

Key LGAT Activity – January 2015

Policy/Project Activity

- Advice provided to the Joint Standing Committee on the Australia Fund Establishment.
- Commenced consultation on the review of the Tasmanian Emergency Management Plan.
- Discussion on behalf of councils with the Department of State Growth regarding the clarification of changes to the approvals process for Traffic Facilities Management and Joint Asset Interface Agreements with TasRail.
- Established a virtual reference group for Emergency Management issues.
- Feedback on draft Role of Local Government Project Draft Strategic Plan (for consultation).
- Finalised the template for the Financial and Asset Management practice summaries.
- General Meeting and General Management Committee papers.
- Progression of consultation with unions on Personal Behaviours Toolkit.
- Provided Local Government feedback on the Environmental Defenders Office Report: *Lifting the Standards: Opportunities to improve Tasmania's Environmental Laws*.
- Review of LGAT Annual Plan.
- Standards Panel activity.
- Submission on the review of the Tasmanian Economic Regulator.
- Submission to the State Government for the 2015-16 Budget.
- Undertook review of the LGAT public website and training/professional development information.
- National Procurement Network - worked with Local Buy in Qld to finalised arrangements for the upcoming Local Government Motor Vehicle tender refresh. The tender will be advertised in Tasmanian newspapers on Saturday 14 February 2015.
- National Procurement Network – worked with NSW Procurement to finalise arrangements for the upcoming Local Government Corporate Wardrobe tender. The tender will be advertised in the Australian newspaper on Saturday 14 February 2015.

Training and Workforce Development

- Redrafting council 'Workforce Plans' to include a quick summary of findings, as well as some of the information on background, methodology and limitations previously contained in the sector report. The new look Workforce Reports should be available to councils by the end of February.
- Advised councils about the availability of a new round of Commonwealth Government Skills Fund grants and offered suggestions as to how some councils with major projects and training needs might take advantage of this grant which is essentially pitched at innovation in industry.
- Brokered in-house Fraud Awareness Training for three councils.
- Monitored weekly council job advertisements. From mid October 2014 to end of January 2015 the number of job vacancies in Tasmanian Local Government rose to an average of 20 per week.

Meetings and Communication

- ALGA re carbon funds consultation paper.
- Black Spot Funding Consultative Panel Session.
- Central Highlands Council Meeting (President and CEO).
- Consultation on frivolous and vexatious complaints to councils.
- Institute of Public Administration Australia State Council Work Plan Meeting.
- Letter to Minister for Environment regarding legacy mine contamination.
- Local Government Division regarding *Code of Conduct Bill*.
- Social Determinants of Health Steering Group Meeting.
- State Growth re Traffic Management and Rail Interface Agreements.
- State Government Building Control re Building Regulatory Framework Review.
- TasTAFE re new Certificate IV Engineering Drafting which should be available from TasTAFE in 2016. Previously the course was scheduled to be delivered in 2015 but TasTAFE want to take more time to consult with stakeholders including councils.
- Tele-meeting with interstate Local Government Associations to organise the 2015 National Local Government Human Resources Conference.
- Tele-meeting with interstate Local Government Associations to collaborate on the development of a shared set of human resources data for Local Government.

Media and Marketing

- Maintained website advertising of council careers and training options with the www.thinkbigworklocal.com.au website
- Booked display space to present the Think Big Work Local message for Local Government, at a commercially run careers fair at UTAS in Hobart in February and at a Commonwealth Government funded careers fair in Launceston in March. It is pleasing to see the return of these large free, community jobs expos, which in past years were visited by the Prime Minister and Cabinet Ministers, attracted national media attention, and saw over a 1000 visitors from the region.
- Maintained website advertising of council careers and training options with the www.thinkbigworklocal.com.au website.
- Twitter: *@LGATasmania* now has 220 followers and over 450 tweets since launch in July 2014.
- Media on:
 - Amalgamations
 - Planning Enforcement