

### **Key LGAT Activity – February**

In early February, following three regional level workshops with Local Government Planners, LGAT provided initial feedback on the draft Tasmanian Planning Scheme – State Planning Provisions (SPPs). A number of councils also made direct submissions to Justice. Some of the more substantive issues that have been raised included:

- The absence of any guidance material or policy basis accompanying the SPPs
- The lack of any direction on the process going forward
- The need to include the SPPs on iplan as a priority
- The need for resourcing the on-going maintenance of the SPPs
- The need for clarity regarding to what extent local variations will be able to be accommodated via the Local Provisions Schedule

The public exhibition phase of the SPPs is expected to commence any day now, with the opportunity for the broader community to provide submissions. LGAT will be running a second series of regional workshops with Planners in April to work through the issues and compile a whole of sector response.

### **Issue in Focus – Workforce Planning**

Skills Tasmania has appointed the Centre for Local Government at the University of Technology Sydney, in partnership with LGAT, Waratah-Wynyard, Circular Head and Burnie Councils to build capacity across the sector to better workforce plan. One of the key outputs from the project will be a workforce planning 'how to' guide for local government in Tasmania. The project kicks off with three workshops on the 30 March (Launceston), 31 March (Burnie) and 7 April (Hobart) – please see the LGAT Training Calendar for more details.

### **Policy/Project Activity**

- Submission on the Draft Tasmanian Planning Scheme
- Tender Evaluation Panel - MAV Energy Efficient Street Lighting Contract
- Submission on A Healthy Tasmania - 5 Year Strategic Plan
- Progression of contracts and other activity related to securing a joint officer with LG Professionals Tasmania
- Review of Local Government Awards
- Review of Municipal Valuations Tender Process
- Submission into Inquiry into the Australian Corporation Amendment (Rural and Regional Advocacy) Bill 2015
- Submission to the Draft Tasmanian Integrated Freight Strategy
- Liaising with Simmons Wolfhagen regarding updating model delegations and compliance register
- Conducted initial planning of a new TV advert, including development of a brief for advertisement agencies
- Scope Workforce Planning Project following securing Skills Tasmania funding

### **Training and Workforce Development**

- Received advanced notice that the next round of the Tasmanian Skills Fund will open in April. LGAT will be contacting councils soon with more information.
- Presented at Hobart's Northern Suburbs Jobs Forum organised by members of the Claremont community and Glenorchy City Council, along with a panel of speakers from employers.
- Organised display booths at the Big Meet at the University campus in Hobart on 10th March (with Hobart City Council) and at the Commonwealth Government Jobs Fair in Burnie on 22nd March, promoting Local Government careers and current vacancies.

### **Professional Development Activities**

- Three Regional Breakfast Forms - NBN, Burnie, Launceston and Hobart.
- Elected Members' Professional Development Weekend
- National Stronger Regions Fund & Grants Workshop
- Presentation to Waratah –Wynyard Council on State Government Planning Reform

### **Communication**

- Actively working with the Department of Justice to improve communication about reform activities
- Development of March *LGAT News* magazine
- *The Pulse* e-newsletter (15 February)
- *The Pulse* e-newsletter (29 February)
- Finalised appointment of Cllr Mary Knowles (Northern Midlands) to the Family Violence Consultative Group

### **Media**

- Southern feasibility modelling
- Boards of Inquiry
- Emergency Management
- Opinion piece submitted to *The Examiner*, "Being a Councillor – a Privilege and Hard Work"
- President's column for *LG Focus*
- Contribution to the Australian Local Government Yearbook
- Letter to the Editor - *The Examiner*, "Regulatory Change Needed to Meet Community Expectations"
- Article for the *Business View* magazine (March edition)

## Meetings

- Consultation with Primary Health Tasmania regarding Tasmania Consumer Health Organisation
- A Healthy Tasmania- 5 year Strategic Plan Forum
- Meeting with Crime Stoppers regarding potential partnership opportunities
- Council visits to King Island, Waratah Wynyard and Tasman
- Planning Reform Taskforce
- CPA Tasmania re partnership opportunities for professional development
- General Management Committee
- Regional Authorities CEO Meeting
- Minister regarding future of the planning taskforce
- General Meeting
- MAV Insurance Board
- ALGA Strategic Planning days
- WALGA regarding key functions and possible partnership activity
- Steering Committee, Review of the *Local Government Act*
- CEO's networking and partnership breakfast (hosted by LGAT)
- Integrity Commission regarding gifts and benefits
- Integrity Commission regarding Code of Conduct for Audit panels
- Centre for Local Government at the University of Technology Sydney re Workforce Planning Project
- Meeting with SES and DPAC regarding Intergovernmental agreement with the Bureau of Meteorology
- Heritage Tasmania re joint priorities and responding to the Parliamentary Inquiry on Built Heritage and Tourism
- Tasmanian 2016 Bushfire and Flooding recovery sub-committee
- RDA Tas and State Growth re Bridges to Renewal
- Boys Town re Work for Dole Program
- Heavy Vehicle Road Access Project - various meetings
- Meeting re changes to the National Local Government Award
- ALGA Roads and Transport Advisory Committee
- Department of State Growth re bus stop infrastructure and disability access compliance
- Metro Tasmania re bus stop infrastructure and disability access compliance
- DPAC re Scoping a State-wide Flood Mapping Project
- Building and Occupational Licensing Bills - Local Government Reference Group Meeting
- Institute for Public Administration Australia Tas State Council Meeting
- EPA Policy Division on Local and State Government priorities and opportunities