

CATEGORY 2 MOTIONS - RATIONALE

Motions in this section are not proposed for debate because they are already:

- existing LGNSW policy;
- supported by Conference resolutions from recent years; and/or
- the subject of recent or ongoing representations by LGNSW.

LGNSW will use the the content of these motions to strengthen our position on these issues.

1. ECONOMIC

X1 Griffith City Council

Council pensioner rates and charges subsidies

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to increase pensioner rates and charges concessions and to increase the percentage rebate to councils in relation to these pensioner concessions.

Note from LGNSW

This is a long standing policy position of LGNSW. The Association advocates that pensioner rates and charges concessions should be increased and that the state and/or federal governments should cover the full costs of pensioner rates and charges concessions. The LGNSW finance position statement 3.1, calls for reform of the NSW rating structure.

X2 Ryde City Council

Pensioner concessions on council rates and charges

That:

1. Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to wholly fund pensioner concessions on council rates and charges, and
2. The \$250 concession be revised to a higher amount, and indexed annually.

Note from LGNSW

This is a long standing policy position of LGNSW. The Association advocates that pensioner rates and charges concessions should be increased and that the state and/or federal governments should cover the full costs of pensioner rates and charges concessions. The LGNSW finance position statement 3.1, calls for reform of the NSW rating structure.

X3 Murray River Council

Electricity and gas charges

That Local Government NSW requests urgent action by the State and Federal Governments to reduce unsustainable and excessive electricity and gas charges on local government, business, industry and individual consumers.

Note from LGNSW

This motion is consistent with current LGNSW policy. A similar motion was resolved at the 2017 LGNSW Annual Conference calling on the State and Federal Governments to explore all options to put downward pressure on electricity and gas charges. In April 2018, the NSW Government announced the Energy Affordability Package and households and businesses can also access the Energy Saver website: energysaver.nsw.gov.au

X4 Fairfield City Council

Review fee for the collection of the Long Service Levy

That Local Government NSW advocates to the NSW Government and Long Service Corporation for a review of the council administration fee for collecting the Long Service Levy.

Note from LGNSW

This motion will be actioned by LGNSW as it is calling for a review which can occur without a policy decision at conference. We regularly call for review of regulated fees and charges. LGNSW supports the recommendation of the recently released IPART report on regulatory burdens that where fees continue to be set by statute, that the relevant NSW Government agency reviews the level of the fees every three to five years.

X5 Federation Council

Independent Review Panel recommendations

That the NSW Government more urgently responds to the many un-actioned recommendations in the 2015 Independent Local Government Review panel Final Report, aimed at further strengthening the system of local government in NSW.

Note from LGNSW

LGNSW will continue advocacy on this matter. This includes advocacy to reform the Ministerial Advisory Group for this purpose and LGNSW is preparing responses to the IPART's final reports on the Rating System and the Regulatory and Compliance Burden on Local Government which support the ILGRP recommendations.

X6 Bourke Shire Council

Expansion of zonal taxation

That the Federal Government be asked to look at the expansion of zonal taxation in rural and remote areas of Australia as a means of encouraging and increasing investment to ensure the ongoing development of these areas, and at the same time, providing additional incentives to assist with the attraction and retention of staff.

Note from LGNSW

This matter has been the subject of past Annual Conference resolutions supporting zonal taxation and remains LGNSW

policy. In 2018, many councils, including the Western Division of Councils, made submissions to the NSW Parliamentary Inquiry into Zonal Taxation and the NSW Government response was released on 3 December 2018. The Government's response states that the Government is committed to providing taxation relief initiatives including business tax concessions. LGNSW will write to the Federal Government on this issue and include a copy of the NSW Government's response.

X7 Moree Plains Shire Council

Taxation benefits applicable to primary producers

That the NSW Government be requested to lobby the Federal Government to introduce taxation benefits applicable to primary producers available to rural and remote small business whose majority of turnover is from the primary producer sector.

Note from LGNSW

The effect of the devastating drought on agricultural and related businesses continues to be a topic for advocacy by LGNSW, spurred by a motion proposed by Gunnedah Shire Council at the 2018 Annual Conference which calls for an income management scheme for businesses which rely upon the agricultural sector for the majority of their revenue.

X8 Inner West Council

Supporting local businesses in strip shopping centres

That Local Government NSW seeks to support core local businesses in shopping strips such as greengrocers, butchers, bakeries, chemists and the like to ensure the viability of independent small retailers and of main street shopping centres. Issues that may be discussed could include rebates for cheaper rentals to property owners or similar.

