



**THE
KIMBERLEY
ZONE**

Meeting Minutes

21 February 2025

Table of Content

| | |
|---|-----------|
| 1. KIMBERLEY COUNTRY ZONE MEETING OPEN: | 3 |
| 2. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES | 3 |
| 3. DISCLOSURES, CONFLICTS AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: | 4 |
| 4. KIMBERLEY COUNTRY ZONE STATE COUNCIL AGENDA: | 4 |
| 5. CONCLUSION OF ZONE MATTERS: | 41 |
| 6. DRAFT OPERATIONAL PROCEDURE 113: OPERATIONAL BOUNDARIES AND ASSET MAINTENANCE RESPONSIBILITIES: RURAL REGIONS | 42 |

1. Kimberley Country Zone Meeting Open: 9:05AM

Chair acknowledged the Traditional Custodians of the different lands on which people met today, and paid respect to all the Elders past, present and emerging.

2. Attendance and Apologies

| Name | Shire / Council / Organisation | Method |
|-------------------------------|---|--------|
| Members | | |
| Cr David Menzel | Zone Chair, and President, Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley | Zoom |
| Cr Peter McCumstie | President, Shire of Derby West Kimberley | Zoom |
| Cr Malcolm Edwards | President, Shire of Halls Creek | Zoom |
| Cr Chris Mitchell | President, Shire of Broome | Zoom |
| Observers | | |
| Sam Mastrolembo | CEO, Shire of Broome | Zoom |
| Geoff Haerewa | Zone Deputy & Deputy President, Shire of Derby West Kimberley | Zoom |
| Tamara Clarkson | CEO, Shire of Derby West Kimberley | Zoom |
| Cr Brett Angwin | Councillor, Shire of Derby West Kimberley | Zoom |
| Cr Brian Ellison | Councillor, Shire of Derby West Kimberley | Zoom |
| Susan Leonard | CEO, Shire of Halls Creek | Zoom |
| Cr Tony Chafer | Deputy Shire President, Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley | Zoom |
| Vernon Lawrence | CEO, Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley | Zoom |
| Executive Support Team | | |
| Paul Rosair | Principal NAJA Business Consulting | Zoom |
| Michelle Mackenzie | Principal Mira Consulting | Zoom |
| Jane Lewis | Principal Redit Research | Zoom |
| Rebecca Billing | Administrative Assistant, NAJA Business Consulting | Zoom |
| Apologies | | |
| Gordon Thomson | President, Shire of Christmas Island | |

| Name | Shire / Council / Organisation | Method |
|------------------|---|--------|
| David Price | CEO, Shire of Christmas Island | |
| Aindil Minkom | President, Cocos (Keeling) Islands | |
| Frank Mills | CEO, Cocos (Keeling) Islands | |
| Tony Lacy | Cocos (Keeling) Islands | |
| Cr Azah Badlu | Cocos (Keeling) Islands | |
| Guests | | |
| Nick Sloan | CEO, WALGA | Zoom |
| Sam McLeod | Manager Commercial Services, WALGA | Zoom |
| Jaxon Ashley | Road Safety Advisor, WALGA | Zoom |
| Cr Karen Chappel | Manager Governance and Procurement, WALGA | Zoom |

3. Disclosures, Conflicts and Declarations of Interest:

| Financial Interest / Impartiality | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|------|--------------------|
| Member | Item Number | Item | Nature of Interest |
| Nil | | | |

4. Kimberley Country Zone State Council Agenda:

Attachments:

1 President's Report

2 WALGA State Council Agenda and Report on State Council Actions (Separately Attached)

1.1 Presidents Report – Attachment 1

President's Report

March 2025

Introduction

It's been a busy start to 2025, and the pace looks set to continue throughout the year!

2025 is the Year of the Election – with State, Federal and Local Government elections all occurring this year.

For the State Government election, WALGA has focused on advocacy around our "The West at it Best" advocacy campaign. Responses to our campaign from the major parties are outlined further in this report.

I look forward to working with everyone across the sector, as we progress Local Government initiatives and positions.

State and Federal Elections

The 2025 State Election campaign is now well under way, with all parties announcing a range of commitments in recent months.

I am pleased that WALGA's State Election Campaign has been successful in securing commitments for a number of important initiatives aligned with the priorities outlined in WALGA's *The West at its Best* policy platform. To date, these include:

Labor

- Expansion of the regional road safety program to local roads (\$125 million)
- 23 new signalised crossing to replace warden-controlled children's crossings (\$17.7 million). 10 of these align with WALGA's list of priority crossings.
- Funding for six new Community Emergency Services Manager (CESM) positions (\$3.5 million)
- Dedicated State Bushfire Mitigation Branch to undertake mitigation works on unallocated crown land, unmanaged reserves. Support LG to manage the risk on road verges and provide support during major incidents
- Commitment to double Perth's tree canopy cover to 30% by 2040, new urban canopy growth program (\$10 million) and 'treebates' to encourage Western Australians to plant native trees
- Regional housing package, including new and refurbished social housing, additional GROH homes and stamp duty relief for first homebuyers (\$145 million)
- Expansion of the PATS rebate by more than 50% and expansion to include dental services and allied health (\$34 million)
- Range of infrastructure projects to improve community sport and recreation facilities across the state (\$186 million), including \$30 million additional funding for infrastructure upgrades to support women's participation in sport

Nationals

- Emergency management initiatives including funding to clear the backlog of facility upgrades under the Local Government Grant Scheme and expansion of the CESM program with 27 additional positions (\$136 million)
- Regional headworks fund (\$1 billion)
- Safer local roads program, applying targeted treatments to 8,200km of local roads (\$276 million)
- Boost to PATS and expansion to allied health and dental services (\$100 million)
- Implement a comprehensive State Planning Policy for renewable energy, mandate community impact assessment and community benefit funds with a baseline contribution of 1.5%
- Increase the Community Sport and Recreation Facilities Fund to \$40 million per annum, and develop 10 year regional sporting plans.

Liberal

- Housing infrastructure investment fund to support enabling infrastructure such as sewerage, roads and water (\$500 million)
- Create a new Regional Housing Infrastructure Program, to support headworks in regional areas and unlock housing (\$100 million)
- Regional health initiatives including increasing PATS fuel and accommodation allowances, more career paramedics in regional WA, and patient transport in the Wheatbelt (\$87 million)

WALGA has also prepared a policy platform for the 2025 Federal Election, and has provided this to the Federal Government and WA Members of Parliament and candidates and is seeking opportunities for further discussions in coming weeks.

Polyphagous shot hole borer (PSHB)

WALGA's advocacy on this issue has continued, most recently concerns were expressed by the sector regarding inadequate access to relevant information on the location of PSHB infestations and positive traps in their areas ([WALGA boss Karen Chappel slams attempts to withhold vital biosecurity information on the invasive borer](#)). WALGA is continuing to push for Local Governments to be included in, and funded through, the national Response Plan. While we have made some progress, as outlined in the Item for Noting in the State Council Agenda, there is still considerable work to be done to eradicate this pest.

Renewable Energy

Following the Forum hosted by WALGA at the end of last year, WALGA is progressing the development of a Community Benefits and Engagement Guide to assist Local Governments when working with proponents on large scale renewable energy projects. Interested Local Governments will have the chance to provide input into the Guide over the coming months.

WALGA is continuing its advocacy work with ongoing engagement with relevant State Government Ministers and discussions with key government agencies. In January The West Australian published my 'Op-ed' piece [Locals must have input in renewable plans and the answer is blowing in the Wind](#), which stressed the need for a framework to assist industry proponents and Local Governments entering renewables discussions.

The Minister for Energy; Environment; Climate Action has responded to my correspondence on this issue, acknowledging Local Governments' concerns and reinforcing the role of Powering WA to engage with the sector to better understand the opportunities and challenges faced by their communities.

Disaster Ready Fund (DRF) Round Three

Applications for Round Three of the [Disaster Ready Fund](#) (DRF) close on 2 April 2025. The DRF significant funding source for Local Government disaster resilience and risk reduction projects, with

\$200 million of Commonwealth investment available across all jurisdictions in 2025-26. Round Two funded 17 Local Government projects WA valued at over \$23 million, including fire danger rating signage, community education, evacuation centre improvements and infrastructure projects. Round Three has a greater focus on infrastructure projects with up to \$138 million dedicated to infrastructure projects with a minimum value of \$500,000.

Local Government Legislative Reform

The Local Government Amendment Bill 2024 was Assented to on 6 December 2024.

