

Message from the President

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

Rate Path Freeze Legislation for Amalgamated Councils

The NSW Government introduced the Local Government Amendment (Rates—Merged Council Areas) Bill 2017 to Parliament on Tuesday 7 March 2017.

Boost for Regional Growth – New Environment and Tourism Fund

Councils and Aboriginal land councils in regional NSW are invited to submit expressions of interest in the new \$300 million Regional Growth – Environment and Tourism Fund for infrastructure project funding.

Expressions of Interest for Destination Networks' Headquarters

The NSW Government is inviting expressions of interests from councils wishing to headquarter the state's six new tourism destination networks.

New Minister to Speak at LGNSW Planning Breakfast - Limited Seats

Registrations for the year's first LGNSW planning breakfast (Tuesday 21 March) at Parliament House close mid-next week, if not sold out prior.

Mayors' Weekend Seminar – Last Chance to Register

There are still a few places for mayors, deputy mayors and aspiring mayors at the Mayors' Weekend Seminar next weekend (18 – 19 March).

New LGNSW Learning Courses for Managers and Staff

LGNSW has introduced two new programs aimed to improve people management skills and the resilience and wellbeing of employees.

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Message from the President

Cr Keith Rhoades AFSM

Friday 10 March 2017



Two Bills of importance to our sector were introduced into Parliament this week. Legislation for the Fire and Emergency Services Levy (FESL) (previously called the Emergency Services Property Levy - ESPL) was tabled on Tuesday. LGNSW has advocated strongly on this issue on behalf of members, and aside from the retention of 11.7% council contribution which we continue to oppose, has had considerable success in improving the legislation. A LGNSW member message was issued on Thursday with further details.

Also introduced this week was the rate path freeze legislation for amalgamated councils. LGNSW has actively opposed the freeze concept Bill since its inception and will continue to advocate for its rejection. [Read more.](#)

During the week, LGNSW Chief Executive Donna Rygate and I met with members of Parliament Paul Green (Christian Democratic Party), David Shoebridge (The Greens), and Robert Borsak, Robert Brown and Philip Donato (Shooters, Fishers and Farmers Party). In each meeting we discussed a range of issues affecting the sector including the rate path freeze, amalgamations, joint organisations, the Far West Initiative, the Local Government Act Review, IPART reviews, sector capability and the emergency services levy. LGNSW senior staff also caught up with the Office of Local Government staff on Tuesday.

I attended a farewell luncheon for former Roads Minister Duncan Gay on Monday. On Tuesday, Donna and I joined Minister Upton, the Minister for Women, Tanya Davies, and numerous other MPs and guests at the Ministers' Awards for Women in Local Government hosted by the Speaker, the Hon Shelly Hancock MP. It was great to see the hard work and dedication of so many colleagues officially recognised and applauded. That afternoon, we hosted a workshop for councils still pending amalgamation.

Also this week Donna attended a Department of Planning and Environment stakeholder discussion, the regular catch-up with Auditor-General Margaret Crawford and Assistant Auditor-General Steven Martin, a catch up with the Department of Industry, a meeting with Professor Roberta Ryan from UTS to discuss accessible tourism and next steps for the council-led performance reporting project, and a discussion with executives from Service NSW to discuss potential collaborative projects.

In a boost for regional growth, the Government this week announced \$100 million in a first round of new funding for tourism infrastructure which protects or enhances environmental assets. As part of the Rebuilding NSW initiative, expressions of interest are invited by 6 April. [Read more.](#)

Nominations for the NSW Volunteer of the Year Awards program are now open. Many councils rely on the time and efforts of volunteers to deliver important programs and events. This is a fantastic opportunity to recognise their hard work. Nominations close 14 July. [Read more.](#)

Applications for grant funding under the Elsa Dixon Aboriginal Employment Program close next Sunday (19 March). This valuable program aims to promote diversity and innovation in the NSW workforce by reducing barriers to employment and improving opportunities for Aboriginal people. [Read more.](#)

On Sunday, the LGNSW Tourism Conference kicks off in Taree. Members consistently say that economic development and tourism are a high priority so we look forward to seeing many of you there. This event always provides great opportunities to learn and exchange ideas.

