

Key LGAT Activity – April 2015

The staff at LGAT sadly farewelled our CEO, Allan Garcia on 1st May. Allan had worked at the Association for 16 years, 12 as CEO. We have been thankful for his support and leadership of the LGAT Team and wish him well in his new position, heading up Infrastructure Tasmania.

Key Outputs/Outcomes

- Over 120 Mayors, councillors and council officers attended the expanded LGAT General Meeting at the Derwent Entertainment Centre on the 30th April. The facilitated forum included speakers on council amalgamations, resource sharing, lean thinking and private sector mergers and provided much fuel for thought. All the papers are now available on the LGAT extranet.
- We also delivered some very well received training on Contract Management for council officers. The training was facilitated by ArcBlue –The Global Procurement Network. Twenty six people from six councils attended the training held on 20th April at the Technopark in Hobart. Feedback received from attendees was positive. Around 85% stated that they would recommend the Introduction to Contract Management training to others. Around 70% of respondees said that they would be interested in attending other courses, such as training on contract planning and specification development and on evaluation, negotiation, supplier selection and contract establishment. LGAT plans to offer such additional training in the near future.

Policy/Project Activity

- Consultation on amendments to the Local Government Meeting Procedures and General Regulations.
- Consultation with councils on child care allowances and preparation of a draft policy.
- Consultation with councils on how they support educational outcomes for a media special.
- Continued consultation with unions on the Personal Behaviours Toolkit.
- Development of Communications Strategy for the Local Government Inclusive Ageing Project (LGAT/Premier and Cabinet).
- Feedback on draft documents for the Planning Reform Taskforce.
- Finalised the program for the 2IC Forum to be held 20th May.
- Initial meeting for Disability Action Working Group (PLGC objective) - 23rd April, Campbell Town.
- Interviews for the Local Government secondment to the Planning Reform Taskforce drafting team and related appointment activity.
- Legislative Council Inquiry into Electoral Reform – Hearing.
- LGAT Update for the LGMA Board.
- Planning and preparations for the LGAT Planning for Healthy Communities Forums and grants/training program.
- Planning for a joint LGAT/LGMA/IPWEA forum around financial and asset management.
- Preparation for the General Meeting, including facilitator and speaker briefing.
- Recruitment of representatives for the Local Government Technical Reference Group to the Planning Reform Taskforce and collaboration on draft Terms of Reference.
- Request for proposals for consultants to run the 2015 LGAT Customer Satisfaction Survey.

- Standards Panel activity.
- Summary of key research on Local Government amalgamations and resource sharing to provide as background to the General Meeting.

Training and Workforce Development

- LGAT Personal Behaviours Toolkit Training (North and South).
- Contract Management for Local Government Training.
- Promoted council careers to high school students at an event in Queenstown run by West Coast Council.
- Tele-meeting with LGAs re Commonwealth announcement of changes to VET system.
- Monitoring of weekly job advertisements.

Communication

- Media: water and sewerage dividends, Local Government elections.

Meetings

- ALGA Teleconference on Environment/Waste Matters
- Australian Centre for Excellence in Local Government Research Advisory Committee
- Australian Institute of Governance (Tasmania) regarding a joint forum for Local Government Audit Panels (Good Governance Forums)
- Chair of the Planning Reform Taskforce regarding consultation with Local Government
- Clean Energy Finance Corporation (Teleconference)
- Department of Premier and Cabinet regarding Age Friendly Community Plans
- Department of Premier and Cabinet regarding Disability Action Working Group
- General Management Committee Meeting
- Good Governance Guide Reference Group
- Integrity Commission regarding Code of Conduct and other Local Government matters
- Interagency Working Group on Drugs
- LGAT General Meeting
- MAV Insurance and Risk Conference for Local Government (Hobart)
- NBN Co
- Premier's Local Government Council Official's Meeting
- Presentation on RIAMS portal for Environmental Health Officers
- Southern, Northern and North Western Infrastructure Group Meetings regarding National Heavy Vehicles Regulations
- Spatial Vision regarding services to Local Government
- Meeting with Tasmanian Transport Association, Department of State Growth, National Heavy Vehicle Regulator, LGAT and a number of councils regarding the implementation of the Heavy Vehicle National Law