

Message from the President

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

Councillor and Mayoral Fees, and the Categorisation of Councils

Councils are advised that councillor and mayoral fees for the 2017/18 financial year need to be adjusted following the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal's review of annual fees.

Community Strategic Plans: Healthy Eating and Active Living Baseline Report

The NSW Premier's Council for Active Living has published its Community Strategic Plans: Healthy Eating and Active Living Baseline Report.

Registrations Open for the LGNSW Planning Breakfast

An expert panel will discuss NSW housing issues in an interactive forum at LGNSW's planning breakfast at Parliament House (Tuesday 24 May 2017).

Free Registration Opportunity for Councillors for the 2017 NSW Local Roads Congress - Making Our Roads Work

The Roads & Transport Directorate and LGNSW are offering free registration for councillors for the Local Roads Congress and Congress Dinner at NSW Parliament House (5 June 2017).

Reconciliation Week Funding – Closing Date Extended to 5 May 2017

Councils are encouraged to finalise applications for funding to help communities celebrate National Reconciliation Week 2017 by close 5 May 2017.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW

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Message from the President

Cr Keith Rhoades AFSM

Friday 28 April 2017



LGNSW went in to bat with NSW Treasury and the Office of State Revenue (OSR) this week about letters received by councils from the OSR on the Emergency Services Levy (ESL) and the NSW Government's Fire and Emergency Services Levy (FESL).

A big thank you to Central Darling Shire Council for being the first to alert us to this issue.

The letters were about the payment of these two levies by councils to OSR and the use of an automatic "direct debit sweep". However, the ESL and FESL were mixed up, and the direct debit scheme raised alarm bells with LGNSW and councils.

We are very pleased to report that OSR and NSW Treasury have now agreed to issue a clarification next week. OSR will collect both the 11.7 per cent ESL and the FESL in future. As a direct result of our advocacy, OSR and NSW Treasury have also committed to **offering councils an alternative payment method for both levies, rather than automatic direct debit**, for those councils that require it.

All of this just serves to underscore the logic of our sector's position that the ESL must be rolled into the FESL so these levies are collected just the once, and transparently. The situation we have now is confusing and inefficient. We will talk again with Treasury on these matters next week and will keep members updated. [Read more.](#)

In other important news for the sector, Local Government Remuneration Tribunal published its 2017 Annual Report and Determination. The Tribunal determined that consistent with the NSW Government's wages policy, fees payable to the majority of councillors and mayors would increase by 2.5 per cent, and that six councils would be eligible for increases of more than 2.5 per cent as those councils were categorised into a different category.

The Tribunal placed on record its appreciation to me and Chief Executive of LGNSW for meeting with the Tribunal and the assistance provided by LGNSW in its submission. [Read more.](#)

Yesterday, I invited members to a special roundtable discussion on 31 May with Dr Jonathan Carr-West, Chief Executive of the UK Local Government Information Unit - one of Britain's leading think tanks on local democracy. The roundtable will be a valuable opportunity for a high-level exchange of views on how we can reinforce local democracy in NSW. I for one, think this is very timely!

LGNSW Chief Executive, Donna Rygate participated in a Container Deposit Scheme ministerial advisory committee meeting on Thursday. As the scheme implementation date approaches, the work of the committee is strongly focussed on a smooth transition.

Today, Donna is delivering the Occasional Address at the graduation ceremony being held at the University of Newcastle. She tells me she is very honoured to have been invited to share insights from her career.

Also today, our annual Employment Law Seminar is being held with more than 100 participants. This event is delivering up-to-date employment law content which is specific to the sector. The seminar builds on more than 600 meetings and pieces of advice LGNSW provides to members as part of your annual subscription.

There are also a number of upcoming LGNSW forums that merit a mention. Firstly, our next [Planning Series Event](#) for 2017 will feature an expert panel which will address both housing affordability and affordable housing

from the local government perspective. The event will be held at NSW Parliament House on 24 May and hosted by the Planning Minister, Anthony Roberts.

