

## Key LGAT Activity – July 2015

### Key Outputs/Outcomes

- The 2015 Annual Local Government Conference was delivered to 166 delegates from 22-24 July at The Tramsheds and QVMAG in the Inveresk Precinct, Launceston.
- The Conference was this year delivered as part of a week long programme of Local Government events, including a Workshop titled "A Healthy Change - Local Government As A Change Agent" on the 20th of August, and an Australian Centre for Excellence in Local Government Research Symposium held on the 21st.
- Highlights included the official Conference Dinner, an address from the Hon Peter Gutwein (at the Annual General Meeting), plenary presentations from Ian McBurney, Sir Bob Parker, and Mayor Brad Pettitt, Roberta Ryan, along with workshops delivered by Marcus Westbury, Jacinthe Galpin, Mark Wells, Dan Casey, Phil Preston and Julie Andersson.
- The winners of the Local Government Awards for Excellence were announced on 24th July. Awards were presented for Dorset Council's 'North East Mountain Bike Development - Derby Trails' Project (Delivering Excellence - Smaller Councils) and Meander Valley Council's 'Energy Efficiency Upgrade' Project (Delivering Excellence - Larger Councils).
- At the General Meeting, 15 motions were carried around a variety of issues ranging from Forestry, Water Testing, and Animal Control, to Training and National Arts funding.
- Conference papers that have been provided, including the Minister's Speech, are available on the LGAT extranet.
- Daryl Quilliam was elected as LGAT Vice President and so will continue to act as President until the elections are complete in early September. Nominations for President have closed and the candidates are Cllr Cheryl Arnol (Glamorgan-Spring Bay Council), Mayor Doug Chipman (Clarence City Council), Mayor Daryl Quilliam (Circular Head Council) and Mayor Michael Tucker (Break O'Day Council). Candidates statements are attached to this report.
- The State-wide Community Satisfaction Survey Research Report was finalised. EMRS (the independent research company that conducted the survey) presented the key findings at the AGM on 22 July in Launceston. Copies of the report were provided to each member council. The average satisfaction score across nine categories of council services which included council staff; waste management; recreation and cultural facilities and business; roads, footpaths and traffic; and planning and development was 70%.
- The Final Report on the Elected Member Census was tabled at the General Meeting in Launceston.

### Policy/Project Activity

- Submission to the Senate Inquiry into the impact of the 2014 and 2015 Commonwealth Budget decisions on the Arts
- Feedback provided to the National Transport Commission regarding proposed amendments to the National Rail Safety legislation
- Significant effort in relation to the Tasmanian Planning Scheme and LUPAA Amendment Bill
- A number of Standards Panel cases underway
- Public Lighting Verification Project commenced

- Recruitment process for the LGAT Policy Director substantially complete
- Personal Behaviours Toolkit – being finalised after consultation with Councils
- Papers for Premiers Local Government Council on Waste Tyres, Councillor Record Keeping, Heavy Vehicles

### **Training and Workforce Development**

- Good Governance Forums run in Hobart and Launceston primarily targeting members of Audit Panels. Partnership between LGAT and the Institute of Governance.
- Local Government Week as above.

### **Communication**

#### Media

- Code of Conduct Legislation – print
- GMC Elections - Media Release and reports – print
- Local Government Workforce Report - print
- General Meeting Motions – print and radio
- Air BNB - radio
- General Meeting, Minister's Presentation, Survey Results, Conference Speakers: print, radio and television (most successful conference for positive media in many years).

### **Meetings**

- Associations' Policy Directors Teleconference regarding COAG Meeting
- Auditors
- Australian Local Government Association FAGs Campaign Teleconference
- Building Regulatory Framework Review
- Chief Fire Officer re changes to SES
- Continuous Improvement Framework Advisory Group Meeting
- Development Assessment Forum Teleconference
- Dial Before You Dig
- Forestry Tasmania regarding strategic planning and direction
- Good Governance Guide Reference Group
- Infrastructure Australia Audit briefing
- Joint meeting Planning Taskforce and Tasmanian Planning Commission
- Joint technical reference group meeting regarding the OSOM Bridge Project.
- LGAT Annual General Meeting
- LGAT General Management Committee
- LGAT General Meeting
- Luke Roberts (Department of Premier and Cabinet) re land use hazards and mapping project within State Government

- Meeting with the A/Valuer General and the Director of Local Government regarding capital rating of complex properties
- National Heavy Vehicle Regulator regarding local road management and access permits
- North West, North East and Southern Road Manager Groups regarding the current heavy vehicle access and bridge assessment project (OSOM Bridge Project).
- Office of Emergency Management regarding projects interfacing with Local Government (coastal hazards, land slip etc).
- President and CEO meeting with the Local Government and Planning Minister regarding Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs) campaign and Local Government reform.
- Role of Local Government Project Implementation Meeting
- State Growth Steering Committee for the OSOM Bridge Project
- Tasmanian Climate Change Office re 2015-16 State Government Action Plan
- Teleconference about new planning legislation with LG Planners and Department of Justice
- Teleconference of the Technical Planning Reference Group to the Planning Taskforce
- Jeremy Prichard UTAS re Linkage Project on Public health data from waste treatment plants
- Meeting with project officer from Cranlana Programme and our Future Public Sector Leaders Colloquium
- Biosecurity legislation review briefing
- DHHS re draft Tasmanian Health Action Plan for Pandemic Influenza
- Local Government Division regarding statement of intent for public health