

## **Message from the President**

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

## **Stronger Country Communities Fund**

The NSW Government is inviting applications for grants under the new \$200 million Stronger Country Communities Fund.

## **Environmental Impact Assessment for State Significant Projects**

The NSW Department of Planning and Environment is seeking comment on proposed changes to environmental impact assessment for state significant projects.

## **New LGNSW Planning Award**

LGNSW has launched new planning awards to recognise excellence in planning and development services and invites members to submit entries (by 25 August).

## **Local Government Week 2017**

It's time to activate plans for Local Government Week events and campaigns.

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## Message from the President

Cr Keith Rhoades AFSM

Friday 14 July 2017



### Upcoming elections

This week we continued our campaign to encourage potential candidates of every age, gender and political allegiance to consider standing for September council elections when nominations open on July 31. Modern councillors must not only represent their communities but work together at the strategic level in board-like structures to help govern multi-million dollar operations.

To help recruit quality candidates, and so candidates can assess whether they are suited to the role, we have been busy conducting candidate briefing sessions on behalf of councils (15 in recent weeks with 18 more scheduled). [Let us know](#) if you are interested in holding a briefing in your area.

### Building safety

London's Grenfell disaster is still dominating headlines. While the NSW Government's taskforce gathers data and prepares recommendations, it is reassuring that neither LGNSW nor councils have been sitting on their hands in the meantime. LGNSW communicated with all councils early on about the importance of local government being part of a constructive government response where all players do their bit, and in the month since the tragedy, a number of NSW councils have begun the task of auditing high-rise buildings in their areas.

We wrote to government this week to provide an update and to seek information (about auditing of buildings approved by private certifiers and state agencies, testing of cladding, and possible regulatory arrangements), all in the context of the urgent and longstanding need to tackle the many deficiencies of the building and planning regulatory systems that have been identified in successive government reviews. LGNSW has been steadfast in its demands for action in this regard, especially around the private certification system and its poor record in terms of fire safety.

### Crown lands

This week LGNSW's Chief Executive Donna Rygate met with senior staff from the NSW Department of Industry – Lands and Forestry to discuss new Crown Lands legislation as well as assistance for councils to develop plans of management and manage native title issues. On a related matter, members are reminded to lodge expressions of interest for the [Land Negotiation Program](#) by 18 August.

### Infrastructure and transport

New community infrastructure funding is available under the Government's [\\$200 million Stronger Country Communities Fund](#). Rural and regional councils can apply for grants for a wide range of projects. Applications close 9 August. [Read more](#)

Today Donna and I met with a key advisor to the Federal Minister for Infrastructure and Transport to discuss transport and infrastructure funding. Financial assistance grants, Roads to Recovery and Black Spot programs, community infrastructure, and communication services in regional areas were all on our agenda.

### Other significant meetings

Earlier in the week, Donna met with council representatives and Roads and Maritime Services to highlight the importance of road management council contracts. She also met with the NSW Information and Privacy Commissioner to talk about constructive opportunities to work together to help councils meet their obligations, with the team doing a capability review of Crown Lands - Lands & Forestry, and had the regular catchup with the Office of Local Government.

Today, we were delighted to be host a meeting with the Kanto Association, an organisation of 127 heads of towns and villages in Japan. We discussed issues of common interest such as decreasing populations in some regions, ageing populations, regional promotion and revitalisation, local government funding, and renewable energy.

**Planning awards**

Yesterday we launched new awards to recognise excellence in planning and development services. There are two categories: Excellence in Leadership, and Culture Change Through Innovation and Excellence. Entries are open until 25 August and winners will be announced at an LGNSW planning breakfast at NSW Parliament House on 24 October. [Read more](#).

**Local Government Week (31 July - 6 August 2017)**

[Local Government Week](#) is only a few short weeks away but there's still time to get organised and involved. Check [our website](#) for resources, event ideas, or information on participating via social media. Local Government Week provides a great opportunity for the sector to collectively promote the value and diversity of services that councils offer. Roads, rates and rubbish are important but we do so much more. Encourage your communication and media staff join our online [LGNSW Communication Network](#), if they're not already members, so they can share ideas.