Secondly, LGNSW's Good Governance in Action forum, being held in Sydney on 28-29 June, will focus on the 'who, what and how' of strengthening governance practices. This forum features John McMillan, the NSW Ombudsman and Margaret Crawford, the NSW Auditor-General. In light of recent changes to the Local Government Act 1993 this forum is especially important for the sector.

The Federal Government this week announced some long awaited news with the availability of over \$6 million in disaster recovery assistance grants for Lake Macquarie City and Port Stephens Councils that were affected by the April 2015 storms and floods. [Read more](#).

Several other grants have also been made available, namely the Innovation in Cancer Control grants, culturally and linguistically diverse Domestic Family Violence Prevention grants, Investing in Women Funding Program and Community Social Housing Improvement Fund.

The Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet has asked us to remind members that applications for grants (of \$5000) for Reconciliation Week celebrations close on 5 May. We encourage you to apply, or finalise any online applications that are incomplete, before this time. [Read more](#).

Have a good weekend.

Yours sincerely



Cr Keith Rhoades AFSM

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LGNSW's Good Governance in Action forum (Sydney, 28-29 June) will focus on the 'who, what and how' of strengthening governance practices.

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NSW Government is encouraging councils to apply for grants of up to \$25,000 (by 24 May 2017) for projects that support the economic empowerment and leadership of women.

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Councils are encouraged to submit entries for the annual Australian Crime and Violence Prevention Awards (by 19 May 2017).

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Councils are encouraged to apply for grants of up to \$100,000 to for projects that reduce violence against women and children in culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

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The Cancer Institute NSW is seeking expressions of interests from councils (by 14 May 2017) wishing to apply for up to \$100,000 from the Innovations in Cancer Control Grants program.

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Local government organisations are encouraged to apply for the 2017 National Alcohol and Other Drug Excellence and Innovation Awards which recognise work to reduce the harm and impact of alcohol and other drugs in Australia.

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The NSW Premier's Council for Active Living has published its Community Strategic Plans: Healthy Eating and Active Living Baseline Report.

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The NSW Department of Family and Community Services invites councils to register for a conference (Sydney, 17-18 May) showcasing the building of an inclusive society for people with disability.

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Applications are now open to local councils and community organisations for the NSW Government's \$8 million Social Housing Community Improvement Fund.

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Industrial Relations

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Procurement

Item 16: Procurement Training

Local Government Procurement is offering a series of training courses in Sydney for council staff.

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Local Government Procurement is holding a free webinar (2 May 2017) on the aims and benefits of its eLearning program.

Roads and Transport

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The Roads & Transport Directorate and LGNSW are offering free registration for councillors for the Local Roads Congress and Congress Dinner at NSW Parliament House (5 June 2017).

Learning

Item 19: LGNSW Courses to Develop New Thinking

LGNSW runs short courses to help managers and staff develop thinking skills and political awareness.

Item 20: LGNSW's Upcoming Public Courses

LGNSW is offering a range of workshops to local government professionals and elected members (May–June 2017).

Item 21: Effective Communication in the Workplace – Free Webinar

LGNSW is offering a free pilot webinar (30 May 2017) which provides an introduction to one of the many aspects of career management.

Item 22: LGNSW Writing Courses in June 2017

LGNSW is offering short courses in report writing, grammar and punctuation and resume writing.

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View the latest newsletter distributed by the Australia Local Government Association.

Awards

Item 1: Award Opportunities

View the latest award opportunities for local government

Australian Crime and Violence Prevention Awards

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View the latest grant and funding opportunities

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General Interest

Item 4: Registrations Open for the LGNSW Planning Breakfast

An expert panel will discuss NSW housing issues in an interactive forum at LGNSW's planning breakfast at Parliament House (Tuesday 24 May 2017).

The event will provide an excellent opportunity to hear the panel address the topics of affordable housing (usually referring to properties for low income renters) and housing affordability (referring to the state of the housing market). The panel will discuss what the real drivers are, the role of local government and possible solutions before opening up the debate to the audience.

