

## Message from the President

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

## Changes to Conditions for Award of Emeritus Mayor

LGNSW recently reviewed the eligibility criteria for the Emeritus Mayor Award, endorsing changes to ensure a consistent approach for both councillor-elected and popularly-elected mayors.

## Funding for Business Development in the Disability Sector

NSW councils can apply for grants through the Disability Sector Scale-Up program.

## Excellence in the Environment Awards

Time is running out to register for LGNSW's upcoming Excellence in the Environment Awards finalists' forum and awards ceremony (Sydney, 11 October).

## Planning Breakfast and Awards

Secure your spot at the next LGNSW planning breakfast and awards presentation before registrations close on 18 October.

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## Message from the President

Cr Keith Rhoades AFSM

Friday 29 September 2017



**Annual conference motions** – There's still time to get involved in shaping the agenda for the local government sector by submitting a motion for this year's annual conference. Before doing so, please read the criteria and other important information on the [LGNSW website](#). Members are encouraged to lodge motions by **COB Monday 9 October 2017**.

**Capable Councils** – Our series of free, post-election workshops for mayors, councillors and senior staff from recently elected councils kick off next week in Gloucester and Newcastle. For more information and to register visit the [LGNSW website](#).

**Emeritus Mayor Award** – LGNSW recently reviewed the eligibility criteria for the Emeritus Mayor Award, endorsing changes to ensure a consistent approach for both councillor-elected and popularly-elected mayors. The award is now open to former mayors who have served a minimum of six years and have ceased holding office. [Read more](#).

**Drone operations** – On Thursday, LGNSW Chief Executive Donna Rygate received a briefing on LGNSW's upcoming seminars for councils considering using drones. From infrastructure management and vegetation mapping to land use, planning and tourism, drones can perform many tasks, saving time and money when used appropriately. The seminars will take place in Wagga Wagga, Parramatta, Tamworth and Dubbo during October and November. [Find out more and register](#).

**Night time economy forum** – The local government night time economy working group has been actively raising awareness, advocating to state and federal governments, networking and preparing to host the first-ever NSW Councils' Night Time Economy Forum (Parramatta, 12 October). The forum will bring together local government professionals from a variety of areas (planning, urban design, community development, arts and culture) to share their ideas on how to create vibrant and safe night time economies. The working group comprises LGNSW and the councils of Wollongong City, City of Newcastle, City of Parramatta, City of Sydney and Waverley. Places are limited, so please [register online](#) now.

**Short-term holiday letting** – Donna and senior staff from LGNSW will attend a meeting with NSW Department of Planning and Environment this afternoon (Friday), to discuss short-term holiday letting and related issues. Topics for discussion include what planning rules could be put in place to allow a reasonable level of short-term stays (to support local economies), while lessening negative impacts on neighbours and local amenities. Councils' views vary significantly across the state on this issue. LGNSW is preparing a submission on short-term rentals in consultation with councils.

**Roads and Maritime Services road transfers** – Senior LGNSW staff and representatives from Bellingen and Nambucca Shire Councils met with Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) and the Office of Local Government on Thursday, to discuss the implications of the proposed transfer of old Pacific Highway assets to the councils. The scale of the proposed transfer will impose major maintenance and asset renewal costs on both councils. Other councils are bracing for similar proposals. LGNSW is strongly opposed to cost shifting and maintains the position that asset transfers should be subject to council agreement and that councils must be fully compensated for the costs imposed by the transfers. The level of compensation should also be determined by an independent party. Negotiations continue.

Yours sincerely



Cr Keith Rhoades AFSM

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LGNSW recently reviewed the eligibility criteria for the Emeritus Mayor Award, endorsing changes to ensure a consistent approach for both councillor-elected and popularly-elected mayors.

#### Item 4: Planning Breakfast and Awards

Secure your spot at the next LGNSW planning breakfast and awards presentation before registrations close on 18 October.

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LGNSW is offering a free webinar for people interested in coaching.

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LGNSW is convening a community governance roundtable for elected members and senior managers.

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Women NSW is seeking expressions of interest for round 2 of the Domestic and Family Violence Innovation Fund.

