

Key LGAT Activity – October 2015

Issue in Focus

This month we concluded three months of screening 'Think Big Work Local' TV advertisement on commercial channels and SBS. As well as promoting council careers directly, the advertisement helped to raise awareness of the important positive role councils play in the community. The advert is estimated to have reached around 75% of the Tasmanian adult audience 3 times through the campaign period.

The next awareness raising campaign is currently being developed.

Key Outputs/Outcomes

- The Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) entered into a formal agreement with Local Government Managers Australia (Tasmania) to ensure that the current, strongly collaborative approach is embedded, strengthened and secured for the future.
- Completed 2014-15 Annual Report (awaiting Auditor's sign off before publishing)
- Received confirmation from The Governor to host a cocktail function for conference delegates at Government House on 20 July 2016
- Reviewed the two-year Bass Strait Subsidy Trial and determined that the benefit will continue to be offered to King and Flinders Island Councils
- Developed *LGAT News Survey* for members at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RNX9GFD>. Comments close on 25 November.
- Convinced the Legislative Council to amend the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Amendment Bill* to retain current 28 day Permitted development application timeframe. The State Government was seeking to reduce this to 21 days.

Policy/Project Activity

- Review and revision of Service Level Agreement between LGAT and DPIPW for administration and delivery of Section 337 certificates on behalf of councils.
- A substantial milestone reached in the LGAT/State Growth bridge assessments project - 85% 'sign off' and consent reached by participating councils with provision of statewide road networks for heavy vehicles.
- LGAT is working with all other LGAs nationally to help Commonwealth create a new VET industry consultation and training review system. LGAs will be looking for more responsiveness, due process in administration, and input that represents the sector.
- Prepared a submission on the Single Tribunal in Tasmania Discussion Paper
- Provided clarification on the Infringement and Enforcement provisions within LUPAA for a number of Councils
- Commenced the cost analysis of SES funding by Councils to inform the development of a sustainable funding model for the SES into the future

- Significant progress on the project investigating models for the replacement of 'old technology' street lights with improved energy efficient lighting such as LED, including discussions with MAV about benefits of utilising their project assist team for procurement.
- Significant Standards Panel support.
- Activities related to implementing the Code of Conduct amendments aiming to be completed by March 2016.
- Commenced the preparation of the annual operational plan including a joint planning session with the General Management Committee.

Training and Workforce Development

- Mayors' Professional Development Workshop
- Continued monitoring of Tasmanian Councils job vacancies
- Identified a new Tasmanian training grant that may suit some councils needs, called the Workforce Development Grant Program; further information will be provided to Councils this week
- Developed Elected Members Professional Development Weekend Program for Feb 2016.
- Regional Breakfast Forums focussed on tourism and Local Government.

Communication

- The Pulse e-newsletter (8 October)
- The Pulse e-newsletter (21 October)
- Finalised the appointment of Michael Stretton (Waratah-Wynyard Council) to the Tasmanian Planning Commission.
- Finalised the appointment of Tim Watson (Dorset) to the Forest Practices Advisory Council.
- Finalised the appointment of Mayor Daryl Quilliam (Circular Head) to the Rural Stakeholders Forum.
- Finalised the appointment of Andrew Smith (City of Launceston) to the State Fire Management Council.
- Coordinated nomination process for an appointment to the State Fire Commission (awaiting Minister's decision).
- Coordinated nomination process for four new members to be appointed to the Tasmanian Library Advisory Board (awaiting Minister's decision).

Media

- New LGAT President Doug Chipman interviewed in *The Sunday Tasmanian*
- Media Release - Formalising Collaboration between Local Government Peak Bodies
- Opinion piece for *The Mercury* - Role of Local Government Misunderstood
- Land Use Planning Reform – *The Examiner*
- Local Government Reform – *The Examiner*
- Think Big Work Local' TV advertisements

Meetings

- CEO and Policy Director - LGMA Tasmania Conference
- CEO presentation at Governance Institute of Australia 'Governance Update 2015'
- CEO meetings with West Coast Council, Circular Head Council, Central Coast Council and Glamorgan Spring Bay Council (also with President).
- 'Driving Public Sector Innovation' Forum
- Deputy Secretary, State Growth re heavy vehicles
- Heart Foundation and University of Tasmania re Health and Wellbeing/Food Security Program - future directions
- Homer Papantonio (The Corporate Impostor) re possible conference speaker
- Institute for Public Administration Australia Tasmanian Chapter Council Meeting
- Jude Monroe re review of Victorian Local Government Act.
- LGAT General Management Committee meeting.
- LGAT Strategic Planning Day - Secretariat and General Management Committee
- LGAT Regional Breakfast Series - Devonport, Launceston, Hobart
- LGAT October General Meeting
- LGAT President, CEO & Policy Director - Legislative Council re Land Use Planning and Approvals Amendment Bill
- Local Government Division regular monthly meeting
- Local Government Division and Archives Office re councillor record keeping.
- CEO of Multicultural Council of Tasmania
- National Local Government Cultural Forum Executive Teleconference
- National Heavy Vehicle Regulator AccessCONNECT Working Group Workshop
- Heavy vehicle access routes and bridge assessments Project Steering Committee Meeting
- Primary Health Care Tasmania
- Planning Taskforce and Technical Reference Group meetings
- Premier's Local Government Council (PLGC) Meeting
- Prime Super re Tasmanian Community Achievement Awards
- Regional council meetings (South, North East and North West) re OSOM heavy vehicle access routes and bridge assessments project (OSOM Project)
- SAI Global re Sectoral procurement of Australian Standards
- State Growth re OSOM Project
- IPlan Steering Committee Meeting
- Tasmanian Audit Office regarding LGAT Audit.
- Tasmanian Community Achievement Awards judging session
- TasNetworks, Launceston City Council and Ironbark Sustainability re street lighting project

- Australian Tyre Recyclers Association
- DPAC regarding Coastal Hazards Project
- Director of Building Control re Building Act review
- University of Tasmania regarding the role of land use planning in biodiversity conservation
- 26TEN Launch