



**WESTERN AUSTRALIAN
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
North Metropolitan Zone**

MINUTES

Meeting Date: 20 November 2008

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MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE NORTH METROPOLITAN ZONE OF THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION HELD AT THE CITY OF WANNEROO, 23 DUNDEBAR ROAD, WANNEROO (LESCHENAULTIA ROOM) ON THURSDAY 20 NOVEMBER 2008

1. ATTENDANCE

City of Joondalup

Committee Members: Mayor Troy Pickard (Chairperson)
Cr Trona Young
Cr Russ Fishwick
Cr Tom McLean

Officers: Mr Garry Hunt, Chief Executive Officer
Mr Ian Cowie, Director Governance & Strategy

City of Wanneroo

Committee Members: Cr Frank Cvitan (Deputy Chairperson)
Cr Maureen Grierson
Cr Rudi Steffens
Cr Bob Smithson *Deputising for Cr Roberts*

Officers: Mr Daniel Simms, Chief Executive Officer
Ms Karen Caple, Director Governance & Strategy

City of Stirling

Committee Members: Cr David Boothman
Cr Bill Stewart
Cr Terry Tyzack

Officers: Mr Stuart Jardine, Chief Executive Officer
Mr Aaron Bowman, Manager of Governance and Council Support

WALGA

Ms Michelle Mackenzie, Executive Manager Infrastructure
Mr Tim Lane, Governance Policy Officer
Ms Jessica Lenny, Community Policy Officer

Secretariat

Mrs Janet Foster, Administrative Services Coordinator (City of Joondalup)

DECLARATION OF OPENING

The Chairperson declared the meeting open at 1907 hrs.

The North Metropolitan Zone members welcomed Cr Rudi Steffens, who had been appointed to the Zone following the recent resignation of Cr Laura Gray.

APOLOGIES:

City of Wanneroo: Cr Tracey Roberts
City of Stirling: Cr Elizabeth Re

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nil.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

MOVED Cr McLean SECONDED Cr Young that the Minutes of the meeting of the North Metropolitan Zone held on Thursday 18 September 2008 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

The Motion was Put and

CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Nil.

5. DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

The following deputations will be presented to the North Metropolitan Zone at its first meeting in January 2009.

Deputation from the Fire and Emergency Services Authority (FESA)

To ensure that all stakeholders are included, FESA's Service Delivery and Planning Branch has requested to present and discuss the proposed changes to the 2009/2010 ESL grants processes.

Deputation from the Office of Crime Prevention

The Office of Crime Prevention will present and discuss graffiti management options and the Government's plans for the future.

6. MATTERS REFERRED TO WALGA

6.1 Status Report on Matters referred to WALGA State Council for Action.

As a means of increasing communication and providing feedback to the North Metropolitan Zone, a schedule has been prepared on matters referred to WALGA State Council for action.

Re: 18 September 2008 – State Council Agenda Item 5.8 – Review of the Clearing of Native Vegetation Legislation and Processes.

Cr Cvitan sought confirmation that Point 19 had been inserted into the substantive decision of WALGA.

Ms Michelle Mackenzie, Executive Manager Infrastructure of WALGA advised that this will be captured as part of a general review of all exemptions.

MOVED Cr Boothman SECONDED Cr Grierson that the Status Report be RECEIVED.

The Motion was Put and

CARRIED

7. REPORTS FROM MEMBER COUNCILS

7.1 BOUNDARY REVIEWS – LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENTS TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1995

Report submitted by City of Stirling

IN BRIEF

The City of Stirling is seeking the support of the North Metropolitan Zone Committee to lobby the State Government to amend Schedule 2.1 of the Local Government Act 1995.

BACKGROUND

In accordance with Schedule 2.1 of the Local Government Act 1995, proposals to change local government district boundaries can be submitted to the Local Government Advisory Board (the Board) by the Minister for Local Government, local governments or electors of an affected local government.

The Board is a statutory body established under the Local Government Act 1995 to provide advice to the Minister for Local Government on local government constitutional matters.

The Board's major function is to assess proposals to change local government boundaries and their systems of representation and then make recommendations to the Minister.