Yours sincerely



Cr Keith Rhoades AFSM

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#### Item 9: Library Plan Templates

The State Library has developed a set of library plan templates that can be used to plan new libraries and library extensions.

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The NSW Government is inviting applications for grants under the new \$200 million Stronger Country Communities Fund.

### Environment

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The NSW Environment Protection Agency has written to councils asking them to identify sites which may be contaminated by the use of per- and poly -fluoroalkyl substances, such as fire-fighting foam.

#### Item 12: Waste Less, Recycle More Grant Timetable

The NSW Environment Protection Authority has released a grant timetable for the Waste Less, Recycle More program for July 2017 to June 2021.

**Item 13: Council Roadside Reserves Environmental Grants announced**

LGNSW has provided 21 grants totalling \$1,205,206 to councils to improve the environmental management of roadside reserves.

**Finance****Item 14: Taxable Payments Reporting for Government**

Taxable payments reporting for local government entities started on 1 July 2017.

**Planning****Item 15: Environmental Impact Assessment for State Significant Projects**

The NSW Department of Planning and Environment is seeking comment on proposed changes to environmental impact assessment for state significant projects.

**Item 16: Infrastructure Australia Releases Corridor Protection Paper**

Infrastructure Australia has published a policy paper on the protection of corridors for future infrastructure projects.

**Item 17: Affordable Housing Forum**

Councils are invited to a one-day affordable housing forum in Sydney on 24 July. Registrations close on Monday.

**Learning****Item 18: New Cyber Safety and Awareness course**

A new LGNSW one-day course will give staff and managers an understanding of how to reduce cyber security risks.

**Item 19: LGNSW Learning and Development Network Meeting**

Learning and organisational development professionals are invited to attend LGNSW's free quarterly L&D network meeting in Sydney on 5 September.

**Item 20: New Industry Training Advisory Body (ITAB) for local government**

LGNSW is represented on the new NSW Public Sector ITAB Board, funded by the NSW Government to provide advice on the sector's vocational education and training needs.

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LGNSW courses are scheduled in Sydney and regional NSW over coming weeks.

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

## Awards

### Item 1: Award Opportunities

#### **New LGNSW Planning Award**

LGNSW has launched new planning awards to recognise excellence in planning and development services and invites members to submit entries (by 25 August).

## Conferences and Events

### Item 2: Upcoming Conferences and Events

#### **LGNSW Water Management Conference**

Secure your place at the LGNSW Water Management Conference (4-6 September, Dubbo).

#### **Local Government Week 2017**

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#### **Investing in Communities: 2017 NCOSS Regional Conferences**

The NSW Council of Social Services is inviting councils to help shape its advocacy priorities through a series of regional consultations this month and next.

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## Grants and Funding

### Item 3: Grant and Funding Opportunities for Local Government

#### **Grants of up to \$150,000 to Trial Violence Prevention Toolkit**

The Department of Social Services has grants available for five local government areas to trial a Local Government Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Prevention Toolkit.

#### **Stronger Country Communities Fund**

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#### **Waste Less, Recycle More Grant Timetable**

The NSW Environment Protection Authority has released a grant timetable for the Waste Less, Recycle More program for July 2017 to June 2021.

## General Interest

### Item 4: LGNSW Water Management Conference

#### Secure your place at the LGNSW Water Management Conference (4-6 September, Dubbo).

Considered the leading water management conference in NSW, this event is a must-attend for water utility managers and professionals with an interest in urban water supply and sewerage services as well as broader sustainable water management issues.

Delegates can share knowledge with peers from more than 50 NSW councils and benefit from expert presentations, case studies and discussions including:

- The NSW Government's urban water policy priorities
- Security and quality of urban water supplies
- Moving towards customer-centred economic regulation
- Drinking water quality management
- Delivering challenging infrastructure
- Intelligent water networks and smart water meters
- Discussion of innovative strategic data use and analysis.

Registrations close COB Monday 21 August. [Download the registration brochure](#) and the [draft program](#).

Dubbo Regional Council is hosting this year's conference. See travel and accommodation options on [LGNSW's website](#).