Registration closes next week (15 March) for the first LGNSW planning breakfast of the year. There are only very limited spaces still available for the breakfast on 21 March at Parliament House. The event will be an excellent opportunity to hear from new Planning Minister Anthony Roberts, so don't forget to RSVP before the deadline. [Read more.](#)

Finally, we are seeking to modernise this newsletter. On Wednesday we sent a survey to all subscribers. If you haven't completed it already, please do so. We really want to hear from you about how you read and use our newsletter [Take the survey now.](#)

Contents page

Awards

Item 1: Award Opportunities

View the latest Award opportunities for local government

Conferences and Events

Item 2: Upcoming Conferences and Events

View upcoming conference and events relevant to local government

Grants and Funding

Item 3: Grant and Funding Opportunities for Local Government

View the latest grant and funding opportunities for local government

General Interest

Item 4: Changes to Land and Property Information

The Office of the Registrar General has sent councils correspondence seeking to formalise current service arrangements through agreements.

Item 5: ALGWA 2017 Conference

Registrations are open for the 2017 ALGWA conference in Penrith from 4-6 May.

Item 6: New Minister to Speak at LGNSW Planning Breakfast - Limited Seats

Registrations for the year's first LGNSW planning breakfast (Tuesday 21 March) at Parliament House close mid-next week, if not sold out prior. The event is an excellent opportunity to hear the new NSW Planning Minister, The Hon Anthony Roberts MP, discuss proposed reforms, including currently exhibited planning legislation, updates and reforms to SEPPs and the impact of these changes for the sector.

Item 7: Rate Path Freeze Legislation for Amalgamated Councils

The NSW Government introduced the Local Government Amendment (Rates—Merged Council Areas) Bill 2017 to Parliament on Tuesday 7 March 2017.

Item 8: Facilitated In-house Service Reviews

LGNSW facilitates in-house reviews of council services providing affordable support, guidance and independent oversight, ensuring that services are efficient, well targeted and responsive to community needs.

Community

Item 9: Elsa Dixon Aboriginal Employment Program, Applications Closing

Grant applications to support Aboriginal education, employment and training under the Elsa Dixon Aboriginal Employment Program close on Sunday 19 March.

Item 10: Volunteer Awards

Nominations for the NSW Volunteer of the Year Award are now open.

Item 11: Volunteer Expos

Volunteer recruitment expos are being held in Liverpool, Wollongong, Parramatta and Newcastle this month.

Item 12: Water Safety Campaign

The NSW Government's Water Safety Advisory Council has launched a new campaign to remind people to take care when in, on or around water.

Environment

Item 13: Registration Open for the Waste 2017 Conference

Registrations are open for the annual Waste 2017 Conference in Coffs Harbour (2 - 4 May 2017).

Item 14: Updated EPA Policy on Enforceable Undertakings

The NSW Environment Protection Authority has updated its policy on the use of enforceable undertakings.

Item 15: New National Emissions Standards for Non-Road Engines

The Australian Government is introducing new standards to limit exhaust emissions from non-road spark ignition engines and equipment from mid-2018.

Planning

Item 16: Social Impact Assessment Submission for State Significant Mining and Resource Projects

LGNSW has made a submission to the NSW Department of Planning and Environment about the social impact assessment draft guidelines for state significant mining, petroleum production and extractive industry development.

Tourism

Item 17: Expressions of Interest for Destination Networks' Headquarters

The NSW Government is inviting expressions of interests from councils wishing to headquarter the state's six new tourism destination networks.

Item 18: Boost for Regional Growth – New Environment and Tourism Fund

Councils and Aboriginal land councils in regional NSW are invited to submit expressions of interest in the new \$300 million Regional Growth – Environment and Tourism Fund for infrastructure project funding.

Learning

Item 19: New LGNSW Learning Courses for Managers and Staff

LGNSW has introduced two new programs aimed to improve people management skills and the resilience and wellbeing of employees.

Item 20: LGNSW Financial Training

LGNSW offers courses and forums to develop the financial management skills of elected members and staff.

