



# Shire of Lake Grace

15 February 2023 Ordinary Council Meeting

## INFORMATION BULLETIN

### ITEM 16.1 - ATTACHMENTS

#### TABLE OF CONTENTS

#### **REPORTS:**

<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>No of Pages</b>
Infrastructure Services Report – January 2023	8
Environmental Health Officer Report – October to December 2022	3
Lake Grace Visitors Centre Report – October to December 2022	11
Lake Grace Library Report and Statistics – Nil	
Lake King Library Report and Statistics – January 2023	1
Newdegate Library Report and Statistics – January 2023	1

#### **EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS**

Wheatbelt South Regional Road Group – Draft Minutes – 02 September 2022	24
Central Country Zone – 10 February 2023 - Agenda	43

#### **CIRCULARS, MEDIA RELEASES & NEWSLETTERS:**

Nil



Information Bulletin  
**Infrastructure Services Report**

Shire of Lake Grace

Prepared for the February 2022 Ordinary Council Meeting  
presenting information from December 2022 to the end of January  
2023

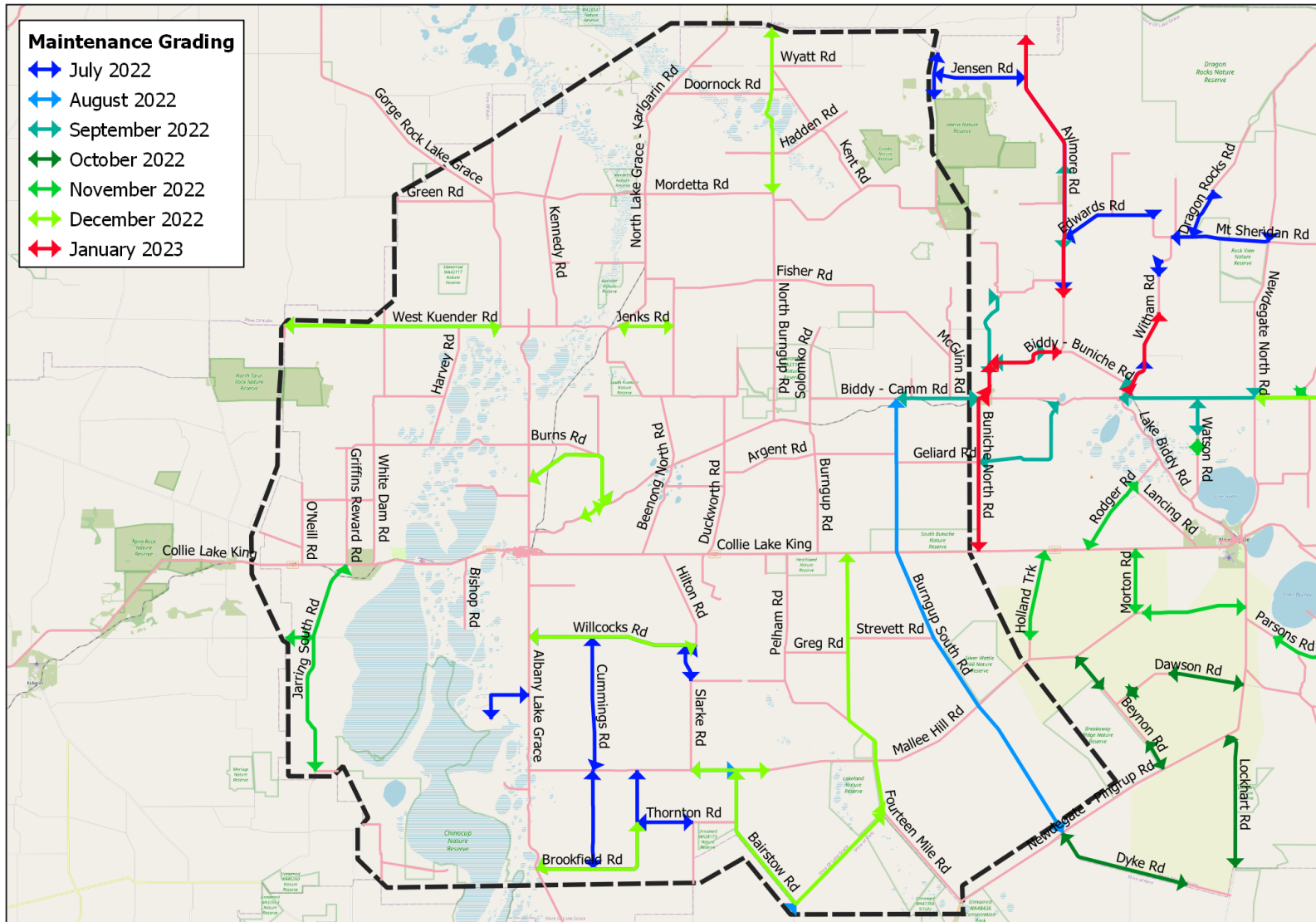
## Road Maintenance Grading

For the month of January 2023

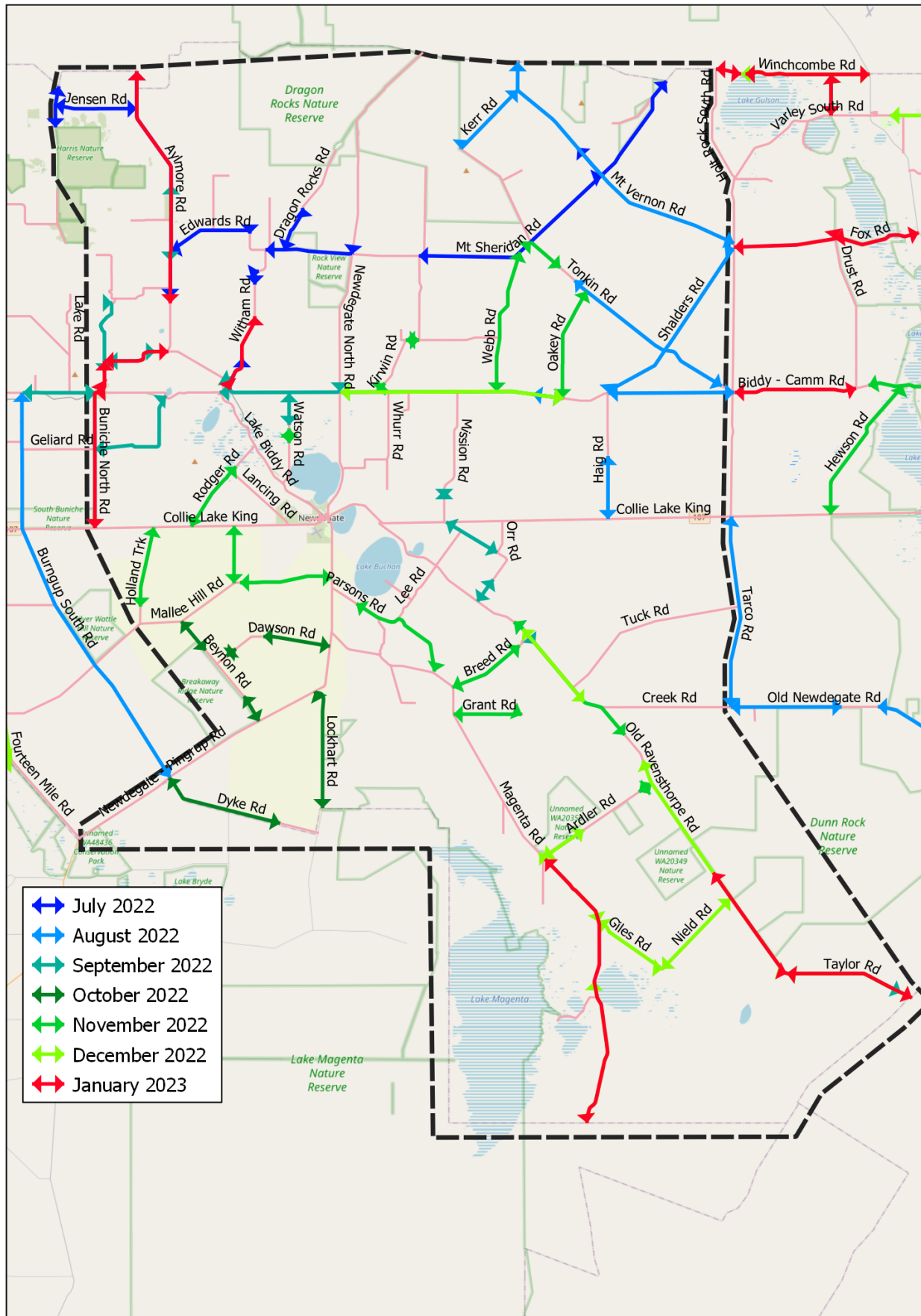
<i>Lake Grace Area</i>		<i>Newdegate Area</i>		<i>Lake King-Varley Area</i>	
<i>Road Name</i>	<i>Graded (km)</i>	<i>Road Name</i>	<i>Graded (km)</i>	<i>Road Name</i>	<i>Graded (km)</i>
Reports not received yet		Aylmore Rd	20.02	Biddy Camm Rd	16.31
		Biddy Buniche Rd	5.75	Broombush Flat Rd	21.18
		Biddy Camm Rd	0.76	Dempster Rock Rd	3.38
		Buniche North Rd	14.29	Drust Rd	8.40
		Lake Magenta Rd	3.76	Fox Rd	7.21
		Magenta Rd	24.00	Hogan Rd	6.70
		Old Ravensthorpe Rd	10.61	Holt Rock South Rd	2.12
		Taylor Rd	11.00	Kathleen Rd	7.78
		Witham Rd	6.70	Mallee Tree Rd	2.32
				Winchcombe Rd	10.36
<b><u>Subtotal</u></b>	<b><u>0.00</u></b>	<b><u>Subtotal</u></b>	<b><u>96.89</u></b>	<b><u>Subtotal</u></b>	<b><u>85.76</u></b>