Guest speakers include:

- **Chris Johnson**, Chief Executive Officer, Urban Taskforce Australia
- **Professor Peter Phibbs**, Chair of Urban and Regional Planning and Policy, University of Sydney and

This event will provide an excellent opportunity to examine these topics from a council perspective. It will be of interest to elected representatives, administrators, general managers, interim general managers and senior planning staff.

The event is organized by LGNSW, hosted by NSW Minister of Planning Anthony Roberts and sponsored by Urban Growth NSW.

LGNSW's planning series informs members and guests about key planning initiatives and provides opportunities to meet with senior industry stakeholders and discuss the latest challenges, regulations, funding and plans for NSW.

RSVPs will be accepted until Wednesday 17 May 2017, unless previously sold out. To secure your place book online now. Attendees will gain accreditation points (CPD) from the Planning Institute of Australia.

Dates and location

Tuesday 24 May 2017
7.30am – 9.30am
Strangers' Function Room, Parliament House, Macquarie Street, Sydney

Online information

[LGNSW Planning Breakfast](#)

Registration

[Register online](#)

RSVP

By Wednesday 17 May 2017

Cost

\$99 for LGNSW members
\$132 for non-members

Contact

Karen Rolls
LGNSW
02 9242 4050
events@lgnsw.org.au

Ref: R16/ 0025 TB

General Interest

Item 5: LGNSW Annual Good Governance Forum

LGNSW's Good Governance in Action forum (Sydney, 28-29 June) will focus on the 'who, what and how' of strengthening governance practices.

This forum will help participants ensure their governance practices are of the highest possible standard, especially in light of recent changes to the *Local Government Act 1993*.

Speakers include John McMillan, the NSW Ombudsman and Margaret Crawford, the NSW Auditor-General,

Forum content includes:

- Critical issues and lessons drawn from interstate and overseas
- Case studies of successful efforts to improve the quality of governance
- The implications of the digital revolution and how technologies can advance good governance
- Implementation of last year's amendments to the *Local Government Act 1993*
- Specific areas of change and improvement, including roles, responsibilities and ethics; financial management; audit; and community engagement
- Action planning for councils and Local Government NSW.

This event is essential for councilors, mayors, senior managers and key stakeholders concerned with promoting the highest standards of governance across NSW local government.

See LGNSW's website for [more information and to register](#).

Dates and Location

28 and 29 June 2017
Amora Hotel Jamison Sydney
11 Jamison Street Sydney

Further information and registrations

[LGNSW Good Governance Forum](#)

Cost

LGNSW Members: \$990 incl. GST
Non-members: \$1,980 incl. GST

Contact

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

Ref: I98/0012 SA

Community

Item 6: \$200,000 Investing in Women Funding Program – Applications Open

NSW Government is encouraging councils to apply for grants of up to \$25,000 (by 24 May 2017) for projects that support the economic empowerment and leadership of women.

The Investing in Women Funding Program is a NSW Government initiative which supports the development and implementation of projects which promote economic empowerment and leadership of women in NSW and meet three strategic criteria:

- Work and financial security
- Education and learning
- Leadership.

Individual grants of up to \$25,000 are available with a total of up to \$200,000 available for this funding round.

Projects must support one of the following:

- Women's financial security and independence
- Equitable workplaces for women and men
- Women in small business
- Women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics careers
- Women in male-dominated trades
- Women in leadership roles
- Leadership pathways for young women.

Of particular importance are programs and projects which support high quality activity, engagement and participation in:

- Women living and/or working in regional NSW
- Aboriginal women
- Women from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds
- Young women
- Women with disabilities
- Older women.

Dates

Applications close 24 May 2017

Online information

[Women NSW](#)

Contact

Women NSW

Ph 02 9461 7100

iiw@moh.health.nsw.gov.au

Ref: R92/0084-02 LG

Community

Item 7: Australian Crime and Violence Prevention Awards

Councils are encouraged to submit entries for the annual Australian Crime and Violence Prevention Awards (by 19 May 2017).