Item 21: Mayors' Weekend Seminar – Last Chance to Register

There are still a few places for mayors, deputy mayors and aspiring mayors at the Mayors' Weekend Seminar next weekend (18 – 19 March).

Item 22: LGNSW Upcoming Courses

LGNSW offers workshops to local government professionals and elected members between now and June.

In the News

Item 23: ALGA Newsletter

Awards

Item 1: Award opportunities

Volunteer Awards

Nominations for the NSW Volunteer of the Year Award are now open.

Conferences and Events

Item 2: Upcoming conferences and events

New Minister to speak at LGNSW Planning Breakfast - Limited Seats

Registrations for the year's first LGNSW planning breakfast (Tuesday 21 March) at Parliament House close mid-next week, if not sold out prior.

ALGWA 2017 Conference

Registrations are open for the 2017 ALGWA conference in Penrith from 4-6 May.

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LGNSW offers courses and forums to develop the financial management skills of elected members and staff.

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There are still a few places for mayors, deputy mayors and aspiring mayors at the Mayors' Weekend Seminar next weekend (18 – 19 March).

Grants and Funding

Item 3: Grant and funding opportunities for Local Government

Elsa Dixon Aboriginal Employment Program, Applications Closing

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Boost for Regional Growth – New Environment and Tourism Fund

Councils and Aboriginal land councils in regional NSW are invited to submit expressions of interest in the new \$300 million Regional Growth – Environment and Tourism Fund for infrastructure project funding.

General Interest

Item 4: Changes to Land and Property Information

The Office of the Registrar General has sent councils correspondence seeking to formalise current service arrangements through agreements.

The Office of the Registrar General (ORG) oversees the operations of Land and Property Information. It has confirmed that there will be no change to current arrangements with councils.

The ORG has asked that the authorised officer for each council completes and signs annexure 3, and returns it to org.contracts@finance.nsw.gov.au by 15 March 2017.

If you have any questions, or if your council has not received a letter, please [contact the office](#).

Date

Agreements are to be returned by 15 March 2017.

Online information

[Land and Property Information](#)

Contact

Office of Registrar General

1300 052 637

org.contracts@lpi.nsw.gov.au

Ref: R97/0008 SMcB

General Interest

Item 5: ALGWA 2017 Conference

Registrations are open for the 2017 ALGWA conference in Penrith from 4-6 May.

This year's conference will particularly focus on women in local government and provide the opportunity to network, share ideas and learn new skills to support career success.

Under the banner of 'Your Adventure Starts Now', topics, workshops and off-site activities will carry the theme across the two-day program.

See the [conference website](#) to register and book accommodation.

Dates and location

4–6 May 2017

Online information

[ALGWA Conference Page](#)

Contact

Shelley Lee
Penrith City Council
shelley.lee@penrith.city

Ref: R90/0017-1

General Interest

Item 6: New Minister to Speak at LGNSW Planning Breakfast - Limited Seats

Registrations for the year's first LGNSW planning breakfast (Tuesday 21 March) at Parliament House close mid-next week, if not sold out prior.

The event is an excellent opportunity to hear the new NSW Planning Minister, The Hon Anthony Roberts MP, discuss proposed reforms, including currently exhibited planning legislation, updates and reforms to SEPPs and the impact of these changes for the sector.

The LGNSW planning series provides a platform for members and guests to learn about key planning initiatives relevant to local government. It also facilitates opportunities' to meet with senior industry stakeholders to discuss the latest challenges, regulations, funding and plans for NSW.

Elected representatives, administrators, general managers, interim general managers and senior planning staff will all benefit from attending.

RSVPs will be accepted until Wednesday 15 March 2017, unless sold out prior. Don't miss this chance to hear from the Minister in his new portfolio and ask questions. [Book online now](#) to secure your place.

Date and location

Tuesday 21 March 2017
7.30 am – 9.00 am
Strangers' Function Room, Parliament House, Macquarie Street, Sydney

Online information

[LGNSW Planning Breakfast](#)

Registration

[Register online](#)

RSVP

By Wednesday 15 March 2017

Cost

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

Contact

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

Ref: R16/ 0025 TB

General Interest

Item 7: Rate Path Freeze Legislation for Amalgamated Councils

The NSW Government introduced the Local Government Amendment (Rates—Merged Council Areas) Bill 2017 to Parliament on Tuesday 7 March 2017.

