

## Key LGAT Activity– July 2013

### Policy/Project Activity

- Referendum campaign activity was intense for LGAT staff and council coordinators so the news of an early election date that did not comply with the legislative requirements for a referendum, was received with dismay. The LGAT President, CEO and Policy Director will engage with the Australian Local Government Association over the next few weeks with regard to wrapping up the current campaign and where to from here.
- Commenced drafting the LGAT Annual Report.
- Consultation with councils on legislative compliance audit processes, boundary fence issues, dilapidated buildings, private certification of no permit required developments, privately issues planning permits, private letting.
- Drafted Code of Conduct Discussion paper for consideration of Steering Committee ahead of being released for consultation.
- Drafted survey to audit councils needs in order to meet their obligations under the new Work Health and Safety Act .
- Finalised the State-wide Community Satisfaction survey report and presented to the General Meeting. A copy of the report has been sent to all councils and is available on the LGAT website.
- Further feedback on Aboriginal Heritage legislation and proposed legislation on derelict buildings.
- Organised a forum for planning officers and the Tasmanian Planning Commission to discuss issues related to private certification proposals.
- Request for quotation on the impact of the introduction of a container deposit scheme on Tasmanian councils.
- Standards Panel activity.
- Submissions on private certification proposals and the Aboriginal Heritage Regulatory Impact Statement.
- Discussions with SES regarding a change in structure of the Natural Disaster Resilience Program
- In partnership with the 26TEN Coalition of Interest LGAT agreed to take a lead project management role in 2 key projects funded by the Department of Education:
  - The development of a Plain English Guide that can be used by communities, business and government to support clear communication in Tasmania and
  - The development of a 'How To 'guide to assist communities in Tasmania become a 26TEN community.
- Introduced the LGAT Annual Operational Plan 2013-14 and the reporting framework that will be used to measure progress against the plan during the year.

### Training and Workforce Development

- Organised for basic training in the *Vendor Panel* software to be made available to General Managers Finance Managers and purchasing staff over the next 3 months. This software is available to all councils and allows councils to access aggregated purchasing arrangements through the National Procurement Network.
- Developed a 'speed date' style work experience program, with Kingborough Council and Huon Valley Council expressing interest in conducting this event with Mary McKillop College. Student's interests will be matched with council staff performing roles in relevant areas.
- Added a number of new jobs roles to the [www.thinkbigworklocal.com.au](http://www.thinkbigworklocal.com.au) site, included the ability to include job roles flyers for downloads.
- Completed shooting first of second series of careers videos for the [www.thinkbigworklocal.com.au](http://www.thinkbigworklocal.com.au) for the job role of GIS Officer.
- Promoted council jobs to 1000 people at the Commonwealth Government's, 'Government Jobs & Skills Expo' at Kingborough.

### Meetings and Communication

- 26TEN partnership meeting.
- 6 regional workshops on the referendum campaign (Mayors and Officers).
- Annual General Meeting.
- Annual Local Government Conference.
- Centenary of Anzac project forum.
- Constitutional Recognition Referendum campaign teleconferences 2x weekly.
- Consultant regarding Children's Services Directory.
- Department of Health and Human Services regarding preventing violence against women project.
- General Meeting of the Association.
- Integrated Service Delivery Intergovernmental Committee Meeting.
- Interagency Working Group on Drugs.
- Key council officers regarding Occupational Health and Safety Council survey.
- Kingborough Council and State Emergency Service regarding Community Emergency Risk Assessment tool trial
- Landsell Consulting regarding procurement training.
- LGAT Assist meeting.
- LGAT Newsletter.
- Local Government (Highways) Regulations and Municipal Standards Review Working Group .
- Local Government Asset and Financial Reform Project Steering Committee.
- Meeting with Chair of Infrastructure Advisory Council to discussing workings of council.
- Meeting with the State Electoral Commissioner.
- Monthly meeting Local Government Division.
- National Heavy Vehicle Regulator national teleconference of Local Government Association Policy Directors and ALGA RTAC members.x2

- National Procurement Network meeting.
- National Procurement Network workshop.
- Planning Schemes Online Steering Committee.
- Referendum media training for Mayors.
- Road safety conference –Hobart.
- Senior Planning Advisor – Tasmanian Planning Commission re private certification proposals.
- SES and Clarence City Council re trialling torrens institute resilience tool.
- State Secretary of the Australian Labor Party regarding referendum.
- Tasmanian Climate Change Office.
- Tele-meeting with the National Local Government Human Resources Conference organising committee to progress that event to be held 13-15 November in Surfers Paradise.
- Two meetings with Hobart City Council, Kingborough Council on development of an e-learning strategy document for Local Government with European intern Marina Guimaraes.
- *Vendor Panel* software meeting.

#### **Media and Marketing**

- Community Satisfaction Survey.
- Council Rates – General.
- Forestry Rates issues.
- Life Members' Award for Meritorious Service.
- Local Government Awards for Excellence.
- Local Government Conference.
- Referendum.
- Rural impacts of rate increases.
- Added a section on procurement and purchasing onto the LGAT website and included a question and answer sheet on the National Procurement Network and the sorts of goods that can be purchased in Tasmania through it.
- 'Think Big' TV commercial screened in July and August to coincide with seasonal peak in vacancies and assist with possible need to promote Constitutional Recognition.
- Developed new flyer explaining how to find council job vacancies for use at expos, this initiative was taken in response to some council jobs being placed on council websites only and so not reaching wide audience, nor being convenient for jobs seekers to find.