

Message from the President

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

Board Meeting Report

The LGNSW Board held its October meeting today (Friday, 6 October) where it endorsed a number of proposed motions for this year's annual conference and discussed submissions concerning native forestry, land release and housing supply, and scrap metal standards.

2017/18 NSW Liveable Communities Grants

Councils can apply for grants round three of the Liveable Communities Program which supports projects that make local communities more responsive older people's needs.

Asbestos Awareness Month

Councils are encouraged to get involved in Asbestos Awareness Month throughout November, to educate their local communities about the danger of asbestos in and around homes.

Annual Conference – Early Bird Registrations

Register for this year's LGNSW Annual Conference (Hyatt Regency Sydney, 4 to 6 December) before 23 October to secure an early bird discount.

Review of Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation

The NSW Department of Planning and Environment is undertaking a comprehensive review of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW

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LGNSW.ORG.AU LGNSW@LGNSW.ORG.AU
ABN 49 853 913 882

EMAIL SUBSCRIPTION

LGNSW.ORG.AU/SUBSCRIBE

Message from the President

Cr Keith Rhoades AFSM

Friday 6 October 2017



Capable Councils workshops – Thanks to all the newly-elected councillors and senior staff who attended the first two LGNSW Capable Councils workshops held in Gloucester and Newcastle this week. Our workshops are about bringing new councillors and their executive teams together to plan for a successful term, building an increasingly capable local government sector and highlighting how LGNSW can assist. They complement the other on boarding activities including sessions about rules and regulations. LGNSW also offers a free, confidential mentoring service for new and returning councillors and mayors, and one of our mentors, former mayor of Lismore City Council Dr Jenny Dowell OAM, was at this week's workshops to share her wealth of experience and knowledge. To find out more, or register for upcoming workshops visit the [LGNSW website](#).

LGNSW Board meeting – The LGNSW Board held its October meeting today and endorsed a number of proposed motions for this year's annual conference including a call for the NSW Government to revoke legislation mandating independent hearing and assessment panels for all councils in Sydney and Wollongong, and the clarification of statutory and regulatory rating provisions regarding land categorisation. The board also endorsed a number of submissions. [Read more](#).

LGNSW Annual Conference –Premier Gladys Berejiklian will deliver the opening address on the first day of business (5 December) at this year's annual conference (Sydney, 4 to 6 December). Walkley Award-winning journalist Annabel Crabb will lead a discussion on what the community wants and expects from government in her keynote speech (6 December). [Download the conference program from the LGNSW website](#). Members are encouraged to submit motions by **COB Monday 9 October 2017**. Please read the [criteria and other important information on the LGNSW website](#) before making a submission. [Read more](#).

Planning working group – LGNSW is holding a meeting of communication staff from metropolitan councils to discuss planning issues. We are establishing a group to work collaboratively to help advocate the best interests of communities. The first meeting, to be held at LGNSW's offices at 28 Margaret Street, Sydney on Wednesday 18 October, will focus on the independent hearing and assessment panel legislation, and include a background briefing on the issue and a working lunch. If you are interested in coming along, please email communications@lgnsw.org.au by next Wednesday (October 10).

Local Government Procurement Awards – Excellence in the field of local government procurement will be recognised at the annual Local Government Procurement Conference dinner on 30 November 2017. If you know of a person or organisation whose achievements in this area are worthy of recognition, please nominate them before the closing date on 1 November. [Read more](#).

Until next week!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'K Rhoades'.

Cr Keith Rhoades AFSM

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.

General Interest

Item 4: Board Meeting Report

The LGNSW Board held its October meeting today (Friday, 6 October) where it endorsed a number of proposed motions for this year's annual conference and discussed submissions concerning native forestry, land release and housing supply, and scrap metal standards.

Item 5: Annual Conference – Early Bird Registrations

Register for this year's LGNSW Annual Conference (Hyatt Regency Sydney, 4 to 6 December) before 23 October to secure an early bird discount.

Item 6: Asbestos Awareness Month

Councils are encouraged to get involved in Asbestos Awareness Month throughout November, to educate their local communities about the danger of asbestos in and around homes.

Item 7: Planning Breakfast and Awards

The next LGNSW planning breakfast and awards presentation will be held at Parliament House on 24 October featuring the Minister for Planning and David Borger from the Sydney Business Chamber.

Item 8: Draft Crown Land Management Regulation 2017 – Exhibition Period Extended

The exhibition period for the draft regulation for the *Crown Land Management Act 2016* has been extended until Sunday 15 October 2017.

Item 9: Take part in LGNSW's 2017-2018 Remuneration Survey

Councils are invited to take part in LGNSW's annual remuneration survey.

