

Key LGAT Activity and Outcomes – July 2011

Policy Activity

- Co-ordination of Division 81 tools pilot with ATO.
- Standards Panel coordination and Registrar activities.
- Progression of the Tasmanian Coastal Adaptation Pathways Project including funding agreements and project plans.
- Statewide satisfaction survey.
- Support and Accommodation Assistance Review

Training and Development

- 2011 Annual Local Government Conference – 100 Years Long – 100 Years Strong
- Promoted council careers to ITC graduates and students at an Australian Computer Society employment seminar; two students subsequently sought assistance with applying for vacant positions at HCC.
- Created flow charts explaining the provider structure and the funded pathways to VET and university training for students/job seekers in Tasmania.
- Completed 12 months of jobs vacancy data, and 18 months of website use data, results show for example, that most vacancies occur from January to June; the number of vacancies per council is also available. LGAT will seek input from councils through the Annual Report and a session with council Human Resources Officers.
- Completed a template to enable HCC and LCC to manually enter job vacancies on www.thinkbigworklocal.com.au as conveniently as possible, and to reporting some data electronically.
- Consultants are adding a Student Survey to www.thinkbigworklocal.com.au which will advertise enter to a prize draw for participation. The survey helps us assess impact of TV advertising, willingness to work in a council, and awareness of what councils do.

Meetings and Communication

- LGAT Annual General Meeting
- LGAT General Meeting
- Local Government Financial and Asset Reform Project Steering Committee
- Southern Waste Strategy Authority Meeting and Waste Forum
- Meetings to progress the Tasmanian Coastal Adaptation Pathways Project including visits to pilot councils.
- Local Government Division Regular Meeting
- Myriad re Community Satisfaction Survey
- Australia Day Council
- Audit Office- re financial statements.
- Electronic Development Assessment Project
- Land Hazard Planning Project

- Consumer Advocacy Panel – Stakeholder meeting
- Nomenclature Board
- Forest Practices Advisory Committee
- Support and Accommodation Assistance Review Consultation
- National Waste Packaging teleconference
- Speed Limits Around Childcare Centres Working Group
- WomenCan Steering Committee
- Regional Development Australia
- Climate Change Partnership Committee Meeting
- Consumer Affairs re Vendor Disclosure
- Local Government Division/Tasmanian Planning Commission re planning data collection
- DIPWE re Threatened Species
- Alcohol Tobacco and Other Drugs Reference Group meeting
- Greg Alomes re Residential Code
- Productivity Commission re Local Government regulation of business
- LGMA Southern Branch Meeting
- WomenCan Workshop – King Island
- Standards Panel hearing
- CEDA Lunch – The Smith Family CEO
- AER Regulation Forum
- COAG Road Reform Plan Public Consultation Meeting
- Richard Gilmour/Peter Poulet – standards and codes for public housing
- Tim Johns – Catastrophe Insurance
- Julian Amos- Discussion re Planning, Infrastructure and Local Government re his upcoming report
- Tasmanian Regional Arts Council State Executive Meeting

Media

- Annual Local Government Conference
- Planning Directive 4 – standards for residential dwellings
- Forestry Agreement
- Education Alliance
- School closures

Key Outputs

- The **Annual Local Government Conference** took place at Wrest Point Casino in July. Feedback (based on forms received) included:
 - 65% rated the conference as 'good' and 32% rated it as excellent
 - Of the Plenary speakers, Jacky Hodges and Ricky Langford received the most 'excellent' ratings.
 - Of the workshop presenters, Peter Williams, Anne Leadbetter and Jill Klein received the most 'excellent' ratings. Anne Leadbetter received 100% 'excellent' ratings.
 - The trade exhibition was well received with more than 50% of respondents indicated that the exhibition was professional presented and a great networking opportunity. Around 1/3 also indicated that the exhibition was informative and interesting.
 - Respondents were asked to indicate what the conference highlights were for them this year. Broadly the most common highlights were as follows:
 - Peter Williams
 - Networking opportunities
 - The panel of past LGAT presidents
 - The dinner
 - The trade exhibition
 - The speakers
 - This year a new smaller dinner venue was used as part of keeping conference costs down. There were mixed feelings 73% of respondents thought the dinner was good or excellent. Only 6% of respondents thought the dinner was poor.
- The 5th state wide **community satisfaction survey** was completed. The final report will be distributed to councils this week and will be posted on the LGAT Website. The newly released State-wide Community Satisfaction Survey shows a positive increase in resident satisfaction across a range of important Council service delivery areas over the past two years, notwithstanding a decrease in residents' rating of Council's overall performance. Highest ranking areas were for customer service and Council access, waste management, community health and safety and recreation and cultural facilities and programs. Lowest ranking areas were in relation to the involvement of residents in local decision making, planning and development activities, storm water and local road maintenance.