The conference is made possible by the support of sponsors: Department of Primary Industries, Water Directorate and Wastelink.

#### Dates and location

4 – 6 September 2017  
Dubbo RSL Memorial Club  
178 Brisbane Street, Dubbo

#### Online information

[LGNSW Water Management Conference 2017](#)

#### [Registration](#)

#### Contact

Events Team, LGNSW  
02 9242 4000  
[events@lgnsw.org.au](mailto:events@lgnsw.org.au)

**Ref:** R16/0015 TA

## General Interest

### Item 5: Local Government Week 2017

#### It's time to activate plans for Local Government Week events and campaigns.

Local Government Week celebrates and showcases the diversity of services councils offer to communities by getting people involved in local activities, events and programs.

If you haven't organised any Local Government Week events, there is still time.

Useful LGNSW resources are [available online](#) including:

- Ideas for activities that encourage people to get to know more about the valuable services council has to offer, and
- Ready to use promotional materials such as:
  - posters
  - Local Government Week logos
  - media release template
  - key messages
  - ideas about where to advertise events.

Remember to make the most of your communication channels by cross marketing with other council activities, websites, community groups, and the local paper.

Include social media in your plans. Consider running competitions that encourage community pride and engagement, share news and information about your events and positive stories about all the services operated by your council.

Don't forget to use the hashtag '#lgweek2017' when you promote Local Government Week events and activities on Twitter.

**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, Sydney

**Online information**

Local Government Week

Promotional Material

Activities

**Contact**

Meg Fisher, Events Manager, LGNSW  
[events@lgnsw.org.au](mailto:events@lgnsw.org.au)  
02 9242 4044

**Ref:** R16/ 0027 TA

## General Interest

### Item 6: New LGNSW Planning Award

**LGNSW has launched new planning awards to recognise excellence in planning and development services and invites members to submit entries (by 25 August).**

Recognising individuals, teams and councils, the awards will focus specifically on: leadership and culture change, innovation and excellence, recognising actions to promote co-operation, participation and the delivery of positive and pragmatic outcomes in the planning and development area.

The award categories are:

- **Excellence in Leadership – Outstanding Individual Contribution**
  - Division A: Outstanding individual contribution – Metropolitan (i.e. within Greater Sydney Commission's districts)
  - Division B: Outstanding individual contribution – Large regional (i.e. population over 30,000, outside Greater Sydney Commission's districts)
  - Division C: Outstanding individual contribution – Rural/regional (i.e. population under 30,000, outside Greater Sydney Commission's districts)
- **Culture Change Through Innovation and Excellence – Team or Council**
  - Division A: Metropolitan (i.e. within Greater Sydney Commission's districts)
  - Division B: Large regional (i.e. population over 30,000, outside Greater Sydney Commission's districts)
  - Division C: Rural/regional (i.e. population under 30,000, outside Greater Sydney Commission's districts)

There are three divisions for each category with a winner and one highly commended to be awarded in each.

Entries are now open and close Friday 25 August 2017. Entry is open to NSW member councils only.

Winners will be announced at the LGNSW Planning Breakfast on Tuesday 24 October 2017 at Parliament House.

The awards are sponsored by the NSW Department of Planning and Environment.

For more information about each category and submission criteria, see the [planning awards page](#) on the LGNSW website.

**Dates**

Applications close 25 August 2017

**Online information**

[LGNSW Planning Award 2017](#)

**Award Presentation**

LGNSW Planning Breakfast on Tuesday  
24 October 2017 at Parliament House

**Contact**

Events, LGNSW  
02 9242 4000  
[events@lgnsw.org.au](mailto:events@lgnsw.org.au)

**Ref:** R16/0027 TA

## Community

### Item 7: Grants of up to \$150,000 to Trial Violence Prevention Toolkit

**The Department of Social Services has grants available for five local government areas to trial a Local Government Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Prevention Toolkit.**

The toolkit development is an action under the National Plan to Reduce Violence Against Women and their Children 2010 – 2022 Third Action Plan.

The toolkit aims to promote partnerships with business, sporting organisations and community groups to act against violence and show leadership.