## 2022/23 Year-To-Date Grading by Month

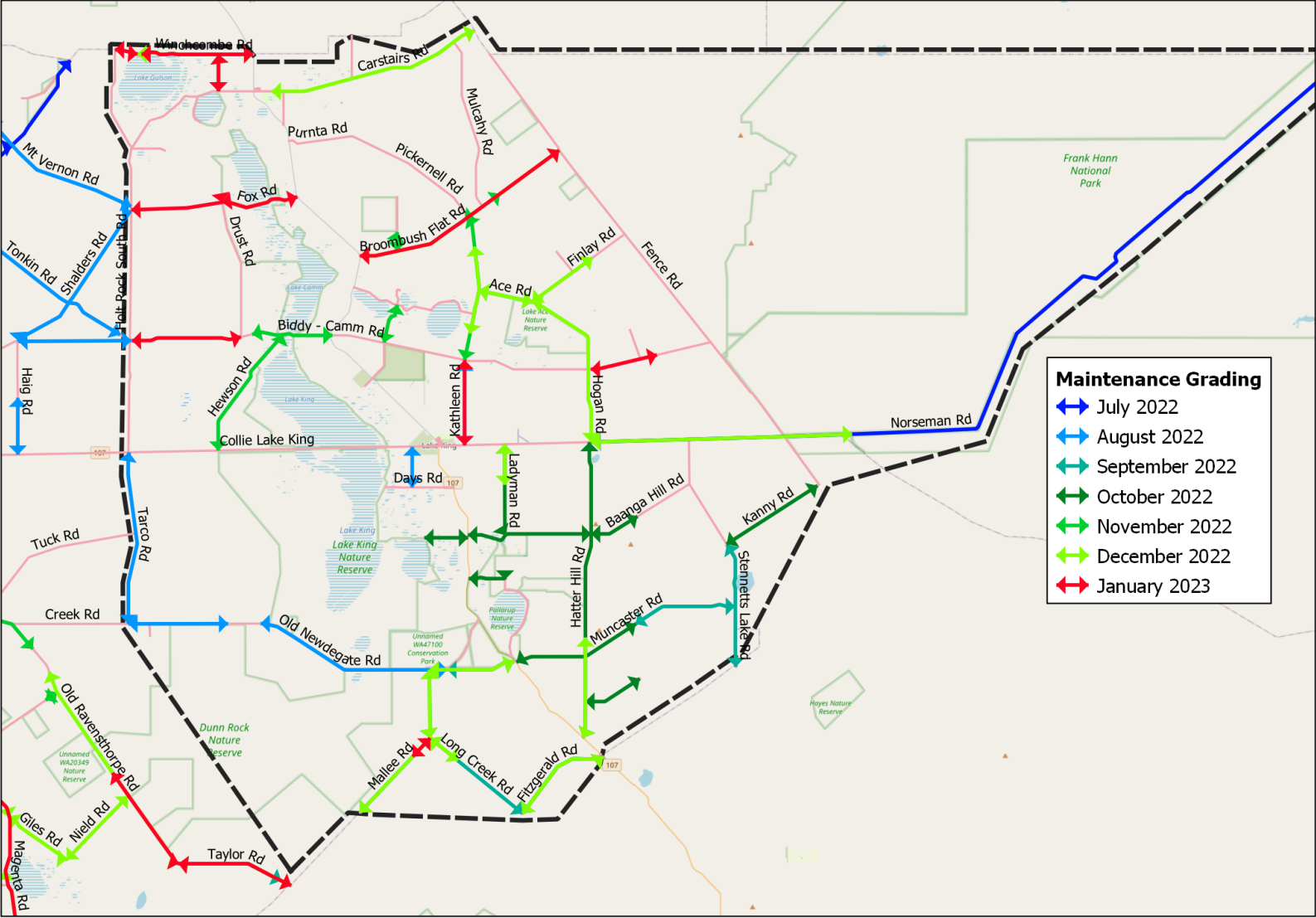
<b>Year</b>	<b>Month</b>	<i>Lake Grace Area (km)</i>	<i>Newdegate Area (km)</i>	<i>Lake King-Varley Area (km)</i>	<b>Monthly Subtotal</b>
2022	July	54.94	83.19	93.13	231.26
	August	49.65	80.41	54.70	184.76
	September	6.02	77.52	63.46	147.00
	October	0.00	32.43	90.57	123.00
	November	43.89	107.97	137.06	288.92
	December	113.19	100.51	161.76	375.46
2023	January		96.89	85.76	
	February				
	March				
	April				
	May				
	June				
	<b>To-Date</b>	<u>267.69</u>	<u>578.92</u>	<u>686.44</u>	<u>1350.40</u>



Monthly maintenance grading – Lake Grace area



Monthly maintenance grading – Newdegate area



Monthly maintenance grading – Lake King-Varley area

## Plant Maintenance

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### Plant Repairs

Plant	Plant Description	Action
PGRA07	2015 John Deere 770G Grader	Install replacement radiator.
PGRA08	2020 Cat 140 Grader	1,500 hour service.
PLVU51	2021 Toyota Prado	70,000 km service.
PLVU52	2021 Ford Ranger	Replace 2 tyres.
PLVU54	2022 Isuzu MU-X	Install trailer brake unit and power plug.
PTCK19	2017 Mitsubishi Fuso Canter	Replace filters. Inspect and test fuel system. Replace 4 tyres.

### Plant Acquisitions

- 2 x 2022 Volvo FM13 prime movers.
- 2022 FreightTrans water semitrailer.

## Building Construction & Maintenance

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### Construction

- Install shade sails to Lake Grace Daycare.
- Install Colorbond fencing around Lake Grace oval irrigation tanks.
- Install adult gym equipment around Lake Grace townsite.

### Maintenance

#### Lake Grace

- Bi-annual inspection of fire equipment in all public buildings.
- Repairs and replacements to chlorination system at swimming pool.

#### Newdegate

- Bi-annual inspection of fire equipment in all public buildings.

#### Lake King

- Bi-annual inspection of fire equipment in all public buildings.

#### Varley

- Bi-annual inspection of fire equipment in all public buildings.



## Parks & Gardens Maintenance

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### Lake Grace

- General maintenance, gardening/mowing & tidying of gardens and parks;
- Mowing swimming pool lawn.

### Newdegate

- General maintenance, gardening/mowing of the recreation grounds, parks and skate park;

### Lake King

- Carried out general gardening, mowing and spraying to all parks and gardens.

### Varley

- Carried out gardening maintenance and general maintenance, including spraying, mowing, raking of the town site, sports complex and cemetery for weeds.