Community

Item 10: 2017/18 NSW Liveable Communities Grants

Councils can apply for grants round three of the Liveable Communities Program which supports projects that make local communities more responsive older people's needs.

Planning

Item 11: Review of Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation

The NSW Department of Planning and Environment is undertaking a comprehensive review of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000.

Procurement

Item 12: Nominations Open for Local Government Procurement Awards

Nominations are open for this year's Local Government Procurement Awards.

Learning

Item 13: Cyber Safety and Awareness

LGNSW is presenting a one-day course on reducing cyber security risks.

Item 14: Upcoming Courses

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

In the News

Item 15: ALGA Newsletter

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

Awards

Item 1: Award Opportunities

Nominations Open for Local Government Procurement Awards

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Conferences and Events

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Cyber Safety and Awareness

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Grants and Funding

Item 3: Grant and Funding Opportunities for Local Government

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General Interest

Item 4: Board Meeting Report

The LGNSW Board held its October meeting today (Friday, 6 October) where it endorsed a number of proposed motions for this year's annual conference and discussed submissions concerning native forestry, land release and housing supply, and scrap metal standards.

Annual conference motions endorsed by the board today included a call for the NSW Government to revoke legislation that mandates Independent Hearing and Assessment Panels (IHAPs) for all councils in Sydney and Wollongong, and the clarification of statutory and regulatory rating provisions regarding land categorisation.

A number of LGNSW submissions were also discussed.

LGNSW's submission to the NSW Legislative Committee on Environment and Planning into land release and housing supply outlines LGNSW's position on the following key issues for local government:

- The importance of local government in the provision of land and housing
- Local and state government partnership
- Regional opportunities
- Funding; infrastructure contributions and rate pegging.

Our submission on the Native Forestry Bill 2017 calls for a more rigorous assessment of licence applications that consider off-site implications of the proposals, such as impact on local roads and traffic, site access, noise and visual impacts. It also strongly recommends that councils be consulted during the licence assessment process to ensure that impacts outside the scope of the forestry licence and within the remit of council are adequately considered and addressed.

LGNSW's submission on the NSW Environment and Protection Authority's consultation paper on minimum standards in the scrap metal industry recommends that the proposed standards include a clear definition of the scrap metal industry.

(All LGNSW submissions are made available online).

The Board also discussed an application for legal assistance.

Dates and location

The next meeting of the LGNSW Board will be held in early 2018, date TBC.

Contact

Susan Budd, Senior Manager,
Governance and Culture, LGNSW.

Ref: R13/0008

General Interest

Item 5: Annual Conference – Early Bird Registrations

Register for this year's LGNSW Annual Conference (Hyatt Regency Sydney, 4 to 6 December) before 23 October to secure an early bird discount.

The conference is the signature policy-making event for mayors, councillors, general managers, senior council staff and associate members.

Registrations can be made for individuals and groups.

The conference program is available online. The speakers and items of business include:

- Premier Gladys Berjiklian
- Standing orders, business sessions and consideration of motions
- Minister for Local Government the Hon. Gabrielle Upton MP
- Shadow Minister for Local Government Peter Primrose MLC
- Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight the Hon. Melinda Pavey MP
- Chief Executive, Local Government Information Unit UK, Dr Jonathan Carr-West
- Topic streams:
 - Environment and Planning
 - Infrastructure and Economics
 - People and Communities
 - Walkley Award-winning journalist Annabel Crabb.

All members are encouraged to submit motions for debate at conference by COB Monday 9 October 2017. Before doing so, please read the criteria and other important information on the LGNSW website.

Proposed motions should seek to be strategic, affect members statewide and introduce new or emerging policy issues and actions.

The 2017 conference is supported by: elite sponsor State Cover; distinguished sponsors NSW EPA, Local Government Super and Place Design Group; delegates lounge sponsor, Slasher Teck; large vehicle and equipment sponsors One Toyota; breakfast sponsor UrbanGrowth NSW; and valued sponsors Aon, Australian Temporary Structures, easigroup, News Corp/Leonards Advertising, NSW Department of Industry - Lands & Forestry, NSW Rugby League, PMH Insights, Taggle Systems, TPG Telecom and VoR Environmental.

Dates and location

4-6 December 2017
Hyatt Regency Hotel Sydney

Registration

Early Bird to 23 October \$899
(\$999 until 27 November 2017)

Motions

Submit a motion to conference

Online information

LGNSW Annual Conference 2017

Contact

Conference Secretariat
Countrywide Conference and Event
Management
0412 461 392
bradley@ccem.com.au

Ref: R15/0015 TA

General Interest

Item 6: Asbestos Awareness Month

Councils are encouraged to get involved in Asbestos Awareness Month throughout November, to educate their local communities about the danger of asbestos in and around homes.