The Department will coordinate national trials of the toolkit in five local government areas between February and December next year and is seeking nominations from councils in a range of settings including urban and rural and with particular community characteristics.

Grants of up to \$150,000 will be available for each trial site selected.

LGNSW can nominate two NSW sites and is seeking one-page expressions of interest (EOIs) from member councils by 26 July.

The EOIs need to address:

- leadership commitment and support for domestic, family and sexual violence prevention
- commitment to building capacity and/or some existing understanding of violence prevention
- capacity or potential to develop and sustain new cross-community partnerships
- the potential to build on and add value to existing violence prevention activities
- infrastructure, supports and services available in the event of an increase in reporting, and
- a short rationale on how the EOI/nomination fits the criteria.

### NSW Local Government Domestic & Family Violence Network

LGNSW has established an informal network for member council staff who work with domestic and family violence. The network provides a mechanism for consultation on policies and projects to inform LGNSW's representations and advocacy. It also provides a way for councils to raise advocacy issues, share information, collaborate, and solve problems.

If you would like to join the NSW Local Government DFV Network please email Liz Gemes, Senior Policy Officer, LGNSW.

#### Dates and location

Expressions of interest deadline:  
Wednesday 26 July 2017

#### Contact

Liz Gemes, Senior Policy Officer,  
LGNSW

Tel: 02 9242 4063  
[liz.gemes@lgnsw.org.au](mailto:liz.gemes@lgnsw.org.au)

Ref: R90/0071-03 LG

## Community

### Item 8: Investing in Communities: 2017 NCOSS Regional Conferences

**The NSW Council of Social Services is inviting councils to help shape its advocacy priorities through a series of regional consultations this month and next.**

The NSW Council of Social Services (NCOSS) is the peak body for health and community services in NSW. It advocates for solutions to poverty and inequality.

This is a chance to help shape NCOSS advocacy priorities, meet ministers, showcase local initiatives and discuss solutions to local problems.

Discussions will focus on housing, gender equality and domestic violence, health, children, young people and families as well as disability.

Afternoon workshops will be hosted by other peak bodies and government departments including the Department of Finance, Services and Innovation and Insurance and Care NSW. The registration form and full program are available [online](#).

#### **Dates and location**

18 July - Coffs Harbour  
25 July – Orange  
31 July – Kiama  
8 August – Parramatta  
15 August - Newcastle  
22 August - Wagga Wagga

#### **Cost**

Free for NCOSS members  
\$30 for non-members

#### **Online information**

[Investing in Communities: 2017  
NCOSS Regional Conferences](#)

#### **Contact**

Rhiannon Cook  
NCOSS Policy Lead  
02 8960 7912  
[rhiannon@ncoss.org.au](mailto:rhiannon@ncoss.org.au)

**Ref:** R09/0029 ER

## Community

### Item 9: Library Plan Templates

**The State Library has developed a set of library plan templates that can be used to plan new libraries and library extensions.**

The templates are now available on the [State Library website](#).

They include layouts of 190, 250, 500 and 1,000 square metres, as well as modules that can be put together to create usable library spaces of different sizes. The modules can also be used to extend existing library spaces, for example to include additional seating areas or a meeting room.

The plans can be used in conjunction with [People Places](#) and other building tools available on the State Library website.

State Library consultants are available to assist councils in the use of the plans and modules.

#### **Online information**

[State Library Website: Modular Library Project](#)

#### **Other Library tools:**

[Library buildings and spaces](#)

#### **Contact**

Kate O'Grady, Consultant, State Library NSW  
92731699  
[Kate.ogrady@sl.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Kate.ogrady@sl.nsw.gov.au)

**Ref:** R92/003 MK

## Community

### Item 10: Stronger Country Communities Fund

**The NSW Government is inviting applications for grants under the new \$200 million Stronger Country Communities Fund.**

Councils outside Sydney, Newcastle and Wollongong are eligible.

The Stronger Country Communities Fund is available to all 92 NSW regional local government areas (outside Sydney, Newcastle and Wollongong), Lord Howe Island and the Unincorporated Far West.

State government agencies and non-government organisations can submit eligible community infrastructure projects, in partnership with local councils. Applicants must be local government authorities and they are responsible for submitting applications.

