

Message from the President

LGNSW President, Cr Keith Rhoades AFSM provides an update on local government issues.

Water Resource Planning Stakeholder Consultation

LGNSW is encouraging councils to participate in stakeholder consultation on the water resource plans required to implement the Murray-Darling Basin Plan.

Opportunity for Two Directly-Elected Mayors to Travel to UK in June

Australian Local Government Association is seeking expressions of interest (by Friday 28 April) from local mayors to attend a meeting with the UK mayors and senior officials (14-15 June).

Expressions of Interest - NSW Councils Night Time Economy Forum

Expressions of interest are sought from presenters for the inaugural NSW Councils Night Time Economy forum (Parramatta, 12 October 2017).

NSW Local Government General Manager Remuneration Report Now Available

Order your General Manager Remuneration Report now to review comparative data on NSW general managers' 'cost-to-council' remuneration.

Create NSW Launches New Arts and Cultural Development Program

Create NSW (formerly Arts NSW) has launched its 2017/18 Arts and Cultural Development Program and invites cultural organisations including NSW councils to apply for funding.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW

GPO BOX 7003 SYDNEY NSW 2001
L8, 28 MARGARET ST SYDNEY NSW 2000
T 02 9242 4000 F 02 9242 4111
LGNSW.ORG.AU LGNSW@LGNSW.ORG.AU
ABN 49 853 913 882

EMAIL SUBSCRIPTION

LGNSW.ORG.AU/SUBSCRIBE

Message from the President

Cr Keith Rhoades AFSM

Friday 21 April 2017



Welcome news to start this week came from the Department of Primary Industries – Water. LGNSW has advocated strongly for local government to be appropriately consulted on water resource planning, including having advisory panel representation. We are therefore pleased with the newly announced consultation approach by the Department on water resource plans required to implement the Murray-Darling Basin Plan. As a result of our advocacy, regional organisations of councils have been invited to join stakeholder advisory panels for each water resource planning region. In addition, individual councils have the opportunity to comment on related status and issues papers now on exhibition. [Read more.](#)

The NSW Government also announced a new \$8 million fund to improve the accessibility and health of waterways. The *Rescuing Our Waterways* component offers up to 50 per cent of the cost of dredging projects, which will be of particular interest to our coastal council members. [Read more.](#)

Although we also welcomed the NSW Government's announcement of \$4 million under the Public Library Infrastructure Grant program, we reassert the position expressed in our pre-Budget submission. We continue to call on the Government to make this program ongoing and increase funding to \$10 million - the level required to adequately address current needs. We also continue to pursue an increase in recurrent library funding.

During the week, LGNSW Chief Executive, Donna Rygate had a number of important meetings: with the Planning Institute of Australia (NSW) and separately with the Country Women's Association of NSW to discuss collaboration on advocacy issues; with Ausgrid to progress a sensible package of solutions to tree pruning concerns; with Infrastructure NSW about local government involvement in Restart NSW and other funding programs; with the Office of Local Government to talk about reform – and particularly press the case for access to TCorp loans by financially fit councils no longer facing amalgamation; with Micromex about community research; with the Deputy Premier's Chief of Staff about TCorp loans, joint organisations and a proposed skills initiative; with the Department of Education about access to recreational spaces; and with Transport for NSW for a catch up on some redevelopment proposals.

By way of an update on forced amalgamations and legal proceedings, the High Court of Australia list for Friday 12 May 2017 has been published with confirmation that Woollahra Council's special leave application will be heard.

There was fresh interest this week regarding Airbnb with the release of the Government's response to the Inquiry into the Adequacy of Regulation for Short-Term Holiday Letting. While it largely supported the recommendations, the Government indicated it would release an options paper next month to further consult on how services like Airbnb should be regulated. We know that this is an important issue for many members.

LGNSW is part of the NSW Councils' Night Time Economy Working Group which is hosting a forum in October and seeking expressions of interests (by 15 May) from council staff interested in presenting. [Read more.](#) The Australian Local Government Association is also seeking expressions of interest from directly elected mayors keen to participate in a meeting in the UK for the induction of incoming mayors and senior officials (hosted by the UK Local Government Association). [Read more.](#)

In signing off, I'd like to acknowledge ANZAC Day next week. Lest we forget.

Yours sincerely



Cr Keith Rhoades AFSM

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The NSW Government has announced that coastal councils will be eligible to apply to a new fund to improve accessibility and health of waterways.

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Executive and personal assistants are invited to register for LGNSW's annual Personal and Executive Assistants' Conference (11 August 2017, Sydney).

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Order your General Manager Remuneration Report now to review comparative data on NSW general managers' 'cost-to-council' remuneration.