The Australian Crime and Violence Prevention Awards recognise outstanding contributions towards crime prevention, which include the development and implementation of practical projects to reduce violence and other types of crime in the community.

The awards encourage public initiatives while also assisting governments to identify and further develop practical projects.

Australian government agencies, local government organisations, not-for-profits and individuals are eligible to nominate for an award.

Projects must have been fully operational prior to 1 February 2016 and can address specific groups including - rural and remote communities, women, children, youth, family, migrant, ethnic or Indigenous communities - or specific problems such as alcohol-related violence.

Nominations are open to projects of all sizes including smaller initiatives which involve local community groups.

Winners will be notified in October 2017 and recognised at a presentation at Parliament House, Canberra.

Dates and location

Entries close 19 May 2017

Online information

[Australian Crime and Violence Prevention Awards](#)

Contact

ACVPA: 02 6268 7450 or
acvpa@aic.gov.au

Ref: R90/0125-12 LG

Community

Item 8: Grants to Reduce Violence Against Women in CALD Communities

Councils are encouraged to apply for grants of up to \$100,000 to for projects that reduce violence against women and children in culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

The Department of Social Services is seeking applications for funding to develop and implement locally-led solutions which will drive long term, sustainable changes in community awareness, attitudes and behaviours – with the overall aim of reducing violence against women and their children in culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities.

A total of \$1.674 million has been made available in funding across 2017/18 and 2018/19. Applications will be considered for one-off proposals of up to \$100,000 over the two-year period.

Under the auspice of the CALD Communities Leading Prevention, the grants will provide one-off non-ongoing funding to develop and implement CALD community owned and driven strategies. Projects should address an identified need within the specified community, and have strong community investment and ownership to help achieve sustainable change beyond the life of the project itself.

Eligible projects should support strategies which:

- Address specific domestic and family violence issues within the specified community. This could involve, but is not limited to, activities which address complex forms of violence such as female genital mutilation, forced marriage and human trafficking
- Successfully engage with key stakeholders and the local CALD community to drive sustainable changes in community awareness, attitudes and behaviours that lead to or contribute to violence against women and their children
- Utilise a culturally relevant approach to ensure that activities are appropriate and targeted. This may involve developing culturally relevant resources in languages other than English, and promoting and distributing these so they are accessible to community.

Dates and location

Submissions close: 25 May 2017

Online information

[Community Grants](#)

Contact

Community Grants Hub
support@communitygrants.gov.au
1800 020 283

Ref: R90/0071-03 LG

Community

Item 9: Innovations in Cancer Control Grants of up to \$100,000 Over Two Years – Expressions of Interest

The Cancer Institute NSW is seeking expressions of interests from councils (by 14 May 2017) wishing to apply for up to \$100,000 from the Innovations in Cancer Control Grants program.

The Cancer Control Grants program 2017/18 provides funding across 11 priority areas with NSW councils eligible to apply in two cancer prevention priority areas:

Cancer Prevention: Healthy Lifestyle - The purpose of these grants is to fund projects among population groups, and/or development of system change, to promote healthy eating and active living, and/or address harms associated with alcohol use for cancer prevention. The grants focus on implementing initiatives for populations most at risk of chronic disease, including Aboriginal, culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD), regional and remote and socio-economically disadvantaged communities.

Cancer Prevention: Sun Protection - The purpose of these grants is to fund projects, and/or development of system change, for comprehensive skin cancer prevention activities aligned with the NSW Skin Cancer Prevention Strategy, including:

- Implementation of policies or guidelines
- Adoption of sun protective behaviours
- Improved access to adequate shade.

These grants focus on delivering initiatives that target the populations most vulnerable to skin cancer, including children under 12 years of age, adolescents, young adults and males 40 years of age and older.

The Cancer Control Grants are up to a maximum value of \$50,000 per grant per year, up to twenty-four months, excluding GST. Eligible projects must commence in the 2017-2018 financial year and be completed by 30 June 2019.