Funds are available to build new parks, playgrounds and cycle pathways and refurbish local schools, health facilities, libraries and community centres. The fund will support projects of between \$100,000 and \$1 million in value, or more with financial co-contribution.

For 2017 (Round 1), local government areas have been allocated to tranche A, B or C. Councils can only apply in the assigned call for application assigned to their LGA. The schedule is:

- Tranche A applications (open 7 July, close 9 August 2017)
- Tranche B applications (open 16 August, close 13 September 2017)
- Tranche C applications (open 20 September, close 18 October 2017)

Projects supported include:

- building new community facilities (such as parks, playgrounds, walking and cycle pathways)
- refurbishing existing local facilities (such as community centres and libraries)
- enhancing local parks and the supporting facilities (such as kitchens and toilet blocks).

Local councils must consult with their communities to identify project proposals that meet community needs and aspirations. The Government will give priority to projects that provide local jobs and support local businesses.

The Stronger Country Communities Fund will use 'choice-modelling' driven by local communities to ensure investment in projects that support their aspirations.

The fund was announced in the 2017/18 NSW Budget. It is part of new funding under the NSW Government's \$1.3 billion Regional Growth Fund, designed to improve economic growth and productivity through investment in regional communities.

#### Dates and location

**Tranche A applications** open 7 July, close 9 August 2017

**Tranche B applications** open 16 August, close 13 September 2017

**Tranche C applications** open 20 September, close 18 October 2017

#### Online information

[Stronger Communities Website](#)

#### Contact

**Phone:** 9842 8681

**Email:**  
[enquiries.sccf@industry.nsw.gov.au](mailto:enquiries.sccf@industry.nsw.gov.au)

**Ref:** R92/0015 MK

## Environment

### Item 11: Pollution Investigation Program

The NSW Environment Protection Agency has written to councils asking them to identify sites which may be contaminated by the use of per- and poly -fluoroalkyl substances, such as fire-fighting foam.

The EPA requests information on sites where:

- Fire-fighting foams were used from 1975 to 2005
- Foams are still stored, such as airports, training grounds, council depots and waste facilities.

Councils need to supply information on:

- The name and location of sites
- how per- and poly -fluoroalkyl (PFAS)-containing substances were used
- the period and frequency of use.

PFAs are a group of chemicals widely used in a range of everyday products. They are heat and chemical resistant, bio-accumulative and toxic. They are slow to break down in the environment and can contaminate groundwater and aquatic life.

PFAs have no known human health impacts but the EPA takes a precautionary approach to help it respond if problems develop. The program focuses on sites with historically high use of PFAS and areas where contact could have occurred with the chemicals, such as bore and surface water.

#### Dates

Respond to the EPA by 18 August 2017

#### Online information

[EPA website: PFAs Investigation Program](#)

#### Contact

NSW EPA  
[pfas.project@epa.nsw.gov.au](mailto:pfas.project@epa.nsw.gov.au)

Ref: R90/0897 SC

## Environment

### Item 12: Waste Less, Recycle More Grant Timetable

The NSW Environment Protection Authority has released a grant timetable for the Waste Less, Recycle More program for July 2017 to June 2021.

Waste Less, Recycle More will deliver \$337 million to improve the waste industry over the next four years. Waste Less, Recycle More is expected to deliver over 1000 projects, processing more than 2.2 million tonnes of waste and creating 845 jobs.

The initiative includes a range of grants available to NSW councils covering a number of waste issues.

The following grants will open this quarter:

- Organics infrastructure
- Aboriginal Communities
- Litter regional implementation grants
- Weighbridges
- Community recycling centre infrastructure
- Landfill consolidation and environmental improvements
- Clean up and prevention, charitable recyclers grants
- Major resource recovery infrastructure
- Resource recovery expansion and enhancement
- Bin trim grants

[Click here](#) for a full timetable of grants scheduled through to 31 June 2021.