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NSW councils can apply for grants through the Disability Sector Scale-Up program.

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Time is running out to register for LGNSW's upcoming Excellence in the Environment Awards finalists' forum and awards ceremony (Sydney, 11 October).

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LGNSW is seeking feedback from councils on water resource planning for groundwater resources in their regions.

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

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Learn about the purpose and benefits of workforce planning, the steps involved and resources that can be used to prepare plans.

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

## Conferences and Events

### Item 1: Upcoming Conferences and Events

#### **Excellence in the Environment Awards**

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#### **Models for Community Governance: A Practitioner Roundtable**

LGNSW is convening a community governance roundtable for elected members and senior managers.

#### **Workforce Planning Workshop**

Learn about the purpose and benefits of workforce planning, the steps involved and resources that can be used to prepare plans.

## Grants and Funding

### Item 2: Grant and Funding Opportunities for Local Government

#### **\$10 million Domestic and Family Violence Innovation Fund**

Women NSW is seeking expressions of interest for round 2 of the Domestic and Family Violence Innovation Fund.

#### **Funding for Business Development in the Disability Sector**

NSW councils can apply for grants through the Disability Sector Scale-Up program.

## General Interest

### Item 3: Changes to Conditions for Award of Emeritus Mayor

**LGNSW recently reviewed the eligibility criteria for the Emeritus Mayor Award, endorsing changes to ensure a consistent approach for both councillor-elected and popularly-elected mayors.**

**Online information**

[Local Government NSW website](#)

Ref: R02/0009

The award is now available to former mayors who have served a minimum of six years as a mayor and who have ceased holding office in local government.

The changes respond to changes to the *Local Government Act* in 2016 that increased the term of a councillor-appointed mayor from one to two years.

The previous eligibility criteria (a minimum of three full terms OR one full term as a popularly-elected mayor) meant that councillor-elected mayors appointed after August 2016, were required to hold office for a minimum of six (rather than the previous three) years to qualify for the Emeritus Mayor Award, while popularly-elected mayors were eligible after four years. The changes also respond to reports of confusion in the community about the use of the Emeritus Mayor title by former mayors who continue to serve as councillors.

To ensure the Emeritus Mayor title is held in the highest regard, LGNSW retains discretion to withhold or withdraw the title if a proposed recipient/recipient engages in behaviour that is likely to (or does) discredit the local government sector.

The Emeritus Mayor title continues to be a significant form of public recognition of outstanding service to the local government sector and we welcome applications from eligible applicants.

For further information visit the [LGNSW website](#).

## General Interest

### Item 4: Planning Breakfast and Awards

**Secure your spot at the next LGNSW planning breakfast and awards presentation before registrations close on 18 October.**

To be held at Parliament House on 24 October, the event will include the presentation of the inaugural LGNSW Planning Awards. The awards recognise excellence in planning and development services, leadership and culture change, innovation and excellence. They are awarded to both individuals and councils.

Minister for Planning Anthony Roberts will address guests and present the awards. All councils that submitted entries will be recognised during the presentation. LGNSW encourages all entrants to attend.

David Borger, Western Sydney Director, Sydney Business Chamber will address the importance of planning, how we can re-think or re-imagine our approach to planning, infrastructure and the quality of life for our communities, as well as what councils and local governments can do to activate their cities towards better outcomes.

This event will be of particular interest to councillors and mayors, general managers and planning directors. Participants will be eligible for continuing professional development points from the Planning Institute of Australia.

LGNSW thanks Landcom, elite sponsor of the LGNSW Planning Series.

To secure your place, please [book online](#) before Wednesday 18 October 2017.

#### **Dates and location**

Tuesday 24 October 2017

7.30am – 9.00am

Strangers' Function Room, Parliament House, Macquarie Street, Sydney

#### **Online information**

[Planning Breakfast and Awards](#)

[Registration](#)

#### **RSVP**

By Wednesday 18 October 2017

#### **Cost**

\$99 LGNSW members

\$132 non-members

Includes breakfast

#### **Contact**

Karen Rolls

LGNSW

02 9242 4050

[events@lgnsw.org.au](mailto:events@lgnsw.org.au)

**Ref:** R16/ 0025 TA

## General Interest

### Item 5: Free LGNSW Webinar – Leadership and Career Development Coaching

#### LGNSW is offering a free webinar for people interested in coaching.

LGNSW has partnered with Jane Jackson Careers to provide career coaching for employees who require external support to build confidence and clarity in their role, improve their communication skills, manage stress and achieve better work/life balance, and increase their capability to apply for internal positions.