LGNSW has actively opposed the proposed concept of the Bill since its inception and will continue to strategically advocate for its rejection.

The Bill, if passed, would enable the Local Government Minister to extend the rate path freeze on new councils formed by amalgamations in 2016 and impose a rate path freeze on any new councils formed in future. The NSW councils that were amalgamated in 2016 were already subject to a twelve month rate freeze imposed under the Proclamation. The Bill proposes the freeze be extended for a period of three more rating years, ending on 30 June 2020.

The proposed legislation imposes a freeze on both rate variations and rate structures. LGNSW considers the freeze to be totally contrary to the objectives of local government reform (i.e. financial sustainability) and that it is damaging to affected communities.

Previously, LGNSW's opposition to the rate path freeze has been expressed in numerous representations to the NSW Government and in our submission to the IPART review of the proposal in 2016.

For further information, refer to fact box.

Online information

Amendment Bill:
[Local Government Amendment Bill 2017](#)

LGNSW Submission to IPART:
[Review of the Local Government Rating](#)

Ref: R12/0041 SMcB

General Interest

Item 8: Facilitated In-house Service Reviews

LGNSW facilitates in-house reviews of council services providing affordable support, guidance and independent oversight, ensuring that services are efficient, well targeted and responsive to community needs.

The program involves a co-operative effort between organisational staff and LGNSW's skilled facilitator who provides guidance and support in:

- Establishing an in-house service review team to oversee review processes and decision-making
- Designing and implementing review approaches and methodologies
- Determining review targets, stages and an overall timetable
- Guiding and testing all decision-making surrounding the review
- Identifying and implementing options for service improvements
- Developing appropriate performance measures to monitor service improvements.

Contact [LGNSW Management Solutions](#) for more information or to enquire about other consulting needs.

Online information

[Facilitated in-house service review](#)

Contact

Mark Anderson, Manager
LGNSW Management Solutions
02 9242 4161
mark.anderson@lgnsw.org.au

Ref: I98/0012 MA

Community

Item 9: Elsa Dixon Aboriginal Employment Program, Applications Closing

Grant applications to support Aboriginal education, employment and training under the Elsa Dixon Aboriginal Employment Program close on Sunday 19 March.

Open to public and local government agencies, grant funding assistance is available under the permanent employment, temporary secondment and school-based traineeship elements of the program.

Aimed at promoting diversity, innovation and service responsiveness in the NSW workforce by reducing barriers to employment and improving promotional opportunities for Aboriginal people, the program:

- Encourages the permanent employment and professional mobility of Aboriginal people in NSW public service agencies and local government authorities
- Provides special incentives for the employment of Aboriginal people with a disability
- Promotes innovation in achieving vocational outcomes for Aboriginal people.

Grant funding assistance is also available to Aboriginal community organisations who can apply under the Aboriginal Community Small Grants element.

Applicants can learn more, and complete and lodge an application form through the [NSW eTendering Elsa Dixon Aboriginal Employment Program website](#).

Dates

Applications close Sunday 19 March 2017

Online information

[NSW eTendering Elsa Dixon Aboriginal Employment Program](#)

Contact

Belinda Pritchell, Aboriginal Training Advisor
02 6882 8858

sts.aboriginal.services@industry.nsw.gov.au

Ref: R01/0045 TL

Community

Item 10: Volunteer Awards

Nominations for the NSW Volunteer of the Year Award are now open.

The NSW Volunteer of the Year Award, launched in 2007 by The Centre for Volunteering, recognises the outstanding efforts of volunteers in NSW and promotes the importance of their contributions.

The awards distinguish the work of both individual volunteers and highlight the work of organisations in the community.

More than 100,000 volunteers were acknowledged through the program in 2016,

Nominations can be made in seven categories:

- Young - 24 years and under
- Adult - 25 to 64 years
- Senior – 65 years and over
- Volunteer team
- Excellence in volunteer management
- Corporate volunteer (individual)
- Corporate volunteer (team).

