

## Key LGAT Activity – January 2017

### Issue in Focus

In late December Minister for Planning received the Tasmanian Planning Commission's (TPC) report on the State Planning Provisions (SPPs). Throughout January he received advice - from the Planning Reform Taskforce, the Planning Policy Unit in the Department of Justice and the Interdepartmental Committee - on which matters to accept and where he might deviate from the TPC's recommendations. Throughout this period LGAT, via its membership on the Taskforce and also in direct discussion with the Planning Policy Unit, has advocated strongly on behalf of the sector. Many of the TPC's recommendations were favourable to local government, some less so. It is not expected that all of the TPC recommendations will be accepted by the Minister. The Minister is expected to release his response and the final SPPs in early February, as early as next week.

Once the State Provisions are made, councils will need to commence the development of the Local Provision Schedules. This will be a substantial amount of work and LGAT is in discussions with the TPC and the Planning Policy Unit about how the sector can be assisted in this task.

### Policy/Project Activity

- Commenced planning for a climate change forum
- Consideration of DRAFT – Federal Government, Smart Cities Grant Guidelines.
- Continued research work on local government reform tool/discussion paper for Tasmanian sector
- Currently seeking sector comment on the following for input include:
  - Discussion Paper on proposed Gaming Control Act Community Interest Test
  - Draft Local Government Amendment (Rates) Bill 2017 to provide clarification of rating on Crown Lands and lands adjoining Council land. This work also included the request for data from sector on current rating activity.
- Input and review of the Tasmanian Audit Office's Related Party Disclosure Policy
- Input to development of first NPN newsletter.
- Liaison with Councils and TasWater re: the National Procurement Network and how to access contracts associated with it.
- Preparation of an Electricity Consumers Australia grant application to enable consultancy support for current activities with the electricity market
- Provided input to the ALGA's submission to the Commonwealth's discussion paper consultation on value capture in infrastructure funding
- Provided sectoral submission on the State Government's *Regulatory Impact Statement on e-cigarettes*

- Provided submission to Commonwealth’s National Local Government Report 2015-16
- Provision of online forum for council Building and Development Officers regarding the commencement of the *Building Act 2016*
  - Quarry Code of Practice
- Review and input into the Agritourism discussion paper
- Working with designer on LGAT website changes
- Late December additions (occurred post last Report)
  - Review of report on the State Planning Provisions by the Tasmanian Planning Commission
  - Submission to the 2017-18 State Budget

### Media and Communications

- ABC – Sale of land/non payment of rates
- ABC Radio, year ahead for Local Government, fencing of hazards, Glenorchy City Council.
- Better Councils Better Communities – booked TV commercial screening
- Better Councils Better Communities - created new website content, describing key council services using short animated videos, and sharing some exemplary work councils have done lately in ‘council stories’
- Building Act – Mercury, Examiner
- Commenced design of the new *LGTas* (replacing the LGAT News publication)
- Completed re-design of the Pulse
- Development of updated LGAT homepage and noticeboard page
- General queries Australia Day, Building Act
- Launch of Northern Lights Project
- Social Media – Mercury
- Late December additions (occurred post last Report)
  - Auditor General’s Report on Local Government
  - CEO presentation at Women in Leadership Summit
  - Launch Road Safety Strategy

## Meetings

- Alex Tay, Director Local Government
- Brighton, Hobart and GCC EM and officers regarding Gaming Hearing
- Building better Regions Session
- Commissioner Huon Valley, Flinders Island Council
- Consultants re TasWater Stakeholder Discussions
- Department of Justice re Major Projects Legislation
- DPAC land slip and broader policy implication
- DPAC national reform of Relief and Recovery Arrangements
- Electric Car Association re charging station network and Building Better Regions Grant application
- EPA re local government work program and regulatory overlap issues
- Local Government Division re National Local Government Report 2015-16
- McCarthur re LG remuneration survey
- Meeting with Arc Blue re: the LEAP (procurement) program that is running in SA and Vic for councils
- Meeting with Axsys re introduction of Sharepoint to LGAT.
- Meeting with Climate Tasmania re local government climate change forum planning
- Meeting with NRM South Grants Coordinator re providing assistance in assessing this round of community grants.
- Met with Hobart and Glenorchy Councils re preparation for Senate Committee hearing on the Gaming Control Act
- Planning Policy Unit re State Planning Provisions & other planning reform
- Planning Reform Taskforce
- SES Municipal Emergency Management Risk project.
- Tasmanian Climate Change Office re 2017 workplan and governance project
- Tasmanian Workforce Planning reference group teleconference
- University Technology Sydney consultation on Local Government and the NDIS
- Utilities in Road Reserves National Working Group teleconference
- Value General re Building Act changes
  
- Late December additions (occurred post last Report)

- Barton Deacon consultancy regarding short term accommodation for Expedia
- CEO visit Sorell Council
- General Management Committee
- LGAT Assist Board Meeting
- LGAT Stakeholder Function
- Local Government Professionals Board Meeting
- Planning Reform Taskforce
- Premier's Local Government Council
- Related Parties Working Group – Audit Office
- Secretary of State Growth
- Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority Meeting
- T21 Stakeholder update