Some of the items have come into effect immediately are:

- Clarified Roles and Responsibilities of Council, Council Members, Mayors and Presidents and CEOs
- Local Law Reforms
- Committees of Council – Councils to appoint Committee chairs
- Owner and Occupier roll changes

Regulations relating to Superannuation for Elected Members have recently been gazetted.

It is worth noting that Superannuation came into effect on 1 February 2025 as discretionary for Local Governments. Local Governments will need to make a decision by Absolute Majority if they wish to pay superannuation to Elected Members.

The regulation to mandate Bands 1 and 2 to pay superannuation to Elected Members will take effect from 19 October 2025.

Therefore, those Band 1 and 2 that have not resolved to pay superannuation, will be required to pay Superannuation to Elected Members from 19 October 2025.

Other items will require regulations and further work: including:

- Development Assessment Panel (DAP) Functions
- Office of the Local Government Inspector
- Local Government Monitors
- Independent Member and Chair of Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee
- Clarified Regional Subsidiaries Provisions
- Unreasonable / Vexatious Complaints
- Changes to Local Government Borrowing Powers

In addition, regulations relating to Tranche 1 amendments are still required:

Amendments yet to commence include:

- Council Plans
- Standardised Meeting Procedures
- Communications Agreement
- Community Engagement Charter and Surveys
- Publication of CEO Performance Review (consultation has commenced)
- New Lease and Contract Registers (consultation has commenced)

In respect to CEO Matters and Online Registers, WALGA circulated an Info Page and Discussion paper, seeking feedback on draft regulations. Responses are requested by 19 March and will inform a State Council Agenda item to go through the April round of Zone meetings.

Reconciliation at WALGA

WALGA has embedded the development and implementation of an Innovate level Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) as a strategic initiative in the 2025-2029 Strategic Plan.

This new RAP is intended to complement the broader work already undertaken by the organisation to support the efforts of Local Governments to progress reconciliation at the local level, including the Aboriginal Engagement Forum, training and education opportunities, Employee Relations support and facilitating links to reconciliation organisations.

President Cr Karen Chappel AM JP
WALGA President

President's Contacts

The President's contacts since 6 December 2024 and scheduled before 5 March 2025 are as follows:

State and Commonwealth Government Relations

- State Road Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee Meeting
- Hon John Carey MLA, Minister for Planning; Lands; Housing; Homelessness
- Hon Hannah Beazley MLA, Minister for Local Government; Youth

Zone Meetings

- Avon Midland Country Zone Meeting
- North Metro Zone Meeting
- Pilbara Country Zone Meeting
- Central Metropolitan Zone Meeting
- Kimberley Zone Meeting
- Northern Country Zone Meeting

Local Government Relations

- State Council Meetings
 - Information Forum
 - Local Government House Trust
 - Finance and Services Committee
- ALGA
 - Board Meeting & Strategic Planning Retreat
- LGIS
 - JLT Management Committee
 - Risk and Audit Committee
- - City of Vincent - Mayor Alison Xamon & CEO David MacLennan
 - Growth Areas Perth and Peel (GAPP) Meeting
 - Lord Mayors Distress Relief Fund AGM & Board Meeting

Conferences, Workshops, Public Relations

- WALGA Wrap 2024
- WALGA Urban Forest Conference
- Certificate 3 in Local Government Virtual Graduation
- Seven West Media Leadership Matters Breakfast with Libby Mettam
- Seven West Media Leadership Matters Breakfast with Premier Hon Roger Cook MLA

1.2 Reports from Representatives

WALGA –

- Cr Karen Chappel, Manager Governance and Procurement, WALGA
- Nick Sloan, CEO
- Jaxon Ashley, Road Safety Advisor, WALGA
- Sam McLeod, Manager Commercial Services, WALGA

5.2.1 Reports from Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries Report

Report will be provided once available.

5.3 Reports from Kimberley Country Zone

The following table provides a summary of Matters for Decision that will be considered at the WALGA State Meeting on 5 March 2025, and provides an update on Matters for Noting. For full details of items, including background material and discussions, please see separately attached WALGA State Council Agenda (Attachment 2).

5.3.1 Item/Matters for Decision

| Item / Matters for Decision As per State Council Agenda | WALGA Recommendations |
|---|---|
| 8.1 Climate Change Advocacy Position | <p>That State Council replace the 2018 Climate Change Policy Statement Advocacy Position 4.1 Climate Change with the following advocacy position:</p> <p><i>Climate Change significantly impacts Local Governments' operations and responsibilities, as well as their communities.</i></p> <p><i>Local Government is committed to taking climate action, including by:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reducing operational emissions in line with Australian and Western Australian Government 2050 net zero targets • providing leadership and support to their communities to reduce carbon emissions • embedding climate risk management into their operations to enhance adaptation and build community resilience to the impacts of climate change • working with other levels of Government and key stakeholders to ensure policy and on-ground programs are effective, equitable and targeted. <p><i>WALGA calls on the Australian and Western Australian Governments to provide the necessary climate leadership, coordination, and action to:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure Australia and Western Australia meet net zero emissions targets through: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. enacting legislation which sets clear, measurable targets for emission reduction b. developing and funding coordinated emissions reduction policies, guidance and programs c. acknowledging the role of Local Government as an implementation partner in emissions reduction policy and planning. 2. Empower Local Government to accelerate adaptation and build resilience in their communities through: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. ensuring the roles and responsibilities set out under the Council of Australian Governments Roles and Responsibilities for Climate Change Adaptation in Australia are implemented and adequately resourced b. providing up to date, consistent and accessible data to enable evidence-based decision making and investment |

| Item / Matters for Decision As per State Council Agenda | WALGA Recommendations |
|---|---|
| | <p>c. developing national guidance on adaptation responses to facilitate coordinated and equitable planning and implementation.</p> <p>3. Provide funding and resources and support to Local Government to enable on-ground implementation, including for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. the implementation of the Regional Climate Alliance Program across Western Australia b. the establishment and maintenance of corporate emission inventories and action plans c. providing transformational investment to facilitate emission reduction activities d. undertaking climate risk assessments and the development of adaptation action plans e. a dedicated adaptation fund to address localised climate risks and build climate resilience. <p>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WALGA's current climate change Policy Statement and Advocacy Position were endorsed by State Council in 2018. There have been significant legislative and policy changes at both the Australian and State Government level since that time. The impacts of climate change are also being increasingly felt across Western Australia, putting Local Government in a challenging position with limited resources and support to mitigate emissions and adapt. Feedback from the sector through climate surveys, undertaken every two years, and targeted consultation confirms that significant resourcing and funding gaps exist for Local Government to effectively respond to climate change. The updated Advocacy Position focuses on the urgency and scale of climate impacts and calls for a comprehensive framework, and action, to enable Local Government to manage the impacts of climate change and build resilient communities. The Environment Policy Team endorsed the Advocacy Position at their 11 December 2024 meeting. <p>ATTACHMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Change Legislative and Policy Context <p>POLICY IMPLICATIONS</p> <p>The revised advocacy position is intended to be an overarching sector position on climate change. Other advocacy positions, including Urban Forest (4.5), Renewable Energy (6.16, 6.17, 6.18), Emergency Management (8.1, 8.2, 8.11) and Coastal Planning (6.8) provide a sector position on specific climate related matters.</p> <p>The existing Policy Statement and Advocacy Position is:</p> <p>4.1 Climate Change</p> <p><i>Local Government acknowledges:</i></p> |

| Item / Matters for Decision As per State Council Agenda | WALGA Recommendations |
|---|--|
| | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The science is clear: climate change is occurring and greenhouse gas emissions from human activities are the dominant cause. 2. Climate change threatens human societies and the Earth's ecosystems. 3. Urgent action is required to reduce emissions, and to adapt to the impacts from climate change that are now unavoidable. 4. A failure to adequately address this climate change emergency places an unacceptable burden on future generations. <p><i>Local Government is committed to addressing climate change. Local Government is calling for:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strong climate change action, leadership and coordination at all levels of government. 2. Effective and adequately funded Commonwealth and State Government climate change policies and programs. <p>It is proposed that the current advocacy positions be replaced with:</p> <p>Climate Change</p> <p><i>Climate Change significantly impacts Local Governments' operations and responsibilities, as well as their communities.</i></p> <p><i>Local Government is committed to taking climate action, including by:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reducing operational emissions in line with Australian and Western Australian Government 2050 net zero targets • providing leadership and support to their communities to reduce carbon emissions • embedding climate risk management into their operations to enhance adaptation and build community resilience to the impacts of climate change • working with other levels of Government and key stakeholders to ensure policy and on-ground programs are effective, equitable and targeted. <p><i>WALGA calls on the Australian and Western Australian Governments to provide the necessary climate leadership, coordination, and action to:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Ensure Australia and Western Australia meet net zero emissions targets through:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <i>enacting legislation which sets clear, measurable targets for emission reduction</i> b. <i>developing and funding coordinated emissions reduction policies, guidance and programs</i> c. <i>acknowledging the role of Local Government as an implementation partner in emissions reduction policy and planning.</i> 2. <i>Empower Local Government to accelerate adaptation and build resilience in their communities through:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <i>ensuring the roles and responsibilities set out under the Council of Australian Governments Roles and Responsibilities for Climate Change Adaptation in Australia are implemented and adequately resourced</i> b. <i>providing up to date, consistent and accessible data to enable evidence-based decision making and investment</i> |