Dates and location

Submissions close 14 May 2017

Online information

[Cancer Institute NSW](#)

Contact

Innovation@cancerinstitute.org.au

Ref: R93/0100-02 LG

Community

Item 10: National Alcohol and Drug Excellence and Innovation Awards

Local government organisations are encouraged to apply for the 2017 National Alcohol and Other Drug Excellence and Innovation Awards which recognise work to reduce the harm and impact of alcohol and other drugs in Australia.

The Alcohol and other Drug Excellence and Innovation Awards (National AOD Awards) are supported by the Alcohol and Drug Foundation and the Australian Government and are open to individuals and organisations.

The National AOD Awards were established in 2004 by the Alcohol and Other Drug Council of Australia, Australian National Council on Drugs, Ted Noff's Foundation and the Alcohol and Drug Foundation (formerly the Australian Drug Foundation).

In 2017 the National AOD Awards categories are:

- The Prime Minister's Award
- Law Enforcement and Supply Reduction
- Prevention and Education
- Treatment and Support
- Reduction of Harm
- Research
- Media Reporting
- First Australians Award
- National Honour Roll.

The awards ceremony will be held in Canberra, on 16 June 2017.

Dates and location

Nominations close 22 May 2017

Online information

[National AOD Awards](#)

Contact

aodawards@adf.org.au

Ref: R90/1075-03 LG

Community

Item 11: Community Strategic Plans: Healthy Eating and Active Living Baseline Report

The NSW Premier's Council for Active Living has published its Community Strategic Plans: Healthy Eating and Active Living Baseline Report.

Online information
[NSW Premiers' Council for Active Living](#)

Ref: R90/1182-02 LG

The report's purpose was to establish a baseline measure of healthy eating and active living (HEAL) objectives, strategies and actions within the community strategic plans (CSPs) of all NSW councils from 2013 and in a select group of delivery programs.

The information will enable a comparative analysis once the next iteration of plans and programs are finalised in 2018. This analysis will be valuable to both policy makers and local government organisations. It will assist to determine the 'effectiveness of actions' to strengthen the presence of HEAL within the Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) framework. It will also serve as a valuable resource for those wishing to take steps to strengthen the presence of HEAL within their own IP&R documentation.

Additionally, the report offers guidance for those looking to improve the structure and systematic translation of CSPs objectives to delivery program actions.

The report looks at 152 CSPs written in 2013, in addition to 15 of the subsequent delivery programs from the local government areas of Sydney, Wollongong, Gosford, Marrickville, Blue Mountains, Pittwater, Maitland, Wingecarribee, Bathurst, Kempsey, Leeton, Temora, Carrathool, Brewarrina and Wollondilly.

The reports main findings include:

- NSW local governments have embraced HEAL principles in general, however many have experienced difficulty in translating these principles into clearly defined objectives, strategies and actions within their IP&R documentation.
- Nearly half of all CSPs objectives relating to HEAL are associated with 'getting people active' whilst 'healthy eating' objectives account for nine per cent.
- Rural councils were found to be more likely to include healthy eating objectives within their CSPs than larger metropolitan councils. Further investigation into the nature of these objectives and their translation into action is needed.
- There is substantial improvement to be made in identifying appropriate and meaningful assessment methods for CSPs objectives.
- The translation of CSPs HEAL objectives into delivery program actions varied considerably; some documents followed a logical and reasoned approach while the linkage between documents in others was difficult to determine.
- The translation of CSPs HEAL objectives to delivery program actions was found to be heavily influenced by the structure, complexity and content of the CSPs.

Community

Item 12: Live Work Play Conference – Disability Inclusion

The NSW Department of Family and Community Services invites councils to register for a conference (Sydney, 17-18 May) showcasing the building of an inclusive society for people with disability.

This is an opportunity to link with peers and organisations leading the inclusion conversation and setting the direction for the future.

Presentations, discussions, meeting and workshops will focus on:

- Employment for people with disability
- Liveable communities and accessible and inclusive tourism planning
- Assistive technology and accessible IT to enhance inclusion for all, particularly people with disability.

