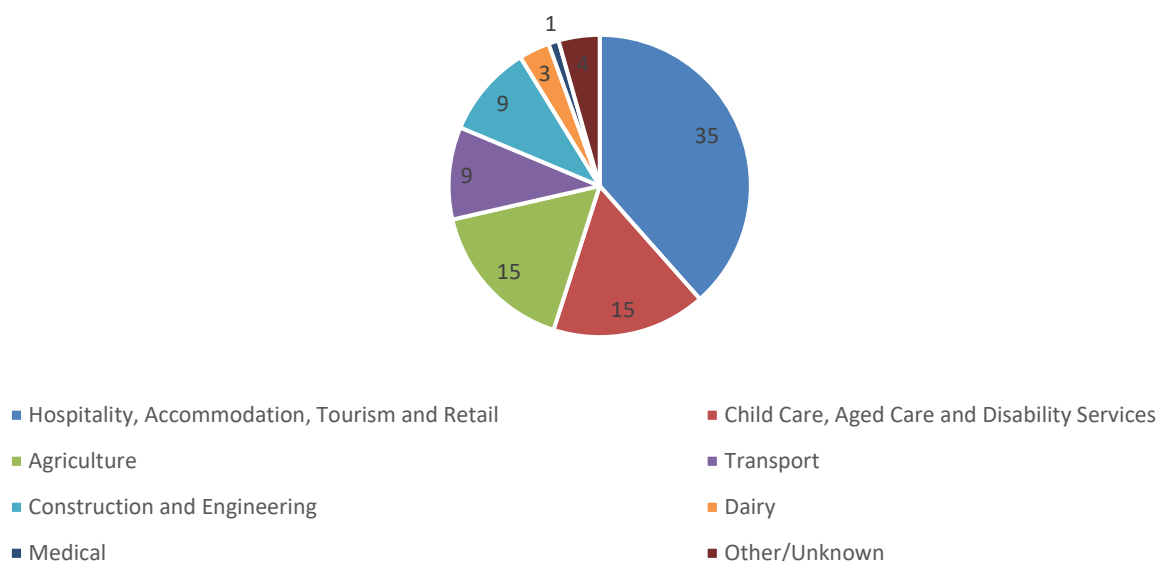
Total unique enquiries from South-West Businesses



The inquiries to date that we have received from businesses are from the following industries:

- Hospitality, Accommodation, Tourism and Retail (35)
- Child Care, Aged Care and Disability Services (15)
- Agriculture (15)
- Transport (9)
- Construction and Engineering (9)
- Dairy (3)
- Medical (1)
- Other/unknown (4)

Industries represented in Enquiries to South-West DAMA



NOTED

The Chair, President Cr Michael Bennett, adjourned the meeting at 10:33am, and the meeting reconvened at 11:05am.

7.2 Heavy Haulage Cost Recovery – Advocacy for Update of Framework and Costings

Shire of Capel

RESOLUTION

Moved: President Cr Doug Kitchen

Seconded: President Cr Paul Gillett

That:

1. the South West Country Zone of WALGA supports and advocates that the WA Local Government Association (WALGA) update the suite of User Guides and Technical Tools for Recovering the Cost of Road Wear from Heavy Haulage.
- 2: WALGA investigate an extractive industry royalty for Local Government

CARRIED

BACKGROUND

WA local governments, including those in the South West face significant challenges and costs from road deterioration as a consequence of heavy vehicle traffic triggered by infrastructure projects, typically in resources and extractive industries, as well as general heavy vehicle transport activities.

The impacts of additional heavy vehicle traffic on increasing maintenance requirements and shortening road life, are greater for roads that were not designed and constructed for this purpose or to that specification level, which is the case for most local government roads.

WALGA published the User Guide, Estimating the Incremental Cost Impact on Sealed Roads from Additional Freight Tasks (WALGA & ARRB 2015) in 2015.

Subsequently many local governments requested that WALGA develop a similar tool for unsealed roads. This guide provided local governments with a tool to quantify the cost of additional wear and damage to affected unsealed roads for a defined freight task.