| Item / Matters for Decision As per State Council Agenda | WALGA Recommendations |
|--|--|
| | <p>c. <i>developing national guidance on adaptation responses to facilitate coordinated and equitable planning and implementation.</i></p> <p>3. <i>Provide funding and resources and support to Local Government to enable on-ground implementation, including for:</i></p> <p>a. <i>the implementation of the Regional Climate Alliance Program across Western Australia</i></p> <p>b. <i>the establishment and maintenance of corporate emission inventories and action plans</i></p> <p>c. <i>providing transformational investment to facilitate emission reduction activities</i></p> <p>d. <i>undertaking climate risk assessments and the development of adaptation action plans</i></p> <p>e. <i>a dedicated adaptation fund to address localised climate risks and build climate resilience.</i></p> |
| <p>8.2 Waste Management Legislation Advocacy Position</p> | <p>That State Council replace the Waste Management Legislation Policy Statement and Advocacy Position 7.1 Waste Management Legislation with the following advocacy position:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Local Government supports Australian and State Government waste management legislation which: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. includes requirements for national and state waste strategies which support Local Governments to implement the strategies and achieve targets b. focuses on coordinated action and clear roles and responsibilities c. establishes a lead agency for waste management d. establishes and maintains a regulated product stewardship framework for all products entering the Australian market e. includes provisions to optimise market development and participation in waste processing. 2. Local Government calls for the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007 to be amended to include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Waste education in the definition of Waste Services b. Circular Economy principles. <p>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WALGA's current Waste Management Legislation Policy Statement and Advocacy Position were adopted in 2004. • The Policy Statement outlines Local Government's position on waste management legislation in Western Australia and sets out the key objectives waste management legislation should achieve. • WALGA used the Waste Management Policy Statement to inform advocacy on the development, and reviews, of the <i>Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007</i> (WARR Act). • The current Advocacy Position, and many of the elements in the policy statement, are no longer relevant as they have been achieved. |

| Item / Matters for Decision As per State Council Agenda | WALGA Recommendations |
|---|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The revised Advocacy Position focuses on both Australian and State Government legislation and reflects the shift in focus from traditional waste management towards a circular economy approach. The Municipal Waste Advisory Council endorsed the new Advocacy Position at its meeting on 11 December 2024. <p>POLICY IMPLICATIONS</p> <p>The existing Policy Statement and Advocacy Position is:</p> <p><i>Local Government supports waste management legislation that references the principles of Sustainability and the Waste Hierarchy.</i></p> <p><i>To be effective, waste management legislation should include the following primary objectives:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Protection of human health and the natural environment; 2. Minimise resource consumption; 3. Minimise waste; and 4. Effect the transition to a waste-free society. <p>It is proposed that the current advocacy positions be replaced with:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Local Government supports Australian and State Government Waste Management Legislation which: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. includes requirements for national and state waste strategies which support Local Governments to implement the strategies and achieve targets b. focuses on coordinated action and clear roles and responsibilities c. establishes a lead agency for waste management d. establishes and maintains a regulated product stewardship framework for all products entering the Australian market e. includes provisions to optimise market development and participation in waste processing. 2. Local Government calls for the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007 to be amended to include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Waste education in the definition of Waste Services b. Circular economy principles. |

4.3.2 Policy Team and Committee Reports and Matters for Noting

| Item / Matters for Noting / Information | WALGA Recommendations |
|--|---|
| 9.1 Infrastructure Policy Team Report | <p>That State Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note the report from the Infrastructure Policy Team for the 5 March 2025 meeting. 2. Determine to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Delete Advocacy Position 5.2.8 (Towards Zero Road Safety Strategy 2008 – 2020). b. Amend the title of Advocacy Position 5.2.7 from Road Safety Strategy (Imagine Zero) to Driving Change Road Safety Strategy 2020-2030. c. Delete the fourth dot point in Advocacy Position 5.2.7 “...the retention of WA’s Default Open Speed Limit at 110 km per hour and opposes the proposed reduction to 100 km per hour...” <p>MATTERS FOR STATE COUNCIL DECISION</p> <p>WALGA’s advocacy positions are reviewed and updated to ensure that they remain contemporary. The Towards Zero Road Safety Strategy 2008 – 2020 was superseded with “Driving Change, Road Safety Strategy for Western Australia 2020 – 2030”. Advocacy Position 5.2.7 refers to this, the current strategy.</p> <p>Advocacy Position 5.2.7 was endorsed by State Council during the consultation phase of the current road safety strategy. At that time the name of the strategy had not been determined. The proposed title change reflects the final name of the strategy.</p> <p>In May 2023 WALGA’s State Council adopted advocacy position 5.2.3 Speed Management Reform which provides a set of principles for guiding WALGA’s advocacy on the many and varied aspects of the complex topic of travel speeds in the context of the road networks managed by the 139 Local Governments in WA. It is proposed that this May 2023 advocacy position replaces the previous position in scope, currency and utility.</p> <p>The previous position was established on the basis of consultation and feedback (by a consultant on behalf of the WA Government) from some Local Governments in the early 2000s. Both the consultation question and the position are narrow and specific in scope.</p> <p>MATTER FOR STATE COUNCIL NOTING</p> <p>The Policy Team progressed actions and advocacy in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional telecommunications service levels, including impact of closure of the 3G network. • Development of contemporary advocacy positions relating to active transport. |
| | |

| Item / Matters for Noting / Information | WALGA Recommendations |
|--|--|
| 9.2 People and Place Policy Team Report | <p>That State Council note the People and Place Policy Team meeting report for the 5 March 2025 meeting.</p> <p>The People and Place Policy Team have not had a meeting since the last State Council meeting in December 2024.</p> |
| 9.3 Governance Policy Team Report | <p>That State Council note the Governance Policy Team meeting report for the 5 March 2025 meeting.</p> <p>The Governance Policy Team have not had a meeting since the last State Council meeting in December 2024.</p> <p>The next meeting is scheduled for March.</p> |
| 9.4 Environment Policy Team Report | <p>That State Council note the Environment Policy Team meeting report to the 5 March 2025 meeting</p> <p>MATTERS FOR STATE COUNCIL DECISION</p> <p>The Environment Policy Team agreed to recommend that State Council replace WALGA's existing Advocacy Position 4.1 Climate Change (see item 8.1).</p> <p>MATTERS FOR STATE COUNCIL NOTING</p> <p>Item 10.5: Polyphagous shot-hole borer Update</p> <p>The Policy Team discussed the following matters referred by Zones:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whale carcass management: Goldfields Esperance Country Zone requests that WALGA advocate for a government policy change to allow towing of whale carcasses before they wash ashore. WALGA notes the feedback and will investigate if there is further action on the issue. • Service Stations / Sensitive Land uses: South Metropolitan Zone requests that WALGA supports the review of the EPA and advocates for the review of the GS3. WALGA will raise the need for a review of this Guideline through its representation on the EPA Stakeholder Reference Group, then consider further advocacy on this matter. • State Planning Policy 3.6 - Infrastructure Contributions (Community Infrastructure Cap): North Metropolitan Zone recommends that WALGA advocate to the State Government for indexation of the community infrastructure cap defined in the State Planning Policy. WALGA made a submission strongly opposing the introduction of a contribution cap. WALGA is also working with the Growth Alliance Perth and Peel Local Governments to develop a set of advocacy positions in relation to the development contribution plan arrangements. <p>PORTFOLIO UPDATES</p> |

