

## Key LGAT Activity – May 2018

### Issues in Focus - TasWater

An MOU with the State Government was signed on 1 May by the TasWater Chief Owner Representative, Mayor David Downie.

The MOU outlines that:

- The State Government will contribute \$20 million a year for 10 years in exchange for equity in TasWater;
- As a shareholder they will have a role in the Board and CEO selection and the signoff of the corporate plan;
- The State Government will not take distributions, and council's current distributions are preserved;
- The injection of funding will allow price increases for consumers to be capped and some acceleration of the capital program; and
- There will be a collaborative approach to progressing Macquarie Point, the Launceston combined system and Cameron Bay.

The principles outlined in the MOU were developed with consideration of the key concerns raised by LGAT Members, which formed LGAT's advocacy and informed our legislative council submission. These included maintaining Local Government ownership, revenue/rating impacts, cost of living concerns, independent oversight, skilled board, ease of raising issues with TasWater, ensuring all community needs are considered (avoiding pork barrelling) and so on. Ultimately it means that councils distributions will continue to flow to provide for a range of local services and infrastructure; as well as the minimising the cost increases for water and sewerage services for households. A real win win!

### Policy/Project Activity

- Negotiation of Deed to amend Southern Tasmanian Councils recycling contracts
- Submission - Emergency Management Amendment Bill 2018
- Submission- TasNetworks Pricing Reset 2019-24 Australian Energy Regulator
- Successful grant application, Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Grant, Tasmanian Municipal Emergency Management Guidelines.
- Tender advertised, MAV/LGAT Streetlighting installation and materials
- Submission to the Local Government Division on a range of miscellaneous amendments required to the Local Government Act
- Sector consultation and submission on the draft Residential Housing Supply Bill 2018
- Correspondence with the Minister for Planning of the sector's priorities for planning reform
- Sector advice on the Federal Budget

- Successful partnership grant for active transport project being led by the Menzies Institute
- Consultation on hard waste collection costs for some councils
- Input into priority vegetation mapping support documentation
- Early Years, Local Government Children's Forum – 5 July 2018, arrangements finalised. To be run in partnership with the Australian Early Development Census, B4 Coalition and Hobart City Council
- LGAT telecommunications and internet upgrade proposal endorsed and suppliers advised
- Draft new State-wide LGAT Customer Satisfaction Survey complete, for discussion with social research companies
- Sought councils' feedback through the LGAT Performance and Improvement Survey 2018
- Engaged Local Government Procurement experts from NSW and SA, to conduct a Procurement Workshop to run in parallel with the LGAT Annual Conference
- Promoted the Tasmanian Climate Change Office's ChargeSmart grants program supporting workplace electric vehicle charging
- Review stakeholder comments and feedback on draft LGAT Model Credit Card Policy
- Respond to council enquiries regarding *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015* requirements
- Provided input on behalf of Tasmanian councils into the Local Government National Report 2018 for the Australian Government
- Provided advice to a member council to inform decision making around the considerations required before committing to substantial investment in coastal hazards infrastructure
- Represented Tasmanian Councils on the evaluation committee for the Tasmanian Climate Change Office's "Coastal Hazards Management for Existing Settlements and Values" project
- Preparation of LGAT 2018/19 Budget

## Media

- Media Release: Free Candidate Information Sessions
- Chris Jones, Editor of the Mercury, Introductions and Local Government briefing
- Letter to editor – planning
- Letter to editor – sale of Anglican Churches
- LGAT Better Councils television commercial with new end titles "Represent Your Community, Stand for Council" running during May and June.
- Social Media promotional flyer distributed to all councils: Candidate Information Sessions

## Communications

- The Pulse e-newsletter May
- LG Noticeboard
- Twitter

## Training and Events

- Mayor's Professional Development Day – Windsor park, West Tamar
- LGAT Annual Conference Registration opened – click [here](#) to register
- Huon Valley Candidate Information Session – CEO co presented with Director of Local Government
- Preparation for Regional Candidate Information Sessions
- King Island Candidate Information Session – Policy Director co presented with Director of Local Government and Audit Office
- King Island Planning Authority workshop for Council and community members
- Preparation of web-based range of resources for prospective Candidates in the October Local Government elections
- Attendance at Reconciliation week breakfast