The Board encourages proponent local governments to communicate their proposals for boundary changes to affected local governments. The Board's publication "Processes associated with making submissions for district boundary changes" includes a recommendation that proponent local governments advise their neighbouring local governments of proposals which impact on them. This has been a concern for the Board in past inquiries and continues to be a problem.

An example of these concerns is identified when evaluating the process undertaken by the Town of Vincent in its recent boundary proposal Inquiry.

The City of Stirling first became aware of the Town of Vincent's boundary proposal following a Special Council Meeting, held by the Town of Vincent, whereby the Council resolved:

“That the Council;

- (iii) *DEFERS advising the City of Stirling and City of Perth respectively, of its intention to submit a proposal to the Local Government Advisory Board until Council has considered the final report referred to in clause (vii);”*

Notwithstanding the lack of direct advice, a copy of the Town of Vincent minutes was obtained and a letter was directed to the Mayor of the Town of Vincent suggesting that a proper process for dealing with boundary adjustments should, as a normal courtesy, include discussions between representatives of the involved local governments.

The City later received informal notification from the Board, that the Town of Vincent had submitted a further boundary proposal.

This proposal involved the Stirling suburbs of Mount Lawley, Menora and Coolbinia - bounded by Walcott Street, Flinders Street, Wiluna Street, Bradford Street, the southern boundary of Yokine Reserve, Alexander Drive, Central Avenue, Railway Parade, Third Avenue and its prolongation southwards to where it meets the Swan River. The second and lesser component of the Town of Vincent proposal involved a section of the City of Bayswater.

The proposal involved approximately 4500 properties within the City, including the Edith Cowan University Campus, Mount Lawley Senior High School, Jewish Synagogue, Perth College, Mount Lawley Commercial Centre and many retirement villages.

The City believes it is in the public’s best interest, and in particular affected constituents’ best interests, to have access to proposals and therefore promote proper public discussion, debate and demonstrate transparency and accountability of local government decision making.

Following the City of Stirling’s disappointment at the handling of these Inquiries, a meeting was scheduled between the City’s Chief Executive Officer, His Worship the Mayor and the Minister for Local Government and Regional Development.

The Minister was receptive to these concerns, in particular those relating to procedural fairness and the adversarial nature that the present process encourages however, to date, no changes have occurred to prevent this problem from reoccurring.

Queries have also been raised over the Board’s current practice to grant a private hearing for the purpose of such Inquires. It is a requirement of the Local Government Act 1995 that any hearing is to be controlled in a way that makes it as easy as possible for all interested parties to participate fully.

The City is of the opinion that providing a private hearing for such matters can not enable all parties to fully participate and therefore suggests that legislative amendments should be considered by the Board to ensure that all hearings and submissions are accurately recorded and available to all.

COMMENT

In lieu of the ongoing issues of Councils not adhering to the Board's recommendations and therefore not communicating proposals to change Local Government boundaries with affected Councils, the City is recommending that Schedule 2.1 of the Local Government Act 1995 be amended to reflect a process similar to that of the Office of the Electoral Distribution Commissioners of the West Australian Electoral Commission.

When determining new electoral boundaries in Western Australia, the Office of the Electoral Distribution Commissioners undertakes a process that demonstrates both transparency and accountability of the decision making process.

The Office of the Electoral Distribution Commissioners comprises of three Electoral Distribution Commissioners:

- Chief Justice of Western Australia
- Electoral Commissioner and
- Government Statistician

The current process provides for three opportunities for the public to contribute:

- 1 In the first stage of the process the public is given 30 days to lodge written suggestions.
- 2 The written suggestions are then made available for public perusal. The public has 14 days to make written comments on these suggestions.
- 3 When the Electoral Distribution Commissioners publish the proposed boundaries the public has 30 days to lodge written objections.

State legislation (Part IIA of the *Electoral Act 1907*) also specifically defines the conduct of the electoral distribution after the determination of the average district enrolment. The 5-step process is outlined as follows.

STEP 1 is the publication of an invitation to lodge written suggestions within a 30-day period, after which these suggestions are made available for viewing.

STEP 2 is a 14-day period during which written comments on these suggestions may be made.

STEP 3 is a 42-day period during which the Electoral Distribution Commissioners prepare and publish the proposed boundaries.