| Item / Matters for Noting / Information | WALGA Recommendations |
|--|--|
| | <p>WALGA staff provided the Policy Team with updates on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polyphagous shot-hole borer • Review of the DAP advocacy position • Avian Influenza (H5 Clade 2.3.4.4b) • National Water Agreement. <p>The Policy Team also noted that the development of an updated Water Advocacy Position is underway.</p> |
| <p>9.5 Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) Report</p> | <p>That State Council note the Municipal Waste Advisory Council report to the 5 March 2025 meeting.</p> <p>MATTERS FOR STATE COUNCIL DECISION</p> <p>MWAC agreed to replace the Waste Management Legislation Policy Statement and Advocacy Position 7.1 Waste Management Legislation (see item 8.2).</p> <p>MATTERS FOR STATE COUNCIL NOTING</p> <p>MWAC considered the following matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Circular Economy Advocacy Position: WALGA's advocacy in relation to circular economy has identified that action is required from all levels of Government. The development of an advocacy position on Circular Economy is far broader than the waste management considerations. Comprehensive consultation on the advocacy position is planned for 2025. • E-Cigarette Collection Study: Following the successful completion of the Collection Study, MWAC discussed advocacy options to ensure the community access to safe disposal/recycling avenues for e-cigarettes, with a focus on minimising risks to waste management collection and processing infrastructure. • Waste Processing Contingency Planning: WALGA has consistently advocated for effective contingency planning for waste management, most recently as part of the review of the State Waste Strategy. Several recent issues have highlighted the challenges facing the sector and the limited options for processing of some materials. MWAC discussed governance models and contingency planning options for Western Australia. <p>UPDATES</p> <p>MWAC noted the following updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy Statement Review Update • Better Practice Document Review Update • Review of DWER Waste Education • Review of Recycling and Waste Reduction Act • Review of Local Government Waste Reporting Requirements • Queensland Fruit Fly (Qfly) Outbreak • MWAC 30 Year Anniversary. |

| Item / Matters for Noting / Information | WALGA Recommendations |
|---|---|
| 10.1 2025 Federal Election | <p>That State Council note the update on the 2025 Federal Election.</p> <p>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Federal election is due to be held on or before 17 May. Recent speculation suggests that a date in mid-April is likely. The Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) will run a Federal Election Campaign and has prepared a campaign website and assets that Local Governments can use to promote and support the campaign issues. To complement ALGA's advocacy, WALGA has prepared a policy platform highlighting priority issues for WA Local Governments. The document will form the basis of WALGA's advocacy leading into the Federal election and has been distributed to WA Members of Parliament and candidates. <p>ATTACHMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WALGA 2025 Federal Election Priorities |
| 10.2 2025 State Election | <p>That State Council note the update on the 2025 State Election campaign.</p> <p>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WALGA's State Election campaign has been running since November 2024, and aims to secure commitments from the major parties to the priority areas identified in <i>The West at its Best</i> policy platform. Since the beginning of the year, parties have been announcing a raft of commitments for the next term. WALGA has been successful in securing commitments to a range of initiatives that are aligned with our election priorities. |
| 10.3 Large Scale Renewable Energy Update | <p>That State Council note the update on WALGA's renewable energy policy and advocacy activities.</p> <p>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Western Australia's energy industry is transforming to achieve the goal of net zero emissions by 2050. Western Australia does not have a plan or framework that provides a consistent approach to how proponents of major energy projects consult with local communities and how they can share in the benefits. State Council adopted a suite of renewable energy related advocacy positions in September 2024. WALGA has been progressing a number of initiatives to support Local Governments since State Council endorsed three energy transition advocacy positions last year. In correspondence to WALGA, the Minister for Energy; Environment; Climate Action has acknowledged Local Governments' concerns and reinforced the role of Powering WA to engage with the sector to better understand the opportunities and challenges faced by their communities. |

| Item / Matters for Noting / Information | WALGA Recommendations |
|---|--|
| | <p>ATTACHMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister Whitby - Energy Transition Advocacy Letter <p>POLICY IMPLICATIONS</p> <p>This item relates to the following WALGA advocacy positions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6.16 Energy Transition Engagement and Community Benefit Framework 6.17 Renewable Energy Facilities 6.18 Priority Agriculture |
| <p>10.4 2024 CoastWA Local Government Survey</p> | <p>That State Council note the update on the 2024 CoastWA Local Government Survey.</p> <p>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An online survey of coastal and estuarine Local Governments was undertaken in October 2024. • The purpose of the survey was to inform input into the development of CoastWA Phase 2 and the review of <i>State Planning Policy 2.6: Coastal</i> planning and guide the activities and priorities of the CoastWA Local Government Facilitator for the next two years. • The survey was sent via email to all 52 coastal and estuarine Local Governments. • Survey results indicated that Local Governments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ are increasingly having to act and respond to coastal hazards. ○ are heavily reliant on grant funding to implement coastal adaptation projects. ○ foresee needing to increase their spending on coastal adaptation over the next five years. ○ see the greatest barrier to implementation is a lack of budget and this has increased since the 2021 CoastWA Survey. ○ had largely not commenced planning for managed retreat (if identified in their CHRMAP) and that appropriate funding, legislative support and resourcing would be required to give them the certainty to do so. ○ saw value in the State Government implementing projects such as a state-wide community education campaign, coastal data collection and state-wide coastal hazard mapping. <p>ATTACHMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2024 CoastWA Local Government Survey – Preliminary Outcomes Report <p>POLICY IMPLICATIONS</p> <p>The outcomes of this survey support WALGA advocacy policy position 6.8 Coastal Planning, which calls for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Equitable legislative, regulatory and policy changes that preserve public coastal access for current and future generations. 2. The provision of sustainable and adequate long-term funding for Local Governments to manage the impacts of coastal erosion and inundation. |

| Item / Matters for Noting / Information | WALGA Recommendations |
|--|--|
| 10.5 Polyphagous Shot-hole Borer Update | <p>That State Council note the update on Polyphagous shot-hole borer response and WALGA advocacy.</p> <p>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In March 2024, State Council considered the Polyphagous shot-hole borer (PSHB) biosecurity response as an emerging issue, noting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The significant threat PSHB presents to growth and retention of urban forests. WALGA and Local Government engagement in the PSHB response. The importance of shared surveillance by government, industry and community to assist with eradication efforts. The need for funding to replace trees lost due to PSHB and ameliorate the long-term urban canopy impact. Over the past year, WALGA and Local Governments have escalated PSHB advocacy and political engagement, amid concerns that insufficient resources and State Government process issues will fail to eradicate the borer. Advocacy priorities have included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognition of the impact of PSHB on the urban canopy, and funding for replacement of trees lost to PSHB infestation. Increased resourcing of the eradication response, including funding for Local Government in recognition of the sector's significant (>\$2 million) investment towards response operations to date. A more efficient and agile response. Research on innovative control strategies, biology and behaviour in WA's environment, and new approaches to improve surveillance efficiency. Advocacy wins have included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The State Government's investment of \$7.2 million in the WA Tree Recovery Program for PSHB. WA Agricultural Research Collaboration (WAARC) delivery of \$2 million for PSHB Research in late 2024. Despite some progress over the past year, further action is needed. WALGA is advocating for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More funding and resources to support the PSHB response, including for Local Government. Local Government to be represented on the national body overseeing the development of the new national PSHB Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan, which will supersede the existing plan by June 2025. Research and development to be embedded and funded as part of the PSHB Response Plan. Removal of restrictions on access to detailed data on the location of infested premises and positive trap detections to enable Local Governments to better target surveillance efforts and assist with early detection. An intensified public awareness campaign. WALGA is currently preparing a submission to the National Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests on key priorities for inclusion in the new PSHB Response Plan. <p>POLICY IMPLICATIONS</p> <p>This item is relevant to the 4.4 Post Border Biosecurity, 4.5 Urban Forest and 4.7 PSHB Advocacy Positions.</p> |

| Item / Matters for Noting / Information | WALGA Recommendations |
|--|--|
| 10.6 December 2024 Economic Briefing | <p>That State Council note the December 2024 Economic Briefing.</p> <p>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The latest WALGA Quarterly Economic Briefing was released in December 2024. The Australian economy grew just 0.8% in the year to September. Western Australia's economy is the standout performer nationally, with State Final Demand increasing 2.5% and employment up 4.5% in the last 12 months. The WA Treasury released the 2024–25 Government Mid-year Financial Projections Statement on 23 December 2024. Local Government costs increased 3.3% over the last 12 months, with employee costs a key driver. The next Economic Briefing will be released in March 2025. <p>ATTACHMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic Briefing |
| 10.7 Flying Minute: Submission on the Productivity Commission Inquiry – Opportunities in the Circular Economy | <p>That State Council note the Submission on the Productivity Commission Inquiry – Opportunities in the Circular Economy, as endorsed by State Council via Flying Minute.</p> <p>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Productivity Commission is inquiring into Australia's opportunities for a circular economy to improve materials productivity and efficiency in ways that benefit the economy and the environment. The Inquiry Terms of Reference were released on 23 August 2024 and a Call for Submissions Paper was released on 16 September 2024. The consultation closed on 1 November. WALGA requested, and received, an extension to 15 November 2024. WALGA's Submission identifies WA circular economy success stories, key circular economy opportunities, barriers for Local Government in Western Australia and roles for Government. The transition to a circular economy has the potential to reduce cost of living pressures, maximise the use of resources and reduce a range of environmental impacts associated with the manufacture, distribution and post-consumption management of products. For these benefits to be realised, action is needed from all levels of Government to change legislation and policies where required, put in place relevant incentives and lead by example. The draft Submission was endorsed by MWAC on 23 October 2024 and by State Council via Flying Minute on 13 November 2024. It was provided to the Productivity Commission on 15 November 2024. <p>ATTACHMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flying Minute Submission on the Productivity Commission Inquiry. <p>POLICY IMPLICATIONS</p> <p>WALGA's Submission aligns with WALGA Advocacy Positions:</p> |