## Customer Service Requests

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For the period of 1 July 2022 to 31 January 2023:

Category	Complete	Incomplete	Total	% Complete
Works	9	9	18	50.0%
Building	11	8	19	57.9%
Parks & Gardens	19	7	26	73.1%
<i><u>Total</u></i>	<u>39</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>61.9%</u>



## INFORMATION BULLETIN

# ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REPORT

*October – December 2022*

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## HEALTH

*This report is to highlight issues and activities ongoing within the environmental health area for the period October – December 2022*

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### **Covid-19**

- Transition to evolving covid recovery phase
- Easing of covid restrictions

### **Events**

- Newdegate Machinery Field Days debrief

### **Food Businesses**

Inspected the following premises for Food Act compliance-

- Rosies Café
- Lake Grace IGA
- Lake Grace Meats
- Lake Grace Hotel
- Mrs G's Mobile Food Van
- Newdegate IGA
- Newdegate Hotel
- Newdegate Recreation Centre
- Newdegate Motel and Caravan Park
- Overall Farms
- Farmyard Pantry
- Hollands Track Farms
- Newdegate Town Hall
- Newdegate Country Club

Food Recall Notices circulated to all food businesses

- Chocolatier Australia Christmas Caramels and Gingerbread Chocolates
- The Protein Bread Company (PBCo); Vegan Egg Replacer 180g, Protein Muffin Mix 340g and Protein Pancake Mix 300g.

- Hoyts Poppy Seeds
- Moon Dog Fizzer Alcoholic Seltzer

### ***Lodging Houses & Caravan Parks***

Inspected the following for compliance -

- Newdegate Motel and Caravan Park
- Newdegate Hotel
- Lake King Caravan Park unapproved structures (ongoing)

### ***Onsite Effluent Disposal Systems***

- Lake King Tavern Public toilet
- Lake King RV dump point
- Lake King Pavillion

### ***Pool Water Sampling***

- Lake Grace Pool water samples compliant
- Newdegate Pool water samples compliant

### ***Public Buildings***

Inspected the following for Health Public Buildings compliance-

- Newdegate Recreation Centre
- Newdegate Town Hall
- Newdegate Country Club

### ***Recycled Water Scheme***

- Formal Approval received from Department of Health
- Start up and monthly samples compliant

### ***Stallholder / Street Trading Permits***

- Mrs G's Food Van
- Spud Van
- Harvest Festival Not for Profit food stalls

### ***Waste Management***

- Ongoing inspections of waste facilities
- Enquiries regarding asbestos disposal

**Other**

- Department of Health survey regarding mosquito surveillance for Japanese encephalitis and local piggeries
- Central Region Health and Building meeting
- Health Records Management transition to Property files system
- New Events Management Guidelines from Department of Health and Events Registration system
- DMIRS Pool Inspectors Workshop
- Covering Shire of Corrigin EHO on Long Service Leave November - end January

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brendon Gerrard', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Brendon Gerrard

***Principal Environmental Health Officer***

# LAKE GRACE VISITOR CENTRE



October – December 2022  
Tourism Statistics

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Prepared by Jo Morgan



## Contents

Introduction.....	3
Origin of visitors to the Shire of Lake Grace .....	4
Local Travellers.....	5
Intrastate Travellers.....	5
Interstate Travellers.....	6
International Travellers/Unidentified Travellers.....	7
Destination of Travel.....	8
Age Group/ Popular Visiting Days.....	9
Mode of Transport.....	10
Yearly Growth.....	11

## Introduction

This document is prepared for the Shire of Lake Grace Council to illustrate visiting statistics to the Lake Grace Visitor Centre.

It is a snapshot of visitor profiles that visit our Shire and is not all inclusive. The Lake Grace Visitor Centre (LGVC) only records visitors that physically enter the centre. The use of signage, open flags and being positioned in the main street of the town, we feel we are getting the majority of genuine visitors calling into the Centre.

One of the goals of the LGVC is to provide accurate information for visitors. We also want to provide an enjoyable experience for the visitor by sharing our history with them, i.e. through telling them about the Station Masters House. While in the LGVC we dispense brochures and maps highlighting places to see and things to do in our Shire.

Equipped with additional information about the shire of Lake Grace and its attractions, the tourist is more inclined to spend more time seeing and doing things within the shire of Lake Grace. If they have the time, visitors often add additional time in Lake Grace after visiting the Centre.

The graphs presented in this document are tracking several different measurements of tourism data. It must be remembered that not all visitors are comfortable with revealing information of their travels so it is based only on the information that has been offered and is not conclusive.

Visitor data measurements recorded include;

- Number of people
- Age
- Origin
- Route
- Mode of transport
- Accommodation
- Yearly tracking from 2014

## Origin of visitors to the Shire of Lake Grace

For the purpose of recording data visitors are classed into five groups;

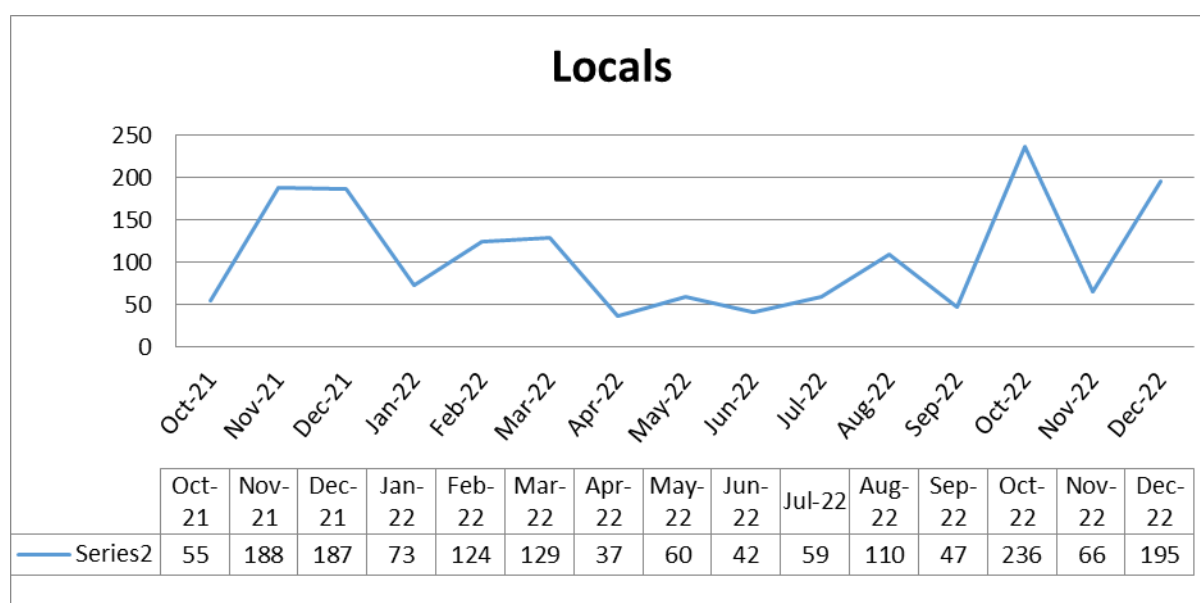
- Locals – indicating they are from the town of Lake Grace. No purposeful travelling was required to visit the Centre.
- Intrastate – this term is used to describe visitors from surrounding Shire of Lake Grace towns and the rest of WA, e.g. Newdegate, Kukerin, Wagin and Perth
- Interstate – this term is used to describe visitors from within Australia, including Tasmania who travel through the Shire
- International – this term is used to identify visitors from outside Australia including New Zealand
- Unidentified – Travelers who don't disclose where their place of origin.

### Locals

Each year our locals are becoming increasingly eager to experience our wildflowers. The new Kwongan Heathland Walk trail is proving to be very popular with the wildflower spotting. Many locals are posting their wildflower discoveries which often gets tagged to the Visitor Centre making it visible for many to enjoy.

We held the annual Market Day & Treasure Trail late October rather than November. This year we celebrated with lots of stalls at the Visitor Centre lawn, not as many at home Garage Sales but despite the wet weather it was a well-attended community event. This year we had Whacky Golf from Albany to entertain the children. A mini golf course, bubbles and various games had everyone enjoy themselves and forget the crazy weather.

November we tend to see less locals as harvest begins. We see many more in December with Harvest Festival and Christmas shopping draws the locals back. A happy festive time we just LOVE!