Winners of the youth, adult and senior categories will be eligible for the Volunteer of the Year Award.

[Visit the volunteer awards webpage](#) for more information and to find nomination forms. Nominations close 14 July.

Date

Nominations close 14 July 2017

Online information

[NSW Centre for Volunteering awards webpage](#)

Contact

award@volunteering.com.au

Ref: R92/0106 MK

Community

Item 11: Volunteer Expos

Volunteer recruitment expos are being held in Liverpool, Wollongong, Parramatta and Newcastle this month.

NSW Family and Community Services is looking for people interested in volunteering for the first time, or experienced volunteers wanting to do more.

Volunteers are highly valued in local communities. They provide invaluable support to those in need and many local organisations rely on them to deliver vital services.

A diverse range of organisations will be at the expos including:

- Refugee support organisations
- Community and neighbourhood centres
- Sporting organisations
- Men's sheds
- Environmental organisations
- Disability support organisations
- Health and community care organisations
- Local councils

The expos are being coordinated and hosted by NSW Volunteering. The aim is to help local organisations that rely on volunteers to fill vacancies, find great people and make new connections.

[Visit the NSW Volunteering webpage](#) for more information.

Dates and locations

Tuesday 14 March 2017, 12.00 – 6.00 pm
Club Liverpool, 185 George St, Liverpool

Thursday 16 March 2017, 12.00 – 6.00 pm
Wollongong Town Hall, 32 Burelli St,
Wollongong

Tuesday 21 March 2017, 12.00 – 6.00 pm
ParkRoyal Parramatta, 30 Phillip St,
Parramatta

Thursday 23 March 2017, 12.00 – 6.00 pm
Wests City (NEX), King St and Union St,
Newcastle West

Online information

[NSW Volunteering](#)

Contact

volunteering@volunteering.nsw.gov.au

Ref: R92/0106 MK

Community

Item 12: Water Safety Campaign

The NSW Government's Water Safety Advisory Council has launched a new campaign to remind people to take care when in, on or around water.

The campaign focuses on preventing drowning, informing people about the dangers that the water can present and providing advice on simple steps to keep themselves and others safe.

Resources are available online which address the following messages:

Get Watching: always supervise children when there's water nearby. Don't get distracted. Children can drown in a small amount of water in less than a minute.

Get Wearing: if you're on a boat or other watercraft, or out rock fishing, wear a standards-approved lifejacket.

Get Wise: learn to swim safely. Learn how to swim, swim at patrolled beaches between the flags, and learn lifesaving skills that will help get others out of danger when something goes wrong.

Get with it: swimming or engaging in other activities on the water while intoxicated reduces your capacity to appreciate risk and decreases your ability to get yourself, or others, out of trouble.

Information is provided on:

- Home pool safety
- Toddler drowning prevention
- Rip currents
- Patrolled beaches

[Visit the campaign webpage](#) for more information.

Online information

[Water safety campaign 2017](#)

Contact

Office of Emergency Management,
Department of Justice
wsf@mpes.nsw.gov.au

Ref: R90/0024 MK

Environment

Item 13: Registration Open for the Waste 2017 Conference

Registrations are open for the annual Waste 2017 Conference in Coffs Harbour (2 - 4 May 2017).

Supported by LGNSW, the conference is particularly relevant to local government and offers valuable information for anyone who works or has an interest in waste management.

The draft conference program includes keynote addresses from Albert Shames (City of Vancouver), Richard Swannell (WRAP UK), Steve Beaman (NSW Environment Protection Authority), Chris Wilcox (CSIRO) and Chris Mills (Clean Energy Regulator).

Break-out sessions will focus on the following topics:

- Planning
- Circular economy
- Innovation
- Education
- Social enterprise
- Landfill
- Product stewardship
- Infrastructure
- Organics
- Waste services and tendering
- Illegal dumping
- Energy from waste
- Litter
- Technology
- CRCs, bulky waste and other waste challenges

The event brings together over 550 delegates, 80 sponsors and exhibitors more than over 90 local and international presenters.

