

I am delighted to be able to send this Monthly Report as the Chief Executive Officer of the Local Government Association of Tasmania. I have been overwhelmed by the messages of congratulations and support. My commitment to Local Government in Tasmania is stronger than ever and I look forward to visiting all member councils in the months ahead to hear from you, about your concerns for the sector, your community and council and understand your views as to what should be priorities for the Association. I will also be able to share with you some of the policy and project work we are currently undertaking and how we intend to support councils in the dialogues about reform. Dr Katrena Stephenson.

Key LGAT Activity – June 2015

Key Outputs/Outcomes

- The second Tasmanian Local Government Workforce Report has been completed. The report was produced by analysing workforce data supplied by 75% Tasmanian councils through 2014 within a custom database. Analysis found council sector turnover was 13.8% in 2013, with resignation accounting for 9.3 percentage points, retirement 2.2, redundancy 1.3, and contract expiry 1.1. Importantly the report plots the numbers estimated to be lost due to resignation and retirement to 2040. The report and companion Workforce Plans provided to participating councils, provide practical guidance to councils and LGAT to help reduce and manage staff turnover. A copy of the sector report can be obtained from <http://www.lgat.tas.gov.au/page.aspx?u=666>. LGAT will be contacting councils to assist with their workforce planning.

Policy/Project Activity

- Commenced an internal operational review to identify potential process efficiencies for LGAT.
- Standards Panel activity.
- Preparation of General Meeting Papers.
- Development of LGAT Annual Conference and Dinner
- Development of the June *LGAT News* magazine
- Engagement with State Government regarding development of Project Parameters for Heavy Vehicle Access Networks on Local Roads
- Switched to online subscription system for the LGAT newsletter - *The Pulse*
- Commenced planning LGAT's Tasmanian Local Government Workforce Report and Workforce Plans for 2016, including combination with the State Consolidated Data Collection, and possible gradual alignment of both with a proposed workforce data reporting process initiated by NSW, VIC and QLD Local Government Associations.
- Reviewing the effectiveness of Think Big campaign advertising, including consideration of TV advertising and effect on website hits, as well as benefits of updating the website to continue to rank well in Google searches on mobiles and tablets.
- LGAT submission to the Department of Justice Review into Emergency Management Arrangements
- Website content audit continuation

Training and Workforce Development

- Progression of joint planning with ACELG for the researcher's forum to be held in Launceston in July
- Pre-conference workshop 20 July 2015: A Healthy Change; Local Government as a change Agent registrations open.
- Planning for Good Governance workshops for Audit Panel members (6-7July).
- Release of the whole of sector workforce report.
- Investigating the use of the User Choice training funding subsidy where possible, to help offset recent increases in VET course costs due to the introduction of student loans, withdrawal of training grants, and increase in licensing fees charged to RTOs.
- Hobart College presentation on council careers.

Communication

- Developed and released LGAT's new-look e-newsletter - *The Pulse*
- Media on CEO Appointment, LG Reform (Survey Results), Code of Conduct Bill, Planning, SES arrangements, Telecommunications, R2R funding.
- Media Release on CEO Appointment, additional R2R funding.
- Letters to Editor (reform) picked up by the Examiner, Mercury.

Meetings

- Age Friendly Communities Working Group Meeting
- Anti Poverty Week State Facilitating Group Meeting
- Assessment Panel for Requests for Tenders related to local government reform feasibility studies
- Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) Board Meeting
- Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs) Campaign Steering Committee teleconference.
- Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) National General Assembly
- Awards for Excellence Judging Panel
- Briefing the Legislative Council on the Local Government (Code of Conduct) Amendment Bill
- Cat Management Reference Group Meeting
- Centenary of Anzac Working Group Meeting
- Class One Heavy Vehicle Strategic Local Network Development
- Collaborative Leadership Subcommittee of State Emergency Management Advisory Group meeting
- Disability Access Working Group
- Good Governance Guide Reference Group Meeting
- Healthy Food Access Tasmania Project Evaluation
- KPMG re National Heavy Vehicle Regulator progress audit
- Launch of Integrity Commission Training Tools.
- LGAT Assist Board Meeting - 3 loans approved
- LGMA Communications Special Interest Group

- Local Government Disability Action Working Group
- Local Government Managers Australia (Tasmania) Board Meeting
- Meeting of the Northern General Managers
- Meeting of the Planning Taskforce (Rural and Residential)
- Meeting with TasNetworks and LGAT Members to discuss pricing proposal for public lighting
- Meeting with Department of State Growth Deputy Secretary, Transport Planning, regarding a range of issues affecting Local Government including heavy vehicle regulation and public street lighting ownership
- National Heavy Vehicle Regulator regarding access gazettals on local roads
- North-West Roads Working Group Meeting
- Heavy Vehicle Strategic Road Network Development
- Personal Behaviours Toolkit – Hobart City Council, Page Seager.
- Planning Legislation Subcommittee of the Planning Taskforce
- Planning Taskforce Meeting
- Policy Directors workshop on Taxation Reform
- Southern Roads Working Group Meeting
- Subdivision Guidelines Working Group Review Meeting
- T21 Tourism Forum
- Your Future Tasmania workshop