The suite of tools now available include:

- User Guide: Estimating the Incremental Cost Impact on Unsealed Local Roads from Additional Freight Tasks (March 2019)
- Technical Basis: Estimating the Cost of Road Wear on Unsealed Local Government Roads in Western Australia (February 2019)
- User Guide: Estimating the Incremental Cost Impact on Sealed Roads From Additional Freight Tasks (May 2015)
- Technical Basis: Estimating the Incremental Cost Impact on Sealed Roads From Additional Freight Tasks (October 2015)
- Local Government Heavy Vehicle Cost Recovery Policy Guideline for Sealed Roads (July 2017)

These tools are commonly used by WA regional local governments as the basis for negotiation of cost recovery from industry, to ensure that the local community does not bear the costs imposed by private businesses, and to adjust long term financial plans.

The Cost of Road Wear modelling contains unit costs / km of road, and also includes provisions for relative marginal cost increases (regional pricing etc.).

CURRENT SITUATION

Although, the heavy haulage guides and technical tools are well founded, respected and used, the main challenge is that the costs included are now not reflective of the real and actual costs (contractor, plant and materials) being experienced by local government.

WALGA's own Economic Briefing (June 2022) detailed LG Cost Index (LGCI) increases and forecast increase since 2020-21 of:

| Component | 2020-21(a) | 2021-22(f) | 2022-23(f) | 2023-24(f) |
|------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Materials and contracts | -0.9 | 5.3 | 3.0 | 2.7 |
| Machinery and Equipment | -0.5 | 8.4 | 2.5 | 1.9 |
| Road and bridge construction | 3.5 | 12.3 | 4.5 | 2.2 |

The net result is that baseline cost assumptions contained in the WALGA Heavy Haulage information is no longer reflective of road construction and maintenance cost.

SHRIE OF CAPEL COMMENT

- The Shire of Capel experiences significant deterioration with both sealed and unsealed roads throughout the district, most as a result of heavy haulage from extractive industry activity.
- The Shire of Capel (Shire) has consistently used the WALGA Heavy Haulage Framework in calculating and reaching agreement with heavy vehicle operators.

- Given the current over-heated infrastructure construction market and the demand for raw materials (sand and gravel), the Shire for example, can experience in excess of 120 (one-way) heavy haulage truck movements per day from a single extractive industry pit.
- Combined across the district, places significant cost implications on the Shire, with the cost recovery gap increasing year-to-year.

8. WALGA BUSINESS

8.1 WALGA Status Report

By Tim Lane, Zone Executive Officer

BACKGROUND

Status Report for November 2022 which contains WALGA's responses to the resolutions of previous Zone Meetings.

| Agenda Item | Zone Resolution | WALGA Response | Update | WALGA Contact |
|---|---|--|---------|--|
| 26 August 2022 Zone Agenda Item 7.2 Renergi Waste Processing | That the South West Country Zone request WALGA to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Adopt a position that supports the utilisation of emerging waste processing technologies; and Advocate to the Minister for Environment to review the regulatory framework surrounding environmental approvals and operational obligations to allow new, alternative treatment processes and technologies that will reduce landfill reliance by improving resource recovery rates, including the processing of FOGO and un-separable, co-mingled material. | This item was considered at a joint meeting of the Municipal Waste Advisory Council and Environment Policy Team. A response to the Zone is being considered out of session by both groups and will be provided to the Zone. | Nov2022 | Nicole Matthews Executive Manager Policy nmatthews@walga.asn.au 9213 2039 |
| 9 September 2022 State Council Agenda Item 5.2 Proposed Advocacy Position on Management of Bush Fire Brigades | That WALGA be advised that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> None of the proposed models, including the Hybrid Model appear to address or achieve the issues of liability under the WHS Act or recommendations of the Ferguson Report. The Zone recommends that WALGA engage fully with DFES and key stakeholders around a desired structure for volunteer BFB's with the key objective of maximising the capability of the service. Key factors to be considered in that process should be seeking a sound position on the implications and responses to address WHS legislation including: | State Council Resolution That the following Advocacy Position on Management of Bush Fire Brigades be endorsed. <i>Management of Bush Fire Brigades</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Bush Fire Brigade volunteers play a critical role in helping to protect their local communities. Local knowledge and skills are integral to bushfire management in Western Australia.</i> <i>Future management and funding of volunteer Bush Fire Brigades must:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Recognise the changing risk environment, including work health and safety requirements, and the increasing intensity and frequency of bushfires;</i> <i>Take account of the differing circumstances of Bush Fire Brigade units and regional variations in bush firefighting approaches; and</i> <i>Be adequately and equitably resourced through the Emergency Services Levy.</i> | Nov2022 | Tony Brown Executive Director, Member Services 9213 2051 tbrown@walga.asn.au |