STEP 4 is a 30-day period during which written objections to the proposed boundaries may be lodged.

STEP 5 is a 90-day period during which the Electoral Distribution Commissioners consider objections and publish the final distribution in the Government Gazette.

The proposed amendments to the Local Government Act 1995 will ensure that local governments act in accordance with its guiding principles to ensure that the same transparency and accountability is reflected in local government decision making processes.

MOVED Cr Boothman SECONDED Cr Tyzack the North Metropolitan Zone Committee SEEKS the support of WALGA to lobby the State Government for an amendment to Schedule 2.1 of the Local Government Act 1995 as follows:

Schedule 2.1 – Additional S (2)

- **All hearings and submissions should be accurately recorded and available to all. No private hearings of submissions will be granted.**

Schedule 2.1 – 4.1(a) to include:

- **Notice to affected local government (together with a copy of the proposal).**

Discussion ensued.

The Motion was Put and

CARRIED

7.2 ELECTED MEMBER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Report submitted by City of Stirling

IN BRIEF

As part of the North Metropolitan Zone initiative, Councillors are invited to attend WALGA Solutions training course, An Introduction to Environmental Management, Module 17.

BACKGROUND

Local Government Workplace Solutions has developed a new training course for Elected Members, An Introduction to Environmental Management.

Environmental Sustainability is considered one of the most urgent matters that Local Government has to confront. The course has been specifically designed to inform Councillors on current issues as well as their roles and responsibilities in the decision making process. The course was developed with subject matter experts and academics specialising in their respective environmental fields.

Topics covered in this module include:

- Legislative Framework
- Environmental sustainability
- Roles and responsibilities of Elected Members in Environmental Management
- Roles and responsibilities of Officers in Environmental Management
- Natural Resource Management
- Biodiversity
- Greenhouse emissions
- Waste and drainage
- Water resources

On completing this module, it is expected that participants will be able to:-

- 1 Develop an understanding of Environmental Management relating to:
 - Natural Resource Management
 - Climate Change
 - Water Resources
 - Waste and Recycling
- 2 Outline the role and responsibility of Local Government and WALGA in Environmental Management
- 3 Develop an understanding of the key legislative frameworks in Environmental Management
- 4 Identify key contemporary issues in Environmental Management
- 5 Develop an understanding of the science underpinning current policy and procedure

Duration

This module is a full day course.

COMMENT

This module enhances the knowledge base of Councillors to understand and actively participate in Environmental Management Issues related to their Local Government.

Environmental Management is an important and relevant issue that elected members need to be able to address. The course would enable Councillors to develop an understanding of the key legislative frameworks of Environmental Management. As an organisation, the City has many direct and indirect opportunities for improving environmental performance.

Although the training would be beneficial for all Councillors it is noted that the course is a full day and this may cause time constrictions for some Councillors and therefore make attendance difficult.

WALGA provides the opportunity for local governments to offer the course, in house. The costs for this module would then become offset due to other participating councils contributing one third of the total cost.

By making this module available at the City of Stirling through three local governments this will improve the current partnerships already in place and provide Councillors the opportunity for further networking opportunities.

The initial cost for module 17 which includes presenter fees, course contents, writing materials and full catering is \$4,500. As previously mentioned these costs can then be offset by inviting Councillors from neighbouring councils which will contribute to one third of the total costs.

MOVED Cr Boothman SECONDED Cr Stewart that the North Metropolitan Zone COORDINATES the Workplace Solutions course, An Introduction to Environmental Management, module 17, with each Council attending agreeing to contribute to one third of the total costs.

Discussion ensued.

The Motion was Put and

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7.3 PROPOSED MEETING DATES FOR 2009 – NORTH METROPOLITAN ZONE

Report submitted by City of Joondalup.

IN BRIEF

This report presents a proposed schedule of meeting dates for the North Metropolitan Zone for 2009.

BACKGROUND

During 2008, meetings of the North Metropolitan Zone were held on a Thursday, two weeks prior to the State Council meetings.

