

Key LGAT Activity – December 2017

Issues in Focus

LGAT Year in Review 2016-2017

The LGAT Year in Review 2016-2017 was distributed electronically in December 2017 to all Members, the Minister for Local Government, State Government, stakeholders and key partners, ALGA and other Local Government Associations. The Year in Review reflects a new style of Annual Report for the Association, profiling our achievements and those of our Members; including highlights of a major achievement for every Member council, featured throughout the publication.

LGAT's Financial Statements for 2016-2017 are also available on our website, to be read as a companion document to the Year in Review. In line with current practice, LGAT has decided not to print the Year In Review, reducing costs and saving resources. Please find a link to the LGAT Year in Review 2016-2017 [here](#).

Elected Members Professional Development Weekend 24 - 25 Feb 2018

The LGAT Elected Members (EM) Professional Development Weekend will be held on 24-25 February 2018 at Peppers Seaport in Launceston. The Weekend is a well-attended valuable learning and networking session for Elected Members and this year includes sessions on: engaging with community (including online engagement techniques), how to run a professional and ethical campaign, leadership and mentoring and presentations from the CEO of TasCOSS and Director of Local Government.

This event is fast approaching and it is particularly important to secure you accommodation before 24 January 2018. The Registration Form is available [here](#) or contact Miriam Rule, Events and Marketing Coordinator on 62335962 or Miriam.Rule@lgat.tas.gov.au

Councillor meeting fees and allowances – ATO advice

The ATO has had some enquiries from local councils on councillor meeting fees and allowances and if these need to be reported in taxable payments annual report. The ATO advises that where a council does not elect to apply PAYG withholding to payments relating to councillor meeting fees and allowances, these payments will need to be reported in the taxable payments annual report.

The ATO views these payments as consideration for services provided by the council member and therefore they are reportable. The ATO has published information about Taxable payments reporting for government entities on their website at ato.gov.au/tparGov

Policy/Project Activity

- Updated and resigned MOU with Volunteer Tasmania on the provision of support and services in times of community emergency or disaster
- Liaised with Tasmania Police to facilitate training for council officers on WebEOC a real-time emergency response electronic situational awareness platform used by response agencies
- Ongoing engagement with ALGA and the State Government in relation to relief and recovery reform
- Discussions with MAV insurance around the review and update of the protocol for resource sharing in emergencies
- Liaison with DPIPWE regarding debris clean up after a disaster on crown land

- Advocated for Local Government for better and clearer reporting of complaints statistics in Integrity Commission Annual Reports
- Began work on a Local Government Model Credit Card Policy
- Council support in using the Delegations Register
- Liaised with Member Councils regarding requested updates to the Tasmanian Subdivision Guidelines
- Commenced development of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with IPWEA Tas
- Assisted a Member Council regarding their obligations under the *Local Government Act 1993* for the management and leasing of public land
- Preparation of 2018 State Election advocacy document
- Prepare Code of Conduct review final recommendations and provide to Local Government Division
- Consult and prepare sectoral response on consultation paper on proposed Local Government Regulations changes
- Development of LGAT Procurement Action Plan
- Consulted with Councils on merit of a state-wide approach to proposed Hobart City Council ban of single use takeaway food packaging
- Update to Councils on current policy direction for free camping
- Submission to the State Budget Process
- Lead partner on peak body election collaboration
- Signed MOU with the EPA
- General Manager Employment Contract Template Amendment – now available on the Extranet
- Consulted with Councils on how they were dealing with NBN connections as a planning authority
- Sectoral consultation on the Aboriginal and Dual Naming Policy Issues Paper
- Input in to the State Government Container Deposit Scheme scoping paper
- Secured grant funding for Tasmanian pilot of a Liveability Assessment tool
- Developed 2018 LGAT Annual Conference Sponsorship Prospectus

Media and Communications

- Published the 2016 - 2017 Year in Review document
- Writing and publishing new Community Stories for the Better Council Better Communities website, on water sensitive urban design at Northern Midlands Council and an amazing new playground at City of Clarence.

Training and Development

- Webpage design, videos and text to support the implementation of workforce behaviours policies
- Webpage design and text to support good contract management and tendering practices
- CEO Presented to LG Professionals Emerging Leaders course participants
- CEO Presented at launch of Integrity Commission report into managing misconduct

Meetings

- Great Southern Lights Project
- State Emergency Management Committee

- Office of the Tasmanian Economic Regulator Consultative Committee
- Office of Security and Emergency Management, Department of Premier and Cabinet
- Nomenclature Board meeting
- Tasmanian Climate Change Office (TCCO) - Electric Vehicle Working Group meeting
- Hobart City Council – Climate Change Information for Decision Makers meeting
- Local Government Workforce Development Group teleconference
- Bowel Cancer Awareness
- TasWater
- Regional Authorities - election priorities
- New CEO LG Professionals Tasmania (Jan Davis)
- Planning Reform Taskforce
- General Management Committee
- Premier’s Local Government Council
- Industrial Commission - Councillor Allowances paper
- Deputy Secretary DPAC
- Minister Elise Archer
- Peak bodies breakfast
- Municipal Association of Victoria Insurance Board
- Aboriginal and Dual Naming Policy Steering Committee
- Presentation on iFerret software
- State of the State Address
- Cradle Coast Authority – Regional Economic Development
- Launceston City Council – City Deal and Smart city
- Launceston City Council – Sustainable Infrastructure Policy
- Healthy Tasmania – Community Health and Wellbeing Project
- Telstra Locational Insights Capability Presentation
- Preventative Health Services (DHHS) – Quarterly meeting
- Local Provision Schedule Steering Committee
- Planning Policy Unit
- Digital Services Tasmania Working Group
- EPA – MOU and waste
- Local Government Division – Consolidated data collection scoping for 2018
- Preventative Health Services – Health Impact Assessment discussion
- Parks Tasmania - Reserve Activity Assessment process discussion
- Consumer, Building and Occupational Services – Planning and Building Portal Project
- Clarence City Council – Economic development
- Department of State Growth – Land Use planning

Operational

- Recruitment for new administration officer and Health and Wellbeing Project Officer
- Miriam Rule commenced at LGAT – Marketing and Events Coordinator