

## Key LGAT Activity – September 2018

### Issue in Focus

On 25 September the candidates for council elections were published with 481 individual candidates for councillor (316 men and 163 women) as well as 102 candidates for mayor and 135 candidates for deputy mayor. This represents a record number of candidates. This is only the second election since Tasmania moved to all-in, all-out elections and the first time we have had to wait four years between elections. This generates significant interest in elections, particularly if candidates have been waiting for their chance to stand. In addition, LGAT ran, for the first time, a television campaign to encourage more nominations. These candidate numbers are encouraging from the perspective of a vibrant local democracy, but it inevitably means a busy time for our Member councils. We wish all candidates all the best during this campaign period.

There was significant media and public commentary around the Clarence City Council's Public Spaces By-Law this month and the nature of the dialogue was concerning to LGAT as it had the potential to impact 10 other councils with similar by-laws. By-laws are developed following a fulsome consultation process including preparation of a Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS), public notification and broad consultation.

Public space by-laws are developed to ensure safe, orderly and equitable use of spaces and places that belong to the whole community. They help promote public health and support desired amenity values. By-laws are specifically designed to ensure that the actions of an individual or a group do not have an adverse impact on the community as a whole.

The provisions in the Clarence City Council Public Spaces By-Law are not new, having been replicated, in full or in part, in the earlier version of this by-law or in the by-laws in place other councils.

LGAT raised our concerns publicly and with all Members of Parliament including the Subordinate Legislation Committee.

### Policy / Project Activity

- Advocacy around the use of Public space by-laws.
- Advocacy on Section 9 of the Building Act.
- Development and compilation of the LGAT Year in Review.
- Facilitate new users access to National Procurement Network panel arrangements – including details of suppliers, goods and services available and pricing.
- Input into SES Flood Alerts Project.
- LG Workforce Development Group – Local Government Workforce and Future Skills Report Tasmania.
- Liaise with councils, Tasmania Fire Service, MAV Insurance and SES regarding issues around insurance cover and council land used as a staging area for aircraft.
- Project liaison Southern Lights project.
- RFQ sent out for Municipal Emergency Management Guidelines.
- Submission *Fire Services Act Review issues paper*.

- Submission on the Draft Environmental Management and Pollution Control (Smoke) Regulations 2018.
- Submission on the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Amendment Bill*.
- Submission on the *Local Government Amendment Bill (Code of Conduct and other miscellaneous amendments)*.
- Submission on *the National Waste Policy Discussion Paper*.

## Media

- ABC Radio re Gender/Diversity in LG
- ABC Television re Elections
- Media Release – By Laws
- Mercury re By Laws, Recording of Council Meetings, Fast Growth Suburbs
- Opinion Editorial – Smart Cities
- Opinion Editorial – Voting in Council Elections
- Opinion Editorial -By Laws
- Southern Cross Television re By-Laws, Elections
- The Australian – Waste Management

## Communication

- Federal Election – ALGA Advocacy
- LG Noticeboard
- The Pulse e-newsletter
- Twitter ([@LGATasmania](https://twitter.com/LGATasmania))

## Training and Events

### For Members

- ANZSOG Applied Learning Seminar – Regulatory Policy and the Changing Role of Government.
- Appointment of Peer Advisors for New Councillors and updating of Councillor Resource Kit/Mayoral Handbook.
- Austroads Training – Minimum Levels of Componentisation for Road Infrastructure Assets Guidelines.
- Department of State Growth – The Safe System Approach to Road Safety.
- Development of Engagement Champions Program.
- Filming for EM resources.
- General Managers’ Workshop.
- Local Government Economic Development Officers Forum.
- Neighbourhood Houses State Conference – Policy Director participated on panel.

## Participation by LGAT Staff

- Planning for and promotion of *Creating and Funding Great Playgrounds and Playspaces* Forums.
- Preparation of Planning Authority Training for Elected Representatives (scheduled for February 2019).

## Meetings

- Archivist, Government Archives & Preservation - Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.
- Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) Board Meeting.
- Australian Packaging Covenant, City of Hobart and EPA Tas – Scoping a packaging project in Tasmania.
- Clarence Council – Creating and Funding Great Playgrounds and Playspaces Forums.
- Commonwealth Department of Health Reference Committee - Local Council Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Toolkit.
- Consumer, Building and Occupational Services (CBOS, Department of Justice) – Permit Authority Forum – Information session on the new *Building Act 2016*.
- Department of Health – Local Government Community Health and Wellbeing Project.
- Department of Health – Population Health Services – LGAT Quarterly Meeting.
- Department of Health – Workshop on co-ordinating agencies for Heatwave Preparedness.
- Department of Health Population Health Services - Meningococcal Stakeholder Action Group Meeting.
- Department of Health, Public Health Services - Quarterly Meeting.
- Department of State Growth – Waste Management.
- Department of State Growth –Delineation of State and Local Road Management under the *Roads and Jetties Act 1935*.
- DPIPWE, Ten Lives, RSPCA, Host Agencies - Cat Management Advisory Group Quarterly meeting.
- Environmental Health Australia Annual Conference in Launceston.
- Executive Commission, Tasmanian Planning Commission – Local Provision Schedule support.
- Federal Minister for Local Government – Discussion on Local Government issues.
- Heart Foundation – Local Government Community Health and Wellbeing Project and Healthy Active by Design.
- Infrastructure Tasmania – Construction Industry Roundtables.
- Ironbark Sustainability- Southern Lights Project.
- King Island Council and State Agencies-State Recovery arrangements and application on King Island.
- Kingborough, Clarence City, Glenorchy Councils - Valuing Inclusion in Built Environments.
- Launceston City, Brighton and Clarence City Councils – Walkability for Transport Project Reference Group meeting.
- Legislative Council Select Committee Inquiry into Short Stay Accommodation.
- LGAT Assist Board Meeting.
- LGAT Audit Exit Meeting.
- Manager, Heritage Tasmania – Amendments to the *Historic Cultural Heritage Act*.
- MAV- Project Management tender for energy efficient street lights.
- Mental Health, Alcohol & Drug Directorate (Health) - Interagency Working Group on Drugs.
- Minister Jaensch re short stay accommodation and other planning matters.
- National Procurement Network – New Telecommunications contract - Project Team meeting.

- National Shelter Affordable Housing Roundtable.
- NBN Business Breakfast.
- Nomenclature Board Meeting.
- Office of Security and Emergency Management- Recovery issues.
- Planning and Building Portal Steering Committee Meeting.
- Presentation to Hobart City Mission – Funds raised from conference coffee corner.
- Shelter Tas – Legislative Council Select Committee on Short Stay.
- Sorell Council – creating and Funding Great Playgrounds and Playspaces Forums.
- State Emergency Management Committee- quarterly meeting.
- Tasmanian Climate Change Office – Coastal Hazards Management Workshops – three regional workshops for councils.
- Tasmanian Conservation Trust and Kingborough Council - cat management.
- Tasmanian Regional Aboriginal Communities Alliance (TRACA) - Engagement with councils.
- TasWater regarding Local Government relationship management.
- Waratah-Wynyard Council & Circular Head Council – Draft Community Health and Wellbeing Plan.
- Wellington Water re Water and Sewerage reform in Tasmania.

### **Operational**

- 2019 event calendar.
- Finalising Audit/Financial Reports.
- Initial development of an event management protocol (who does what at LGAT).