Note from LGNSW

This matter is consistent with current LGNSW actions. LGNSW is a member of the State Government's Easy to Do Business Steering Committee to represent councils in decision making for the program's delivery and we will continue to seek further support for small businesses.

X9 Bega Valley Shire Council

NSW business investment incentives

That Local Government NSW advocates to the NSW Government to implement business incentives to attract businesses out of metropolitan NSW and other jurisdictions to regional NSW and grow already existing local businesses. These incentives could include removal of stamp duty costs for property purchases, discussion around payroll tax, financial incentives for the employment of a set amount of local employees in line with a commitment to decentralisation to assist regional NSW to grow.

Note from LGNSW

This motion aligns with current policy for LGNSW including a motion from Bourke Shire Council at the 2018 Annual Conference to seek a range of incentive to encourage staff to seek employment opportunities in regional and remote NSW. The NSW Government is currently offering a Regional Investment Attraction Package and more details can be found at: invest.nsw.gov.au/assistance/regional-investment-attraction-package

X10 Bega Valley Shire Council

Tourism rating

That Local Government NSW advocates to the NSW Government through the Minister for Local Government to expand rating categories to include a tourism category to capture those businesses directly involved in tourism or alternatively to allow those local councils impacted by tourism to attach a special levy to those properties directly involved in tourism.

Note from LGNSW

This motion is consistent with the LGNSW Finance Position Statement which calls for greater autonomy and flexibility in rating policy. Greater flexibility in rate categorisation is also advocated through the LGNSW response to the IPART report on the Rating System.

X11 Ryde City Council

Financial hardship - flexibility to assist with rates

That Local Government NSW advocates for a change in the *Local Government Act* to allow councils to have more flexibility with the collection of rates where cases of genuine financial hardship have been established.

Note from LGNSW

LGNSW understands that there is already provision in s 585 of the *Local Government Act* for applications to be made to postpone rates. There are also the pensioner concession provisions in Part 8, Div 1. However, as this motion seeks additional flexibility beyond these provisions, LGNSW will raise this issue further.

X12 Bega Valley Shire Council

An improved rating model

That Local Government NSW advocates to the NSW Government to change the rate peg model to allow councils to generate revenue required to meet community service expectations as identified through the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework.

Note from LGNSW

The restrictions of rate pegging is long standing policy of LGNSW. It has been the subject of sustained advocacy over many years and we will continue to raise this issue with Government.

X13 Hornsby Shire Council

Differential residential rates

That Local Government NSW advocates that the NSW Government provides councils with more flexibility to set differential residential rates in their local area and differential rating categories for higher density residential zones, including the

establishment of:

- a) New rating category for multi-unit apartments.
- b) Different residential rates for low density, strata titled medium and high-density housing.

Note from LGNSW

This motion is consistent with current LGNSW Position Statements which call for greater autonomy and flexibility in rating policy. This issue is was advocated through the LGNSW submission to the IPART Review of the Rating System and more recently, LGNSW's submission on the NSW Government's response to the IPART report.

X14 Narramine Shire Council

Improved capital valuation rating

That councils oppose the introduction of improved capital valuation rating method for councils in rural NSW.

Note from LGNSW

LGNSW is currently advocating for this issue. Our submission to the Government on the recently released IPART report on their Rating System argues that all councils should have the choice and that CIV should not be mandated.

2. INFRASTRUCTURE AND PLANNING

X15 Nambucca Shire Council

Control of group homes

That Local Government NSW seeks an amendment to the definition of a transitional group home in the *State Environmental Planning Policy (Affordable Rental Housing) 2009* wherein there is a requirement that they provide appropriate supervision and care for the persons who occupy the transitional group home.

Note from LGNSW

This motion is calling for a review and is captured under the current LGNSW Position Statement 7.8: Review of State Environmental Planning Policies (SEPPs), to remove inconsistencies with other planning instruments, and clarify definitions and requirements. It can be actioned by LGNSW advocating for the Department of Planning Industry and Environment to review the group home provisions in the Affordable Rental Housing SEPP. This could include an amendment requiring owners to have a plan in place to provide an appropriate level of care and supervision for occupants.

X16 City of Parramatta Council

Shared use of schools as infrastructure assets

That:

1. Local Government NSW advocates to the NSW Government on greater co-operation between NSW councils and NSW schools for the shared use of existing community infrastructure. Substantial population growth and concurrent residential and commercial development is highlighting major infrastructure gaps, especially around the provision of community, open space and recreational assets.
2. This Local Government NSW advocacy on shared use of school assets seeks to include opportunities that:
 - a) Extend community centre programming and services (both temporary and permanently where the community need exists).
 - b) Extend access to aquatic offerings for community use.
 - c) Extend access to indoor and outdoor recreation facilities for community use.
 - d) Expand the take up by schools of the Share Our Space program that School Infrastructure trialed in the July 2019 school holidays.