COMMENT

Mayor Pickard, Chairperson of the North Metropolitan Zone, has recommended the following meeting schedule for 2009:

Deadline for Reports	North Metropolitan Zone Meeting Dates	State Council meeting dates (Unconfirmed)	Host Council
12 January 2009	22 January 2009	5 & 6 February 2009 TBA	City of Stirling
16 March 2009	26 March 2009	1 April 2009	City of Joondalup
18 May 2009	28 May 2009	3 June 2009	City of Wanneroo
20 July 2009	30 July 2009	6-8 August 2009 TBA	City of Stirling
21 September 2009	1 October 2009	7 October 2009	City of Joondalup
16 November 2009	26 November 2009	2 December 2009	City of Wanneroo

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That the North Metropolitan Zone **ENDORSES** the following meeting dates for 2009:

Meeting date	Venue
Thursday 22 January 2009	City of Stirling
Thursday 26 March 2009	City of Joondalup
Thursday 28 May 2009	City of Wanneroo
Thursday 30 July 2009	City of Stirling

Thursday 1 October 2009	City of Joondalup
Thursday 26 November 2009	City of Wanneroo

MOVED Cr Stewart SECONDED Cr Cvitan that the North Metropolitan Zone ENDORSES the following meeting dates for 2009:

Meeting date	Venue
Thursday 29 January 2009	City of Stirling
Thursday 26 March 2009	City of Joondalup
Thursday 28 May 2009	City of Wanneroo
Thursday 30 July 2009	City of Stirling
Thursday 1 October 2009	City of Joondalup
Thursday 26 November 2009	City of Wanneroo

The Motion was Put and

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The following late report was tabled:

7.4 DEVELOPMENT OF A REGIONAL ELECTED MEMBER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Report submitted by City of Wanneroo

<p style="text-align: center;">IN BRIEF</p> <p>To invite member Councils of the North Metropolitan Zone to express an interest in the development of a Regional Elected Member Development Program in partnership with Edith Cowan University.</p>
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BACKGROUND

The City of Wanneroo in partnership with Edith Cowan University (ECU) has been progressing the development of a 4-year professional development program for Elected Members. The purpose of this program is to provide Elected Members with a structured tertiary professional development program that would further enhance the knowledge gained through Elected Member participation in the WALGA Elected Members' Development Program.

COMMENT

It is proposed that ECU will structure an eight-unit Graduate Diploma program or similar accessing units from its undergraduate and post graduate unit courses to form the basis of the program.

Preliminary discussions between the City of Wanneroo Chief Executive Officer and Professor Robert Harvey of ECU have indicated that course work within the unit selection will be developed specific for local government. In addition, it is suggested that the City of Wanneroo Executive Team will also support ECU in the delivery of local government content within the unit structure.

The method of delivery will be aimed to be as flexible as possible utilising a variety of delivery methods including:

- On campus Semester based at ECU Joondalup and at the City of Wanneroo
- External studies
- On-line studies
- Intensive on-campus studies.

It is estimated that the fees associated with this professional development will be in the vicinity of \$1600 per annum per unit per individual.

Unit selection will be focused on areas relevant to local government including:

- Town Planning
- Accounting
- Financial Management
- Asset Management
- Financial Planning
- Governance Law and Ethics
- Social Science; and
- Marketing and Public Relations

The City of Wanneroo and ECU are currently working on a timeline that will see the presentation of an indicative course structure by 16 December 2008 to Council, with elected members being able to register to commence studies in Semester One 2009.

The Cities of Stirling, Wanneroo and Joondalup are large complex local governments and there may be considerable benefits if a regional approach to the development and introduction of this professional development opportunity is applied in consultation with WALGA. The development of a regional model for elected member professional development is supportive of the recommendations of the Systemic Sustainability Study.

MOVED Cr Smithson SECONDED Cr Grierson that the City of Wanneroo on behalf of the North Metropolitan Zone COORDINATES a Workshop in December 2008 with Edith Cowan University on the establishment of an Elected Member Development Program through Edith Cowan University.

Discussion ensued. It was suggested that Workplace Solutions also be consulted.