Attendees will gain insights from industry leaders - accessible technology expert Professor Hung Ngyuen, Dr Karen E. Wolffe, international employment expert for people with vision impairment and Mark McLane, Head of Global Diversity and Inclusion for Barclays PLC – and be joined by a host of other national leaders in tourism, technology, disability and business discussing the latest initiatives to support inclusion across NSW.

Councils requiring assistance to attend please contact [Anita Ceravolo](#) at LGNSW.

Dates and location

17-18 May, 2017

International Convention Centre
Sydney

Register at:

[Live Work Play Conference](#)

Contact:

Anita Ceravolo

LGNSW

9242 4127

anita.ceravolo@lgnsw.org.au

if you require assistance to attend

Ref: R16/0018 AC

Community

Item 13: Social Housing Community Improvement Fund 2017 – Applications Open

Applications are now open to local councils and community organisations for the NSW Government's \$8 million Social Housing Community Improvement Fund.

The Social Housing Community Improvement Fund aims to create better and stronger social housing communities by improving local amenities through the provision of a one-off grant to undertake physical improvements near to, or on, social housing communities or sites.

Grants of between \$2,000 and \$50,000 per project are available for physical improvement projects in social housing communities or sites, or at facilities and areas frequently used by social housing tenants. This includes:

- improving community facilities
- enhancing open space
- increasing accessibility for older people or people with a disability
- improving safety and or
- facilitating better integration between social housing and the surrounding community.

Under previous funding rounds, councils have received \$3 million in funding to support 70 projects benefiting local communities and social housing tenants.

For more information and to apply, visit [Social Housing Community Improvement Website](#).

Applications close
10 May 2017

Online information
[Fund information](#)

Contact
1800 379 184

Community

Item 14: Reconciliation Week Funding – Closing Date Extended to 5 May 2017

Councils are encouraged to finalise applications for funding to help communities celebrate National Reconciliation Week 2017 by close 5 May 2017.

National Reconciliation Week 27 May – 3 June 2017, is particularly significant as it commemorates 50 years since the 1967 referendum and 25 years since the historic Mabo High Court decision.

Grants of up to \$5,000, have been made available under the Indigenous Advancement Strategy Culture Capability Program and presents an opportunity for councils to work in partnership with a local Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander community organisation.

The theme for National Reconciliation Week 2017 is 'Let's Take the Next Steps' and funding is aimed at helping meet the costs of local activities that honour and respect both anniversaries and their significance to all Australians. Activities could include community BBQs, flag raising ceremonies or cultural showcases.

Dates

Applications close 5 May 2017

Online information

[Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet website](#)

[Reconciliation Week website](#)

Contact

NRW2017@pmc.gov.au

Or by phone to the PM&C Regional Network on 1800 079 098

Ref: R90/0001 MK

Industrial Relations

Item 15: Councillor and Mayoral Fees, and the Categorisation of Councils

Councils are advised that councillor and mayoral fees for the 2017/18 financial year need to be adjusted following the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal's review of annual fees.

The Tribunal has awarded an annual fee increase of 2.5 per cent, which is in accordance with the public sector wages policy cap. The increase takes effect from 1 July 2017.

Section 241 of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW) requires the Tribunal to determine the maximum and minimum amount of fees to be paid to mayors and councillors, as well as chairpersons and members of county councils. In addition, the Tribunal is required to determine the categories of councils under the Act. The level of fees paid to councillors and mayors will depend upon which category the council is placed in.

- The category "Principal City" has been renamed "Principal CBD"
- The category "Major City" has been renamed "Major CBD"
- The category "Metropolitan Major" has been renamed "Metropolitan Large"
- The category "Metropolitan Centre" has been renamed "Metropolitan Medium"
- The category "Metropolitan" has been renamed "Metropolitan Small"
- The two new categories created are called "Regional City" and "Regional Strategic Centre".

Councils should review the Tribunal's determination to find out which category they are in.

