

Media Release

Wednesday 3 July 2018

LGAT AGM & General Meeting - 107th LGAT Annual Conference

Members of the Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) will today come together in Hobart for the LGAT Annual General Meeting (AGM) and General Meeting, at Wrest Point. The meetings precede the 107th LGAT Annual Conference, which starts tomorrow.

This year's LGAT Annual Conference theme "Finding Your Voice" has a strong focus on advocacy and the important role Local Government has to speak up on behalf of our communities. Finding your voice also reflects the significance of council leaders as champions for influencing change to benefit communities and the strength we find in unison when Tasmania councils come together as a sector.

As Local Government comes together this year, LGAT is pleased to report findings that Tasmanian communities are generally satisfied with the overall performance of their councils. LGAT's 2019 Community Satisfaction Survey showed that state-wide, the 1200 people surveyed rated satisfaction with their council's overall performance as 'good'.

"When asked to nominate the best thing about their council, it was great to see the most common responses from those surveyed related to councils being responsive, proactive, engaged, accessible, and consultative" LGAT CEO Dr Katrena Stephenson said.

"these are exactly the sort of associations we want communities to have with their councils and enhancing council performance and service provision is part of the reason we all come together at the LGAT Annual Conference" Dr Katrena Stephenson continued.

Today's meeting program includes the LGAT AGM at 11.00am directly followed by the LGAT General Meeting, in the Plenary Hall. We are pleased to welcome the new Minister for Local Government the Honourable Mark Shelton MP, speaking at noon.

The LGAT AGM will commence with a report from LGAT President Mayor Doug Chipman, who finishes his term as LGAT President following the General Meeting. Mayor Chipman will be welcoming new LGAT President Mayor Christina Holmdahl and new LGAT General Management Committee members.

Mayor Chipman's AGM Report on LGAT's achievements following another busy year of strong advocacy for Member councils includes highlights such as:

- delivering on the feasibility study into state-wide waste management arrangements and strong advocacy for a State Container Refund Scheme and State Waste Action Plan;
- successful advocacy to the Australian Energy Regulator on public lighting pricing which has resulted in estimated savings of over \$7million;
- whole of sector procurement services delivering state-wide savings of nearly \$2million;
- delivering of a range of resources for councils under the Health and Wellbeing Project including model health and wellbeing plans and videos describing practical approaches to planning playgrounds;

- collaboration between LGAT, UTAS, Environmental Health Australia, the Department of Health and the Environmental Protection Agency to address training, attraction and retention of Environmental Health Officers in Tasmanian councils;
- driving conversations about the future of Local Government as 21st Century Councils; and
- undertaking the state-wide community satisfaction survey.

The LGAT General Meeting features a full Agenda with 14 motions from Members to be considered on a range of issues. The Agenda for both meetings is available [here](#).

This evening delegates will be officially welcomed at the Jardine Lloyd Thompson Welcome Reception for the LGAT Annual Conference to be held in the Wrest Point Exhibition Foyer from 5.00pm to 6.00pm.

The Program for the 107th LGAT Annual Conference commences tomorrow and continues Friday, featuring a full agenda of plenary presentations and workshops including a Keynote Presentation from award winning Tasmanian author Heather Rose.

LGAT service awards will be presented at the Conference Dinner on Thursday night and the 2019 Local Government Awards for Excellence will be presented on Friday morning.

The Trade Exhibition Hall opens from 8am Thursday 4 July, showcasing a wide variety of exhibitors and exciting displays. We again have a focus on minimising waste so bring your reusable coffee cup for the MAV coffee corner where all donations will be going to the Choir of High Hopes.

Follow the 107th LGAT Annual Conference on Twitter via #LGATconf2019.

The media is invited to attend. Please collect a Media Pass from the Conference Reception Desk on arrival (registration not necessary).

WHAT: LGAT AGM, General Meeting and 107th LGAT Annual Conference

WHERE: Plenary Hall, Wrest Point Hobart

WHEN: Wednesday 3 July - Friday, 5 July 2019

The Agenda for the AGM and General Meetings can be found [here](#)

The LGAT Annual Conference Program can be found [here](#)

Further details on the 2019 LGAT Community Satisfaction Survey can be found [here](#)

To arrange interviews, or for further information about the AGM or General Meeting, please contact Keryn Nylander 0418 996 536