The Motion was Put and

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8. WALGA STATE COUNCIL AGENDA – MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

(Zone delegates to consider the Matters for Decision contained in the WALGA State Council Agenda and put forward resolutions to Zone Representatives on State Council)

Matters of Particular Interest on State Council Agenda

4.1 – SUBMISSION TO INFRASTRUCTURE AUSTRALIA

MOVED Cr Smithson **SECONDED** Cr Cvitan that the WALGA submission to Infrastructure Australia of 15 October 2008 be **AMENDED** to include on page 7, after the words “..very fast growing outer metropolitan councils” the words “such as the need for freeway, rail and major road infrastructure in the northern corridor”.

The Motion was Put and

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4.2 – CONSTITUTIONAL RECOGNITION

The Chairperson gave an outline of issues raised at the ACLG and in particular the fact that a Memorandum of Understanding could be an interim step to Constitutional Recognition.

4.3 – AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACLG)

The Chairperson gave an update on the ACLG.

4.4 – OFFICIAL CONDUCT LEGISLATION – LOCAL GOVERNMENT STANDARDS PANEL

The Chairperson outlined the current position in relation to the Standards Panel.

9. WALGA STATE COUNCIL MEMBERS’ REPORTS

The Chairperson provided an overview of the WALGA President’s Report for November/December 2008 – Attachment 1 refers.

10. GENERAL BUSINESS

It was requested that comments be sought from other local governments in relation to whether there had been an increase in State Administration Tribunal appeals.

MOVED Cr Tyzack **SECONDED** Cr Boothman that comments be sought from Member Councils on the State Administrative Tribunal Process for discussion at the meeting of the North Metropolitan Zone to be held on 26 March 2009.

11. DATE, TIME & PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 29 January 2009, at 6.00 pm at the City of Stirling.

12. CLOSURE

The meeting closed at 2005 hrs.



WALGA PRESIDENT'S REPORT November/December 2008

Meeting with Minister Castrilli

WALGA and LGMA representatives met with new Local Government Minister John Castrilli and Chief of Staff Gary Brennan on Thursday, 20 November, to discuss a range of topics including:

- **SSS Implementation** : As Minister he is committed to raising the calibre, capacity and profile of Local Government in both the eyes of the community and of government. The Minister reaffirmed his commitment to the Implementation Taskforce process and is enthusiastically awaiting its recommendations.
- **Royalties For Regions (R4R)** : WALGA sought clarification on the arrangements for R4R, stressing the importance of reforms such as Asset Management as a key initiative for sustainability, and advice on when an announcement would be made. The Minister indicated that this was the responsibility of the Minister for Regional development, but that an announcement was expected soon, although the program is still subject to Cabinet consideration.
- **Standards Panel**: stressing the importance of the original ambition of a fast acting, mobile, approach.
- **State Local Government partnership Agreement** : Reviewing and re-establishing the Partnership Agreement based on the new and emerging aspirations of a new State Government and a reforming Local Government sector was reinforced as a priority. The Minister committed to an open, honest, and continuing dialogue with the sector and understands the importance of the Partnership Agreement in driving a strategic approach to Local Government by all government agencies.
- **LG Act Amendments** : A number of proposed amendments to the LG Act have been resubmitted to the Minister as a result of the change in government, including **electoral reforms** such as ending the WAEC monopoly on postal voting and reviewing the voting system with a view to replacing PPV; establishing the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal as the body that reviews and sets **elected member remuneration**; eliminating the requirement for **Annual Electors Meetings**; along with many others which did not have favour with the previous government.

A wide ranging general discussion also covered off on issues like resolving the "Charitable Purposes" rating dilemma; extending the rate rebate for pensioners to cover separate rubbish removal charges; State Agreement Acts; State Budget Submissions; Local Government Compliance burden and vexatious complainants. In all cases the Minister was very receptive to the positions put to him and we look forward to strong and productive relationship into the future.

Systemic Sustainability Study (SSS)

Following the endorsement of the Systemic Sustainability Study the Hon Minister for Local Government John Castrilli MLA has announced the formation of a joint State and Local Government committee to consider and progress the actions contained in the SSS report.