| | | | | |
|---|---|--|------------------------|--|
| | <p>a. development of resources, capability and capacity</p> <p>b. training</p> <p>c. RPL process</p> <p>d. consequential implications of the CES Act</p> <p>4. That WALGA advocate for changes in the WHS Act that</p> <p>a. Expands the definition of a dangerous operation to include Volunteer Emergency Services Workers. or</p> <p>b. Expand the definitions section to include fire ground operations – means the performance of a function, or the exercise of a power, of a emergency services worker in circumstances where the performance of the function, or the exercise of the power, is not reasonably practicable without exposing a ESW to a serious risk to the ESW health or safety emanating from an immediate or imminent exposure to a hazard.</p> <p>5. That WALGA advocate for protection for Authorised Officers similar to that provided to those that provide WHS services relating to work health and safety under 26A(1)(b)(iii) emergency services provided by police officers, or other emergency services personnel, in situations where there is a serious risk to the health or safety of any individual.</p> | <p>3. <i>The State Government, through the Consolidated Emergency Services Act and/or other mechanism's must:</i></p> <p>a) <i>Establish a clear framework to enable transfer of Bush Fire Brigades to the State Government if a Local Government decides to do;</i></p> <p>b) <i>Consult on the process, timeline, and implications for transfer of responsibility for Bush Fire Brigades in accordance with 3(a) through the establishment of a working group comprising representatives of Local Government, Bush Fire Brigades, the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSC) and the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES);</i></p> <p>c) <i>Provide for mandatory and minimum training requirements and recognition of competency and prior learning for Bush Fire Brigade volunteers, supported by locally delivered fit-for-purpose and universally accessible training program, designed in consultation with Bush Fire Brigade representatives, Local Government and LGIS, and managed by DFES; and</i></p> <p>d) <i>Develop a co-designed suite of relevant management guidelines and materials to assist in the management of Bush Fire Brigades.</i></p> <p>4. <u>As a matter of priority within the emergency services Acts review, the State Government to consider the most appropriate operational model for management of Bush Fire Brigades, which may include the establishment of an independent Rural Fire Service, as recommended in the 2016 Ferguson Report.</u></p> <p><u>RESOLUTION 377.7/2022</u> <u>CARRIED</u></p> | | |
| <p>26 August 2022 Zone Agenda Item</p> <p>7.1 Cat Control Measures and Advocacy for Reforms to the Cat Act</p> | <p>That the South West Country Zone request WALGA to support and advocate that the State Government progress remaining reforms of the Cat Act 2011.</p> | <p>This remains a matter of concern to the sector. A number of Local Governments have recently failed to make Cat Local Laws inclusive of provisions for cat containment and prohibition from roaming in public places. The lack of adequate heads of power for this purpose within the Cat Act 2011 requires statutory review and amendment.</p> <p>The following resolution was endorsed at the WALGA AGM;</p> <p><i>That the WA Local Government sector requests the WA State Government prioritise reforms to the Cat Act 2011, in accordance with the Statutory Review undertaken and tabled in the State Parliament on 27 November 2019.</i></p> <p>An agenda item recommending endorsing the above resolution on this item is included in the December 2022 State Council agenda.</p> | <p>Nov 2022</p> | <p>Tony Brown, Executive Director Member Services tbrown@walga.asn.au 9213 2051</p> |

RESOLUTION

Moved: President Cr Paul Gillett
Seconded: Mayor Grant Henley

That the South West Country Zone WALGA November 2022 Status Report be noted.

CARRIED

8.4 Review of WALGA State Council Agenda

BACKGROUND

WALGA State Council meets five times each year and as part of the consultation process with Member Councils circulates the State Council Agenda for input through the Zone structure.