Online information

[Remuneration Tribunal Website](#)

Contact

Industrial Officer, LGNSW
Member Services Division
02 9242 4142

member.services@lgnsw.org.au

Ref: R93/0006 BR

Procurement

Item 16: Procurement Training

Local Government Procurement is offering a series of training courses in Sydney for council staff.

Advanced Contract Management

Sydney CBD – Tuesday 16 & Wednesday 17 May 2017

This two-day course, designed to advance skills in contract management, is suitable for people managing or 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.](#) [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.](#) [Register online.](#)

Supplier Tender Training

Sydney CBD – Tuesday 20 June 2017

This module will teach you basic principles and best practice in tender writing for local government. Our experienced trainers will assist you to develop your skills and confidence in bid writing. [More information.](#) [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 are per the 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.](#) [Register online.](#)

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 how to gain approvals, develop procurement plans, legislation and documentation such as specification requirements, the Request for Tender and the Tender Evaluation Plan. Participants must attend all four blocks are per the 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.](#) [Register online.](#)

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 17: Procurement eLearning Webinar

Local Government Procurement is holding a free webinar (2 May 2017) on the aims and benefits of its eLearning program.

ProcureLearn offers a 'right now' approach to training with bite-sized modules which are accessible from computer or laptop. The program is specifically designed for NSW council employees who are engaged in any aspect of purchasing.

The 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 FAQ and an ask-the-expert forum.

ProcureLearn eLearning modules include:

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

Included with the three-package course, 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

Roads and Transport

Item 18: Free Registration Opportunity for Councillors for the 2017 NSW Local Roads Congress - Making Our Roads Work

The Roads & Transport Directorate and LGNSW are offering free registration for councillors for the Local Roads Congress and Congress Dinner at NSW Parliament House (5 June 2017).

Council senior infrastructure managers or directors of engineering who register for this annual congress can also register a councillor at no additional cost.

The NSW Roads Congress provides a forum for mayors, councillors, administrators, general managers and senior engineering staff to have access to ministers and senior NSW Government staff to discuss current issues.

Congress' hosts, the Road & Transport Directorate and LGNSW, recognise the difficulties local governments face in attempting to solve roads and transport issues in isolation. Hence, an aim of the congress is to collectively solve issues through discussion, education, ongoing and sustained advocacy and speaking with one voice.

It is an opportunity to meet together under a local government banner to up the ante for additional road funding while also catching up with the latest in roads and transport.

Dates and location

Monday 5 June 2017
Parliament House, Sydney

Online information

www.ipwea.org/nsw

Contact

Events & Operations Manager
Carina Jakobsen,
02 82673006
carina.jakobsen@ipwea.org
R90/0724 RC

Learning

Item 19: LGNSW Courses to Develop New Thinking

LGNSW runs short courses to help managers and staff develop thinking skills and political awareness.

Understanding Strategic Thinking (new course)

Sydney – Friday 12 May 2017

This practical workshop will introduce the concept of strategic thinking, explore the skills involved and consider how they can be used to improve organisational efficiency and effectiveness. The workshop includes presentations, case studies, individual exercises and group discussions.

The workshop is suitable for senior staff, managers, strategists, HR professionals, mayors and councillors who see opportunities to get better results through new ways of working. [More information.](#)

Systems Thinking

Sydney – Thursday 1 June 2017

Discover how systems thinking allows for improvement at the organisational, departmental or team level by focusing on understanding and anticipating the potential consequences of all actions. Some of the key questions explored are:

- What is a systems view and how does it contribute to organisational efficiency?
- Why is systems thinking fundamental to excellence models?
- What are the key elements for any council?
- How can systems thinking be used to amalgamate councils or drive collaboration within a joint organisation?

[More information](#)

Political Awareness

Sydney – Thursday 22 June 2017

Learn how to develop effective working relationships with elected representatives when formulating strategy and developing sustainable services for the community.