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Museums and Galleries NSW 2017 Gallery Grants scheme is now open with local council galleries eligible to apply.

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Create NSW (formerly Arts NSW) has launched its 2017/18 Arts and Cultural Development Program and invites cultural organisations including NSW councils to apply for funding.

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The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission is seeking to spread a message aimed at keeping children safe from toppling furniture and televisions.

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Expressions of interest to attend the 2017 NSW Youth Council Conference (22-24 September 2017) close on Monday 1 May.

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Final registrations are being accepted for the Waste 2017 conference (Coffs Harbour 2-4 May 2017).

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Councils are invited to attend a seminar on the potential introduction of road user pricing and its implications (Sydney, 8 August 2017).

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LGNSW is encouraging councils to participate in stakeholder consultation on the water resource plans required to implement the Murray-Darling Basin Plan.

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WaterNSW is calling for membership nominations for 10 newly established customer advisory groups across the state.

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LGNSW has introduced a one-day seminar to provide councils with practical information and guidance on the new internal audit requirements soon to be mandated.

Item 19: Great Savings on LGNSW's Public Courses in May

LGNSW is offering a special deal on May's public courses when councils send two or more participants to the same course.

Procurement**Item 20: Procurement Training Courses in Sydney CBD**

Local Government Procurement is offering a range of training courses, in Sydney CBD, for local council staff involved in procurement.

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Local Government Procurement is offering a complimentary webinar to provide an overview of its eLearning program.

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Conferences and Events

Item 1: Upcoming Conferences and Events

Waste 2017 Conference

Final registrations are being accepted for the Waste 2017 conference (Coffs Harbour 2-4 May 2017).

Youth Council Conference – Expressions of Interest to Attend

Expressions of interest to attend the 2017 NSW Youth Council Conference (22-24 September 2017) close on Monday 1 May.

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The Implementing the New Urban Agenda conference (Melbourne 4-5 May) aims to bring together a range of stakeholder to discuss implications of the new urban agenda and initiate a roadmap to implementation.

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LGNSW has introduced a one-day seminar to provide councils with practical information and guidance on the new internal audit requirements soon to be mandated.

Local Government Week 2017 - Discovery, Diversity, Democracy

LGNSW encourages all councils to plan activities for Local Government Week 2017.

LGNSW Annual Personal and Executive Assistants' Conference

Executive and personal assistants are invited to register for LGNSW's annual Personal and Executive Assistants' Conference (11 August 2017, Sydney).

Road User Charging Seminar

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Item 2: Grant and Funding Opportunities for Local Government

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Create NSW (formerly Arts NSW) has launched its 2017/18 Arts and Cultural Development Program and invites cultural organisations including NSW councils to apply for funding.

General Interest

Item 3: Implementing the New Urban Agenda - Conference

The Implementing the New Urban Agenda conference (Melbourne 4-5 May) aims to bring together a range of stakeholder to discuss implications of the new urban agenda and initiate a roadmap to implementation.

The conference will feature participation from a wide range of stakeholders from government, civil society, academia and the business community from Australasia and South East Asia.

It will provide the first opportunity to explore the implications of the New Urban Agenda (NUA) and begin the development of a roadmap for its implementation. Perspectives will be drawn for those work in planning, infrastructure, economic development, social inclusion, equalities and sustainable urban environments.

The conference has four key objectives:

- to build a NUA and Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) community of practice
- to create a culture of professional, academic and stakeholder collaboration across sectors and disciplines
- to facilitate a multi-level government approach to implementation in partnership with the private and community sectors
- to create an outline implementation plan to provide guidance and strategic direction for all stakeholders in the implementation of the NUA and achievement of the SDGs.

As well as keynote speakers, the conference will provide significant workshop content to address specific professional interests and foster multi-disciplinary collaboration.

Background

On the 20th October the Habitat III conference agreed the New Urban Agenda as the next phase of the UN Habitat program. The NUA will shape and direct urban policy for the next twenty years in the 167 signatory nations. The Australian Government representative at the conference Gillian Bird, Permanent Ambassador to the Permanent Delegation for Australia to the United Nations endorsed the NUA on behalf of the Australian Government.

For all nations, the challenge posed by the NUA is to achieve effective implementation over the next 20 years. Governments globally will not be able to do this without the collaboration of a wide range of financial, private sector, public sector, academic and not-for-profit agencies.

Dates and location

Thursday 4 and Friday 5 May 2017

Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre

Online information

[Conference Website](#)

Contact

Professor David Adamson

P: 02 4920 2600

E: DavidA@compasshousing.org

Ref: R90/1111

General Interest

Item 4: Local Government Week 2017 - Discovery, Diversity, Democracy

LGNSW encourages all councils to plan activities for Local Government Week 2017 (31 July–6 August 2017).