The full State Council Agenda can be found via link: [December 7 State Council Agenda](#)

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

Matters for Decision

5.1 2022 Annual General Meeting Resolutions

That:

1. the following resolutions from the 2022 WALGA Annual General Meeting be endorsed for action:

3.8 Review of the Rating Methodology used by the Valuer-General

Advocate for a full review of the rating methodology used by the Valuer-General to value all land in the State of Western Australia.

3.10 Reform of the Cat Act 2011

That the WA Local Government sector requests the WA State Government prioritise reforms to the Cat Act 2011, in accordance with the Statutory Review undertaken and tabled in the State Parliament on 27 November 2019.

2. the following resolutions from the 2022 WALGA Annual General Meeting be referred to the relevant Policy Team for further work to be undertaken:

3.1 Road Traffic Issues

That WALGA advocate on behalf of the local government sector to the State Government and in particular, Main Roads, to increase importance and weight given to local knowledge and input regarding road traffic issues including requests for speed reduction, intersection treatments and overall preventative and traffic safety measures.

3.2 Car Parking and Traffic Congestion Around Schools

That WALGA engages with the State Government on behalf of Local Government to review issues associated with car parking and traffic congestion around school sites including but not limited to:

1. Reviewing car parking standards for schools;
2. Ensuring sufficient land is set aside for the provision of parking on school sites;
3. Reviewing the co-location of schools to avoid issues being exacerbated;
4. Restricting school access from major roads;
5. Developing plans to enable schools to manage school traffic;
6. Develop programs to educate drivers; and
7. Develop options and implement initiatives to encourage alternative modes of transport to school.

3.3 Proposal for Regional Road Maintenance Contracts with Main Roads WA

That WALGA assist Local Governments and work with the Hon Minister Rita Saffioti to introduce a similar program that is currently in play in Queensland and introduce a sole invitee Program for Local Governments to engage in a Road Maintenance Performance Contract with Main Roads WA.

3.4 Northern Australia Beef Roads Program

That WALGA work with the Hon Madeleine King MP Minister for Resources and Minister for Northern Australia to make Beef Road Funding available to all Australian Local Governments north and south, or establish a Southern Australia Beef Road Funding Program to allow for equitable support across Australia's beef and agriculture industries.

3.5 3D House Printing Building Compliance

That WALGA requests:

1. Assistance from Minister for Industry and Science The Hon Ed Husic MP, Minister for Housing and Homelessness, Small Business The Hon Julie Collins MP, Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government The Hon Catherine King MP to work with Ministers from all State and Territory Governments who have Building and Construction in their portfolios, to collaborate and to consider removing impediments within the National Construction Code Series and associated Australian Standards, that dissuade industry from adopting 3D printing as a building method.
2. That the Government provide instruments to incentivise private industry to develop 3D printing and include this as an acceptable building practice.

3.6 South West Native Title Settlement

That WALGA advocate to the State Government that Local Governments be provided with the full list of potential land to be requested for transfer as part of the South West Native Title Settlement and that a minimum of three months be provided for Council to provide feedback.

3.7 Land Offset Compensation to Local Governments

That WALGA advocate to the State Government that the Developer requiring land offsets should be required to provide the offsets within the Local Government where the clearing occurs and where this is not possible, the Developer requiring land offsets within another Local Government be required to pay a fee to the Local Government for the loss of rates and ongoing maintenance of infrastructure to the Land.

3.12.1 Abandoned Shopping Trolleys

That this meeting supports the recent petition to be tabled in the Legislative Council, Parliament of Western Australia, "Removal and Abandonment of Shopping Trolleys 22-0017" calling on the State Government to implement stringent and uniform shopping trolley containment laws for the whole state of Western Australia.

3. the following resolutions from the 2022 WALGA Annual General Meeting be noted:

3.11 WALGA Best Practice Governance Review – Principles

That:

1. The update on the Best Practice Governance Review project be noted, and
2. The principles to inform WALGA's future governance model, as follows and as per the attached Principles document, be endorsed:
 - a. Representative – WALGA unites and represents the entire Local Government sector in WA and understands the diverse nature and needs of members, regional communities and economies.