Note from LGNSW

This motion is captured under the current LGNSW Position Statement 6.4: Increased opportunity for community use of state and federal facilities. We will continue to advocate for community use of state owned facilities including school grounds.

X17 Inner West Council

Land rezoning

That the NSW Government disallows councils from re-zoning land for which the full cost of local infrastructure will not be met from developer contributions.

Note from LGNSW

This motion is consistent with current LGNSW Position Statements including 3.6 which calls for fairer financing opportunities for local government, with particular emphasis on infrastructure. It is also similar to a 2018 Annual Conference resolution by Blacktown City Council which states "*That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to not allow land to be rezoned by the Minister for Planning unless a contributions plan has been made that funds the local infrastructure to which the rezoning applies*".

X18 Hawkesbury City Council

IPART data sources for Development Control Plans

That the NSW Government puts arrangements in place to:

- a) Clarify the relationship between the various participants, the Greater Sydney Commission, the Department of Planning Industry and Environment and their plans and objectives for the future.
- b) Ensure that IPART will reveal the source of data used to assess Developer Contribution Plans submitted by councils for approval.
- c) Make such data freely available for public access and scrutiny.

Note from LGNSW

As this motion is calling for a clarification, this motion is operational and does not need debate at conference. LGNSW will action.

X19 Bayside Council

Building regulations framework review

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government and the NSW Building Commission to:

1. Ensure a comprehensive review is undertaken of the building certification regime by the NSW Building Commission;
2. Examine the impact of the escalating public liability insurance premiums on the industry;
3. Introduce mandatory quality assurance measures for private certifiers particular in relation to defined large scale developments;
4. Include appropriate local government industry representation on the NSW Building Professionals Board.

Note from LGNSW

This motion is broadly consistent with LGNSW current Position Statement 5 on building regulation and certification. It is a highly-topical and current issue on which we will continue to advocate. LGNSW has raised its concerns about building regulation in 13 submissions to the NSW Government on planning and building reform since 2011. LGNSW has also contributed to stakeholder working groups on these issues over many years. LGNSW has therefore welcomed the appointment of the NSW Building Commissioner to review and respond to these concerns.

X20 Lane Cove Council

Roads and Maritime Services Pinch Point Program expansion

That Local Government NSW advocates to the NSW Government to expand the Roads and Maritime Service Pinch Point program to extend it to intersections and identified pinch points that cross both State roads and regional roads.

Note from LGNSW

This is consistent with our general lobbying efforts to increase funding for regional and local roads which has resulted in recent wins including \$500m for Fixing Local Roads and \$500m for Fixing Country Bridges which is in addition to the \$500m Fixing Country Roads program. LGNSW will include lobbying for the inclusion of regional roads that intersect with state roads to be included in the state government pinch-point program as part of our ongoing efforts in this area.

X21 Hornsby Shire Council

Enhance Roads to Recovery Program funding

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to advocate that the Federal Government increases the Roads to Recovery Program funding for NSW and the States; and enhances its funding formula to better reflect the projected population growth.

Note from LGNSW

LGNSW strongly supports increases in funding for the Roads to Recovery Program. We have advocated for this in the past and continue to advocate for increases in funding for councils to address the road infrastructure backlog.

X22 Narrabri Shire Council

Sydney Airport regional slot increase

That Local Government NSW:

1. Strongly supports an increase of an additional 5 slots per hour at the Sydney Airport.
2. Strongly supports the ring-fencing of 3 of the additional five (5) slots being added to the pool of regional slots.
3. Would preferably see these additional three (3) slots offered to regional based airlines first.

Note from LGNSW

This is an issue for which LGNSW continues to advocate as it aligns with a resolution of the 2018 Annual Conference which calls for increasing the availability of slots for regional air services into Kingsford Smith International Airport. The LGNSW Submission to the Sydney Airport Master Plan 2019 (December 2018) also aligns with this motion.

X23 Leeton Shire Council

Water security in regional NSW

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to:

- a) Actively ensure that the delivery of the Murray Darling Basin Plan is not achieved at the cost of local communities and their economies, and that early and specific engagement is routinely undertaken with local councils where their areas are impacted by proposed new or proposed changed policies and plans.
- b) Advocate that the Commonwealth moves to address adverse impacts of water trading on the sustainability of irrigation communities and considers options for preventing, mitigating and/or better managing these effects going forward.

Note from LGNSW

The needs of local communities and their economies in relation to water policy and planning is reflected in LGNSW's Drought Position Statement.