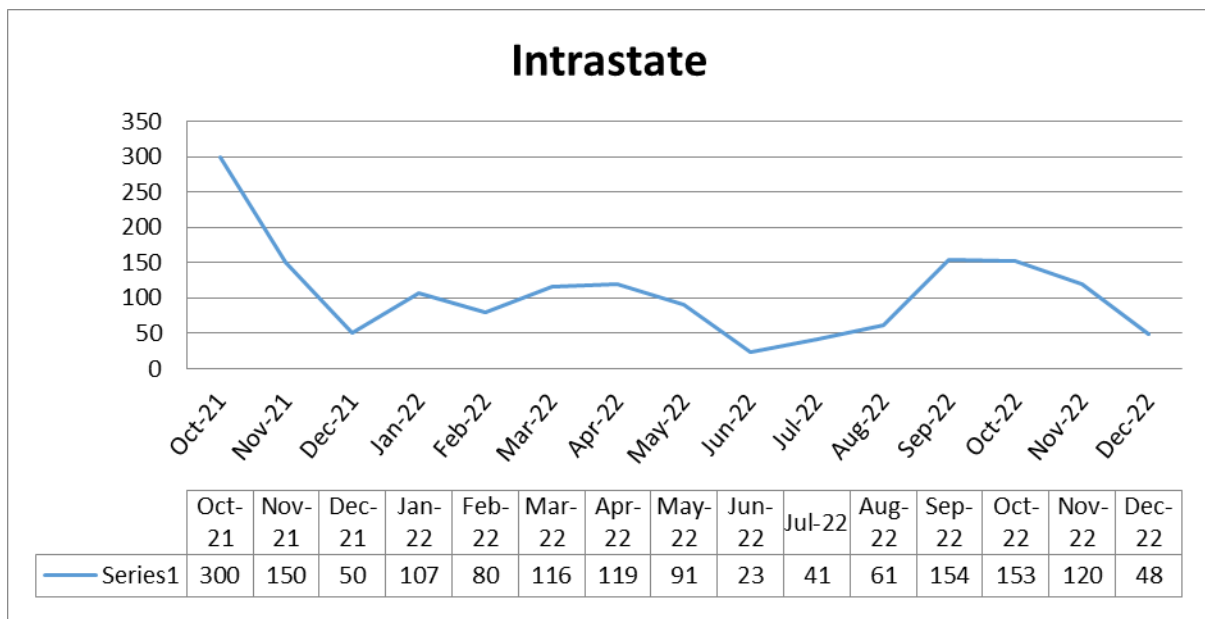




### Intrastate Travellers

There was a notable change in traveller during this period. With no travel restrictions it is understandable many Western Australians are choosing to travel interstate or overseas. Where we lost in intrastate travelers we picked up in interstate and overseas travellers.

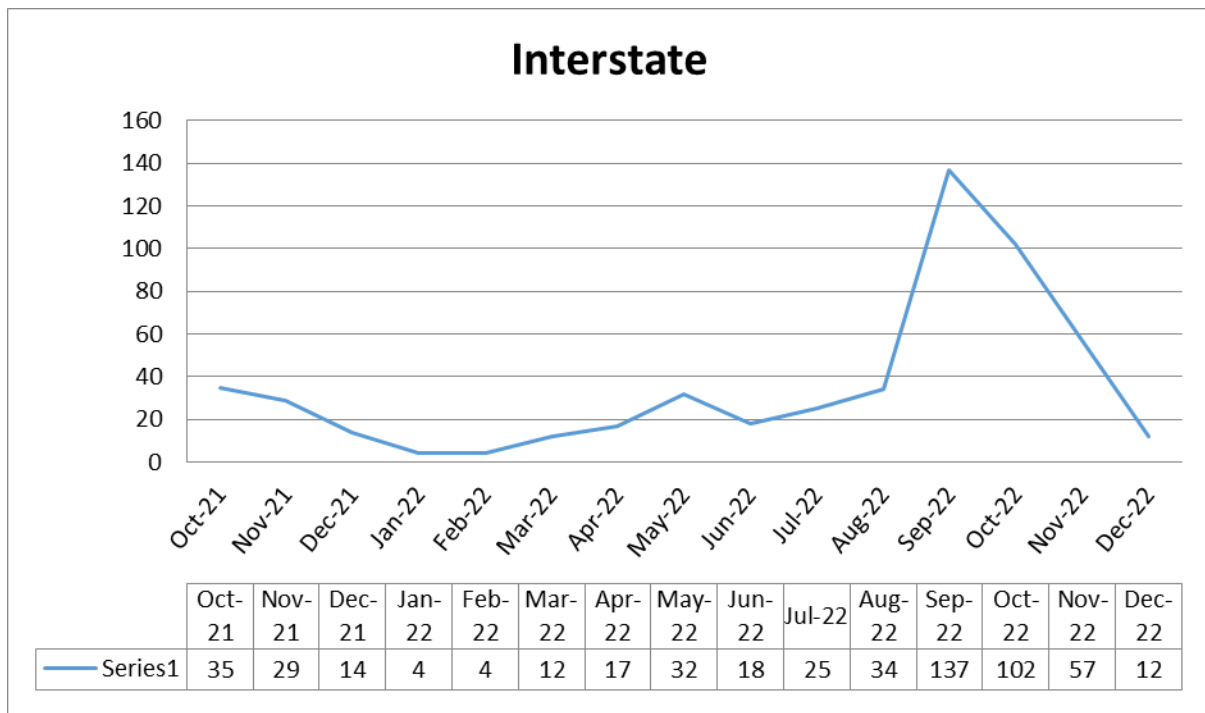
We had similar trends for November and December. The usual holiday makers head to Esperance and Hopetoun before and during the rush for Christmas. We are still seeing an amazing number of caravans and motorhomes drive through town. We hope this continues into the new year as the weather warms up.



## Interstate Travellers

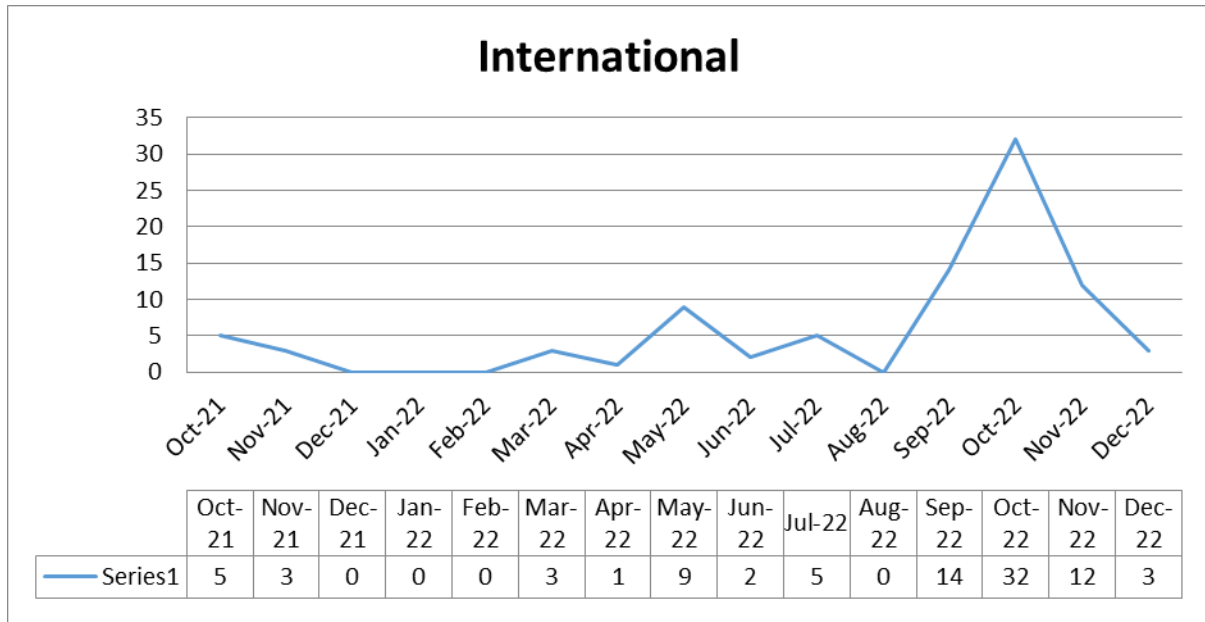
It was so wonderful to have so many Eastern State travellers back in WA once again. The majority of visitors were from Queensland or Victoria, and travelling with a caravan in tow. All age groups were back even families which we have missed for so long.

The weather in the eastern states during this time was above average rainfall. Flooding returned in some parts making some travellers extend their time in Western Australia. We experienced a lot of rain here in November which created a notable late state to harvest. The usual warm December nights finally made an appearance end of the month.