| Item / Matters for Noting / Information | WALGA Recommendations |
|--|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7.1 Waste Management Legislation • 7.8 Waste Management Education • 7.10 Household Hazardous Waste • 7.12 Landfill Ban • 7.13 Recovered Materials Framework • 7.15 Product Stewardship |
| 11.1.1 Report on Key Activities, Advocacy Portfolio | <p>That State Council note the Key Activity Report from the Advocacy Portfolio to the March 2025 State Council meeting.</p> <p>Activities:</p> <p>Advocacy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WALGA's State Election Campaign secured key commitments aligned with its advocacy in <i>The West at its Best</i> policy. • Paid media generated 4.6m impressions across various platforms in WA. • The campaign microsite received 37,210 visits, driven by paid ads and direct traffic <p>Please see item 10.2 for more detail on the State Election Campaign and commitments made by major parties in line with WALGA's advocacy.</p> <p>Marketing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brand: The internal graphic design resource has enhanced material quality, production speed, and brand consistency, with over 50 documents published, including key reports, and rebranding of all WALGA e-newsletters to align with the corporate narrative. • Website: The WALGA website saw a 13% increase in active users and a 41% rise in direct traffic, likely driven by the Election Campaign, while newsletter subscriptions grew by 26%, from 673 to 846 over the last quarter. <p>Communications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Twelve LG Direct weekly newsletters distributed to over 2,000 Elected Members and senior staff • The November 2024 edition of the Western Councillor Magazine • Q4 Tailored Quarterly Report compiled and distributed to all Members • WALGA's 2025 Federal Election Priorities <p>Media</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WALGA has generated significant media activity throughout the reporting period with 664 mentions of WALGA and President Karen Chappel. This equates to seven mentions a day. • WALGA's response to Premier Cook's comments reached 5.6m, with the headline "Unbecoming of the Premier." • Press releases on Renewable Energy, Polyphagous Shot-Hole Borer, and Local Government Elections gained publicity. • WALGA has commented on 30+ sector issues, including Population Growth and Coastal Management. |

| Item / Matters for Noting / Information | WALGA Recommendations |
|---|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Media; LinkedIn, Facebook and Instagram • Paid Media: Programmatic display advertising, google search engine marketing, out of home media and campaign microsite. <p>Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WALGA Wrap • Urban Forest Conference |
| 11.1.2 Report on Key Activities, Infrastructure Portfolio | <p>That State Council note the Key Activity Report from the Infrastructure Portfolio for March 2025.</p> <p>Roads</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Government Transport and Roads Research and Innovation Program • Condition Assessment of Roads of Regional Significance • Road Rail Interface Agreements • Update of User Guides for calculating the cost of road wear for defined freight tasks • Operational Boundaries and Asset Responsibilities in Rural Regions <p>Funding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multi-Criteria Assessment (MCA) Model Revisions <p>Transport</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bus Stop Infrastructure • Active Transport and Micromobility-Discussion Paper <p>Asset Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road Assets and Expenditure (RAE) Report Update Project <p>Utilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Underground Power • Streetlighting <p>Road Safety</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RoadWise Councils • RoadWise Recognised |
| 11.1.3 Report on Key Activities, Member Services Portfolio | <p>That State Council note the Key Activity Report from the Member Services Portfolio to the March 2025 State Council meeting.</p> <p>Association and Corporate Governance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WALGA Strategic Plan 2025-2029 |

| Item / Matters for Noting / Information | WALGA Recommendations |
|---|---|
| | <p>Commercial</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preferred Supplier Program (PSP) Development • ARENA Future Fuels Grant Project <p>Employee Relations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New IR Legislation • Applications in the WA Industrial Relations Commission (WAIRC). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Application CICS 5, 8 and 9 of 2023 - Union demarcation dispute. ○ Application APPL 3 and 4 of 2023 - concerned award variations sort by the WASU to the Local Government Officers' (WA) Award 2021 (LGO Award) and the Municipal Employees Award (WA) 2021 (ME Award) ○ Application APPL 164 of 2024 - has been made by the WASU through s80BH of the <i>Industrial Relations Act 1979</i> (WA) (IR Act) to be named to the Local Government Industrial Award <p>Governance and Procurement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Government Legislative Reform – Local Government Amendment Bill 2024 was Assented to on 6 December 2024. The regulation to mandate Bands 1 and 2 to pay superannuation to Elected Members will take effect from 19 October 2025. <p>Training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Training Team validated the nationally recognised program, updating resources and assessments for compliance, overseen by the RTO Compliance team. • The February intake for Certificate III in Local Government is enrolling students for Feb 5 start. Virtual Graduation ceremony planned for 25 February for 6 graduates. • Eight workshops are confirmed across WA before April, with popular short courses in Residential Design Codes, Governance, and Employee Relations, plus plans to launch the Diploma of Local Government in April/May. |
| 11.1.4 Report on Key Activities, Policy Portfolio | <p>That State Council note the Key Activity Report from the Policy Portfolio to the March 2025 State Council meeting.</p> <p>Economics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renewable Energy • Economic Briefing <p>Environment and Waste</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Native Vegetation: WALGA is progressing with actions identified in the Native Vegetation Issues Paper considered by Zones in December 2024. • E-waste Transport Rebates: WALGA successful in securing State Government funding to assist regional and remote Local Governments in the cost of e-waste transportation for recycling. • Polyhagous Shot Hole Borer: WALGA has escalated PSHB advocacy and is preparing a submission to the National Consultative Committee on key priorities for the PSHB Response Plan. |

| Item / Matters for Noting / Information | WALGA Recommendations |
|---|--|
| | <p>Planning and Building</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WALGA 2025 Urban Forest Conference • Urban Greening Grants • Labor Election Commitment • Coastwest Grants: application opened in January. WALGA will host an information session for eligible Local Governments on 12 February in partnership with the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage and the Department of Transport. Grant applications close on 14 April. <p>Emergency Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disaster Ready Fund Round Three • Emergency WA App • Local Emergency Management Arrangements Improvement Program • Bushfire Risk Management Coordinators • State Emergency Management Committee • State Bushfire Advisory Committee • State Bushfire Advisory Committee • Election Commitments <p>Community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WALGA 2025 Aboriginal Engagement Forum • Public Health Act • Regional Primary Health Services • Access and Inclusion: MACWA and WALGA Forum • Child Safeguarding • Arts and Culture Infrastructure Grants |

1.4 Status Report on State Council Resolutions

| Meeting | Resolution | Comment | Completion Date | Officer Responsible |
|--|--|--|-----------------|---|
| 6 December Item 8.1 2024 Annual General Meeting Resolutions | That: 1. the item 7.1 Amendments to <i>Cat Act 2011</i> - Allow Local Governments to Make Local Laws to Contain Cats to the Owner's Property be endorsed. ... 3. the following resolutions from the 2024 WALGA Annual General Meeting be referred to the Governance Policy Team for further work to be undertaken: 7.2 Advocacy for Legislative Reforms to Counter Land-Banking 7.3 Advocacy for Expansion of Differential Rating to Include Long Term Unoccupied Commercial Buildings (Property Activation Levy). RESOLUTION 089.5/2024 | <p>Advocacy Positions Manual updated.</p> <p>Correspondence has been sent to the minister for Local Government requesting the CAT Act be reviewed to provide Local Governments with the ability to contain cats on an owner's property.</p> <p>In addition, work has commenced on developing a template Cat Local Law to assist Local Government to make local laws to the extent of the current local law-making powers.</p> <p>Work on items 7.2 and 7.3 is being carried out and an update will be provided for the next meeting.</p> | | Tony Brown Executive Director Member Services |
| 6 December Item 8.1 2024 Annual General Meeting Resolutions | That: 2. the following resolutions from the 2024 WALGA Annual General Meeting be referred to the Environment Policy Team for further work to be undertaken: 7.2 Advocacy for Legislative Reforms to Counter Land-Banking 7.4 Action on Asbestos for Western Australia 7.6 Advocacy for Accessibility. 4. the following resolution from the 2024 WALGA Annual General Meeting be referred to the People and Place Policy Team for further work to be undertaken: | Will be considered at upcoming meetings of the Environment Policy Team. | December 2024 | Nicole Matthews Executive Manager Policy |

| | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|
| | <p>7.5 Addressing the Impracticality of Local Governments Funding Department of Communities and GROH Houses.</p> <p>RESOLUTION 089.5/2024</p> | | | |
| <p>6 December Item 8.2 Local Government Elections Advocacy Positions</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> That item 1 be deferred, and the Secretariat further investigate implications of compulsory and voluntary participation in Local Government elections and report back to State Council. <p>RESOLUTION 090.5/2024</p> <p>That WALGA adopt the following Elections Advocacy Positions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p><i>The Local Government sector supports:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Councillors serve four-year terms with elections every two years and half of the Council positions spilled at each election. First-Past-The-Post (FPTP) voting system for Local Government elections. If Optional Preferential Voting (OPV) remains as the primary method of voting, the sector supports the removal of the 'proportional' part of the voting method for general elections. First-Past-The-Post (FPTP) voting system for internal Council elections. Councils holding elections by means of in-person, postal and/or electronic voting. Current legislative provisions of Mayor/President of Class 1 and Class 2 Local Governments being directly elected by the community and Class 3 and | <p>Advocacy Positions Manual updated.</p> <p>Preparation of a report on implications of compulsory and voluntary participation in Local Government elections in progress.</p> <p>Letter written to Minister for Local Government advising on the five advocacy positions endorsed.</p> | | <p>Tony Brown Executive Director Member Services</p> |

| | | | | |
|---|--|--|--------------|--|
| | Class 4 Local Governments determining whether its Mayor or President is elected by the Council or by the community. | | | |
| | RESOLUTION 091.5/2024 | | | |
| 6 December Item 8.3 Aboriginal Communities Advocacy Positions | That State Council: 1. Replace Advocacy Position 3.1.2 Reconciliation with the following: • WALGA: 1. Acknowledges the continuing connection of Aboriginal people to Country, culture and community and embraces the vast Aboriginal cultural diversity throughout Western Australia. 2. Supports the efforts of Local Governments to progress reconciliation at the local level. 2. Remove Advocacy Position 3.1.3 Constitutional Recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People. 3. Replace Advocacy Position 3.1.4 <i>Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021</i> and South West Native Title Settlement with the following: • 3.1.4 Aboriginal Heritage Protection 1. WALGA supports the recognition, protection, conservation and preservation of Aboriginal cultural heritage and recognises the fundamental importance | Advocacy Positions Manual updated. | January 2025 | Nicole Matthews Executive Manager Policy |

| | | | | |
|--|---|---|---------------------|--|
| | <p>of Aboriginal cultural heritage to Aboriginal people and the State.</p> <p>2. The State Government must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Ensure that legislative requirements balance the need to protect Aboriginal heritage with the need for Local Government to undertake activities in a timely and affordable manner. b. Provide adequate resourcing to ensure all parties have the capacity, capability and resources to discharge their statutory obligations. c. Provide support and guidance to Local Governments to ensure that they have the resources, capacity and capability to effectively and efficiently deliver essential services to community while protecting Aboriginal heritage. <p>RESOLUTION 092.5/2024</p> | | | |
| <p>6 December</p> <p>Item 8.4</p> <p>Family and Domestic Violence Advocacy Position</p> | <p>That State Council replace Advocacy Position 3.10.1 Family and Domestic Violence with the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3.10.1 Family and Domestic Violence <p>1. Family and domestic violence is unacceptable and has devastating and long-term impacts on individuals, families and communities.</p> | <p>Advocacy Positions Manual updated.</p> | <p>January 2025</p> | <p>Nicole Matthews</p> <p>Executive Manager Policy</p> |

| | | | | |
|---|--|---|---------------------|--|
| | <p>2. Preventing family and domestic violence requires commitment from all levels of government, different sectors, and members of the community.</p> <p>3. WALGA calls on the State and Australian governments to provide adequate funding and support for family and domestic violence programs and services, in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Funding for collaborative and connected family and domestic violence programs and services that are place-based and people-centred; and b. Better integration of family and domestic violence initiatives, including capacity building across all tiers of government and community services. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RESOLUTION 093.5/2024 | | | |
| <p>6 December</p> <p>Item 8.5</p> <p>Container Deposit System Policy Statement and Advocacy Position</p> | <p>That State Council replace the existing Container Deposit Systems Policy Statement and Advocacy Position 7.6 Container Deposit Systems with the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7.6 Container Deposit Systems <p>1. Local Government supports the WA Containers for Change Scheme and acknowledges its contribution to reducing litter, increasing material recovery and providing employment opportunities across the state.</p> <p>2. To maximise the benefits of the WA Scheme, Local Government calls on the State Government to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Maintain a resource recovery target of 85% for eligible containers and a focus on litter reduction. | <p>Advocacy Positions Manual updated.</p> | <p>January 2025</p> | <p>Nicole Matthews</p> <p>Executive Manager Policy</p> |

| | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Expand the range of containers accepted in the Scheme, by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. <u>2026</u>: to include wine bottles, spirit bottles and larger sizes of currently eligible containers, ii. 2030: to include plain milk and milk alternative containers and composite container types, and iii. 2035: other container types. a. Ensure national alignment of the materials covered by the Scheme and consistent messaging. b. Maintain a State-based and managed Scheme. c. Review the deposit amount to appropriately incentivise community engagement. d. Increase the number of refund and donation points to ensure community access, including in public places and at events. e. Ensure refund points are financially sustainable. f. Leverage the refund point collection network to provide drop off points for other materials covered by effective product stewardship schemes. <p>RESOLUTION 094.5/2024</p> | | | |
| 6 December Item 8.6 Bus Stop Infrastructure Agreement | <p>That State Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provides in principle support for the proposed Bus Stop Infrastructure Partnership Agreement between WALGA and the Public Transport Authority 2024/25 to 2028/29. 2. Request the WALGA Secretariat negotiate with the Public Transport Authority seeking: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Deletion of the word “typically” from Clauses 6.2, 8.1 (ii) and 8.6 (i) b. Indexation of funding provided under the Bus Shelter Subsidy Program (BSSP) and Bus Shelter Maintenance | <p>Negotiations with the PTA to amend the draft Agreement to incorporate the matters identified are on-going.</p> | | <p>Ian Duncan Executive Manager Infrastructure</p> |

| | | | | |
|--|---|---|---------------|--|
| | <p>Assistance Scheme (BSMAS) during or at the end of the Agreement</p> <p>3. Authorise the WALGA President to sign the Bus Stop Infrastructure Partnership Agreement, on the completion of best endeavours to negotiate with the Public Transport Authority.</p> <p>4. Refer the request for WALGA develop an advocacy position that Commonwealth Disability Standards have a provision for minimum standards of public transport shelter to the Infrastructure Policy Team.</p> <p>RESOLUTION 095.5/2024</p> | | | |
| <p>6 December</p> <p>Item 8.7</p> <p>2025 Salaries and Allowances Tribunal Remuneration Inquiry for Local Government Chief Executive Officers and Elected Members</p> | <p>That State Council endorse the submission to the 2025 Salaries and Allowances Tribunal Remuneration Inquiry for Local Government Chief Executive Officers and Elected Members.</p> <p>RESOLUTION 096.5/2024</p> | <p>Submission lodged with the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal on 16 December 2024.</p> <p>Advocacy Positions Manual updated.</p> | January 2025 | <p>Tony Brown</p> <p>Executive Director</p> <p>Member Services</p> |
| <p>6 December</p> <p>Item 8.8</p> <p>Submission on the Draft State Hazard Plan - Fire</p> | <p>That State Council endorse the Submission on the State Hazard Plan – Fire with wording amendments to Recommendations 2 and 3 as follows:</p> <p>2. <i>Provide a single, streamlined process for Local Governments to recoup costs for bushfire incidents and adequate funding for all aspects of bushfire emergency management responsibilities the State has delegated to Local</i></p> | <p>WALGA submission lodged on 9 December 2024.</p> | December 2024 | <p>Nicole Matthews</p> <p>Executive</p> <p>Manager Policy</p> |