Local Government Week provides an opportunity to promote the importance of councils to residents, ratepayers and businesses.

To support councils, LGNSW has produced a range of templates and tools to assist promote events and initiatives, and raise awareness among the community. These tools include LG Week logos, posters and a media release template.

This year's theme 'Discovery, Diversity, Democracy' reflects the invaluable services local councils provide to their communities 365 days a year - delivering support, facilities and services that are important to peoples' lives.

LGNSW encourages all councils in NSW to host events and activities, during Local Government Week, which showcase and promote the day-to-day work councils do for their communities.

Examples of events may include:

- Launching new services
- Family fun days
- Multicultural fairs
- Photographic competitions
- Mock council meetings for local students
- Heritage walks
- Bush care days
- Tours of council facilities, e.g. art galleries, recreation centres, libraries and other developments

A highlight of the week is the Local Government Week Awards evening which celebrates exceptional work done by councils across the state. LGNSW awards presented at this event are RH Dougherty Award (recognising leading practice in communication management), Leo Kelly OAM Art & Culture Award (NEW) and the Disability Inclusion Award (NEW).

Entries close on 5 June. For full details on Local Government Week Awards categories and how to enter, go to visit our [website](#).

Dates

Monday 31 July to Sunday 6 August 2017

Location

Local Government Week Awards Dinner
Thursday 3 August 2017,
Doltone House, Jones Bay Wharf, South
Pier, Pyrmont

Online information

Local Government Week

Promotional Material

RH Dougherty Awards

Leo Kelly OAM Arts and Culture Awards

NSW Disability Inclusion Awards

Contact

Meg Fisher
events@lgnsw.org.au
02 9242 4044

Ref: R16/ 0027 MF

General Interest

Item 5: Opportunity for Two Directly-Elected Mayors to Travel to UK in June

Australian Local Government Association is seeking expressions of interest (by Friday 28 April) from local mayors to attend a meeting with the UK mayors and senior officials (14-15 June).

The Commonwealth Local Government Forum (CLGF) has invited the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) to nominate two directly-elected mayors to attend and contribute to the induction and briefing for the incoming UK mayors and senior officials in London.

The UK Local Government Association (UKLGA), which is preparing the mayoral induction program, has invited the CLGF to collaborate in putting together a two day event which will focus on the role of the mayor in providing leadership on promoting their cities nationally and internationally.

As part of a wider effort to ensure new mayors are outward looking and build strong leadership for their cities, particularly in the economic space, the CLGF are keen to interact with successful mayors from other Commonwealth cities willing to share good practice and innovation.

For the selection process, nominees must provide a one-page document addressing their experience in economic development to attracting business/investment to their cities and experience in amalgamations (the latter of which is not a pre-requisite but may be advantageous).

The ideal nominees will be directly-elected mayors with a good story to tell about their role to develop their local economy and attract inward investment into their city/community. This outward facing perspective is one which the UK is keen to develop with newly elected mayors and the current crop of candidates standing for election.

In the UK, directly elected mayors is new. Previously, local government representation in the UK has consisted generally of people who have been either indirectly elected leaders of councils or members of parliament in the past.

Background

There are a number of reforms on going in local government in England currently including local authorities coming together to form larger "combined authorities" most of which will have a directly elected mayor (which is relatively new in the UK) and greater access to devolved finance and powers.

The process is not absolutely uniform and is being rolled out on a case by case basis, through consultations with interested councils/groups of councils. The first group of new combined authorities have been established in shadow form, and elections for the first mayors and councillors will take place on May 4th. This is a major change for local government and will involve new powers and responsibilities, as well as a more strategic leadership role. One key priority for the mayors and leaders will be to profile their cities nationally and internationally and to support economic development and increase inward investment in their localities.

Deadline for EOI

Friday 28 April

Contact

Adrian Beresford-Wylie

ALGA

P: 02 6122 9422

adrian.beresford-wylie@alga.asn.au

Ref: R93/0175

General Interest

Item 6: New \$8 Million NSW Coastal Dredging Strategy Announced

The NSW Government has announced that coastal councils will be eligible to apply to a new fund to improve accessibility and health of waterways.

The NSW Department of Industry – Lands, will work with Transport for NSW, Roads and Maritime Services, councils and communities to improve access to State-owned regional ports and harbours.

The department will also work with councils to develop long-term dredging plans for local waterways and, enable councils to undertake their own dredging works to address the needs of their local communities.