## Meetings

- CEO visit to the Local Government Association of Queensland to learn about products and services that could benefit Tasmanian councils
- Minister for Local Government (Peter Gutwein) - The President and CEO discussed a number of issues and initiatives at play in the sector, in line with our election advocacy document
- Minister for Environment (Elise Archer) - Following up from a meeting held shortly before the elections the President, CEO and Policy Director sought to raise awareness of the issues around recycling and seek commitment to progressing the State Waste Strategy as a matter of urgency
- Members of the Parliamentary Labor Party - The CEO and Policy Director met to discuss our submission on the Residential Housing Supply Bill
- Shadow Minister for Economic & Regional Development; Employment, Training & Skills Development; Small Business and Veteran's Affairs (Anita Dow) - The President and CEO had a general discussion about Local Government and her portfolios
- TasWater General Meeting
- Meeting of Association CEOs
- LGAT General Meeting, including presentation from Minister for Planning and Housing, Roger Jaensch.
- CEO attendance at Volunteering Tasmanian Awards
- Road Safety Advisory Council Meeting
- CEO of Local Government Professionals Tasmania regarding event synergies
- Secretary of DPAC and CEO of TasCoss - Women in Leadership opportunities
- General Management Committee Meeting
- Premier's Local Government Council Officials Meeting
- Premier's Local Government Council Meeting
- Community Health and Wellbeing Advisory Committee - Inaugural meeting
- Environmental Health Officers from Kingborough, Hobart, Tasman Councils – LGAT/EPA Workplan
- Multicultural Council – Partnership agreement with LGAT
- Clarence, Glenorchy, Kingborough Councils – Universal Design Principles project

- DPIPWE, Ten Lives, Kingborough Council, Cradle Coast Authority, NRM North – Cat Management Co-ordination Steering Committee
- Tasmania Canteen Association – working with Health and Wellbeing Project
- EPA – MoU workplan follow up
- DHHS – Walkability for Transport forum follow up
- Alcohol Advisory Group – Alcohol Simulation Modelling
- Consolidated data collection (CDC) consultant selection panel
- Department of Premier and Cabinet - Recovery working group meeting
- Department of Police, Fire and Emergency Management - Evacuation Framework
- Office of Security and Emergency Management- recovery reform
- TasNetworks - Great Southern Lights Project
- Ironbark Consulting, Councils - Great Southern Lights Project team meeting
- Department of Police, Fire and Emergency Management - Collaborative Leadership sub-committee meeting
- Department of Education - Australian Early Development Census, Steering Committee
- Department of Education – Local Government Early Years Working Group
- Central Coast Council staff – meeting regarding improvements to the Delegations Register
- 11th National Local Government Cultural Forum
- Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) – LinkedIn Webinar on maximising employer brand & content development
- EPA – state waste strategy
- Waste Strategy South – update on LGAT advocacy activities
- VISTAS Steering Committee – regular meeting
- Planning Policy Unit – Residential Housing Supply Bill
- National Competition Policy & freedom camping stakeholder reference group meeting
- Local Government Associations - environment and waste policy update
- Department of State Growth – Young Driver Symposium & Ideas Sharing Session
- Southern Tasmania Councils Authority (STCA) Regional Climate Change Initiative (RCCI) – quarterly meeting
- Cultural Forum Executive teleconference
- Kingborough Council, Derwent Valley Council, Brighton Council, Clarence City Council – Community Health and Wellbeing Project consultation and planning
- Fae Robinson – Community Health and Wellbeing Project planning
- DHHS - Community Health and Wellbeing Project funding opportunity
- Tasmanian Health Service & DHHS – Health Promotion Quarterly Information Sharing Meeting
- DHHS – Systems Thinking introduction
- Tasmanian Health Service - Community Health and Wellbeing Project planning
- Australian Road Research Board – Restricted Access Vehicle Route Assessment Tool Governance Committee meeting
- Department of State Growth – Community Road Safety Grants Committee application assessment meeting



Local Government Association of Tasmania

- Tasmanian Climate Change Office – representation of Tasmanian Councils on future TCCO projects and Climate Resilient Councils work program