The Committees terms of reference are as follows:

Functions

1. The Committee is to consider and examine the report 'The Journey: Sustainability into the Future' and provide an Implementation Strategy to the Minister for Local Government under the following themes:
2.
 - Regional Governance and Service Delivery Reform
 - Corporate and Strategic Planning
 - Financial Management and Planning
 - Revenue Generation
 - Training and Professional Development;
 - Legislative reform.
 -

The Committee is to prepare a Strategy for the sustainability and growth of the local government sector in Western Australia, having regard for the objectives of the *Local Government Act 1995*, the financial impact on the State Government and local government and the benefits to be provided to the citizens of Western Australia. The Strategy is to provide for positive engagement with local government that encourages rather than directs the sector.

2. The Committee is to oversee the progress of the implementation strategy.
3. The Committee may consider any other matters that may enhance local government sustainability if requested to do so by the Minister, or as agreed to by the Committee itself.

The Minister has requested that the Steering Committee provide an Implementation Strategy **Report by 8 December 2008**. The Committee is to exist for a period of 12 months or such longer period as the Minister may approve.

In addition to the work of the Taskforce; Association staff are assisting Regional groups of Local Governments progress their regional cooperation arrangements.

Official Conduct Legislation – Local Government Standards Panel

The Association has had concerns in respect to the length of time taken to resolve issues before the Standards Panel. WALGA is appreciative of this being the first year of the Panel and the initial set up issues involved.

The Association was under the understanding that the original intent of the legislation was to provide a quick solution, where it was envisaged that the Standards Panel would travel to the Local Government concerned and interview both parties and witnesses and resolve the issue or recommend further action in respect to breaches. The Standards Panel representatives have advised that the current process does not include travelling and meeting the parties on site.

The Association has written to the Department requesting annual meetings between the Standards Panel and the Association and advising that the original intent of Official Conduct legislation in respect to the Standards Panel was:

- the Local Government Standards Panel would travel to the local governments where the complaints were occurring, and;
- to resolve issues in a timely manner.

The Association has received a response from the Department, advising that the Standards Panel has not considered it necessary to visit the local governments concerned, although it remains prepared to do so should the circumstances warrant conducting a visit. The Department also advised that the Panels process does not include providing counselling or mediation to resolve matters complained about.

WALGA requested the Minister for Local Government consider the Standard Panels processes with a view to incorporating the original intent of Official Conduct legislation in respect to the Standards Panel visiting the Local Governments where the complaint is and to resolve issues in a timely manner.

The Minister committed to reviewing the situation.

Constitutional Recognition (*Agenda Item 4.2 relates*)

The Prime Minister has committed the new Federal Government to a referendum on Constitutional recognition for Local Government during this term of office and ALGA has asked the State and Territory Associations to assist in finalizing the national Local Government position.

A special forum was held during Local Government Week to determine a Western Australian position, resulting in support for Institutional and Financial recognition.

The national position will now be finalised at the **Local Government Constitutional Summit** to be held in **Melbourne** at the Melbourne Convention Centre **from December 8th to 11th 2008**.

Australian Council of Local Governments

The Australian Council of Local Government (ACLG) held its first meeting on 18 November in Canberra. The Australian Government was joined by over 400 mayors and shire presidents from councils and shires across Australia and representatives from state and territory governments. Approximately 50 WA Mayors and Presidents attended.

Progress was made in three key areas:

- developing a stronger **relationship** between the two spheres of government;
- progressing the **constitutional recognition** of local government; and
- reforming infrastructure and **services** provided by local government.

In terms of **relationship**, the Australian Government and local government:

- recognised the historic significance of the first meeting of the ACLG which formalised the relationship between the two spheres of government;
- agreed to use ACLG to achieve greater policy coordination and information sharing and inform decisions about the financial relationship between the two spheres of government; and

In terms of **constitutional recognition**, the Australian Government and local government:

- reaffirmed the role of state and territory governments in the Australian federal system, including the relationship between each state or territory government and the local governments in that jurisdiction.
- reaffirmed their commitment to considering constitutional recognition of local government;
- noted that local government is consulting widely, including through the ALGA Constitutional Summit, to identify options for Commonwealth consideration; and
- recognised that the primary role of raising public support for any constitutional amendment lies with local government.