We note the Commonwealth Government has recently directed the ACCC to conduct an inquiry into markets for tradeable water rights in the Murray-Darling Basin, which will examine issues of transparency, regulation, competitiveness and efficiency. An interim report is due by 31 May 2020 and a final report by 30 November 2020. LGNSW will await release of the report before determining action.

X24 Greater Hume Shire Council

Tying water rights to land title

That Conference supports the concept that water is a basic, fundamental and essential utility and that Local Government NSW urgently lobbies the NSW Government to reverse the decision to remove water rights from land title to ensure the economic and social sustainability of rural communities.

Note from LGNSW

We note the Commonwealth Government has recently directed the ACCC to conduct an inquiry into markets for tradeable water rights in the Murray-Darling Basin, which will examine issues of transparency, regulation, competitiveness and efficiency. An interim report is due by 31 May 2020 and a final report by 30 November 2020. LGNSW will await release of the report before determining action.

X25 North Sydney Council**Review of building certification process**

That the NSW Government undertakes a review of the building certification process and undertakes necessary and urgent reforms to a system that is clearly not working.

Note from LGNSW

This motion is consistent with LGNSW current Position Statement 5 on building regulation and certification. It is a highly-topical and current issue on which we will continue to advocate. LGNSW has raised its concerns about building regulation in 13 submissions to the NSW Government on planning and building reform since 2011. LGNSW has also contributed to stakeholder working groups on these issues over many years. LGNSW has therefore welcomed the appointment of the NSW Building Commissioner to review and respond to these concerns.

X26 Inner West Council**BASIX**

That BASIX be maintained as a minimum standard for assessment in the construction or renovation of buildings, but that each local government area be able to amend the BASIX formula to lift the environmental performance of new buildings or renovations of existing structures where the cost of renovations exceeds \$100,000.

Note from LGNSW

This motion is consistent with current LGNSW Position Statements in relation to sustainability (11.3) and climate change (10.6). LGNSW will advocate for local government powers to amend the BASIX standards to improve the environmental efficiency of buildings and reduce the impact on climate change.

X27 Armidale Regional Council**BASIX standards**

That Local Government NSW:

1. Supports the NSW Government Inquiry into building regulation and uses the opportunity to lobby for effective BASIX standards to improve energy and water efficiency, and the impact of new buildings on the climate, especially in colder areas which suffer from unhealthy particulate pollution in winter and for which current BASIX standards are inadequate.
2. Lobbies for the provision of funds to upgrade existing buildings to a satisfactory standard when the benefits greatly exceed the cost of upgrading.

Note from LGNSW

This motion is consistent with current LGNSW Position Statements in relation to sustainability (11.3) and climate change (10.6). LGNSW will lobby for funding to upgrade existing buildings to a satisfactory standard where financially viable. Several NSW councils have expressed concerns about global warming or even declared a climate emergency.

X28 Randwick City Council**Roles and responsibilities of regulators for building standards and quality**

That the NSW Government support recommendations 5 to 7 of the 2018 Shergold Weir report 'Building Confidence' addressing the roles and responsibilities of regulators, being:

- a) That each state establishes formal mechanisms for a more collaborative and effective partnership between those with responsibility for regulatory oversight, including relevant state government bodies, local governments and private building surveyors (if they have an enforcement role).
- b) That each jurisdiction gives regulators a broad suite of powers to monitor buildings and building work so that, as necessary, they can take strong compliance and enforcement action.
- c) That each jurisdiction makes public its audit strategy for regulatory oversight of the construction of Commercial buildings, with annual reporting on audit findings and outcomes.

Note from LGNSW

This motion is consistent with LGNSW current Position Statement 5 on building regulation and certification. It is a highly-topical and current issue on which we will continue to advocate. LGNSW has raised its concerns about building regulation in 13 submissions to the NSW Government on planning and building reform since 2011. LGNSW has also contributed to stakeholder working groups on these issues over many years. LGNSW has therefore welcomed the appointment of the NSW Building Commissioner to review and respond to these concerns.

X29 Lake Macquarie City Council**Improving building and construction industry regulation**

That Local Government NSW calls on the State Government to implement in full the recommendations of the 2018 'Building Confidence: Improving the effectiveness of compliance and enforcement systems for the building and construction industry across Australia' report by Peter Shergold and Bronwyn Weir.

Note from LGNSW

This motion is consistent with LGNSW current Position Statement 5 on building regulation and certification. It is a highly-topical and current issue on which we will continue to advocate. LGNSW has raised its concerns about building regulation in 13 submissions to the NSW Government on planning and building reform since 2011. LGNSW has also contributed to stakeholder working groups on these issues over many years. LGNSW has therefore welcomed the appointment of the NSW Building Commissioner to review and respond to these concerns.