See the [conference website to register](#) and book accommodation.

Dates and location

2 - 4 May 2017

Opal Cove Resort, Coffs Harbour

Online information

[Waste 2017 Conference](#)

Contact

Impact Environmental Conferences

02 6583 8118

wasteconference@impactenviro.com.au

Ref: R96/0019-02 LD

Environment

Item 14: Updated EPA Policy on Enforceable Undertakings

The NSW Environment Protection Authority has updated its policy on the use of enforceable undertakings.

Enforceable undertakings are voluntary written agreements between the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) and individual companies that breach environmental legislation.

The updated policy sets out:

- A clearer process for negotiating enforceable undertakings
- What an acceptable enforceable undertaking must include (e.g. go beyond mere compliance, consider if there any industry-wide applications for the lessons learnt)
- EPA expectations of any party that decides to enter into an enforceable undertaking negotiation process

The use of enforceable undertakings applies to serious, alleged breaches of the legislation and are more serious than warning letters or penalty notices, but less serious than prosecution.

Enforceable undertaking agreements contain a range of fit-for-purpose commitments made by the individual or company in response to an incident.

Online information
[EPA policies and guidelines](#)

Contact
Michele Weight
EPA Manager Regulatory
Improvement and Support
02 9995 5437

Ref: R96/0003 SC

Environment

Item 15: New National Emissions Standards for Non-Road Engines

The Australian Government is introducing new standards to limit exhaust emissions from non-road spark ignition engines and equipment from mid-2018.

Non-road spark ignition engines and equipment (NRSIEE) are petrol and gas-powered products used in marine vessels (e.g. outboard engines) and outdoor power equipment rated 19 kilowatt and below (e.g. mowers, mulchers, generators, pumps, chainsaws).

The new standards will place limits on exhaust emissions for new NRSIEE brought into Australia from 1 July 2018 and supplied to the Australian market from 1 July 2019. The standards will not apply to NRSIEE that people already own, second-hand NRSIEE or automotive engines or vehicles.

In general, four-stroke and direct-injection two-stroke engines will meet the standards (including some two-stroke handheld equipment, e.g. some chainsaws, brush cutters). Conventional two-strokes, used in outboards and mowers, are unlikely to meet the new standards. Accordingly, products entering the Australian market will shift towards those that meet the new standards.

If councils are aware of any exceptional circumstances that may need to be considered, such as any niche local government applications where only non-compliant NRSIEE can do the job, please contact LGNSW with details.

Online information

[Working towards Australian emission standards NRSIEE update paper](#)

Contact

Susy Cenedese
LGNSW
02 9242 4080
susy.cenedese@lgnsw.org.au

Declan O'Connor-Cox
Director Air Quality Section
Department of the Environment and Energy
02 6274 1460
declan.o'connor-cox@environment.gov.au

Ref: R92/0037 SC

Planning

Item 16: Social Impact Assessment Submission for State Significant Mining and Resource Projects

LGNSW has made a submission to the NSW Department of Planning and Environment about the social impact assessment draft guidelines for state significant mining, petroleum production and extractive industry development.

LGNSW welcomes a strengthened approach to social impact assessment (SIA) and the proposed requirement to address social impacts as part of the preliminary assessment process.

The LGNSW submission emphasises that SIAs must do more than justify a project. The SIA process should be an opportunity to identify strategies to avoid potential negative impacts (including refusal where necessary) and create approaches within the development proposal to avoid or minimise them.

LGNSW's recommendations include:

- Proponents must consult with councils and local Aboriginal land councils from the earliest stages of the SIA process
- The NSW Department of Planning and Environment facilitates communication that is accessible to all community members
- The NSW Department of Planning and Environment advises state agencies of service or infrastructure requirements identified from the SIA
- Proponents are required to provide an annually reviewed plan of management and that annual reviews form part of any approval
- Proponents be required to include a 'no development' option in the SIA and address post-mining social impacts.

The [full submission](#) is available on the LGNSW website. LGNSW thanks councils that provided comments for inclusion.