Of the \$8 million, which will be invested over four years, the Rescuing Our Waterways program will account for \$6 million and \$2 million for priority regional location projects.

Coastal councils are eligible to apply for funding under Rescuing Our Waterways which covers up to 50 per cent of the cost of dredging projects undertaken by councils.

Applications deadline

Lodge your application by 5pm,
Friday 23 June 2017

Further Information & Resources

[Rescuing our Waterways web page](#)

Contact / Inquiries

Department of Industry – Lands on
(02) 6591 3564 or
enquiries@crowmland.nsw.gov.au

Ref: R90/0419 RC

General Interest

Item 7: LGNSW Annual Personal and Executive Assistants' Conference

Executive and personal assistants are invited to register for LGNSW's annual Personal and Executive Assistants' Conference (11 August 2017, Sydney).

The 2017 conference, 'Building the Best', will provide an ideal environment for personal and executive assistants across local government to learn from colleagues and guest speakers.

The program includes a mix of keynote addresses, panel discussions and workshops. Topics include:

- The power of the word
- The future of the personal and executive assistant
- 'Tips from the Top' – mayoral and general manager perspectives
- Build strategic relationships and a vast network of executive assistants
- Developing technology skills and getting up to speed on the latest apps
- Build a framework for health and performance
- The art of networking
- Creating your impression for success.

The pre-conference dinner will feature guest speaker, comedian and performer Julia Zemiro, host of Rockwiz, Eurovision Song Contest and Home Delivery.

Senior staff are encouraged to nominate personal and executive assistants and, other administrative staff to attend this important, professional development event.

Date and location

Friday 11 August 2017
Swissotel
68 Market Street, Sydney

Online Information and registration

[Conference information](#)
[Registration](#)

Cost

LGNSW Members: \$770 GST incl, conference and welcome dinner on Thursday 10 August
Non- members: \$1,540 GST incl, conference and welcome dinner on Thursday 10 August)

Accommodation

Swissotel
02 9238 8855
quote "Local Government NSW Conference"

Contact

LGNSW Learning Solutions
02 9242 4181
learning@lgnsw.org.au

Ref: I98/0012 SA

General Interest

Item 8: NSW Local Government General Manager Remuneration Report Now Available

Order your General Manager Remuneration Report now to review comparative data on NSW general managers' 'cost-to-council' remuneration.

In previous years, the General Manager Remuneration Report was purchased as an additional fee to the Council's annual Association subscription fee. In 2016/17 the General Manager Remuneration Report was not included in council's subscription for the financial year.

Local Government NSW Management Solutions has been providing the annual General Manager Remuneration Report for since 2010/11. This year we are providing legacy data for the years 2011/12 to 2015/16 as part of the report.

The legacy report provides trend data of council's general manager remuneration compared with other councils in the comparison group. This data can be used to monitor the relativity of general manager remuneration across the sector. It is useful data to consider when attracting or retaining general managers or when considering performance-based increases in remuneration.

Reports delivered electronically to the general manager provide comparisons against:

- All councils
- Urban or rural councils, based on the NSW Office of Local Government (OLG) classification
- Comparison groups based on LGNSW Management Solutions classification (councils with similar demographics)
- Local government Remuneration Tribunal determinations effective from 1 July 2015
- Comparison groups based on OLG regions.

To order a copy General Managers or Human Resource Managers should contact Debra Law.

Cost

Members: \$750 plus GST

Non-Members: \$1,500 plus GST

Further information

[NSW Council Comparatives – Remuneration](#)

Contact

Debra Law

Divisional Coordinator

02 9242 4142

debra.law@lgnsw.org.au

Ref: I09/0016 MA

General Interest

Item 9: Expressions of Interest - NSW Councils Night Time Economy Forum

Expressions of interest are sought from presenters for the inaugural NSW Councils Night Time Economy forum (Parramatta, 12 October 2017).

The forum will bring together local government professionals to share best practice approaches to shape vibrant, safe and sustainable night time economies.

Expressions of interest from speakers (due by Monday 15 May 2017) should be accompanied by a 200 word abstract for a five minute presentation on one of the following themes:

- Economic development and partnerships
- Place making and urban design
- Strategy, policy and research
- Planning and regulation
- Culture and creativity
- Services, infrastructure and safety.

The abstract should include project aim, practical tools, learnings and challenges.

The forum is being organised by the a local government working group which includes LGNSW and the councils of Wollongong City, City of Sydney, City of Newcastle, City of Parramatta and Waverley.

Expressions of interests and abstracts should be submitted by email to Elizabeth.Roberston@lgnsw.org.au and include name and organisation.