- b. Responsive – WALGA is an agile association which acts quickly to respond to the needs of members and stakeholders.
- c. Results Oriented – WALGA dedicates resources and efforts to secure the best outcomes for Local Government and supports the delivery of high-quality projects, programs and services.

3.12.2 Mandatory Superannuation for Elected Members in Band 1 and 2 Councils

That this meeting supports requesting WALGA to advocate for the Local Government reforms to include mandatory superannuation for elected members of Band 1 and Band 2 Councils and supports the optional payment of superannuation for Band 3 and 4 Councils.

5.2 Elected Member Superannuation

That WALGA:

- 1. advocates for superannuation to be required to be paid to Elected Members of Local Governments in Salaries and Allowances Tribunal (SAT) Band 1 and Band 2; and
- 2. supports the position that superannuation payments to Elected Members of Local Governments in SAT Band 3 and Band 4 should be optional and determined by Council.

5.3 Biosecurity Advocacy Position

That State Council endorse replacing Advocacy Position 4.5 Post Border Biosecurity with a new Biosecurity Advocacy Position as follows:

4.5 Biosecurity

Western Australia's economy, environment and the community are facing increasing challenges posed by already established and new pests, weeds and diseases.

Local Government has a significant role in biosecurity management, as land managers and regulators, and therefore has an interest in ensuring that Western Australia's biosecurity system, including control of declared pests, is effective and appropriately resourced.

WALGA considers significant changes to the operation of the State's biosecurity system, including the Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007, are required to ensure these risks can be managed now and into the future.

To be effective the Western Australian biosecurity system must:

- 1. Take a transparent approach to the notion of 'shared responsibility' by ensuring that:
 - a) The respective roles and responsibilities of Commonwealth, State and Local Government, industry, landholders, community groups and individuals are agreed and clearly articulated; and
 - b) There is improved pest management on State Government managed land and a formalised structure for State Government agencies with responsibilities for biosecurity management to work together and coordinate their activities.
- 2. Be underpinned by a strategic framework, developed in collaboration with stakeholders, that:
 - a) Establishes priorities for biosecurity threats in geographically defined regions, sets measurable targets and guides investment in biosecurity activities; and

- b) Is regularly evaluated and reported on.
- 3. Have a greater focus on environmental biosecurity, through the increased recognition and management of pest species that have significant ecological impacts.
- 4. Be adequately, sustainably and equitably funded:
 - a) The appropriateness and effectiveness of the Declared Pest Rate (DPR) and Recognised Biosecurity Group (RBG) model as key mechanisms for the management of widespread and established declared pests should be reviewed and alternate mechanisms considered;
 - b) Increased and more equitable distribution of funding for every step in the biosecurity continuum and adequate resourcing for all stakeholders, including Local Government; and
 - c) The provision of funding for declared pest management in metropolitan areas.
- 5. Ensure that the criteria and process for listing of declared pests is evidence-based, timely and transparent.
- 6. Have an increased emphasis on compliance through education and enforcement activity, to ensure land managers are aware of their legislative responsibilities and are supported to implement biosecurity actions.
- 7. Facilitate the use of new technologies, strategic monitoring, and the establishment of data management systems to inform biosecurity investment decisions and support adaptive management.
- 8. Improve the community's understanding, awareness and action in relation to biosecurity to assist with threat surveillance and timely response to incursions.

5.4 Submission on *Environmental Regulation Reform: A Strategic Review of Regulatory Delivery and Fees for Industry Regulation*

That the submission on *Environmental Regulation Reform: A Strategic Review of Regulatory Delivery and Fees for Industry Regulation* be endorsed.

5.5 Updated Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Advocacy Position

That State Council endorse the following updated Advocacy Position on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage:

3.1.3 Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021 and South West Native Title Settlement

WALGA acknowledges Noongar people as the traditional owners of the South West Region. Local Government is supportive of conserving and protecting the State's Aboriginal cultural heritage.