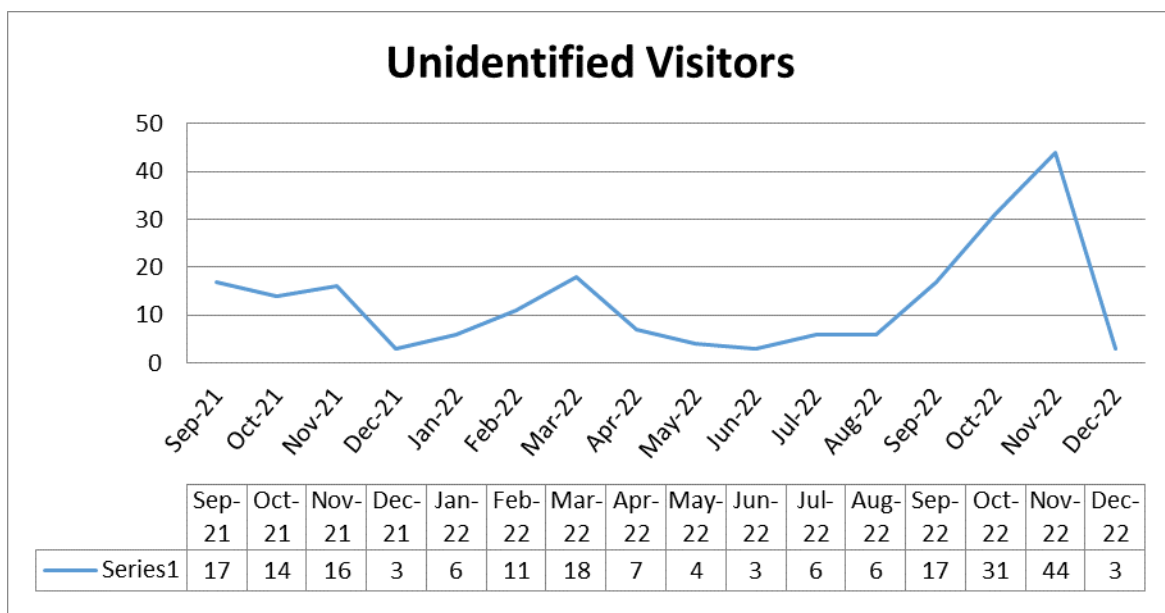
## International Travellers

They are starting to filter through. Not in droves of course but very exciting to meet and greet overseas travellers to our region. Pre-COVID-19 times in October 2019 was 35, so very close to usual expectations.



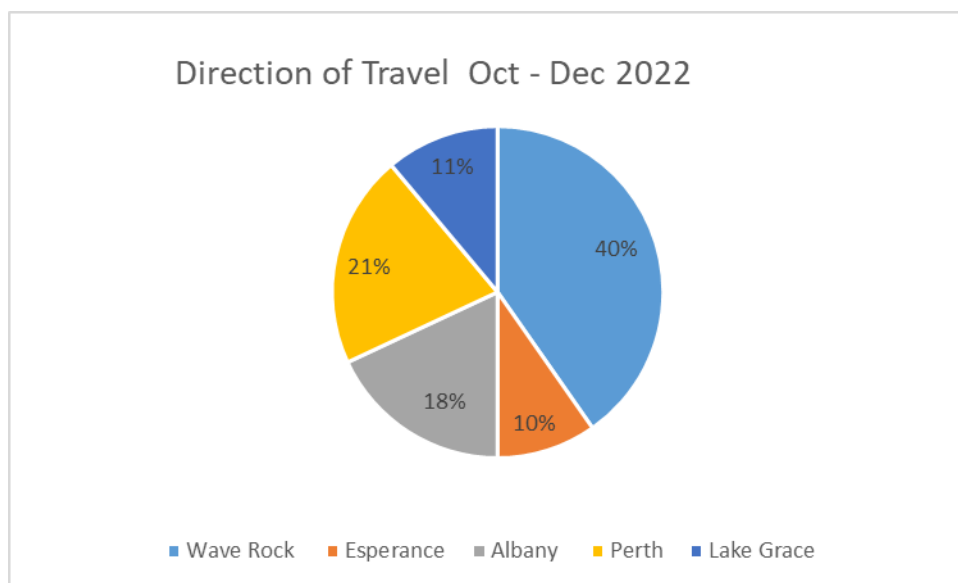
## Unidentified Travellers

A group of travelers we try our very best to engage with but keeping in mind some people wish to simply browse and have a look around. If anything good has come from this pandemic, is that more people feel the need to engage whenever possible. Connection is welcomed more than ever.



## Direction of Travel

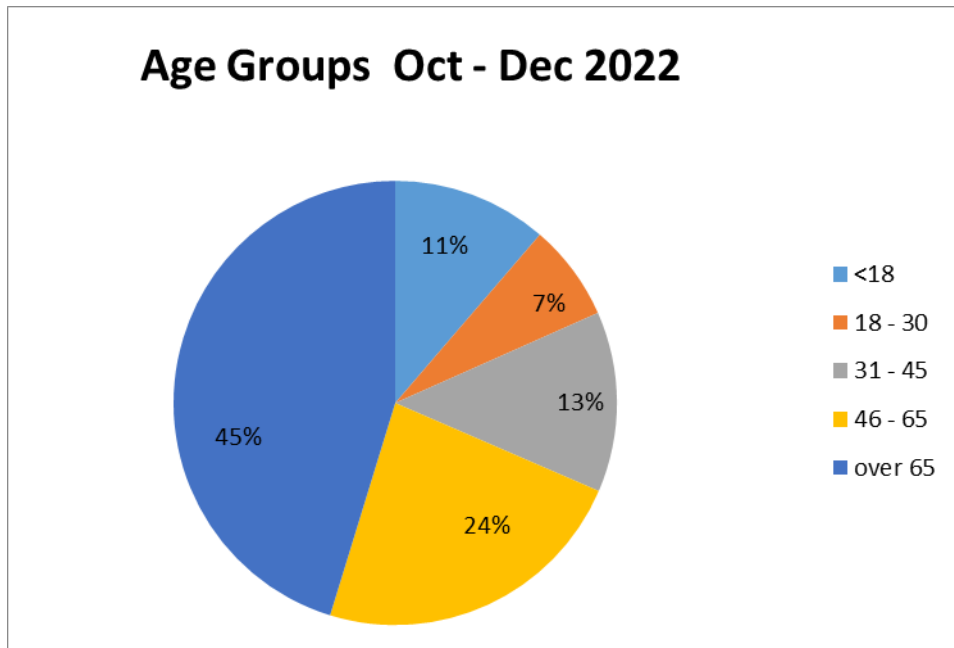
Known for our crossroads, our traffic consists of those heading to either Wave Rock/Hyden, Esperance, Albany or Perth. It was great to see Wave Rock is picking up again in popularity. This could be with Hyden's added new attraction Magic Lake. It's a natural occurring lake with a gypsum base and sandy surrounding. It has a high salt density which enables everyone to float! An ideal tourist hot spot especially as the season warms up.



## Age Group

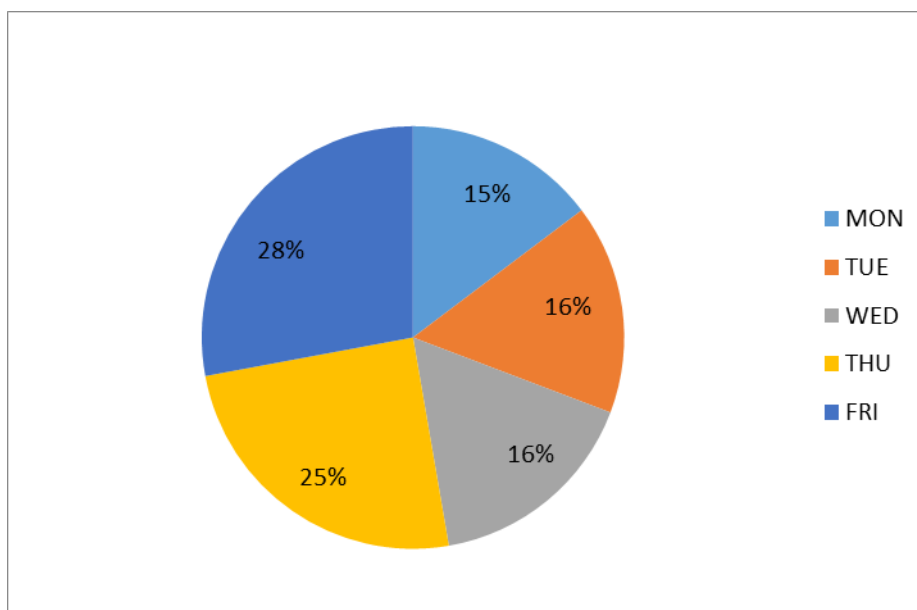
The information tracked in this graph is reliant on the recorder's ability to judge ages of visitors, therefore probably not entirely accurate in all cases.