#### Online information

[Waste Less, Recycle More grants](#)

#### Contact

[NSW Environment Protection Authority](#)

Ref: R90/0994 LD

## Environment

### Item 13: Council Roadside Reserves Environmental Grants announced

**LGNSW has provided 21 grants totalling \$1,205,206 to councils to improve the environmental management of roadside reserves.**

These grants are part of the Council Roadside Reserves Project, managed by LGNSW and funded by the NSW Environmental Trust.

The grants aim to help councils embed the value of natural assets in roadside reserves into their Integrated Planning and Reporting systems.

A list of successful projects and a description of each project is available online and feedback is available to councils who were unsuccessful in their applications.

For further information contact Kathy Godfrey, Project Officer – CRR Project.

**On-line information**

[Successful CRR grants](#)  
[CRR website](#)

**Contact**

Kathy Godfrey  
Project Officer – CRR Project  
9242 4053  
[kathy.godfrey@lgnsw.org.au](mailto:kathy.godfrey@lgnsw.org.au)

**Ref:** R16/0004 KMC

## Finance

### Item 14: Taxable Payments Reporting for Government

#### Taxable payments reporting for local government entities started on 1 July 2017.

Councils now need to record information about payments made to businesses for services. These need to be reported to the ATO in a taxable payments annual report.

The information will be used in the ATO's pre-filing service to make it easier for individual businesses to lodge their tax returns.

It will also allow the ATO to identify businesses that haven't included all their income in their tax return.

The first annual report for the 2017/18 financial year is due by 28 August 2018.

More information is available on the [ATO website](#).

**Dates**

First annual report due 28 August 2018

**Online information**

[Australian Taxation Office](#)

Ref: R90/0104 SMcB

## Planning

### Item 15: Environmental Impact Assessment for State Significant Projects

**The NSW Department of Planning and Environment is seeking comment on proposed changes to environmental impact assessment for state significant projects.**

The proposed changes place greater emphasis on engaging with communities and other stakeholders and reaching early agreement on the scope of environmental impact statements.

The Department Planning and Environment is seeking feedback on nine draft guidelines which explain in detail the proposed changes to environmental impact assessment (EIA) for state significant projects.

In developing these guidelines the department looked at how NSW approaches EIA and the approach of other jurisdictions, and considered issues raised in earlier consultations last year.

The following guidelines are currently on public exhibition:

Guideline 1: Overview of the EIA project

Guideline 2: Community guide to EIA

Guideline 3: Scoping an environmental impact statement

Guideline 4: Preparing an environmental impact statement

Guideline 5: Responding to submissions

Guideline 6: Community and stakeholder engagement

Guideline 7: Approach to setting conditions

Guideline 8: Modifying an approved project

Guideline 9: Peer review

The documents are on exhibition until 1 September 2017. Community information sessions are being held around the state between 19 July and 10 August.

Background information and details of the proposed amendment can be found on the DP&E web site.

#### Key Dates

Submissions due:  
1 September 2017

Community information sessions  
19 July – 10 August

#### Online information

Department of Planning and Environment's webpage

#### Contact

Jane Partridge  
Senior Policy Officer, LGNSW  
[jane.partridge@lgnsw.org.au](mailto:jane.partridge@lgnsw.org.au)

**Ref:** R90/0489-02 JP

## Planning

### Item 16: Infrastructure Australia Releases Corridor Protection Paper

**Infrastructure Australia has published a policy paper on the protection of corridors for future infrastructure projects.**

Corridor Protection: Planning and investing for the long term is the third paper of Infrastructure Australia's Reform Series advising Australian governments to take action in the next five years to protect vital infrastructure corridors.

The paper refers to linear infrastructure including road, rail, electricity, water and gas corridors. The document advocates long-term planning for infrastructure and notes that governments have done this in the past but have been failing to do so recently.

**Date published:**

7 July 2017

**Online information**

[Infrastructure Australia web site](#)

**Ref:** R90/0444-03 JP

The paper advocates protection and early acquisition of seven corridors identified as national priorities on an Infrastructure Priority List, which could save close to \$11 billion in land purchase and construction costs.

These corridors are:

- East Coast High Speed Rail
- Outer Sydney Orbital
- Outer Melbourne Ring
- Western Sydney Airport Rail Line
- Western Sydney Freight Line
- Hunter Valley Freight Line
- Port of Brisbane Freight Line

Infrastructure Australia is calling on Australian governments to agree a national framework for corridor protection to guide coordinated and meaningful action, to identify and protect land required for delivering future infrastructure.