Online information

[LGNSW submission on the social impact assessment draft guidelines](#)

Contact

Margaret Kay

Strategy Manager Social and Community

02 0242 4028

margaret.kay@lgnsw.org.au

Ref: R90/0489 ER

Tourism

Item 17: Expressions of Interest for Destination Networks' Headquarters

The NSW Government is inviting expressions of interests from councils wishing to headquarter the state's six new tourism destination networks.

The new networks will replace the existing regional tourism organisation structure by July 2016.

The six destination networks are:

- Destination Riverina Murray
- Destination Southern NSW
- Destination North Coast
- Destination Country & Outback NSW
- Destination Sydney Surrounds North
- Destination Sydney Surrounds South.

The expressions of interest (EOI) will assist to determine the locations of the destination network offices. Each office will have three full-time staff to support the work of the board and advance regional tourism projects and programs.

When submitting EOIs, councils must state the proposed provision of office space and related office services, and demonstrate value for money.

EOIs are due via by Friday 17 March to the email address specific to each proposed destination network.

Date

Expressions of interest due 5pm Friday 17 March

Online information

[Destination Networks - EOI](#)

Contact

Country and Outback

info@destinationcountryandoutbacknsw.com

North Coast

info@destinationnorthcoastnsw.com

Riverina Murray

info@destinationriverinamurray.com

Southern NSW

info@destinationsouthernnsw.com.au

Sydney Surrounds North

info@destinationsydneysurroundsnorth.com

Sydney Surrounds South

info@destinationsydneysurroundssouth.com

Ref: R90/0483 ER

Tourism

Item 18: Boost for Regional Growth – New Environment and Tourism Fund

Councils and Aboriginal land councils in regional NSW are invited to submit expressions of interest in the new \$300 million Regional Growth – Environment and Tourism Fund for infrastructure project funding.

The new first round of funding of \$100 million was announced on Monday 6 March, as part of the Government's Rebuilding NSW initiative.

The big winners will be tourism infrastructure projects which protect or enhance environmental assets (e.g. food and wine regions, national parks and heritage buildings). These projects should also show capacity for economic growth through increased visitation and job creation.

Expressions of interest should relate to projects of \$500,000 or more with partnerships and co-contributions encouraged.

The funding is separate to the \$110 million provided under the Regional Tourism Infrastructure Fund, and in addition to grants available through two existing funding streams:

- [Regional Cooperative Tourism Marketing Program](#)
- [Regional Tourism Product Development Program](#)

Date

Expressions of interest due Thursday
6 April 2017

Online information

[Regional Growth - Environment and
Tourism Fund](#)

Contact

NSW Department of Industry

Email: tourism@insw.com

Address: Infrastructure NSW
Resources for Regions, PO Box R220
Royal Exchange NSW 1225

Ref: R90/0483 ER

Learning

Item 19: New LGNSW Learning Courses for Managers and Staff

LGNSW has introduced two new programs aimed to improve people management skills and the resilience and wellbeing of employees.

People and Performance

Sydney – Thursday 4 May 2017

Learn the art of communicating with different personality types to increase staff motivation and improve performance.

Designed for managers and supervisors, participants will:

- Increase their understanding of personality differences and how these impact on communication and management styles
- Learn the essential elements that influence behaviour
- Learn how to give feedback and manage performance using the organisation's performance management system
- Understand the elements of emotional intelligence and how to develop each element for your own success.

More information

Resilience and Wellbeing

Sydney – Monday 8 May 2017

Discover how to contribute to a positive, productive and mentally healthy workplace.

Designed for managers and staff, participants will:

- Understand the importance of a mentally healthy workplace
- Learn how they can contribute to a positive environment
- See the value of focusing on their own individual health
- Understand wellbeing, resilience and how to support others.

Based on LGNSW's online Mental Health and Wellbeing Toolkit, this workshop will help staff to utilise the material for their own circumstances.

This program is a joint initiative of LGNSW, LGSuper and StateCover NSW.

More information

Contact LGNSW Learning Solutions to discuss running a course in-house or with other organisations in your area.