| | | | | |
|--|--|---|----------------------|--|
| | <p><i>Governments across, prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery.</i></p> <p><i>3. Provide additional resources, support, and educational materials for Local Governments to engage their communities in bushfire risk reduction, preparedness, and resilience building through the Mitigation Activity Fund Grant Program and/or other mechanisms.</i></p> <p>RESOLUTION 097.5/2024</p> | | | |
| <p>6 December Item 8.9 WALGA Strategic Plan 2025-2029</p> | <p>That WALGA's Strategic Plan 2025-2029 be endorsed.</p> <p>RESOLUTION 098.5/2024</p> | <p>A copy of WALGA's Strategic Plan 2025-2029 has been distributed to all Local Government Members and is available to view on the WALGA website.</p> | <p>January 2025</p> | <p>Tony Brown Executive Director Member Services</p> |
| <p>6 December Item 8.10 Submission on the Final Report of the Independent Review of Commonwealth Disaster Funding (Colvin Review)</p> | <p>That State Council endorse the submission on the Final Report of the Independent Review of Commonwealth Disaster Funding (the Colvin Review).</p> <p>RESOLUTION 099.5/2024</p> | <p>WALGA submission lodged on 9 December 2024.</p> | <p>December 2024</p> | <p>Nicole Matthews Executive Manager Policy</p> |
| <p>6 December Item 8.11 LGIS Board Appointments – CONFIDENTIAL</p> | <p>That:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. President Christopher Antonio be appointed to the LGIS Board as Non-Metropolitan Elected Member; 2. Mr John Pearson be reappointed to the LGIS Board as Metropolitan Officer; and | <p>GIS notified of Board appointments.</p> | <p>December 2024</p> | <p>Tony Brown Executive Director Member Services</p> |

| | | | | |
|---|--|---|---------------|---|
| | <p>3. Mr Peter Forbes term as Independent Director and Chair of the LGIS Board be extended for an additional 12 months.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RESOLUTION 100.5/2024 | | | |
| 6 December 2024 Item 8.12 Appointment to State Council Policy Team | <p>That State Council appoint Cr Haeden Miles, the State Council representative from the East Metropolitan Zone to the People and Place Policy Team.</p> <p>RESOLUTION 101.5/2024</p> | Noted | December 2024 | Tony Brown Executive Director Member Services |
| 6 December 2024 Item 8.13 Finance and Services Committee Minutes – 20 November 2024 | <p>That State Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> endorse the Minutes of the Finance and Services Committee meeting held on 20 November 2024; and endorse the revised Budget 2024-25. <p>RESOLUTION 102.5/2024</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revised Budget: endorsed. Subscription Model Review: Engagement with Members most affected commenced. WALGA Sustainable Energy Project Phase Two: Further contract term being finalised. <p>Council Connect Transition: Transition to Preferred Panel Supplier program being implemented.</p> | December 2024 | Tony Brown Executive Director Member Services |
| 6 December 2024 Item 8.14 Local Government House Trust Board of Management Minutes –20 November 2024 | <p>That State Council note the Minutes of the Local Government House Trust Board of Management meeting held on 20 November 2024.</p> <p>RESOLUTION 103.5/2024</p> | Noted. | December 2024 | Tony Brown Executive Director Member Services |
| 6 December 2024 Item 8.15 | <p>That State Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> note the resolutions contained in the 13 November 2024 Selection Committee Minutes; and | Selection Committee items have been actioned. | December 2024 | Tony Brown |

| | | | | |
|--|--|--|---------------|---|
| Selection Committee Minutes – 13 November 2024 | 2. endorse the recommendations contained in the 13 November 2024 Selection Committee Minutes. RESOLUTION 104.5/2024 | | | Executive Director Member Services |
| 6 December 2024 Item 8.16 LGIS Board Minutes – 23 August and 25 October 2024 – CONFIDENTIAL | That State Council note the Minutes of the LGIS Board meetings held on 23 August 2024 and 25 October 2024. RESOLUTION 105.5/2024 | Noted. | December 2024 | Tony Brown Executive Director Member Services |
| 6 December 2024 Item 9.3 Governance Policy Team Report | That State Council: 1. Note the report from the Governance Policy Team for the 6 December 2024 meeting. 2. Determine to: a. retain the following Advocacy Positions with amendment: i. Advocacy Position 2.8.1 Industry Award Coverage ii. Advocacy Position 2.8.3 Registration of WALGA as an Employer Organisation b. retire Advocacy Position 2.8.2 Local Government Long Service Leave Regulations. RESOLUTION 106.5/2024 | Advocacy Positions Manual updated. | January 2025 | Tony Brown Executive Director Member Services |
| 13 November 2024 Flying Minute Submission on the Productivity | That State Council endorse WALGA's Submission on the Productivity Commission Inquiry - Opportunities in the Circular Economy. RESOLUTION 247.FM/2024 | WALGA submission lodged on 15 November 2024. Included in March State Council Agenda as an item for noting (item 10.7) | November 2024 | Nicole Matthews Executive Manager Policy |

| | | | | |
|--|--|---|--------------|--|
| Commission Circular Economy Inquiry | | | | |
| 6 December 2023 Item 7.1 2023 Annual General Meeting Resolutions | <p>That the following resolutions from the 2023 WALGA Annual General Meeting be referred to the appropriate Policy Team for further work to be undertaken.</p> <p>5.4 Regional and Remote Housing <i>That WALGA advocates to the WA State and Commonwealth Governments to address the dire shortage of affordable key worker family housing options in regional and remote towns to encourage families to live and work in regional and remote towns. Social housing is addressed at both the State and Federal levels.</i></p> <p>RESOLUTION 501.5/2023</p> | WALGA's advocacy on the provision of Government funded housing programs focuses on the need for enabling infrastructure, adequate supply responsive to community, including increased funding in failing markets. This enables WALGA to provide a strategic position and advocate for statewide outcomes while retaining the flexibility for Local Governments to support and invest in programs. | January 2024 | Nicole Matthews Executive Manager Policy |
| 1 March 2023 Item 7.4 Submission on Draft Guideline Minimising Noise Impact from Outdoor Community Basketball Facilities | <p>That WALGA:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Note that the Environment Minister has withdrawn the Draft Guideline: Minimising noise impact from outdoor community basketball. Write to the Ministers for Environment, Local Government, Sport and Planning requesting the formation of a cross Government working group, including relevant representative bodies, to consider and develop solutions to balance urban density and infill, public recreation and noise management. <p>RESOLUTION 422.1/2023</p> | Letter sent to the Minister's office on 29 July 2024 with a follow up conducted. No response received. | January 2025 | Nicole Matthews Executive Manager Policy |

| | | | | |
|---|--|---|----------|--|
| 7 December 2022 Item 5.1 2022 Annual General Meeting Resolutions | <p>The following resolutions from the 2022 WALGA Annual General Meeting be referred to the relevant Policy Team for further work to be undertaken:</p> <p>3.1 Road Traffic Issues <i>That WALGA advocate on behalf of the Local Government sector to the State Government and in particular, Main Roads, to increase importance and weight given to local knowledge and input regarding road traffic issues including requests for speed reduction, intersection treatments and overall preventative and traffic safety measures.</i></p> <p>RESOLUTION 394.8/2022</p> | <p>The Infrastructure Policy Team resolved: <i>That efforts to increase the importance given to Local Government knowledge regarding traffic issues be deferred for consideration in mid-2023 after a clear Local Government advocacy position on speed management is developed and endorsed.</i></p> <p>This matter is central to the new Speed Management Policy adopted by State Council in May 2023. Implementation strategy being considered.</p> | Complete | Ian Duncan Executive Manager Infrastructure |
| 7 December 2022 Item 5.1 2022 Annual General Meeting Resolutions | <p>The following resolutions from the 2022 WALGA Annual General Meeting be referred to the relevant Policy Team for further work to be undertaken:</p> <p>3.2 Car Parking and Traffic Congestion Around Schools <i>That WALGA engages with the State Government on behalf of Local Government to review issues associated with car parking and traffic congestion around school sites including but not limited to:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. Reviewing car parking standards for schools;</i> <i>2. Ensuring sufficient land is set aside for the provision of parking on school sites;</i> <i>3. Reviewing the co-location of schools to avoid issues being exacerbated;</i> <i>4. Restricting school access from major roads;</i> | <p>The Infrastructure Policy Team resolved: <i>That WALGA uses its role at the Safe Active Travel to School Working Group to advocate for these outcomes and provide advice back to the Local Government sector.</i></p> | | Ian Duncan Executive Manager Infrastructure |