#### Career Coaching

Career coaching offers independent support to:

- Enhance the leadership skills of senior managers
- Help build the confidence of staff to develop them for new or higher level roles
- Prepare employees to apply for internal positions
- Motivate or re-engage leaders and key staff
- Support staff as they transition towards retirement.

Coaching is delivered via Skype, telephone or in person, with topics tailored to suit individual needs. Coaching services can be purchased individually or in bundles for multiple sessions and multiple staff.

#### Free webinar

Join the 30-minute webinar on Tuesday 17 October, from 12.30-1pm to learn more about the benefits of coaching. [Visit the LGNSW website for more information.](#)

#### Online information

[Career Coaching](#)

#### Webinar details

Tuesday 17 October 2017

12.30-1pm

[Registration](#)

#### Contact

Jennifer James

LGNSW

02 9242 4185

[jennifer.james@lgnsw.org.au](mailto:jennifer.james@lgnsw.org.au)

Ref: I98/0012SA

## General Interest

### Item 6: Models for Community Governance: A Practitioner Roundtable

**LGNSW is convening a community governance roundtable for elected members and senior managers.**

Community governance covers various ways in which local communities can actively participate in planning their future, delivering services, managing facilities and making decisions that meet collective needs and aspirations.

The roundtable will draw upon the experiences of councils from Australia and overseas to:

- Consider the pros and cons of various models of community governance – what works and what doesn't
- Explore the best fit between different models and local circumstances
- Identify the need for further practice-based research and policy development to help councils implement appropriate forms of community governance as a component or extension of their future engagement strategies.

The program will include:

- An overview of models of community governance being applied in Australia, New Zealand and Britain
- Case studies and presentations by selected councils and practitioners
- Facilitated discussion of ideas and views on key issues and opportunities.

LGNSW is inviting case study examples of community governance practices for discussion at the roundtable. To contribute, please email [Sarah Artist](mailto:Sarah.Artist@lgnsw.org.au), Senior Manager for Innovation and Capacity LGNSW, or call her on 02 9242 4182.

Contact [LGNSW Learning Solutions](http://lgnsw.org.au) to discuss running the course in-house or with other organisations in your area.

**Date and location**

Friday 10 November 2017  
(Sydney)

**Online information**

[LGNSW Training](http://lgnsw.org.au)

**Contact**

To contribute to case studies  
email [Sarah Artist](mailto:Sarah.Artist@lgnsw.org.au) or call 02  
9242 4182

**More information**

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

**Ref:** I98/0012 SA

## Community

### Item 7: \$10 million Domestic and Family Violence Innovation Fund

#### Women NSW is seeking expressions of interest for round 2 of the Domestic and Family Violence Innovation Fund.

The fund seeks aims to break the intergenerational cycle of domestic violence and improve the safety of women, men and children in NSW.

Round 2 will provide \$10 million for initiatives in the areas of prevention, early intervention and crisis response to domestic and family violence.

There are two funding streams:

#### General funding stream

This is open to applications in the areas of prevention, early intervention and crisis response. Priority will be given to projects that:

- are in the area of prevention and early intervention
- target high-risk cohorts, including culturally and linguistically diverse communities, Aboriginal communities, people with disability, the LGBTIQ community, older people, and people at risk of revictimisation or reoffending.
- improve the integration of services within the domestic and family violence service system, and/or with other service sectors.

#### Prevention funding stream

This stream will support whole-of-community prevention projects that:

- will be delivered in at least one of the 59 high priority LGAs listed in Appendix A of the round 2 guidelines
- bring communities together to develop and deliver a multi-faceted prevention campaign
- include a whole-of-community or whole-of-school component.