Our Grey Nomads are out in full force because the school holidays start!



## Popular Visiting Days

There is no particular day we can say is ALWAYS our busiest as it changes all the time, but a worthwhile measure all the same.



## Mode of Transport

People travel to and through our Shire in various forms of transport. We have recorded the transport used by those who called into the Visitor Centre. It's a great indication as to how people are moving through our region and how travellers are using our region. This data measures January to June 2019.



**43% + 0.5%** Electric car



**33%**



**21%**



**0.5%**

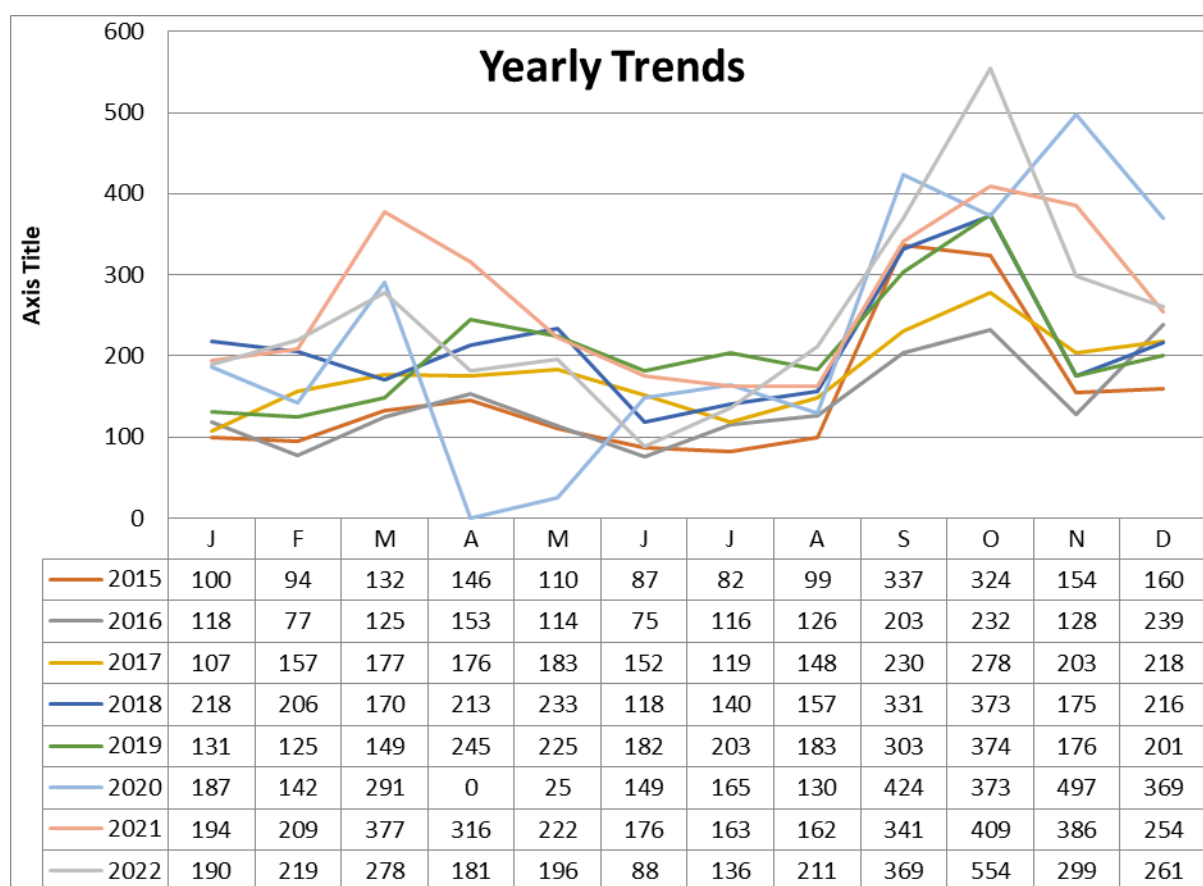


**2%**

## Yearly Trends

Studying yearly trends is a great tool in measuring our patterns for the future and areas where we can improve on. Predicting better opening times, staff and volunteer rosters, information needs for those seeking accommodation, things to do or places to eat and drink. Having this knowledge ahead of time allows us to offer the best service and welcome party for those who choose to drop by.

If we thought 2020 was a year for the history books, 2021 was a continuation of that too. With the uncertainty in borders opening and closing its taken a huge effect on travel confidence. We broke a few old stat records in the first half of the year but as lockdowns happened again over east things quietened down again. Here's hoping 2022 can do better.



## Lake King Library Report for December/January 2023

The quiet holiday months of December and January left plenty of time to cover new home reading books for the upcoming school year. We received our usual monthly selection of new books which now get delivered straight from the supplier rather than going to the State Library and then out to us.



New Year sort out! – with our range of children’s books always updating and expanding we are looking to obtain a new display trolley to spread our collection out, making individual books more accessible. We would also like to take the opportunity to sort through any old and dated titles that could be recycled/rehomed.

The State Library’s Borrow box had a total of 59 audios and 5 eBooks borrowed by Lake King library members in December and 37 audios and 4 eBooks in January. The Libby (Overdrive) platform had 4 audio books, 2 eBook and 1 magazine downloaded by patrons in December then 5 audio books, 4 eBook and 4 magazines downloaded by patrons in January. As expected, harvest proved to be a busy time for downloading of audio books again this year.

### **Statistics Interlibrary Loans**

December	VDX Lake King Requests received	0 (2 requests not received yet)
	VDX Responded to other Library requests	0
January	VDX Lake King Requests received	0
	VDX Responded to other Library requests	0





### Newdegate Library Report to 30/1/23

January was a quiet month in the CRC and the library space. We have had the school use our library space for succession planning on the 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>. Our total loan statistics for January is 13.

Interlibrary Loans    0 sent items  
                                  0 items requested

Regards

Jade Parker

# WHEATBELT SOUTH REGIONAL ROAD GROUP DRAFT MINUTES

Minutes of the Wheatbelt South Regional Road Group meeting held at the Shire of  
Wickepin Community Centre, Wickepin  
Friday 02 September commencing at 09:35am

## Distribution List:

RRG Chairperson Vacant, to be elected at the RRG meeting  
Acting RRG Chair and Deputy Chairperson Cr Grant Robins, Shire of Kulin

## Sub Group Elected RRG Delegates (8)

Cr K. Crute, Shire of Brookton, Hotham-Dale SG (confirmed to 2023)  
Cr W. Mulroney, Shire of Pingelly, Hotham-Dale SG (confirmed to 2023)  
Cr G. Ball, Shire of Wagin, Lakes SG (Proxy confirmed to 2023)  
Cr J. Russell, Shire of Wickepin, Lakes SG (confirmed to 2023)  
Cr G. Broad, Shire of Narrogin, Narrogin SG (confirmed to 2023)  
Cr Jarrad Logie, Shire of Williams, Narrogin SG (confirmed to 2023)  
Cr D. Hickey, Shire of Corrigin, Roe SG (confirmed to 2023)  
Cr Trevor Stacey, Shire of Quairading, Roe SG (confirmed to 2023)

LG CEOs (18), Secretariat to State Advisory Committee (1) WALGA (2)  
MRWA Wheatbelt and Narrogin (2)

## 1 - Welcome address by Acting Chair, Record of Attendance and Apologies

Welcome by Cr. Grant Robins.

Introduction of guest speaker Leith Collins – WSNF Acting Program Director.

Introduction of Mohammad Siddiqui – MRWA Wheatbelt Regional Manager

Apologies:

Stephen Gollan	Shire of Beverley – CEO
Cr Stephen Strange	Shire of Bruce Rock
Phil Burgess	Shire of Corrigin - MWS
Bruce Brennan	Shire of Cuballing – WM
Cr Bevan Doney	Shire of Dumbleyung
Torre Evans	Shire of Narrogin – EMTRS
Alan Hart	Shire of Wandering - CEO
Vin Fordham Lamont	Shire of West Arthur – CEO
Geoff McKeown	Shire of Williams – CEO
Kevin Pethick	MRWA

Cr G. Robins advised the attendees that the meeting would be recorded.

## 2 - Confirmation of minutes

The minutes of the Wheatbelt South Regional Road Group meetings held on 04 March 2020 and 18 March 2022 were provided at **Addendum 1a and 1b**.

