

## Key LGAT Activity – July 2016

### Issue in Focus

#### LGAT Annual Conference

The 2016 LGAT Annual Conference was delivered to 200 delegates from 20-22 July at the C3 Convention Centre in Hobart.

Highlights included:

- An address from the Hon Peter Gutwein (at the AGM);
- A special reception at Government House and the Conference Dinner at Wrest Point;
- The Panel Discussion with Lara Giddings MP, Greg Hallam, Tim Hess and Donna Bain.

The plenary presentations from Dean Williams, Susan Law, Cynthia Payne, Georgia Chapman and Wayne Kayler-Thomson all received positive feedback and the workshops delivered by Desley Renton, Dan Casey, Michael Paine, Greg Hallam, Cameron Spence and Ian Plowman were all warmly received.

The winners of the Local Government Awards for Excellence were announced on 22nd July. Awards were presented for Circular Head Council's - *Reading Bug Egg* (Delivering Excellence - Smaller Councils), and Clarence City Council's *aWake Before Death* project (Delivering Excellence - Larger Councils).

At the General Meeting, we previewed a new TV commercial (Better Councils Better Communities) to delegates. The commercial will be screened later this year to help promote the valuable role councils play in Tasmanian communities.

Conference papers, including the Minister's Speech, are now available on the LGAT extranet.

### Policy/Project Activity

- Consultation regarding potential recommendations to the Minister on the Review of the Local Government Act through the General Managers' Technical Reference Group, a workshop with Mayors and direct email to all elected members and General Managers.
- GMC by-election.
- LGAT recruitment of a Senior Policy Officer and Project Officer.
- Draft Tasmanian Cat Management Plan submission.
- Liaison with SES in the development of an Emergency Management Training needs survey for Local Government.
- Input into the ALGA Regional Development Policy position.
- Input into the Australian Regional Tourism Network study on Local Government spending on tourism.
- Post submission input into the Draft Guidelines to support changes to the Liquor Licensing legislation.
- Sectoral submission on the review of the Tasmanian Climate Change Act.
- Review of a number of National Procurement Network tenders (including hardware, parks and playground equipment) to determine applicability to Tasmania.

### Training and Workforce Development

- LGAT Annual Conference: *Metamorphosis: A Time of Change and Transformation*.
- 2016 Local Government Awards for Excellence.
- 2016 Meritorious Service Awards.
- Local Government Service Awards.
- Code of Conduct Training, Kingborough Council.
- Planning Forum for Elected Members.
- Roles and Responsibilities Training, Huon Valley Council.
- Commenced winding up the Think Big Work Local workforce project, with key aspects now to continue as part of normal LGAT operations.
- Development of the agenda and securing speakers for the upcoming Audit Panel Forums (September 12 and 13).
- Workshop with Northern and North Western Municipal Emergency Management Coordinators on the Review of the Emergency Management Act.

### Media and Communications

- The Pulse e-newsletter - 15 July.
- Opinion piece on Land Use Planning -The Mercury (published 20 July).
- Opinion piece on Airbnb - The Mercury (submitted 28 July).
- Print and radio media re Rating of Crown Land, Airbnb, Water and Sewerage Dividends, Federal Election.
- Media release - rating/crown land (19 July).
- Media Alert - LGAT Annual Conference (19 July).
- Media Alert - LGAT Annual Conference (20 July).
- Media Release - Response to the Minister for Local Government (20 July).
- Media Release - Local Government Service Award Winners (21 July).
- Media Release - 2016 Meritorious Service Award (21 July).
- Media Alert - 2016 Local Government Awards for Excellence (21 July).
- Media Release - 2016 Local Government Awards for Excellence (22 July).
- Completed production of a 30 second TV commercial, for the 'Better Councils Better Communities' advertising campaign, using local consultants Madfinch and a group of volunteers from councils and LGAT staff.

### Meetings

- Visits to Northern Midlands, Kentish/Latrobe and Kingborough Councils.
- LGAT Annual General Meeting and General Meeting.
- Department of Justice regarding planning policies and major project approvals.
- Planning Policy Unit regarding the Tasmanian Planning Scheme.
- Tasmanian Planning Commission (numerous) regarding the Tasmanian Planning Scheme.

- Steering Committee, Targeted Review of the Local Government Act.
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regarding further Local Government training sessions.
- Aboriginal Heritage Tasmania and DPIPWE regarding changes to the Aboriginal Relics Act.
- ALGA Teleconference, post National General Assembly review of motions.
- Local Government Division regarding review of the Act.
- Chief Fire Office- Tasmanian Fire Service.
- TasTafe regarding delivery of WH&S for managers training .
- Participated in the interview panel for the Tasmanian Municipal Emergency Risk Assessment Project Officer.
- Cat Management Roles and Responsibilities Working Group Meeting.
- Steering Committee, Workforce Planning Project.
- Mapping the Tasmanian Agricultural Estate Working Group Meeting.
- Steering Committee Meeting, Economic Development Practitioners Workshop with Anton Kriz.