## Planning

### Item 17: Affordable Housing Forum

**Councils are invited to a one-day affordable housing forum in Sydney on 24 July. Registrations close on Monday.**

The [Affordable Housing Forum 2017](#) is an initiative of the Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (SSROC) and the Planning Institute of Australia, in collaboration with Community Housing Providers.

The Minister for Planning Anthony Roberts and Social Commissioner of the Greater Sydney Commission, Heather Nesbitt, will make keynote presentations.

The forum will focus on real-world solutions to affordable housing. Experts and sector leaders will set the scene for the and a communique will be issued after the event.

The forum is expected to attract representatives from local and state government, community housing and non-government organisations, the development industry, academia and finance, urban development and planning professionals and consultants.

Registrations close on Monday 17 July.

See the [SSROC website](#) for more information and to register.

**Date:**

24 July 2017

**Online information:**

[SSROC website](#)

**Contacts:**

Kate Toohey,  
SSROC

[kate.toohey@ssroc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:kate.toohey@ssroc.nsw.gov.au)  
02 8396 3811

## PIA Events:

[nswevents@planning.org.au](mailto:nswevents@planning.org.au)  
02 7200 0810

**Ref:** R96/0115-11 JP

## Learning

### Item 18: New Cyber Safety and Awareness course

**A new LGNSW one-day course will give staff and managers an understanding of how to reduce cyber security risks.**

Topics include:

- Secure email usage – why email is a threat and how to minimize that threat, business email compromise and email spoofing
- Password security – how to create strong passwords and why we should do it, password managers and how to use them, multi-factor authentication
- Phishing – what it is, how to detect and avoid it
- Social engineering – how it works, techniques to foil social engineers, what to do if you suspect you've been compromised
- Mobile devices in the workplace – risks and steps to take to minimise risk, VPNs
- Social media – benefits and risks, separating work from play online
- Personal data and protecting privacy – protecting your customers' personal information.

Each training session combines discussion, demonstration and practical tasks.

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

**Dates and location**

Thursday 14 September 2017  
Thursday 30 November 2017  
Sydney

**Online Registration**

[Cyber Safety and Awareness](#)

**Cost**

Members: \$660 incl. GST  
Non-members: \$1,320 incl. GST

**Contact**

LGNSW Learning Solutions  
02 9242 4181  
[learning@lgnsw.org.au](mailto:learning@lgnsw.org.au)

**Ref:** I98/0012 SA

## Learning

### Item 19: LGNSW Learning and Development Network Meeting

Learning and organisational development professionals are invited to attend LGNSW's free quarterly L&D network meeting in Sydney on 5 September.

The meeting will feature:

- **The Local Government (State) Award 2017:** Key training-related amendments and requirements - Elizabeth Rooke, Industrial Officer, LGNSW
- **How we learn best:** Lessons from Neuroscience: Engaging adult learners and creating brain-friendly learning environments using insights and research from neuroscience, psychology and the cognitive sciences - Siobhan Sutherland Rogers, Learning and Culture Partner, Waverley Council.
- **The pilot People Matter Survey for Local Government:** What research findings tell us about council employees' perceptions of their workplace - engagement and leadership, values and conduct, workplace experiences, diversity and wellbeing and intentions to stay. Learn how these compare across councils and with state government employees.
- **Continuing Professional Development for learning and development professionals:** How to develop a continuing professional development plan for career development - Neil Von Heupt, Program Manager at the Australian Institute of Training and Development
- **Local Government Capability Framework update:** The final version of the Local Government Capability Framework and the tools being developed to support its implementation - Sarah Artist, Senior Manager, Innovation and Capacity, LGNSW.
- **Council round-up:** Current priorities and challenges in learning and development.

The meeting will be in workshop format and participants will be encouraged to share information with colleagues. [Ideas for future network meetings](#) are invited.

There is also a new [Training Needs Analysis](#) course for learning and development professionals (Sydney, 4 September). It is designed for staff who identify, record and address training needs.