3. INDUSTRIAL

X30 Lake Macquarie City Council	Supporting councils to provide councillor superannuation
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That:

- a) Individual councils consider taking action under existing arrangements to provide superannuation to mayors and councillors,
- b) Local Government NSW encourages and supports councils in taking coordinated action to provide superannuation to mayors and councillors, and
- c) Local Government NSW re-engages with the NSW Government to actively lobby for legislative amendment to require compulsory superannuation for mayors and councillors.

Note from LGNSW

Councillor superannuation was one of LGNSW's advocacy priorities in 2019 for which we will continue to advocate.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

X31 Liverpool City Council	Shopping trolleys
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That Local Government NSW calls upon the State Government to change the necessary legislation (*Impounding Act 1993*) to recognise shopping trolleys as property of individual supermarkets and abandoned shopping trolleys to be defined as litter, so that substantial fines payable by the owner of the trolleys be passed on for any abandoned trolleys. The legislation be reviewed to enable councils similar powers to that in Queensland so that councils can more effectively manage abandoned shopping trolleys.

Note from LGNSW

This motion aligns with recent LGNSW action. At the request of the LGNSW Board, LGNSW recently wrote to the Minister requesting that the Impounding Act be amended to include similar provisions for trolleys as were recently added for share bikes. The Minister has responded to say the suggestion is being considered.

X32 Shoalhaven City Council	Jet-skis
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That the NSW Government assists marine parks to manage the impact of jet-ski use within the parks.

Note from LGNSW

LGNSW understands that local government are not responsible for compliance for jet skis use within parks and therefore this motion is not listed for debate. However, we recognise that complaints about poor behaviour will often come to council. LGNSW will send a letter to the NSW Government raising the concern outlined in the motion and seeking support for NSW Marine Parks to reduce the impact through greater compliance activity and broader awareness raising.

X33 Murray River Council	Kangaroo management
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That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to effectively manage the issue of kangaroo numbers generally migrating to areas near water and road networks that create significant hazards to road users in rural NSW, particularly in areas where communities interface with National Parks.

Note from LGNSW

This motion aligns with current LGNSW policy. LGNSW notes that Murray River Council proposed a similar motion for the 2018 Conference and had a successful resolution on this matter at the 2017 Annual Conference. At its Liaison meeting with OEH, LGNSW asked OEH if there were options to pilot or provide funding to measures such as support for appropriate fencing and to investigate and trial electronic and other technologies to deter kangaroos from roadways. OEH advised it had raised the matter with the Department of Industry Taskforce which was looking into commercial aspects of kangaroo management. In late 2018 OEH had completed a kangaroo survey which showed the population was declining as the drought progressed.

X34 Newcastle City Council	Offshore sand extraction for coastal nourishment and replenishment
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That Local Government NSW:

1. Notes that the University of NSW Water Research Laboratory (WRL) report 'Guidelines for Sand Nourishment: Science and Synthesis for NSW' identifies offshore extraction of sand for beach nourishment as 'probably the only viable method for large scale beach nourishment on the open coast';
2. Notes that despite this, the NSW Government's position regarding offshore sand extraction for beach nourishment purposes remains unclear and a significant barrier to the determination of potential management solutions for coastal hazards;
3. Writes to the Minister for Local Government, Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional NSW, Industry and Trade, Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, and the Minister for Agriculture, seeking the NSW Government's policy position regarding offshore sand extraction for the purposes of beach replenishment and nourishment.

Note from LGNSW

This motion will be actioned by LGNSW without conference debate as it is seeking to find out the NSW Government's position on offshore sand extraction or beach replenishment. LGNSW will write letters as requested in the motion.

X35 Sutherland Shire Council	Australian and NSW Government funding and support to local government for flying fox management and control
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That Local Government NSW requests the Australian and NSW Governments to provide greater funding and more support to all affected local government areas for the management and control of flying foxes.

Note from LGNSW

This motion supports current LGNSW advocacy and aligns with a 2015 resolution in a similar vein (84 - Pittwater Council) that seeks the Australian and NSW Government to develop and implement research with a view to (amongst other things) funding for camp management action plans and financial assistance for managing amenity impacts where in-situ management of Flying Foxes is recommended.

X36 Lake Macquarie City Council**Opportunities for beneficial re-use of mine sites**

That Local Government NSW advocates to the NSW Government the need for a clearer policy position on the consideration of new opportunities for the beneficial re-use of mine sites at different stages of a mine's life (i.e. not just at the Development Application stage).