Non-government organisations (NGOs) that have deductible gift recipient status are eligible to apply for the funding when in partnership with one or more of the following:

- Service providers
- Other NGOs
- Community groups
- Academics and educational institutions/sector
- Corporates and other private sector business
- Government agencies (including local government).

Increasingly, councils in NSW are implementing initiatives to prevent domestic and family violence and provide support for victims. Councils are encouraged to partner with NGOs to seek funding for joint projects.

#### Dates and location

Expression of Interest Closes  
20 October 2017

#### Online information

[Domestic and Family Violence  
Innovation Fund Round 2 Guidelines](#)

#### Contact

Women NSW  
9248 0800 or  
[DFVinnovation@fac.s.nsw.gov.au](mailto:DFVinnovation@fac.s.nsw.gov.au)

Ref: R90/0071-03 MK

## Community

### Item 8: Funding for Business Development in the Disability Sector

#### NSW councils can apply for grants through the Disability Sector Scale-Up program.

The \$19 million program is designed to help NSW businesses prepare for, and make the most of, the rollout of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

Grants of up to \$2 million are available through the Business Acceleration Grants program to help businesses scale-up and deliver new services in the disability sector, with a focus on strong service delivery in rural and remote areas.

The program supports organisations to:

- improve the commercial viability of small to medium businesses in the disability sector, including not-for-profit organisations
- increase the participation of Aboriginal people and businesses in the economic opportunities arising from the NDIS and increase the availability of culturally-appropriate services
- develop appropriate services for CALD NDIS participants, as well as NDIS participants requiring psychosocial support
- develop flexible workforces and organisations in rural and remote regions, to enable them to provide quality and well-priced support.

Applications close on 30 October 2017. For more information and to apply online, visit the NSW Department of Industry website.

#### **Applications**

Applicants can apply through:

[Tenders NSW](#)

[Applications close on 30 October 2017](#)

#### **Contact**

[disabilitysector.scaleup@industry.nsw.gov.au](mailto:disabilitysector.scaleup@industry.nsw.gov.au)

#### **Website**

[Industry NSW](#)

**Ref:** R96/0126 CM

## Environment

### Item 9: Excellence in the Environment Awards

#### Time is running out to register for LGNSW's upcoming Excellence in the Environment Awards finalists' forum and awards ceremony (Sydney, 11 October).

Come along to see the best, most creative environment projects across NSW councils being recognised for their exceptional achievements and innovation.

NSW council programs, projects and people will receive awards across 14 categories, culminating in two prestigious local sustainability awards – one for overall council performance and one recognising the individual achievements of a council staff member or elected councillor in the field of sustainability.

The forum's keynote presentation will take you on a journey through local government's environmental management over the last two decades as we celebrate 20 years of the Excellence in the Environment Awards.

Adam Spencer – radio presenter, comedian, author and passionate advocate for sustainability – will be master of ceremonies.

After the awards ceremony, stay on to network and celebrate winners, past and present.

LGNSW appreciates the continued support of a number of sponsors including: NSW Office of Environment and Heritage, NSW Environment Protection Authority, NSW Ministry of Health, Water Directorate, Department of Primary Industries, SafeWork NSW, Local Government Super, DA Lighting and OzArk Environmental & Heritage Management.

[Find out more and register online by Wednesday 4 October.](#)

#### Dates and Location

Wednesday 11 October 2017  
UTS Aerial Function Centre, Ultimo

Finalists' Forum: 9.00am for 9.30am – 12.15pm

Lunch and Award Presentation:  
12.30pm – 3.00pm

20 year celebration: 3.00pm - 5.00pm

#### Online information

[Excellence in the Environment Awards](#)

[Register now](#)

#### Contact

Denise Anderson, LGNSW  
9242 4056

[denise.anderson@lgnsw.org.au](mailto:denise.anderson@lgnsw.org.au)

**Ref:** R98/0021 TA

## Water

### Item 10: Water Resource Planning for Groundwater

#### **LGNSW is seeking feedback from councils on water resource planning for groundwater resources in their regions.**

The NSW Department of Industry (Crown Lands and Water division) has established a Groundwater Water Resource Planning Stakeholder Advisory Panel to advise on the roll out of groundwater water resource plans in the NSW section of the Murray-Darling Basin.