In terms of **service** reform, the Australian Government and local government:

- recognised the need to work with state and territory governments to implement nationally consistent financial and asset management and planning frameworks for local government as developed by the Local Government and Planning Ministers' Council;
- committed to a dialogue with state and territory governments to identify the local and community infrastructure needs for the future, particularly in corridors experiencing high growth;
- committed to improving workforce capability in local government and promoting innovation in local government through both the Commonwealth's new centre for excellence for local government and state and territory government training initiatives; and
- committed to the implementation of the Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program to deliver an immediate improvement in community facilities, strengthen local economies and support jobs during a period of unfavourable economic circumstances.

The biggest immediate outcome from the meeting was the announcement of \$250 million of funding, of which WA Local Government will receive approximately \$29 million, plus a further \$50 million of national project funding.

President's Contacts

During the September - December period, contacts that have occurred or are scheduled to take place prior to the December State Council meeting are as follows:

Federal Government Relations

- Mr Howard Hobbs MP, Member for Warrego, Qld; Shadow Minister for Local Government, Planning & Regional Development
- Environmental Protection Health Council – Adelaide
- NRM Minco – Adelaide

State Government Relations

Meetings with:

- Mr Barry Carbon, Chairman and Ms Jan Grimoldby, Deputy Chair, Department of Environmental & Conservation
- Ms Marion Fulker, Committee for Perth
- Hon Roger Cook MLA, Deputy Leader Opposition; Mental Health; Indigenous Affairs
- Mr Paul Llewellyn, Member for SW Region
- ACLG Pre meeting Min Anthony Albanese, MP - Canberra

- ACLG - Canberra
- Hon Rob Johnson MLA, Minister for Police; Emergency Services; Road Safety
- Mr Derek Hopkins, Ms Mia Davies, National Party
- Dr Tarun Weeramanthri, Executive Director, Mr Jim Dodds, Environmental Health Director, Department of Health
- Mr Kieran McNamara, Executive Director, Mr Robert Atkins, Deputy Director General, Mr Alan Sands, Assistant Director, Environmental Regulation, Department of Environment & Conservation; Mr Stuart McAll, CEO, Cr Doug Thompson, Chairperson, Cr Clive Robartson, Deputy Chair, Southern Metropolitan Regional Council
- Hon John Castrilli, Minister for Local Government, WALGA/LGMA Liaison Meeting, Mr Michael Parker, President, Ms Gay Thornton, Deputy President, Mr Steve Cole, CEO, LGMA
- Hon John Day MLA; Minister for Planning; Culture and the Arts

Local Government Relations

Meetings with:

- South West Regional Road Group
- Visit to Shire of Denmark, Mr Dale Stewart, CEO and Cr Kim Barrow, Shire President
- Visit to Shire of Plantagenet, Mr Rob Stewart, CEO and Cr Kevin Forbes, Shire President
- Visit to Shire of Gnowangerup, Mr Aaron Cook, CEO and Cr Ken Pech, Shire President
- Visit to Shire of Jerramungup, Mr Brent Bailer (outgoing CEO), Mr Bill Parker (incoming CEO), Cr Bruce Trevaskis, Shire President
- City of Albany, Mr Peter Madigan A/CEO, Mayor Milton Evans
- LGIS Board Meeting
- Visit to Christmas Island – Mr Paul Maberley, CEO
- Visit to Cocos (Keeling) Islands – Mr Michael Simms, CEO
- Great Southern Regional Road Group
- City of Fremantle, Mr Graeme Mackenzie, CEO and Mayor Peter Tagliaferri
- Hon Cheryl Edwardes, Special Counsel, Minter Ellison
- Cr Mike Anderton/Cr Barry McKenna City of Bayswater
- Mayor James Best, Mr Cliff Frewing, CEO, City of South Perth
- ALGA Board Meeting
- ALGA Annual General Meeting
- Local Government House Trust Meeting
- Hon Dr Graham Jacobs MLA, Minister for Water; Mental Health

Conferences / Workshops / Public Relations

- Mental Health Good Outcomes Awards Ceremony
- The West Australian and Marketforce Express Business Lunch
- Captivate Project Launch
- Nationals Dinner
- ALGA Board Dinner
- City of Stirling Christmas Dinner
- Australian of the Year Awards
- City of South Perth Cocktails

Zone

- Avon-Midland Country Zone
- South East Metropolitan Zone
- Great Eastern Country Zone – Teleconference
- South West Country Zone