Note from LGNSW

This motion is consistent with current LGNSW policy as it is similar to Resolution 51 at the 2017 LGNSW Annual Conference from Singleton which calls for the NSW Government to establish an industry-funded body to facilitate best use of post-production open cut mined land. The body would be charged with overseeing and supporting best practice ecological, economic and cultural use of this land on a district wide basis. LGNSW will continue to advocate on this matter.

X37 Bega Valley Shire Council**Community renewable energy hubs**

That Local Government NSW urges the NSW Government to support local councils to establish community renewable energy hubs in their municipalities.

Note from LGNSW

The motion fits under the existing LGNSW Climate Change Position Statement which calls for 'ambitious but realistic policies and practices that promote council, community, industry and government commitment to renewable energy, energy conservation and energy efficiency.'

X38 Shoalhaven City Council**Solar power framework**

That the NSW Government brings the framework for solar power in line with the Victorian Government Provisions to allow local government to participate in a wider range of community solar power initiatives.

Note from LGNSW

Resolutions on this issue were made at previous LGNSW Annual Conferences from Lake Macquarie in 2017 and Albury in 2018 and as such this motion aligns with existing LGNSW policy.

X39 Kyogle Council**Waste levy removal from rural councils**

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to remove the waste levy from rural councils.

Note from LGNSW

At the LGNSW Annual Conference 2017, Resolution 61 called on the NSW Government to review the regulated boundary for the waste levy, including reassessment of which LGAs are classified as regional or metropolitan. There was also a resolution in 2011 to eliminate or equitably apply the waste levy to rural and regional areas. While the geographic areas covered by the waste levy have been raised previously, Minister Kean recently said at a waste forum that the waste levy is open for discussion. It's unclear whether this will form part of the NSW Government's 20 year Waste Strategy due out in mid 2020. This provides LGNSW the opportunity to continue advocating on this issue under existing policy.

X40 Ryde City Council**Reducing litter along NSW rivers and their tributaries**

That Local Government NSW:

1. Writes to the NSW Minister responsible for Roads and Maritime Services (RMS), and the NSW Minister for Environment and Heritage, suggesting that:
 - a) They organise a summit aimed at reducing litter above and below the high water line along our rivers and river tributaries.
 - b) The relevant Government Department and Agencies, those councils adjoining NSW rivers and other associated catchment stakeholders be invited.
2. Sends a copy of this letter to all organised NSW Catchment Groups and congratulates them on their efforts to improve the health and visual impact of our important rivers across NSW.

Note from LGNSW

The EPA already funds Keep Australia Beautiful (KAB) to run an annual Litter Congress, and this could be a stream within that event. LGNSW will write to EPA/KAB and recommend they include this element in forthcoming Litter Congresses.

X41 Murray River Council**Noxious weeds funding**

That Local Government NSW requests the NSW Government to provide additional funding to weed authorities within NSW for noxious weed eradication across the state of NSW.

Note from LGNSW

This motion fits under existing LGNSW policy. This was a resolution from the 2017 Annual Conference, and is also included at 9.4 in LGNSW's Biosecurity Position Statement.

X42 Nambucca Shire Council**Flushable wet wipes**

That Local Government NSW lobbies the Federal Government to legislate or impose a ban on the marketing of “wet wipes” or “flushable wipes” as being suitable to flush down the toilet.

Note from LGNSW

This motion is consistent with current policy and actions. The 2017 Annual Conference adopted an almost identical resolution: That a ban be placed on wet wipes marketed as “flushable toilet wipes” due to their negative impact on sewer lines and sewage processing facilities. As noted in Council’s supporting background information, the ACCC recently lost their case in the Federal Court against Kimberly Clark for false advertising of “flushable” wipes, as the blockages by wipes were found to be not the only contributing factor. However, the ACCC has since announced that it will be lodging an appeal against that decision.

5. SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY**X43 Ryde City Council****Multilingual service**

That Local Government NSW calls upon the NSW Government to investigate the funding and provision of a centralised free or subsidised multilingual interpreter service for provision to council’s who choose to participate in such a scheme.

Note from LGNSW

The motion is consistent with the LGNSW Fundamental Principles, and particularly the Multicultural Communities Position Statement which calls on state and federal governments to fund councils’ roles and responsibilities for activities that support multicultural communities and promote social cohesion. While translation and interpreting services are provided by Multicultural NSW, these services can be a heavy finance impost on councils. However, a free interpreting service is currently available to all councils through the federal government agency TIS National.