Designed for managers, coordinators and team leaders, the course content includes:

- Mapping the political terrain and identifying decision-making influences
- Identifying the black, white and grey of working at the political/managerial interface
- Boundary spanning – a framework for operating effectively in the grey area
- Developing a politically aware approach
- Innovative ways to develop political awareness in your council, yourself and your team.

[More information](#)

Contact [LGNSW Learning Solutions](#) to discuss running a course in-house or with other organisations in your area.

Online information

[LGNSW Training](#)

Registrations

[Register here](#)

Contact

LGNSW Learning Solutions
02 9242 4081

learning@lgnsw.org.au

Ref: I98/0012 SA

Learning

Item 20: LGNSW's Upcoming Public Courses

LGNSW is offering a range of workshops to local government professionals and elected members (May–June 2017).

Workshops are provided at competitive rates and are specifically designed for the local government sector.

Social Media

Sydney – Tuesday 9 May 2017

Learn how to reach, inform, educate and engage with citizens using social media. [More information.](#)

Price Setting for Fees and Charges

Sydney – Tuesday 16 May 2017

Learn how to develop and apply effective price setting for significant outcome improvements. [More information](#)

Award History and Interpretation

Sydney – Thursday 18 May 2017

Get up-to-speed on the application and interpretation of *the Local Government (State) Award 2014* in this course. [More information.](#)

Know your Planning (for elected members)

Sydney – Friday 19 May 2017

Learn about how to make planning decisions that matter. [More information.](#)

Making Consultative Committees More Effective

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

Gain an understanding of the roles and responsibilities of consultative committees in the local government context. [More information.](#)

Community and Stakeholder Engagement

Sydney – Friday 2 June 2017

Gain improved skills and insights into effective community and stakeholder engagement. [More information.](#)

Local Training

Contact [LGNSW Learning Solutions](#) to discuss running a course in-house or with other organisations in your area.

Online information

[LGNSW Training](#)

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

Registrations

[Learning Solutions registrations](#)

Contact

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

Ref: I98/0012 SA

Learning

Item 21: Effective Communication in the Workplace – Free Webinar

LGNSW is offering a free pilot webinar (30 May 2017) which provides an introduction to one of the many aspects of career management.

Working in collaboration with Jane Jackson Careers, LGNSW is providing career development coaching for employees seeking to improve confidence and performance in their current role or apply for new positions within their organisation.

This pilot webinar is suitable for managers and staff at all levels who'd like to learn about the four key communication styles, how to identify your style, the style of others and how natural communication style may change during times of stress.

At the end of the webinar, participants will understand how to adapt personal communication styles to clearly get the message across, even when under pressure.

Registration is essential.

Date

May 30, 2017 12:00 PM

Cost

Free

Registrations

[Register here](#)

Contact

Jennifer James
LGNSW Learning Solutions
02 9242 4085
learning@lgnsw.org.au

Ref: I98/0012 SA

Learning

Item 22: LGNSW Writing Courses in June 2017

LGNSW is offering short courses in report writing, grammar and punctuation and resume writing.

Courses include:

Improving Your Report Writing

Sydney – Thursday 8 June 2017

Gain the skills needed to write effective, clear and concise reports. Working individually and in groups, this interactive course will cover topics such as target audience, report purpose, report layout, structure, grammar and punctuation, proof-reading and evaluation. [More information](#).

Resume Writing and Interview Skills

Sydney – Thursday 22 June 2017

Learn how to present a professional, well-structured and targeted resume and cover letter and prepare successful responses to behavioural interview questions. [More information](#)

Improving Your Grammar and Punctuation

Sydney – Tuesday 27 June 2017

Increase the professionalism of your writing by applying the rules of grammar and punctuation. Learn to identify errors, use punctuation marks effectively, construct phrases, sentences and paragraphs, and give impact to your statements. [More information](#).

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

Online information

[LGNSW Training](#)

Registrations

[Learning Solutions registrations](#)

Contact

LGNSW Learning Solutions

02 9242 4081

learning@lgnsw.org.au

Ref: I98/0012 SA

In the News

Item 23: Local Government NSW Media

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

Item 24: ALGA Newsletter

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