

Key LGAT Activity– July 2012

Apart from being busy hosting our 100th conference and moving buildings, we undertook the following:

Policy/Project Activity

- A Steering Committee has been established comprising the President of the Association, Mayor Barry Easther, Mayor Jan Bonde, Mayor Barry Jarvis, Mayor Graham Bury, Mayor Tony Foster in his current role as Chair of the Present Owners' representatives and the Chair of the Water and Sewerage Corporations, Miles Hampton. It is the role of the Steering Committee to oversight the implementation of the various processes in consultation with owner councils with the working group supporting that effort.
- Advice to affected General Managers in relation to analog self help transmission towers and the switchover to digital TV
- Continued liaison with DPAC regarding the State Recovery Plan
- Standards Panel hearings and related activity.
- Consultation on draft Aboriginal and Dual Naming Policy.
- Roadside Signage/Route Code Workshop with NW Councils, DIER and Lands Department (Waratah-Wynyard)
- Consultation and preparation of submission on Draft Standards for Single and Multiple Dwelling Units.
- Presented on the Financial and Asset Reform Project at the July General Meeting on progress to date as well as requirements for finalising the project by the end of September.
- The final NAMS training sessions for asset management were conducted in the north and south in late July, representing the final training to be provided by the Institute of Public Works and Engineering Australia (IPWEA) as part of the Financial and Asset Management Reform Project.
- Convened an workshop on the Environmental Disputes Mediation project with EHOs to look at barriers to uptake.
- Feedback through ALGA on Food Safety Management Tools.
- Feedback on the draft Sustainability Indicators and Objectives Report.
- Submission to Department of Justice, Consumer Affairs on the draft Residential Property Transaction Bill 2012 and likely impacts for Local Government.

Training and Workforce Development

- Entered partnership with NSW Local Government Association and NSW Shires Association to provide access to Local Government webinars. First Webinar free.
- NAMS.Plus asset management training Northern Region.
- Mayor's workshop - meeting procedures and role and responsibilities.
- Displayed promotional booth with touch screen PC and internet connection at the LGAT conference. The booth is used to promote jobs in council are careers expos and the kit is also available for councils to use.
- Met with State and Territory Local Government Associations over concerns with the Australian Centre for Excellence's Minimum Dataset.

- Met with a range of independent high school, college and VET providers to discuss use of training content the LGAT has developed in schools, and new promotional experiences for students that may be less resource intensive for councils.
- Printed CDs containing copies of LGATs council careers promotional videos ready to distribute to councils for use. The videos feature staff from Break O' Day, Dorset, and Devonport City councils working in the areas of gym instructor, maintenance crew, human resources and museum curator. The videos are displayed on www.thinkbigworklocal.com.au along with a range of other careers like engineer, town planner, building officer and environmental health.

Meetings and Communication

- 100th LGAT Conference.
- Annual General Meeting.
- Asbestos Steering Committee
- Aurora Energy re repricing and reform.
- Australian Local Government Association Meeting post General Assembly.
- Business Tasmanian Online Working Group
- Caring for our Country Consultation meeting.
- CEO met with Mayor Tony Foster and David Lovell (STCA) to discuss role of owner's representatives and timetabling of water and sewerage reform.
- Commonwealth re finalisation of electronic development assessment project.
- Corporate Communications re media strategy for Local Government.
- Cultural Development Network (CDN) re National Local Government Arts & Cultural Policy Network
- Emergency Management Act Review Steering Committee
- Forest Practices Advisory Committee Meeting
- General Meeting
- Household Hazardous Waste Steering Committee
- Launch of YouthArc Youth Space
- Local Government Division and Tasmanian Planning Commission re planning data.
- Local Government Workforce Development Group teleconference
- Municipal Emergency Management Forum- North
- Planning Schemes Online Steering Committee
- Premier's Local Government Council Officials Meeting
- Presented to DPAC Staff on Demographic Change and Service Provision
- RSPCA re implementation of Cat Management Act.
- Southern Asset Management Group
- Tasmanian Coastal Adaption Decisions Pathways Project Steering Committee
- Tasmanian Climate Change Office re Climate Change Partnership Committee work plan
- LGAT Newsletter

Media and Marketing

- Consultants have been engaged to assist the Association market the sector and respond to broad criticisms regarding reform.
- 100th Local Government Conference *Treasuring the Past, Transforming the Future* (9 July)
- Three Tasmanian Councils Recognised in 2012 Local Government Awards for Excellence (13 July)
- Structural Reform of Local Government a Costly Exercise for State (12 July)
- Staying Relevant Important for Local Government (12 July)
- Mayor Recognised for Work in Brighton (12 July)
- Back Yard Fires (ABC)
- Amalgamations (ABC)

Key Outputs and Outcomes

- The 100th Annual Local Government Conference was held at Wrest Point opened by his Excellency the Governor with keynote speakers including Professor Brian Dollery and Professor George Williams, Michael McQueen and Rob Redenbach. A range of workshops were provided and a suburb dinner was hosted. At the conference we:
 - Announced the winners of the Local Government Awards for Excellence
 - Announced the winner of the Life Members Award for Meritorious Service
 - Announced the Local Government Service Award recipients
- Submission on the State Special Plan- State Fire Protection Plan
- Launched updated Mayors' Handbook at the Mayors Workshop. It is now available on the LGAT website.
- Further Webinars have been made available through the partnership with the NSW Local Government Association and Shires Association. All the details are on the LGAT Website.