X44 City of Sydney**Multicultural communities policy statement**

That Local Government NSW supports the Multicultural Communities Policy Statement:

- a) Equity – fair distribution of resources;
- b) Rights – equality for all people;
- c) Access – to services essential to quality of life;
- d) Participation – of all people in their community; and
- e) Recognition – of the unique place of Aboriginal people in NSW and the right of Aboriginal people to be involved in all decisions affecting Aboriginal communities.

Note from LGNSW

This motion is calling for support of current LGNSW policy and action. We will continue to advocate for these social justice principles.

X45 Ryde City Council**Safe food handling**

That Local Government NSW lobbies the Minister for Health for a more proactive and preventative educational approach to people working with food across local government areas (LGAs). Such measures could include, but would not be limited to:

- Increased funding for councils to run education sessions for restaurants and food handling concerns.
- Direct educational sessions held by NSW across LGAs.

Note from LGNSW

This motion is consistent with LGNSW’s current and past actions, and aligns with Fundamental Principle A (local government must be fairly funded by the NSW Government to meet its infrastructure and service responsibilities) and Fundamental Principle G (local government is committed to health and safety for all in the community). This motion also aligns with the Health and Safety Position Statement, which notes that LGNSW advocates for practical reforms and initiatives that improve public health and safety but do not represent cost shifting or burden the limited resources of local government without providing adequate funding or cost recovery mechanisms. In 2019 (and ongoing) LGNSW has advocated for additional resources for councils through the Food Regulation Forum and also through direct correspondence to the Chief Executive of the NSW Food Authority.

X46 Blacktown City Council**Pan Pacific Safe Community accreditation**

That member councils:

- a) Affirm the critical role of local government in addressing community safety issues through strategic linkages and collaborative partnerships
- b) Consider undertaking Pan Pacific Safe Community Accreditation
- c) Take opportunity as it presents to lobby the NSW Government for increased community safety-related infrastructure.

Note from LGNSW

The motion calls on member councils to affirm the role of local government in addressing community safety issues. This is consistent with LGNSW’s existing Health and Safety Position Statement which notes that: * All councils in NSW play an essential part in improving and safeguarding the health and safety of their communities. * Council involvement in community safety and crime prevention initiatives is often in partnership with police and other government and non-government organisations, engaging with communities to understand and develop strategies to address local crime issues.

The motion also calls on councils to consider undertaking Pan Pacific Safe Community Accreditation. This is a matter for each council and can be actioned without a vote at conference. Finally, the motion also calls for lobbying to the NSW

Government for increased community safety-related infrastructure. This is consistent with LGNSW's existing positions, including the Infrastructure Position Statement and the Health and Safety Position Statement.

X47 Bega Valley Shire Council

Government support for rural and regional arts

That Local Government NSW lobbies the Minister for the Arts and Create NSW to increase annual support to Regional Arts Development Organisations.

Note from LGNSW

This motion is consistent with the current LGNSW Position 15.5 (as stated in the motion's background note). The Position 15.5 could therefore be expanded by a vote of the Board to include reference to Regional Arts Development Organisations (RADOs).

X48 Ryde City Council

Library funding - modernising libraries

That Local Government NSW renews its campaign for more library funding per capita to local councils by calling on the NSW Government to lift its percentage funding contribution to 20% of State-wide total library expenditure by councils.

Note from LGNSW

This motion is consistent with current positions and actions. LGNSW's library funding objectives remain - including to have funding increased by an additional \$94 million over four years (on top of 2017-18 funding levels).

6. GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

X49 Gwydir Shire Council

Webcasting

That the Local Government NSW Annual Conference expresses its concern regarding the one size fits all approach to the compulsory requirement for all councils to provide webcasting of its meetings.

Note from LGNSW

This issue was debated at the 2018 Annual Conference. The requirement to webcast meetings may be met by posting an audio or video recording of the meeting on council's website after the meeting. This means that councils can comply with the provision at minimal cost.

X50 Hunters Hill Council

Democratic recognition of local government in the Australian Constitution

That Local Government NSW advocates for democratic recognition of local government in the Australian Constitution and that in addition to a question on financial recognition a second question be put to the Australian people at a referendum asking that a new section 119A be inserted with wording to the effect that:

1. Each State shall, and each Territory may, provide for the establishment and continuance of local government bodies directly chosen by the people in accordance with its laws and empowered to administer, and to make by-laws for, their respective areas in accordance with the laws of the State or Territory.
2. The Parliament of a State or Territory may by Statute dismiss a local government body, and provide for the appointment of persons to perform its functions and exercise its powers until such time as a new local government is elected.

Note from LGNSW

This is a long-standing policy position of LGNSW and forms the basis of our Position Statement 19.

X51 Hawkesbury City Council

Communication and teamwork between local and State Government

That the NSW Government work in partnership with local government to develop a framework for communicating and working with local government to address the many financial, social, environmental and infrastructure challenges confronting the State of NSW.