Authors of accepted abstracts will be advised in June 2017.

Dates

EOI with abstract due Monday 15 May 2017

Online information

[Night Time Economy - Call for Abstracts brochure](#)

Contact

Elizabeth Robertson
Policy Officer
LGNSW
elizabeth.robertson@lgnsw.org.au

Ref: R17/0010 ER

Community

Item 10: Applications Open for the Museums and Galleries NSW Gallery Grants Scheme

Museums and Galleries NSW 2017 Gallery Grants scheme is now open with local council galleries eligible to apply.

The scheme offers local councils access to two funding streams - the Dobell Exhibition Grant and the Audience Development Fund.

Dobell Exhibition Grant

The \$40,000 Dobell Exhibition Grant is funded by the Sir William Dobell Arts Foundation and aims to support high quality exhibitions that speak to a broad audience across NSW. To assist in expanding an appreciation of the visual arts, exhibitions should be supported by innovative public education programs which creatively engage both artists and the community.

In addition to the support provided by the grant, Museums and Galleries NSW offers successful applicants the opportunity to develop a national tour of their funded exhibition.

All applications and support material must be submitted online. See [Dobell exhibition grant application](#)

The Audience Development Fund

The Audience Development Fund offers grants of up to \$10,000 to NSW public galleries for assistance in targeting and developing new audiences. It encourages galleries to create innovative public programs that engage artists and the community. The fund is designed to support galleries to develop and trial new models for engaging audiences which will increase immediate and future attendance, access and participation.

Applications that create new or extend existing partnerships within regions are strongly encouraged.

Applicants should contact Museums and Galleries NSW on 02 9252 8300 to discuss projects prior to submitting applications.

Applications are online via [SmartyGrants](#).

Dates

[Dobell Exhibition Grant](#) - Applications close Wednesday 6 September 2017

[Audience Development Fund](#) - Applications close Wednesday 2 August 2017, 5.00pm

Online information

[Gallery grants now open 2017](#)

Contact

M&G NSW on 02 9252 8300
grants@mgnsw.org.au

Ref: R13/0028 SW

Community

Item 11: Create NSW Launches New Arts and Cultural Development Program

Create NSW (formerly Arts NSW) has launched its 2017/18 Arts and Cultural Development Program and invites cultural organisations including NSW councils to apply for funding.

The Arts and Cultural Development Program consists of grants, guidelines and a regional roadshow. It offers funding for 2017/18 for multi-year programs to one-off projects and professional development opportunities, across visual arts, museums and history, literature, performing arts, music and more.

Create NSW also delivers on defined and developing priorities for arts and culture in NSW, new opportunities through specific strategic initiatives and targeted support.

Opportunities now open include:

- Aboriginal Quick Response and Artist Support Quick Response grants. Applications are open throughout the year for activities occurring between 1 July 2017 and 30 June 2018
- Visual Arts Fellowships, Emerging, Mid Career and Established. Closing Monday 5 June 2017

Representatives from Create NSW will conduct a NSW regional roadshow, throughout April and May, to promote the program and provide further details of the funding opportunities available.

As new initiatives and opportunities emerge through the year, information will be published on the website.

Applications for other ACDP grants will run progressively until February 2018 and can be accessed at [Arts and Cultural Development Program](#).

Dates

Applications for grants will run progressively until February 2018

The Regional Roadshow is in April and May 2017

Online information

[Arts and Cultural Development Program](#)

Contact

02 9995 0533

arts.funding@arts.nsw.gov.au

Ref: R13/0028 SW

Community

Item 12: Safety Campaign – Toppling Furniture and Televisions

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission is seeking to spread a message aimed at keeping children safe from toppling furniture and televisions.

One child is killed by toppling furniture in Australia every year despite the availability of preventive safety measures which can be easily implemented.

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission has created a safety campaign, which includes a safety video and fact card, with support from the state consumer affairs agencies including NSW Fair Trading.

A [Best Practice Guide for Furniture and Television Tip-Over Prevention](#) has also been developed by the National Retail Association.

Councils can help spread the message by:

- Sharing the [toppling furniture safety video](#)
- Sharing NSW [Fair Trading's Toppling Furniture Facebook posts](#)
- Publishing content on websites, blogs, enewsletters or other channels

Online information

[Product Safety Australia: Toppling Furniture and Televisions](#)

Contact

Natahnee Veitch

Communications Advisor, NSW Fair Trading

Natahnee.veitch@finance.nsw.gov.au
02 9619 8704

Ref: R96/0080 ER

Community

Item 13: Youth Council Conference – Expressions of Interest to Attend

Expressions of interest to attend the 2017 NSW Youth Council Conference (22-24 September 2017) close on Monday 1 May.