Asbestos Awareness Month aims to educate as many Australians as possible about the dangers of asbestos and how best to manage it.

Registration is free and the benefits include:

- Access to hundreds of free asbestos awareness resources, information and images that you can circulate to your community
- Being seen as a leader in your community in addressing asbestos issues
- Informing communities about the safe management of asbestos
- Reducing incidences of unsafe asbestos management practices
- Reducing incidences of illegal dumping of asbestos products
- Eligibility to enter the National Betty Awards that recognise outstanding contributions to the campaign in raising awareness of the dangers of asbestos in your community
- Media kits and digital resources.

[Register online now.](#)

LGNSW offers support to councils on the safe management of asbestos, in particular to adopt and implement the Model Asbestos Policy for NSW Councils issued to councils under s23A of the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW).

For asbestos policy advice, please contact [Daniel Adler](#), Project Manager Asbestos Policy LGNSW.

Date

Asbestos Awareness Month takes place nationally, throughout November

Registration is free

Online information

[Asbestos Awareness website](#)

Contact

Asbestos Awareness Month
Insight Communications
02 9319 3844
clare@insightcommunications.net.au

Asbestos policy advice

Daniel Adler
Project Manager, Asbestos Policy,
LGNSW
02 9242 4128
daniel.adler@lgnsw.org.au

Ref: R11/0034 DA

General Interest

Item 7: Planning Breakfast and Awards

The next LGNSW planning breakfast and awards presentation will be held at Parliament House on 24 October featuring the Minister for Planning and David Borger from the Sydney Business Chamber.

Please register online before Wednesday 18 October to secure your spot.

The event will include the presentation of the inaugural LGNSW Planning Awards. The awards recognise excellence in planning and development services, leadership and cultural 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 interest to councillors and mayors, administrators, general managers and planning directors. Participants will be eligible for continuing professional development points from the Planning Institute of Australia.

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

Ref: R16/ 0025 TA

LGNSW thanks Landcom NSW, the Elite Sponsor of the LGNSW Planning Series.

General Interest

Item 8: Draft Crown Land Management Regulation 2017 – Exhibition Period Extended

The exhibition period for the draft regulation for the *Crown Land Management Act 2016* has been extended until Sunday 15 October 2017.

The draft regulation seeks to provide clarity and certainty for Crown land managers, tenure holders and users of Crown land. It provides information about how certain parts of the *Crown Land Management Act 2016* are to be implemented and protects Crown land estate for future generations.

[View the draft regulation and the accompanying regulatory impact statement.](#)

Submissions can be made:

- Online via the [Have Your Say website](#)
- by email: legislation@crowmland.nsw.gov.au
- by post: Draft Crown Land Management Regulation comments

Department of Industry Lands and Forestry
PO Box 2185
Dangar NSW 2309.

All submissions will be considered in the finalisation of the regulation.

Submissions must be received by midnight 15 October 2017.

Key Date

Submissions close at midnight on Sunday 15 October 2017

Online information

[Draft Crown Land Management Regulation](#)

Further Information

Email:

legislation@crowmland.nsw.gov.au

Phone: 1800 886 235

Submissions can be made:

Online via the [Have Your Say website](#)

Email:

legislation@crowmland.nsw.gov.au

R95/0025 SMcB

General Interest

Item 9: Take part in LGNSW's 2017-2018 Remuneration Survey

Councils are invited to take part in LGNSW's annual remuneration survey.

The remuneration survey collects data on total remuneration packages (TRPs) for general managers, directors, managers and supervisors/ specialists in councils across NSW.

All councils are encouraged to complete the survey which currently enjoys the highest participation of any comparative survey in NSW. The data provides valuable comparative information for budget preparation, remuneration reviews and HR matters.

Survey participants will receive a complimentary summary of median TRP for positions surveyed. Councils that have completed the survey for the past two years will receive a discount when ordering remuneration reports.

Contact [Debra Law](#) to order your 2017/18 survey pack. Submit completed surveys and order remuneration report orders by 24 November 2017.

Date

Surveys submitted by Friday
24 November 2017

Online information

[LGNSW Remuneration
Survey and Reports](#)

Contact

Debra Law, LGNSW
Divisional Coordinator
02 9242 4142
debra.law@lgnsw.org.au

Ref: I09/0016 MA

Community

Item 10: 2017/18 NSW Liveable Communities Grants

Councils can apply for grants round three of the Liveable Communities Program which supports projects that make local communities more responsive older people's needs.

There is \$1.3 million available across three project categories:

- Explore and scope – up to \$30,000
- Test and grow – up to \$60,000
- Replication and sustainability – up to \$100,000.

This funding round will focus on projects that increase older people's participation in artistic, cultural, sport and exercise activities.