As distinct from stakeholder panels for individual surface water resource planning areas, the government has opted to establish a single, statewide stakeholder advisory panel.

LGNSW will represent councils on the panel, which will address issues relating to 13 groundwater resource plan areas in NSW including:

- GW 6 Western porous rock
- GW 7 Darling alluvium
- GW 8 Murray alluvium
- GW 9 Murrumbidgee alluvium
- GW 10 Lachlan alluvium
- GW11 Lachlan and south western fractured rock
- GW 12 Macquarie Castlereagh alluvium
- GW 13 New South Wales Great Artesian Basin Shallow
- GW 14 Namoi alluvium
- GW 15 Gwydir alluvium
- GW 16 Eastern porous rock;
- GW 17 New England fractured rock and northern basalts
- GW 18 New South Wales Border Rivers alluvium.

LGNSW is seeking feedback from councils on the water resource planning for the groundwater resources in their regions, including on various documents prepared for the stakeholder advisory panel, such as groundwater resource descriptions and risk assessments. These documents are available on request from Sascha Moege, Senior Policy Officer LGNSW.

The Crown Lands and Water Division has offered to conduct targeted consultation with councils on specific issues relating to their groundwater resources. Please contact LGNSW if you require this.

#### **Online information**

[Water resource plans](#)

#### **Specific information**

Information on specific groundwater water resource plans and related documents are available from LGNSW.

#### **LGNSW Contact**

Sascha Moege

LGNSW

02 9242 4045

[sascha.moege@lgnsw.org.au](mailto:sascha.moege@lgnsw.org.au)

**Ref:** R90/1056-12 SM

## Learning

### Item 11: Upcoming Public Courses

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

They are specifically designed for the local government sector.

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

Queanbeyan – Monday 9 October 2017

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

#### **Improving Your Grammar and Punctuation**

Sydney – Tuesday 10 October 2017

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

#### **Leadership for Aspiring Women**

Sydney – Wednesday 18 October 2017

Develop the skills and confidence to move into a supervisory role or take the next step in your career. [More information](#)

#### **Media Skills**

Sydney – Tuesday 24 October 2017

Develop practical techniques to be more comfortable, confident and effective in dealing with the media. This course is suitable for elected members and staff. [More information](#)

#### **Financial Issues in Local Government (for elected members)**

Sydney – Friday 27 October 2017

Understand, interpret, develop, plan and more effectively manage your financial responsibilities as a councillor. [More information](#)

#### **Political Awareness**

Sydney – Tuesday 31 October

Learn how to develop effective working relationships with elected representatives when formulating strategy and developing sustainable services for the community. [More information.](#)

#### **Speed Reading**

Sydney – Tuesday 7 November

Learn how to double your reading speed and improve your comprehension and memory. [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](#)

#### **Cost**

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

#### **Registrations**

[LGNSW Learning Solutions registrations](#)

#### **Contact**

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

**Ref:** I98/0012 SA

## Learning

### Item 12: Workforce Planning Workshop

**Learn about the purpose and benefits of workforce planning, the steps involved and resources that can be used to prepare plans.**

Designed for directors, managers and human resource professionals, this practical and interactive workshop will provide information and knowledge to undertake workforce planning.

Topics include:

- The local government context – *Local Government Act 1993* requirements, local government workforce profile and trends
- The purpose and benefits of workforce planning
- Key steps for developing a workforce plan
- Where are we now – using metrics and identifying trends
- The future – making sense of the data
- Identifying gaps, undertaking gap analysis and developing strategies to address gaps
- Communicating with key stakeholders
- Finalising a workforce plan.

Contact [LGNSW Learning Solutions](mailto:learning@lgnsw.org.au) for a quote to have this workshop delivered for your organisation or in partnership in your region.

**Date and location**

Thursday 19 October 2017  
Sydney

**Cost**

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

**Online information and registration**

[Workforce planning](#)

**Contact**

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

**Ref:** I98/0012 SA

## In the News

### Item 13: ALGA Newsletter

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