Cr J. Russell advised that she had been the voting delegate at the 04 March 2022 meeting.

Motion:

That the minutes of the Wheatbelt South Regional Road Group meetings held on 04 March 2020 and 18 March 2022 be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings, with the above amendment.

Moved: Cr B. Mulroney Seconded: Cr D. Hickey Carried 8/8

### 3 – Matters arising from previous minutes

Election of RRG Chairperson. Cr G. Robins vacated the Chair.

A. Hunt called for nominations for the position of WBS RRG Chairperson:

Cr G. Ball nominated Cr G. Robins, there were no other nominees or volunteers.

Chairperson Nominee: Cr G. Robins

Elected Chairperson: Cr G. Robins

Moved: Cr G. Ball Seconded: Cr G. Broad Carried 8/8

Cr G. Robins resumed the Chair and called for nominations for the Deputy Chair:

Cr T. Stacey nominated Cr D. Hickey, there were no other nominees or volunteers.

Deputy Chairperson Nominee: Cr D. Hickey

Elected Deputy Chairperson: Cr D. Hickey

Moved: Cr T. Stacey Seconded: Cr J. Russell Carried 8/8

### 4 – Correspondence

The incoming and outgoing correspondence was presented by way of a WeTransfer link containing all emails.

#### **Addendum 2a - Outwards**

Outgoing 2022.02.21 - FW\_ Crash Map Training Video Tutorials Now Available on Main Roads Website.msg

Outgoing 2022.02.28 - FW\_ Crash Map - 2021 Crash Data and Crash Costs.msg

Outgoing 2022.03.09 - WSNF Governance Documents for perusal.msg

Outgoing 2022.03.17 - RE\_ WSNF Governance Documents for perusal.msg

Outgoing 2022.03.21 - Main Roads Wheatbelt - New Regional Manager - Mohammad Siddiqui.msg

Outgoing 2022.03.21 - Wheatbelt South Regional Road Group Meeting 2022\_03\_18 - Draft Minutes.msg

Outgoing 2022.03.23 - 2023-24 Black Spot Presentation - Flyer and Registration for 27 April 2022.msg

Outgoing 2022.04.04 - FW\_ Main Roads WA \_ IPWEA-WA New Online Road Safety Engineering - Treatment of Crash Locations Course 1.msg

Outgoing 2022.04.06 - Announcement of successful 2022-23 Black Spot projects in WA.msg

Outgoing 2022.04.06 - FW\_ 2023-24 Black Spot Presentation - Flyer and Registration for 27 April 2022.msg

Outgoing 2022.04.13 - Amended State Black Spot Guidelines and 2023\_24 State Black Spot Nominations for existing Staged Projects\_.msg

Outgoing 2022.05.05 - FW\_ URGENT\_ Invitation to FREE Level 1 Bridge Inspection Training Workshop.msg

Outgoing 2022.05.11 - Wheatbelt Region Level 1 Bridge Inspection Report as at 03 May 2022.msg

Outgoing 2022.05.17 - 2022\_2023 MCA Submissions due 31 August 2022.msg

Outgoing 2022.05.17 - FW\_ Austroads Road Safety Audit Policy Template for Local Government.msg

Outgoing 2022.05.17 - RE\_ 2022\_2023 MCA Submissions due 31 August 2022.msg

Outgoing 2022.05.25 - Local Government Road Safety Management.msg

Outgoing 2022.06.02 - End of Financial Year Accruals.msg

Outgoing 2022.06.13 - FW\_ Austroads Road Safety Audit Policy Template for Local Government 2.msg  
Outgoing 2022.06.13 - FW\_ Main Roads WA \_ IPWEA-WA New Online Road Safety Engineering - Treatment of Crash Locations Course 2.msg  
Outgoing 2022.06.15 - 2022\_23 WBS Indicative Direct Grants.msg  
Outgoing 2022.06.15 - FW: Commodity Routes Fund 2023-24 Applications  
Outgoing 2022.06.22 - 2023\_24 Black Spot Nomination - Crash Map photos upload.msg  
Outgoing 2022.06.27 - FW\_ End of Financial Year Accruals.msg  
Outgoing 2022.06.27 - RE\_ Wheatbelt North Funding Recoup Register as at 27 June 2022.msg  
Outgoing 2022.07.08 - Urgent Notice \_ 2023\_24 Black Spot Nominations - closing date extended to Monday 11 July 2022.msg  
Outgoing 2022.07.15- Local Government Road Safety Plan Workshop.msg  
Outgoing 2022.07.28 - FW\_ 2022\_23 State Black Spot Program - approved and announced by the Minister for Transport.msg  
Outgoing 2022.08.03 - Ministerial Approval for the 2022\_23 Local Roads Program.msg  
Outgoing 2022.08.04 - Level 1 Bridge Inspection Framework - 2022-23 Cycle.msg  
Outgoing 2022.08.05 - Regional Road Group Report - August 2022.msg  
Outgoing 2022.08.09 - FW\_ Main Roads WA \_ IPWEA-WA New Online Road Safety Engineering - Treatment of Crash Locations Course 3.msg  
Outgoing 2022.08.15 - Invoices for Direct Grants are due by 31 August 2022.msg  
Outgoing 2022.08.19 - Direct Grants & Road Project Grants 2022\_23.msg  
Outgoing 2022.08.19 - Increase to 2022 \_ 2023 Direct Grant funding.msg  
Outgoing 2022.08.22 - Main Roads Wheatbelt Region Incident Management Contacts.msg  
Wheatbelt South Funding Recoup Registers were emailed via WeTransfer on:

- 28.02.2022
- 22.03.2022
- 26.04.2022
- 25.05.2022
- 10.06.2022
- 27.06.2022
- 06.07.2022
- 28.07.2022
- 26.08.2022

### **Addendum 2b - Incoming**

Incoming - 2022.03.14 Nungarin RE\_ WSNF Governance Documents for perusal and comment - with tracked changes.msg  
Incoming - 2022.03.15 Cunderdin RE\_ Report on Review of WSNF Project Governance.msg  
Incoming - 2022.03.15 Gingin RE\_ Report on Review of WSNF Project Governance.msg  
Incoming - 2022.03.15 Moora Subgroup FW\_ Report on Review of WSNF Project Governance.msg  
Incoming - 2022.03.15 Narrogin RE\_ WSNF Governance Documents for perusal.msg  
Incoming - 2022.03.15 Tammin RE\_ Report on Review of WSNF Project Governance.msg  
Incoming - 2022.03.15 West Arthur RE\_ WSNF Governance Documents for perusal.msg  
Incoming - 2022.03.16 Dumbleyung RE\_ WSNF Governance Documents for perusal A.msg  
Incoming - 2022.03.16 Dumbleyung RE\_ WSNF Governance Documents for perusal B.msg  
Incoming - 2022.03.16 Dumbleyung RE\_ WSNF Governance Documents for perusal C.msg  
Incoming - 2022.03.16 Kellerberrin RE\_ Report on Review of WSNF Project Governance.msg