WALGA supports the introduction of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021 which will provide a modern framework for the recognition, protection, conservation and preservation of Aboriginal cultural heritage and recognises the fundamental importance of Aboriginal cultural heritage to Aboriginal people. The State Government must ensure that:

- 1. The legislation balances the need to protect Aboriginal cultural heritage with the requirement for Local Government to undertake activities in a timely and affordable manner;*
- 2. The implementation and ongoing operation of the legislative system for the protection of Aboriginal cultural heritage is adequately resourced to ensure that all parties have the capacity, capability and resources to discharge their statutory obligations;*

3. *Support is provided to Local Governments to ensure that they have the resources, capacity and capability to comply with a complex legislative framework; and*
4. *Local Governments have the ability to deliver essential infrastructure works and emergency activities efficiently and effectively in order to maintain public safety.*

5.6 Review of Coastal Planning Policy Position

That State Council endorse replacing Advocacy Position 6.8 Coastal Planning with a new Coastal Planning Advocacy Position as follows:

6.8 Coastal Planning
WALGA calls for:

1. Equitable legislative, regulatory and policy changes that preserve public coastal access for current and future generations.
2. The provision of sustainable and adequate long-term funding for Local Governments to manage the impacts of coastal erosion and inundation.

Matters for Noting

- 6.1 WALGA Best Practice Governance Review Update
- 6.2 2022-23 October Federal Budget
- 6.3 Supporting the Trajectory for Low Energy Buildings – Release of 7 Star Homes Cost Investigation
- 6.4 WALGA October 2022 Quarterly Economic Briefing
- 6.5 WALGA Submission on Phase Two of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021 Co-design Process
- 6.6 Report Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC)

RESOLUTION

Moved: President Cr Paul Gillett

Seconded: Mayor Grant Henley

That the South West Country Zone:

- 1. Supports Matters for Decision 5.1-5.2, and 5.4-5.6, as listed above in the 7 December 2022 State Council Agenda; and**
- 2. Notes all Matters for Noting as listed in the 7 December 2022 State Council Agenda.**

CARRIED

State Council Item 5.3 – Biosecurity Advocacy Position

RESOLUTION

Moved: President Cr Paul Omodei

Seconded: President Cr Richard Walker

That the South West Zone opposes the imposition of a Declared Pest Rate, and that funding for biosecurity should be provided by the State Government from consolidated revenue.

CARRIED

9. AGENCY REPORTS / PRESENTATIONS

9.1 WALGA President's Report

President Cr Karen Chappel provided an update to the Zone.

9.2 South West Development Commission

Andrew McRobert, Director Business and Industry, and Obby McDonald, Regional Development Officer, provided an update to the Zone.

9.3 Regional Development Australia – South West

Executive Officer, Charles Jenkinson, provided an update to the Zone.

9.4 Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries

Brendan McNally, Regional Manager Peel South-West provided an update to the Zone.

9.5 Australia's South West

Chief Executive Officer Catrin Allsop was an apology to the Zone.

9.6 National Emergency Management Agency

Sam Ramsay, NEMA, provided an update to the Zone.

10. FINANCIAL REPORT

10.1 Financial Report

| | Budget FY \$ | Actual YTD \$ | Comments |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Opening Cash Balance | 12,754 | 12,754 | |
| Income | | | |
| Subscription Income | 7,200 | 7,200 | 12 @ \$600 each |
| Total Income | 7,200 | 7,200 | |
| Expenses | | | |
| Bank Charges | 72 | 27 | 12 months @ \$6 |
| Total Expenses | 72 | 27 | |
| Closing Cash Balance | 19,882 | 19,927 | |

RESOLUTION

Moved: President Cr Richard Walker

Seconded: President Cr Paul Gillett

That the Financial Report be received.

CARRIED

11. EMERGING ISSUES

Nil.

12. DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETINGS

12.1 Future Meeting Dates

Meeting dates for 2022 and early 2023 are listed below.

| MEETING DATE | HOST LOCAL GOVERNMENT |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Friday 17 February 2023 | Augusta Margaret River |
| Friday 21 April 2023 | Bridgetown Greenbushes |
| Friday 23 June 2023 | Nannup |

12.2 Next Meeting

| MEETING DATE | HOST LOCAL GOVERNMENT |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Friday 17 February 2023 | Augusta Margaret River |

13. CLOSURE

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 12:16pm.