| | | | | |
|--|---|---|----------|--|
| | <p>5. <i>Developing plans to enable schools to manage school traffic;</i></p> <p>6. <i>Develop programs to educate drivers; and</i></p> <p>7. <i>Develop options and implement initiatives to encourage alternative modes of transport to school.</i></p> <p>RESOLUTION 394.8/2022</p> | | | |
| <p>7 December 2022 Item 5.1 2022 Annual General Meeting Resolutions</p> | <p>The following resolutions from the 2022 WALGA Annual General Meeting be referred to the relevant Policy Team for further work to be undertaken:</p> <p>3.3 Proposal for Regional Road Maintenance Contracts with Main Roads WA <i>That WALGA assist Local Governments and work with the Hon Minister Rita Saffioti to introduce a similar program that is currently in play in Queensland and introduce a sole invitee Program for Local Governments to engage in a Road Maintenance Performance Contract with Main Roads WA.</i></p> <p>RESOLUTION 394.8/2022</p> | <p>The Infrastructure Policy Team resolved: <i>That the opportunities and interest in contracting Local Governments to undertake maintenance and minor works on the State road network be explored in discussion with Main Roads WA.</i></p> | Complete | Ian Duncan Executive Manager Infrastructure |
| <p>1 December 2021 Item 5.3 2021 Annual General Meeting</p> | <p>That the following resolutions from the 2021 WALGA Annual General Meeting be endorsed for action:</p> <p>Cost of Regional Development <i>That WALGA makes urgent representation to the State Government to address the high cost of development in regional areas for both residential and industrial land, including the prohibitive cost of utilities headworks, which has led to market failure in many regional towns.</i></p> | <p>Advocacy Positions Manual updated.</p> <p>WALGA continues to advocate for policy changes and government investments to address the high cost of development in regional areas for both residential and industrial land in regional WA.</p> | Complete | Ian Duncan Executive Manager Infrastructure |

| | | | | |
|--|-----------------------|--|--|--|
| | RESOLUTION 294.7/2021 | <p>The 2025 State Election Priorities identifies measures required to address the high cost of development in regional areas.</p> <p>WA Labor has committed to a \$25 million Regional Housing Support Fund to provide grants to unlock and expedite housing across regional WA.</p> <p>WA Liberals has committed to a \$100 million regional housing infrastructure program and a \$300 million investment in enabling infrastructure such as sewerage, roads and water.</p> <p>WA Nationals have committed to a \$1 billion over 10 years Regional Headworks Fund.</p> | | |
|--|-----------------------|--|--|--|

1.5 COMPLETE ZONE STATUS REPORT

No outstanding items

| Link to Key Pillar/s and Strategies: | | Budget Implications | |
|--|--|--|-------------------|
| <div> <div>People</div> <div>Place</div> <div>Prosperity</div> <div>Performance</div> </div> | <div> <div>Advocate</div> <div>Partner</div> <div>Promote</div> </div> <div> <div>Facilitate</div> <div>Fund</div> <div>Monitor</div> </div> | Nil | |
| Resolution/s | | Action(s) | |
| <p>That the Kimberley Country Zone:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Notes the report from the WALGA President 2. Notes the State Council Agenda Items as circulated 3. Supports the recommendations in the Matters for Decision contained within the State Council Agenda 4. Acknowledges the Items for noting 5. Acknowledges the Status Report on State Council Resolutions | | Executive Officer to provide WALGA with the KRG financial assistance grants final report | |
| Moved: | Shire of Broome | Responsible: | Executive Officer |
| Seconded: | Shire of Derby West Kimberley | Due date: | As appropriate |
| Carried: | 4/0 | | |

5. Conclusion of Zone Matters: 9:32AM

6. Draft Operational Procedure 113: Operational Boundaries and Asset Maintenance Responsibilities: Rural Regions

Item for Discussion

Submitted by: Mark Bondietti, Policy Manager, Transport and Roads
Max Bushell, Senior Policy Advisor, Road Safety and Infrastructure

Attachment 3: Operational Procedure 113 Draft (attached separately)

Background

WALGA has received a draft copy of the MRWA *Operational Procedure 113: Operational Boundaries and Asset Maintenance Responsibilities, Rural Regions* (OP 113) for review and comment. The purpose of OP 113 is to provide principles and practical guidance for determining how the responsibility for maintaining the different parts of highways and main roads is to be allocated between Main Roads and Local Governments. As such, the document provides essential guidance for the limits of maintenance responsibilities for Local Governments and will be relied on to resolve disputes between the parties. It is therefore of high importance and careful scrutiny is encouraged.

OP 113 will effectively supersede the *Operational Responsibility for Public Roads in Western Australia, 2009* (OP 2009) which was the result of extensive negotiations between Main Roads WA, IPWEA and WALGA and covered both Metropolitan and Regional scenarios. This document was never formally adopted but has nevertheless guided decision making over the years.

In 2019, *Operational Procedure 112: Operational Boundaries and Asset Responsibilities, Metropolitan Region* was published by Main Roads after consultation with Metropolitan Regional Road Groups and WALGA. Operational Procedure 112 and 113 draw heavily on the content of the 2009 document and will effectively supersede it.

The document outlines the limits of responsibilities in the following situations:

- Highways in Built Up Areas
- Highways in Rural Areas
- Bridges, Pathways, and Drainage Structures
- Stormwater Infrastructure
- Lighting
- Public Transport Facilities
- Roadside Facilities
- Signs & Traffic Control Devices
- Fences
- Graffiti
- Vegetation Control in Built Up Areas
- Vegetation Control in Rural Areas.

Indicative drawings are also provided, indicating limits of responsibility.

Comment

The principles set out OP 2009 were broadly agreed by all parties at the time and WALGA has therefore reviewed OP 113 relative to OP 2009. Much of the text in OP 113 has been drawn directly from OP 2009 and the documents are in general alignment. However, WALGA has noted some discrepancies and concerns summarised below:

1. Introduction

Refers to additional works to be funded from the SRFLGA. Additional works are not defined, and any funding changes would be for SAC approval. WALGA recommends this principle be removed.

1.7 Maintenance Responsibility Guidelines

The draft OP 113 states that the “tangent point area” of a Local / State Road intersection will remain the responsibility of the LG. This principle was previously disputed and has not been tested. If the parties agree that Main Roads will maintain this area in accordance OP 113, then there is no necessity to include this statement.

Point (3) refers to funding for reseal works of the tangent area to be provided from the SRFLGA. Any changes to funding arrangements would be for SAC approval. For certain specified projects, funding could be allocated through Strategic Initiatives

2.1.4 & 2.2.5 Driveways

States that Main Roads is not responsible for the maintenance of private driveways. Main Roads is responsible for approvals and the private owner is responsible for maintenance. In built up areas Local Governments may be responsible to issue work permits. This clause needs to be expanded to confirm the role of Local Government.

2.5 Lighting

Add an additional section stating the costing arrangements as per OP 2009. In particular the principle that Main Roads will subsidise 50% of the installation, maintenance and operating cost when Local Governments install lighting on ordinary highways in built up areas.

2.6.2 Bus Passenger Facilities

Part (2) add “in accordance with the partnership agreement between WALGA and the PTA”

Figures 6,7,8,9,10,11,12 &13

The key to these figures states, “Main Roads Responsibility (resurfacing)”, resurfacing to be replaced with “maintenance”. According to the text and definitions, maintenance is defined as all works of any description required to keep the road serviceable, not just resurfacing.

Next Steps

Zones are requested to scrutinise OP 113 and provide feedback to WALGA in the following areas.

- Does current and desirable practice correspond to the principles outlined in the OP 113?
- Are there any areas of responsibility or principles not addressed in the OP 113?
- Do any of the proposed allocations of responsibility entail substantial budgetary impacts to Local Governments?
- Any additional concerns or comments.

Discussion at the Zone meeting is encouraged. Any written feedback should be provided by Friday, 28 February, to infrastructure@walga.asn.au.

This document and draft OP 113 have also been provided to all regional CEOs and Infrastructure Directors providing opportunity for feedback directly to WALGA.

Following the February 2025 round of Zone meetings, WALGA will collate all feedback and provide a consolidated submission back to Main Roads WA.

| Resolution/s | | Action(s) | |
|--|-------------------------------|---|------------------------|
| That the Kimberley Country Zone: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Notes Operational Procedure 113: Operational Boundaries and Asset Management Responsibilities, Rural Regions; 2. Notes that Local Governments may submit written feedback directly to WALGA for consideration; 3. Provide comments on Operational Procedure 113: Operational Boundaries and Asset Maintenance Responsibilities; | | Members to provide any written feedback to WALGA for consideration by 28 February 2025. | |
| Moved: | Shire of Broome | Responsible: | Kimberley Zone Members |
| Seconded: | Shire of Derby West Kimberley | Due date: | 28 February 2025 |
| Carried: | 4/0 | | |