Note from LGNSW

This motion aligns with current LGNSW policy and action. This year, LGNSW secured a commitment to a new intergovernmental agreement to reaffirm the NSW Government's intention to work as an equal partner with local government.

X52 Hawkesbury City Council

Recognition of local government in the Australian Constitution

That the Commonwealth Government be requested to work with local government bodies across Australia to progress a Referendum at the next Commonwealth Election to secure the recognition of local government in the Australian Constitution.

Note from LGNSW

This is a long-standing policy position of LGNSW and forms the basis of our Position Statement 19.

X53 Georges River Council

Century review of local government funding

That Local Government NSW works with the State and Federal Government to review the current funding model for local government to ensure that local government in NSW can provide the services necessary to meet the needs of their communities in the 21st Century.

Note from LGNSW

This motion has been advanced, and will continue to be advanced, as core policy for LGNSW. It aligns with Fundamental

Principle A - Local government must have control of its revenue raising and investment decisions and be fairly funded by the Commonwealth and State/NSW Governments to meet its infrastructure and service responsibilities.

X54 Penrith City Council **Bill posters and other advertising material in contravention of the Act**

That Local Government NSW writes to the Minister for Energy and Environment requesting that Section 146(C) of the *Protection of the Environment Act 1997* be amended to allow a deeming provision that makes the venue/promoter/organiser and or business mentioned in the advertisement culpable for the offence of cause or ask a person to commit an offence under sections 146(A) or 146(B) of the *Protection of the Environment Act 1997*.

Note from LGNSW

LGNSW will action this request without debate at conference as the motion is not seeking a change to LGNSW policy position.

X55 Hunters Hill Council **Consultation and engagement with local councils**

That Local Government NSW advocates that the NSW Government establishes central departmental liaison officers in government agencies for local government areas and for Regional Organisations of Councils and Joint Organisations, to help to represent the needs of communities that we serve, including:

- a) Providing at least (at a minimum) of 30 days' notice when seeking comment during consultation on key government initiatives, policies, programs and legislation, particularly those that could impact on local councils.
- b) Specific reference to local councils as a distinct stakeholder partner for 'Consultation' in the NSW Cabinet Manual, Guidelines, Cabinet Process Flowchart and relevant Premier's Memoranda, rather than the current guidance on "external stakeholders include: the public, industry, the Australian Government, other jurisdictions".
- c) A step to allow for a minimum of 14 days to receive comment from local councils during the 'Draft Cabinet Submission Stage' in the NSW Cabinet Process Flowchart, NSW Cabinet Manual and Guidelines.

Note from LGNSW

This motion is consistent with current actions including the forthcoming Intergovernmental Agreement between LGNSW and the State Government, as well as the introduction of OLG Regional Managers etc. LGNSW will review the other specific asks and advocate where appropriate.

X56 Murray River Council **Cross-border Issues**

That Local Government NSW advocates to the NSW Government to press for the urgent engagement of the Victorian Cross-Border Commissioner to facilitate effective and comprehensive resolution of the multitude of cross-border anomalies that exist between our two States.

Note from LGNSW

This motion is consistent with current LGNSW position. The NSW Commissioner has advised that he is working with the Victorian Cross Border Commissioner.

X57 Newcastle City Council **Second cities regional vs metropolitan status**

That Local Government NSW:

1. Notes the continued uncertainty surrounding the status of cities of local government areas commonly classified as either 'regional' or 'metropolitan' councils (for example Newcastle and Wollongong councils).
2. Writes to the NSW Premier seeking clarification about regional and metropolitan boundaries in NSW.
3. Calls on the NSW Government to provide certainty to these local government areas regarding eligibility for grant funding opportunities.

Note from LGNSW

LGNSW notes that Newcastle City Council proposed a similar motion for the 2018 conference and that it remains an issue for Newcastle and other large regional cities in NSW. LGNSW is often in discussion with government agencies about synchronising regional boundaries and classifications which vary widely across different program and policy areas, causing confusion and frustration for councils. This year, LGNSW secured a commitment to a new intergovernmental agreement which will be a further avenue for discussion with Government on this issue.

X58 Armidale Regional Council **Council amalgamations**

That Local Government NSW notes the financial information in the March 2019 report: "Council Amalgamations, a sea of red ink" and lobbies the NSW Government for financial assistance to enable councils whose finances have suffered since forced amalgamation to meet important commitments in their Delivery Programs.

Note from LGNSW

LGNSW will note the report without debate at conference. LGNSW have persistently advocated for more funding to cover the costs of amalgamation.