The program is open to a wide range of organisations including local councils, non-government organisations, community organisations, universities and businesses.

NSW Family and Community Services will be holding information sessions in four locations across NSW on what types of projects the NSW Government is looking for: Sydney (9 October), Wagga Wagga (11 October), Goulburn (13 October) and Tamworth (17 October). [For more information visit the NSW Family and Community Services website.](#)

All grant applications must be submitted online through the [SmartyGrants Portal](#).

Dates

Applications close 2pm, Monday 20 November 2017

Online information

[Liveable Communities Grants Page](#)

Contact

(02) 8879 9172

LiveableCommunitiesGrants@facss.nsw.gov.au

Ref: R10/0026 CM

Planning

Item 11: Review of Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation

The NSW Department of Planning and Environment is undertaking a comprehensive review of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000.

The department has prepared an [issues paper](#) outlining the key provisions of the regulation and is inviting feedback until Friday 24 November.

The existing provisions and known issues are discussed under the following topic areas:

- Planning instruments
- Development assessment and consent
- Environmental assessment
- Fees and charges
- Development contributions
- Planning certificates
- Miscellaneous operational and administrative provisions.

Councils are encouraged to look at the issues paper and consider:

- Any known issues or inefficiencies that need to be addressed
- How the provisions can be simplified, consolidated, or otherwise reformed to reduce regulatory and administrative burden
- Any digital solutions which could be used to make requirements easier to meet.

This is the first step in the consultation process, which includes:

- September to November 2017 – release of the issues paper and call for stakeholder feedback on the current regulation
- 2018 – release of a draft regulation for public comment
- Final revised regulation made – exact date not provided.

This review of the regulation follows on from a [broader review of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*](#). The review of the act is subject to the passage of the Environmental Planning and Assessment (Amendment) Bill 2017 which is expected to go to NSW Parliament later this year.

LGNSW would appreciate comments from councils on the issues paper. Please email your feedback to [Jenny Dennis](#), Senior Policy Officer LGNSW.

Due Date

Friday 24 November 2017

Online information

[Department of Planning and Environment's webpage](#)

[DP&E Issues Paper](#)

Contact

Jenny Dennis, Senior Policy Officer
LGNSW
jennifer.dennis@lgnsw.org.au

Ref: R04/0029 JP

Procurement

Item 12: Nominations Open for Local Government Procurement Awards

Nominations are open for this year's Local Government Procurement Awards.

If you know of an individual or organisation making a difference in local government or their community, please nominate them for an award before the closing date on 1 November 2017.

Recipients are awarded with personalised plaques and professional development training of their choice, to the value of \$2,500.

The awards will be presented at the annual Local Government Procurement Conference dinner on 30 November 2017 at the Sydney Masonic Centre.

You may nominate yourself, another person or an organisation. There are three categories:

Procurement professional – the nominee must have a minimum of two years' experience in procurement within NSW local government

New procurement professional – the nominee must have less than two years' experience in procurement within NSW local government

Sustainable procurement initiative – individuals or organisations that have demonstrated exceptional sustainable procurement work.

For further information or to download the nomination form view the [LGP website](#), or contact [Emma Murray](#), Marketing and Communications Manager or 02 8270 8710.

Contact

Emma Murray, ph: 02 8270 8710
emurray@lgp.org.au

Closing date for nominations

1 November 2017

More information

View the [LGP website](#)

Ref: R05/0057

Learning

Item 13: Cyber Safety and Awareness

LGNSW is presenting a one-day course on reducing cyber security risks.

The course will cover current issues surrounding cyber security and will include:

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

The training consists of a series of facilitated sessions. Each session will combine discussion, demonstration and practical tasks to explore the issues and provide active solutions.

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

Dates and location

Thursday 30 November 2017
Sydney

Online Registration

[Cyber Safety and Awareness](https://www.lgnsw.org.au/learning)

Cost

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

Contact

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

Ref: I98/0012 SA

Learning

Item 14: Upcoming Courses

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

They are specifically designed for the local government sector.

Drone Operations in Local Government

Wagga Wagga – Wednesday 18 October
Parramatta – Tuesday 24 October
Tamworth – Wednesday 25 October
Dubbo – Tuesday 14 November

Learn more about the many applications and benefits of using drones.
[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](#)

Managing an Ageing Workforce

Sydney – Monday 23 October 2017

Explore strategies to manage older workers. [More information](#)

Building an Effective Team

Sydney – Tuesday 24 October 2017

Learn how to build effective teams, particularly at a time of organisational change and uncertainty. [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.](#)

Local Training

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

Online information

[LGNSW Training](#)

Registrations

[LGNSW Learning Solutions registrations](#)

Contact

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

Ref: I98/0012 SA

In the News

Item 15: ALGA Newsletter

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