The 5th biennial Youth Council Conference is the first to be held in metropolitan Sydney and is being hosted by the City of Ryde and the Ryde Youth Council.

The theme of the conference is 'Make IT Happen' and will explore how technology can make a difference in campaigns and community engagement. A program of social activities has also been organised including the Youth Council Olympics and Harbour Cruise.

Young people involved in an advisory committee of any type are encouraged to register interest to attend.

People under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a designated worker.

For more information and to register your interest by 1 May, please [complete the online form](#). Registration packs will be issued with all registration forms and payment required by 17 July 2017.

Dates and location

Friday 22 – Sunday 24 September

Macquarie University
21 Wallys Walk (W2.4A), Macquarie
University, 2109, North Ryde NSW
2113

Cost

\$80

Online information

[Make IT Happen-Youth Council
Conference 2017](#)

Contact

Michael Paine
Community Project Officer Young
People
City of Ryde
(02) 99528248
MPaine@ryde.nsw.gov.au

Ref: R09/0129 ER

Environment

Item 14: Final Registrations for Waste 2017 Conference

Final registrations are being accepted for the Waste 2017 conference (Coffs Harbour 2-4 May 2017).

The annual conference is the premier event for council waste staff and features more than two days of sessions and two days of trade exhibits.

The conference is supported by Local Government NSW and covers a range of topics including:

- Organics
- Waste planning
- CRCs and problem wastes
- Waste education
- Social Enterprise
- Product Stewardship
- Infrastructure
- Waste services and tendering
- Illegal dumping and litter
- Energy from Waste
- Circular Economy
- Innovation

The conference is suitable for people working or interested in waste management and is particularly relevant to local government. Final registrations and accommodation bookings can now be made via the [Waste 2017 conference website](#).

Dates and location

Tuesday 2 – Thursday 4 May 2017
Coffs Harbour (Opal Cove Resort)

Online information

[Waste 2017 Conference](#)

Contact

Impact Environmental Conferences
Ph: 02 6583 8118
wasteconference@impactenviro.com.au

Ref: R96/0019-02 LD

Roads and Transport

Item 15: Road User Charging Seminar

Councils are invited to attend a seminar on the potential introduction of road user pricing and its implications (Sydney, 8 August 2017).

The forum, hosted by the [Institute for Sensible Transport](#) will focus on the potential introduction of a network based, road user charge and the implications for local government.

The seminar will address key areas of concern for the three levels of government, such as:

- How might a distance and time based price on car use influence transport choice?
- Could a per km fee be calibrated to reduce rat running on local streets?
- Should local governments receive a proportion of the revenue generated?
- How should future revenue be invested - back into roads, or better public transport and safer streets for walking and cycling?
- Will a future of shared transport reduce local government car parking revenue, and what strategies can help mitigate this budget threat?
- How might low income, outer suburban households deal with a road user price, and what mechanisms can be embedded to make it fair?
- What is the political acceptability of road user pricing and how might it be enhanced?

For registration details and further information on the seminar, please refer to the information box above

Seminar Details

Tuesday 8th August 2017

9:00am – 4:30pm

Customs House, Circular Quay,
Sydney

[Registration and further information](#)

Ref: R90/0724 RC

Water

Item 16: Water Resource Planning Stakeholder Consultation

LGNSW is encouraging councils to participate in stakeholder consultation on the water resource plans required to implement the Murray-Darling Basin Plan.

As a result of LGNSW's advocacy, the Department of Primary Industries – Water (DPI Water) is inviting regional organisations of council to participate in stakeholder advisory panels that have been established for each water resource planning region.

The status and issues papers for the *NSW Border Rivers (SW 16) Surface Water Resource Plan* and the *Murrumbidgee Alluvium (GW9) Water Resource Plan* are now on exhibition and submissions are due 26 May 2017.

The NSW Government will develop 22 water resource plans between 2016 and 2019 which will address surface and groundwater regions in the State's section of the Murray-Darling basin. These plans will ensure compliance with the basin plan's sustainable diversion limits and other basin plan targets. Plans will also define economic, social and environmental objectives relevant to each region.

As a key component, water resource plans will include the water sharing plans made under the *Water Management Act (NSW) 2000* which already exist across the NSW basin area. These plans will remain the mechanism for articulating water sharing in NSW.

DPI Water will conduct targeted consultation on individual water resource plans, including:

- Working directly with licence holders, user and industry groups, local government, environment groups, Aboriginal communities and other stakeholders
- Establishing stakeholder advisory panels for each surface water resource plan.