**Date and location**

Tuesday 5 September 2017  
Local Government House  
Level 8, 28 Margaret St Sydney

**Online information**

[Learning and Development Network](#)

**Contact**

Learning Solutions  
02 9242 4181  
[learning@lgnsw.org.au](mailto:learning@lgnsw.org.au)

Ref: I98/0012 SA

## Learning

### Item 20: New Industry Training Advisory Body (ITAB) for local government

**LGNSW is represented on the new NSW Public Sector ITAB Board, funded by the NSW Government to provide advice on the sector's vocational education and training needs.**

Re-established earlier this year by the NSW Department of Industry, the Public Sector ITAB has coverage of local government, public sector, water, corrections and public safety. Its formation follows the closure of the previous NSW Public Sector ITAB in June 2016.

The NSW Government has contracted Australian Industry Standards (AIS) to undertake the role of the Public Sector ITAB. Specifically, its core services are:

- Identification of industry skill needs, priorities and development issues for VET in NSW;
- Promotion of training to industry to assist in the take-up of funded training;
- Advising the Department on apprenticeship and traineeship arrangements in NSW including school based arrangements; and,
- Advising the Department on implications for the NSW training system from the development and review and of National Training Packages.

Council staff and other interested stakeholders who would like to receive emails and newsletters about the activities of the NSW ITAB are encouraged to [subscribe to AIS](#).

**Online information**  
[NSW Public Sector ITAB](#)

**Contact**  
Paul Humphreys  
0429 670 588  
[paul.humphreys@australiaindustrystandards.org.au](mailto:paul.humphreys@australiaindustrystandards.org.au)

**Ref:** I98/0012 SA

## Learning

### Item 21: Upcoming courses – July and August 2017

LGNSW courses are scheduled in Sydney and regional NSW over coming weeks.

#### **Making Consultative Committees More Effective**

Ballina – Friday 21 July; Sydney – Friday 28 July

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

#### **Time Management**

Sydney – Wednesday 26 July 2017

Become more productive through strategies that improve goal setting and time management. [More information.](#)

#### **GIPA Act Advanced Training**

Sydney – Tuesday 1 August 2017

This advanced course is for those who have completed the introductory module or have some Freedom of Information or GIPA Act experience. [More information](#)

Writing Winning Grant Funding Applications

Sydney – Tuesday 8 August 2017

Learn to write persuasive proposals, submissions and grant applications to maximise success. [More information.](#)

#### **Award History and Interpretation**

Sydney – Tuesday 15 August 2017

Understand the application and interpretation of *the Local Government (State) Award 2017* and the factors that have influenced the development of the series of State Awards. [More information.](#)

#### **People and Performance**

Sydney – Thursday 17 August 2017

Learn the art of communicating with different personality types to improve staff performance and motivation. [More information](#)

#### **Handling Difficult People**

Armidale – Thursday 24 August 2017; Sydney – Friday 25 August 2017

Help staff to manage difficult situations in a safe way with minimal stress. [More information](#)

#### **Springboard Women's Development Program (4 day program)**

Sydney – Thursday 31 August 2017 (Day 1), Thursday 21 September 2017 (Day 2), Thursday 12 October 2017 (Day 3), Thursday 2 November 2017 (Day 4); Mentor's Development Program – Wednesday 30 August 2017 (half-day)

This program assists women in non-management positions to develop skills and knowledge in order to reach greater career goals. [More information](#)

#### **Local Training**

Visit the [LGNSW website](#) for the full list of courses that can be delivered in-house.

#### **Online information**

[LGNSW Training](#)

#### **Cost for one day courses**

LGNSW Members \$660 incl. GST  
Non-members: \$1320 incl. GST

#### **Cost for Springboard Program**

LGNSW Members \$1320 inc GST;  
Non-members \$2640 inc GST

#### **Registrations**

[Learning Solutions registrations](#)

#### **Contact**

LGNSW Learning Solutions  
02 9242 4081  
[learning@lgnsw.org.au](mailto:learning@lgnsw.org.au)

**Ref:** I98/0012 SA

## In the News

### Item 22: ALGA Newsletter

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