Online information

LGNSW Training

Mental Health and Wellbeing Toolkit

Registrations

Learning Solutions registrations

Contact

LGNSW Learning Solutions

02 9242 4081

learning@lgnsw.org.au

Ref: I98/0012 SA

Learning

Item 20: LGNSW Financial Training

LGNSW offers courses and forums to develop the financial management skills of elected members and staff.

Financial Issues in Local Government

Sydney – Wednesday 29 March 2017

Gain practical skills, knowledge and confidence performing the financial duties of an elected member.

Designed for councillors, participants will learn about:

- Council finance responsibilities
- Basic accounting procedures
- Reading quarterly reviews
- Interpreting council balance sheets
- Depreciation and how it affects council's finances
- How financial information fits into council planning
- Risk and how it fits into financial management issues
- Expectations for councillors during council audits
- Using probing questions to make more informed decisions.

More information

Finance for Non-Finance Managers

Sydney – Tuesday 20 June 2017

Learn how to understand, interpret and explain financial issues related to departments or sections.

Designed for line managers, participants will learn about:

- The basics of accounting theory
- Strategic allocation of financial resources
- How to read council financial statements
- How to prepare, interpret and use unit budgets
- Accounting jargon and buzz words
- How to apply financial techniques to decisions
- How council's financial systems feed into the NSW Integrated Planning and Reporting framework
- Ways to effectively communicate with finance and accounting departments.

More information

Finance Summit (save the date)

Sydney – Wednesday 13 September and Thursday 14 September 2017

General managers, corporate and finance managers and other senior staff will learn from subject experts, debate ideas and share practice at LGNSW's annual Finance Summit.

Online information
[LGNSW Training](#)

Registrations
[Learning Solutions registrations](#)

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

Ref: I98/0012 SA

Learning

Item 21: Mayors' Weekend Seminar – Last Chance to Register

There are still a few places for mayors, deputy mayors and aspiring mayors at the Mayors' Weekend Seminar next weekend (18 – 19 March).

Mayors are the face of local government. Theirs is an important and demanding role. They are expected to provide the leadership required for councils to work effectively and address community priorities.

This popular weekend seminar addresses complex leadership challenges.

Topics include:

- Current issues and challenges facing mayors and their councils
- The Mayoral Toolkit – the changing role of mayors and important 'tools of the trade'
- The mayor as community leader – locally and at the regional level
- The mayor as council leader – working with other councillors, chairing meetings
- The mayor and general manager
- State-local relations.

The seminar will include short background presentations, comments by expert panelists and roundtable discussions.

Dates and location

Saturday 18 March and Sunday 19 March 2017
Sydney

Online information and registration
Mayors' Weekend Seminar**Cost**

LGNSW Members - \$1,320.00 (incl. GST)
Non- members – \$2,640.00 (incl. GST)

Contact

Learning Solutions
02 9242 4181
learning@lgsw.org.au

Ref: I98/0012 SA

Learning

Item 22: LGNSW Upcoming Courses

LGNSW is offering the following workshops to local government professionals and elected members between now and June.

Courses are provided at competitive rates and are specifically designed for the sector.

Speed Reading

Sydney – Monday 20 March 2017

Double your reading speed and improve your comprehension and memory.

[More information](#)

Improving Your Minute-Taking Skills

Sydney – Wednesday 22 March 2017

Gain essential minute-taking skills and learn tips to save time and effort.

[More information](#).

Chairing and Effective Meeting Procedures

Sydney – Thursday 30 March 2017

Become better equipped to deal with business at council meetings. [More information](#)

Writing Winning Grant Funding Applications

Sydney – Thursday 30 March 2017

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

Making Consultative Committees More Effective

Ballina – Monday 3 April 2017; 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. This workshop is based on regulations required under the Local Government Act, the Local Government State Award and internationally-accepted meeting procedures. [More information](#)

Award History and Interpretation

Moree – Wednesday 5 April 2017; Sydney – Thursday 18 May 2017

Get up-to-speed on the application and interpretation of the Local Government (State) Award 2014 in this course geared towards general managers, directors, human resource practitioners, payroll officers and line managers. [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

In the News

Item 23: ALGA Newsletter

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