Stakeholders will also be able to make written submissions on status and issues papers for their regions and the draft water resource plans. If draft water resource plans require adjustments to water sharing rules, DPI Water planners will run targeted consultation sessions with affected stakeholders

Councils are critical stakeholders in the water resource planning process because they provide drinking water services and more broadly represent the social, economic and environmental values and priorities of their communities.

LGNSW is advocating for councils to be appropriately consulted and encourages councils to participate and provide feedback to LGNSW to inform our advocacy efforts on the issue.

For more information, read [DPI Water's - water resource plan page](#).

Online information

[DPI Water: Water resource plans](#)

LGNSW Contact

Sascha Moege
LGNSW
02 9242 4045
sascha.moege@lgnsw.org.au

Ref: R90/1056-12 SM

Water

Item 17: Nominations for WaterNSW's New Regional Customer Advisory Groups

WaterNSW is calling for membership nominations for 10 newly established customer advisory groups across the state.

From 1 July 2017, customer advisory groups will replace WaterNSW's rural customer service committees.

The new groups will provide an important forum for WaterNSW to regularly consult on an area basis, with a broad cross-section of customers on issues relevant to its performance and delivery of services.

Membership nominations for the 2017-2019 term are now open for the Barwon-Darling, Border Rivers, Greater Sydney, Gwydir, Namoi-Peel, Murrumbidgee, Murray-Lower Darling, Macquarie-Cudgegong, Lachlan and Coastal Valleys Customer Advisory Groups.

Nominations are particularly sought from customers across regulated, unregulated and groundwater water types, stock and domestic users, environmental water users, industrial and commercial customers, councils, council local water utilities, major utilities, volumetric categories of customers and Indigenous Australian water users.

Nominations

Nominations close on 5 May 2017.

Contact WaterNSW

Ph: 1300 662 077

csc.support@waternsw.com.au.

Online information

[WaterNSW](#)

Ref: R90/1056-12 SM

Learning

Item 18: New Internal Audit Familiarisation Seminar

LGNSW has introduced a one-day seminar to provide councils with practical information and guidance on the new internal audit requirements soon to be mandated.

The seminar will provide up-to-date information regarding internal audit legislation and requirements and use council case studies to address the following areas of internal audit.

- Overview of relevant legislation and guidelines
- The role and purpose of internal audit
- The benefits of establishing an internal audit function
- The relationship between internal audit and external audit and other council activities
- Developing a charter for the internal audit panel and operations
- Establishing an internal audit committee
- Internal audit committee functions and operations
- Key characteristics of an effective audit committee
- Conducting a 'baseline audit'
- Determining priorities – developing an internal audit work plan
- Internal audit panel meetings and operations
- Internal audit panel reporting.

Senior staff, managers, strategists, governance professionals, mayors and councillors are encouraged to take advantage of LGNSW's special deal on courses by registering two or more participants, and paying half price for the second and subsequent attendees. This pricing is available for May 2017 course bookings up to COB Friday 28 April 2017.

Contact [LGNSW Learning Solutions](#) for a quote to have this seminar delivered locally for your organisation or in partnership with other organisations in your region.

Date

Wednesday 31 May 2017

Online Registration

[Internal Audit Familiarisation Seminar](#)

Cost

Members: \$660 incl. GST

Non-members: \$1,320 incl. GST

Contact

LGNSW Learning Solutions

02 9242 4181

learning@lgnsw.org.au

Ref: I98/0012 SA

Learning

Item 19: Great Savings on LGNSW's Public Courses in May

LGNSW is offering a special deal on May's public courses when councils send two or more participants to the same course.

After the first registration, subsequent participants can attend at half price. This special deal applies to the courses listed below and is available for May 2017 courses booked before Friday 28 April 2017.

To register, click on the links to the relevant course.

Navigator – Men's Development Program (NEW)

Sydney – Thursday: 4 May, 1 June, 29 June and 27 July 2017

People and Performance (NEW)

Sydney – Thursday 4 May 2017

Resilience and Wellbeing (NEW)

Sydney – Monday 8 May 2017

Social Media

Sydney – Tuesday 9 May 2017

Understanding Strategic Thinking (NEW)

Sydney – Friday 12 May 2017

Price Setting for Fees and Charges

Sydney – Tuesday 16 May 2017

Award History and Interpretation

Sydney – Thursday 18 May 2017

Know your Planning (for elected members)

Sydney – Friday 19 May 2017

Making Consultative Committees More Effective

Narrabri – Monday 29 May 2017, Wagga Wagga – Tuesday 13 June 2017

Internal Audit Familiarisation Seminar (NEW)

Sydney – Wednesday 31 May 2017

Local Training

Contact [LGNSW Learning Solutions](mailto:learning@lgnsw.org.au) to discuss running a course in-house or with other organisations in your area.

Online information

[LGNSW Training](#)

[LGNSW Learning Calendar - January to June 2017](#)

Registrations

[Learning Solutions registrations](#)

Contact

LGNSW Learning Solutions
02 9242 4081
learning@lgnsw.org.au

Ref: I98/0012 SA

Procurement

Item 20: Procurement Training Courses in Sydney CBD

Local Government Procurement is offering a range of training courses, in Sydney CBD, for local council staff involved in procurement.

Advanced Contract Management

Sydney CBD – Tuesday 16 & Wednesday 17 May 2017

This two-day course, designed to advance skills in contract management, for those planning to manage high-risk, complex contracts. A large portion of value is extracted (or lost) post contract award. Through advanced contract management, you can manage risk, increase innovation, reduce waste and increase efficiency. [More information](#) and to [register online](#).

Evaluation, Supplier Selection and Contract Establishment

Sydney CBD – Wednesday 24 May 2017

This one-day course supports supplier selection and evaluation techniques aligned to probity and value for money. Learn key tips on setting up evaluation criteria for the quotation and tender stage to ensure the right supplier is selected. Designed for staff either currently involved in quotation/tender evaluations or about to do so, participants will come away with practical skills applicable in the local government context. [More information](#) and to [register online](#).

Supplier Tender Training

Sydney CBD – Tuesday 20 June 2017

This training module will teach basic principles and best practice in tender writing for local government. Our experienced trainers will assist participants develop skills and confidence in bid writing. [More information](#) and to [register online](#)

Advanced Diploma of Procurement and Contracting

Sydney CBD – commencing in July

Think strategically across your organisation, develop a comprehensive understanding of strategic procurement and contract management, including legislative requirements, governance and internal controls. Participants must attend all four blocks (2017 dates below):

Block 1: 19-21 July 2017

Block 2: 28-30 August 2017

Block 3: 12-14 September 2017

Block 4: 10-12 October 2017

[More information and to register](#)

Certificate IV in Procurement and Contracting

Sydney CBD – commencing in August

This practical course program covers the nuts and bolts of the tendering process: identifying and understanding gaining approvals, developing procurement plans, legislation and documentation such as specification requirements, the Request for Tender and the Tender Evaluation Plan. Participants must attend all four blocks (2017 dates below):

Block 1: 8-10 August 2017

Block 2: 23-25 August 2017

Block 3: 18-19 September 2017

Block 4: 16-18 October 2017

[More information and to register.](#)

Online information

[LGP Training website](#)

Registrations

[LGP Training Calendar](#)

Contact

LGP Training

02 8270 8709

training@lgp.org.au

Ref: R05/0057 MB

Procurement

Item 21: Webinar – Procurement eLearning

Local Government Procurement is offering a complimentary webinar to provide an overview of its eLearning program.

Specifically designed for NSW council employees engaged in any aspect of purchasing, ProcureLearn offers a 'right now' approach to procurement training with bite-sized modules easily accessed via computer or laptop.

The training program aims to:

- Develop and enhance the standard of procurement across a region or council
- Provide a technically proficient progress path for procurement professionals
- Teach best practice procurement through the latest training
- Provide technical understanding of probity and policy legislation
- Offer a cost-effective training solution for a region or council.

Benefits include:

- Training that provides insights into skill gaps with the opportunity to target development
- Pre-and post-learning assessments to ensure knowledge transfer
- Completion tracking that can be measured and reported
- Access to refresher modules upon module completion
- Access to FAQs and an ask-the-expert forum.

ProcureLearn eLearning modules include:

- Procurement essentials
- Contract management essentials
- Probity in purchasing and procurement

As part of the three-package course, participants also receive access to specialised procurement topics:

- Risk management
- Supplier evaluation
- Sustainable procurement

[Register online](#)

For further information view the [LGP website](#) or contact, [LGP Training](#) or 02 8270 8709.

Local Government Procurement (LGP) offer a range of training from [eLearning](#), [one day procurement courses](#) to [procurement qualifications](#).

Date and Time

Tue 2 May 2017
10:30am – 11:30am

Online information

[LGP Training website](#)

Registrations

[LGP Training Calendar](#)

Contact

LGP Training
02 8270 8709
training@lgp.org.au

Ref: R05/0057 MB

In the News

Item 22: Local Government NSW Media

[View the latest media releases distributed by LGNSW](#)

Item 23: ALGA Newsletter

[View the latest newsletter distributed by the Australia Local Government Association.](#)