Incoming - 2022.03.17 Brookton RE\_ WSNF Governance Documents for perusal.msg  
Incoming - 2022.03.17 Cuballing RE\_ WSNF Governance Documents for perusal A.msg  
Incoming - 2022.03.17 Cuballing RE\_ WSNF Governance Documents for perusal B.msg  
Incoming - 2022.03.17 Cunderdin RE\_ Report on Review of WSNF Project Governance.msg  
Incoming - 2022.03.17 Dalwallinu RE\_ Report on Review of WSNF Project Governance.msg  
Incoming - 2022.03.17 Gingin RE\_ WSNF Governance Documents for perusal and comment - with tracked changes.msg  
Incoming - 2022.03.17 Kellerberrin RE\_ Report on Review of WSNF Project Governance.msg  
Incoming - 2022.03.17 Kulin RE\_ Wheatbelt South Regional Road Group Meeting - WSNF Documentation Motion.msg  
Incoming - 2022.03.17 Narembeen RE\_ WSNF Governance Documents for perusal.msg  
Incoming - 2022.03.17 Narrogin RE\_ WSNF Governance Documents for perusal.msg  
Incoming - 2022.03.17 Narrogin WSNF Updated Doc's.msg  
Incoming - 2022.03.17 Quairading WSNF Governance Documents\_ Response from Shire of Quairading.msg  
Incoming - 2022.03.17 Wandering GR578 - FW\_ GR578 - WSNF Governance Documents for perusal.msg  
Incoming - 2022.03.17 Williams RE\_ WSNF Governance Documents for perusal.msg  
Incoming - 2022.03.17 Yilgarn RE\_ Report on Review of WSNF Project Governance.msg  
Incoming - 2022.03.18 Dowerin Report on Review of WSNF Project Governance - Shire of Dowerin.msg  
Incoming - 2022.03.18 Merredin RE\_ Report on Review of WSNF Project Governance.msg  
Incoming - 2022.03.18 Tammin RE\_ Report on Review of WSNF Project Governance A.msg  
Incoming - 2022.03.18 Tammin RE\_ Report on Review of WSNF Project Governance B.msg  
Incoming - 2022.03.21 Nungarin Additional Comments on Governance Plan.msg  
Incoming - 2022.03.21 Nungarin Shire Comment - WSNF Governance Plan.msg  
Incoming - 2022.03.22 Corrigin RE\_ WSNF Governance Documents for perusal.msg  
Incoming - 2022.03.22 Mt Marshall Report on Review of WSNF Project Governance - 2022\_03 Mt Marshall CEO Response.msg  
Incoming - 2022.06.29 Governance Plan Draft.msg  
Incoming - 2022.07.13 Mt Marshall RE\_ Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Network DRAFT Governance Plan for review.msg  
Incoming - 2022.07.19 Gingin RE\_ Letter to LGs re contractors on Tec Group.msg  
Incoming - 2022.07.19 Quairading RE\_ Letter to LGs re contractors on Tec Group.msg  
Incoming - 2022.07.19 Wagin RE\_ Letter to LGs re contractors on Tec Group.msg  
Incoming - 2022.07.20 Brookton RE\_ Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Network DRAFT Governance Plan for review.msg  
Incoming - 2022.07.20 Dalwallinu RE\_ Letter to LGs re contractors on Tec Group.msg  
Incoming - 2022.07.20 Dowerin RE\_ Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Network DRAFT Governance Plan for review - Shire of Dowerin Comment.msg  
Incoming - 2022.07.20 Hotham Dale Sub Group Meeting Minutes.msg  
Incoming - 2022.07.20 Kellerberrin RE\_ Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Network DRAFT Governance Plan for review.msg  
Incoming - 2022.07.20 Narrogin RE\_ Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Network DRAFT Governance Plan for review.msg  
Incoming - 2022.07.21 Northam RE\_ Letter to LGs re contractors on Tec Group.msg  
Incoming - 2022.07.21 Wickepin RE\_ Letter to LGs re contractors on Tec Group.msg  
Incoming - 2022.07.22 Cuballing RE\_ Letter to LGs re contractors on Tec Group.msg

Incoming - 2022.07.22 Cuballing RE\_ Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Network DRAFT Governance Plan for review.msg  
Incoming - 2022.07.22 Goomalling FW\_ Message from \_RNP5838796DBB6C\_.msg  
Incoming - 2022.07.22 Koorda RE\_ Letter to LGs re contractors on Tec Group.msg  
Incoming - 2022.07.22 Koorda RE\_ Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Network DRAFT Governance Plan for review.msg  
Incoming - 2022.07.22 West Arthur FW\_ Letter to LGs re contractors on Tec Group.msg  
Incoming - 2022.07.25 Nungarin WSN - Governance Plan.msg  
Incoming - 2022.07.25 Wandering C01206 - FW\_ Letter to LGs re contractors on Tec Group.msg  
Incoming - 2022.07.26 FW\_ Hotham Dale Subgroup Meeting Minutes.msg  
Incoming - 2022.07.27 Williams RE\_ Letter to LGs re contractors on Tec Group.msg  
Incoming - 2022.07.28 Chittering Consultants on WSN Tech Committee.msg  
Incoming - 2022.07.29 Toodyay OAM61492\_ WSN Governance Plan Response.msg  
Incoming - 2022.08.01 Corrigin RE\_ Letter to LGs re contractors on Tec Group.msg  
Incoming - 2022.08.01 Merredin RE\_ Letter to LGs re contractors on Tec Group.msg  
Incoming - 2022.08.01 Merredin RE\_ Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Network DRAFT Governance Plan for review.msg  
Incoming - 2022.08.01 Narrogin RE\_ Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Network DRAFT Governance Plan for review.msg  
Incoming - 2022.08.03 Beverley RE\_ Letter to LGs re contractors on Tec Group.msg  
Incoming - 2022.08.03 York FW\_ Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Network DRAFT Governance Plan for review- Shire of York Resolution.msg

Motion:

That the incoming and outgoing correspondence be accepted.

Moved: Cr K. Crute Seconded: Cr G. Ball Carried 8/8

## **5 – Technical Working Group Representatives:**

Mrs. K. Crute, Shire President of Brookton as Chair  
Mr B. Gibbs, EMTS Shire of Wandering for Hotham-Dale SG  
Mr S. Gollan, CEO Shire of Beverley for Hotham-Dale SG  
Vacant - Lakes SG  
Vacant - Lakes SG  
Mr G. McKeown, CEO Shire of Williams for Narrogin SG  
Mr T. Evans, EMTRS Shire of Narrogin for Narrogin SG  
Mr D. Holland, MWS Shire of Bruce Rock for Roe SG  
Mr A. Cousins, MWS Shire of Narembeen for Roe SG  
Mr P. Burgess, MWS Shire of Corrigin for Roe SG

The WBS Technical Committee has not held a meeting since 03 March 2022. The next meeting will be held to review the 2023/2024 MCA submissions.

## **6 - WBS RRG Internal Reports**

### **6.1 WBS RRG Chairperson's Report**

CHAIRS REPORT TO WBS RRG 02/9/2022

I have attended 13 meetings in the 6 months, including the Regional Road Group Chairs. The WSN minutes are included in the Addenda, the RRG Chairs minutes are available and can be included in the Addenda in future.

Much of the feedback will be on WSN, which will be covered in a later report by Leith Collins.

## 6.2 WBS RRG Direct Grants, Road Projects, Black Spots, Commodity Route & State Initiatives funding

The WBS RRG carried over 13% of unexpended funds from 2021/2022. This was a slight improvement on the 2020/2021 percentage of 15%, but still higher than the 11% carried over in 2019/2020.

A summary of the WBS RRG 2021/2022 performance as at 30 June 2022 was attached at **Addendum 3a**.

The status of the Subgroups as at 30 June 2022 was as follows:

### **Hotham-Dale Subgroup**

State Black Spot	80% claimed
Federal Black Spot	Line marking to be reconciled
Road Projects	88% claimed
Commodity Route	100% claimed
Overall status	90% claimed

### **Lakes Subgroup**

State Black Spot	64% claimed
Federal Black Spot	N/A
Road Projects	90% claimed
Commodity Route	N/A
Overall status	87% claimed

### **Narrogin Subgroup**

State Black Spot	40% claimed
Federal Black Spot	N/A
Road Projects	95% claimed
Commodity Route	N/A
Overall status	96% claimed

### **Roe Subgroup**

State Black Spot	0% claimed
Federal Black Spot	76% claimed
Road Projects	80% claimed
Commodity Route	N/A
Overall status	82% claimed

### **Wheatbelt South Region**

State Black Spot	59% claimed
Federal Black Spot	76% claimed
Road Projects	88% claimed
Commodity Route	100% claimed

2022/22 Total carry over 13%, excluding WSNF.  
Line marking to be reconciled.

**Direct Grant Funding** was fully claimed in 2021/2022.



Please note that the WBS RRG Funding and Recoup Register is provided to all WBS RRG councils at the end of each month and shows allocated funding to councils and claims made against specific projects.

The register does not record Federal R2R funded projects, funding for local roads bridge projects or Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Network projects.

### 6.3 2022/2023 WBS RRG Road Project Funding

The indicative funding for 2022/2023 Direct Grants was \$2,877,308. This has been increased by 2% to \$3,041,349. All LGs have been notified of the increase and have begun submitting invoices.

The indicative funding for 2022/2023 Road Projects was \$7,140,520. Notification has recently been received of a 3.7% increase totalling \$266,259.

#### Option 1:

Additional funds to be distributed pro rata based on current allocated %, as per 2022/23 surplus.

#### Option 2:

Additional funds to be distributed pro rata based on current APV %.

#### Option 3:

Additional funds to be held in holding account to increase total allocation in 2023/24.

#### Option 4:

Other. \_\_\_\_\_

#### Motion:

The WBS RRG chose Option 3, that the additional funds be held in the holding account to increase total allocation in 2023/24.

Moved: Cr K. Crute Seconded: Cr G. Broad Carried 8/8

A summary of the 2022/2023 RRG performance as at 26 August 2022 was provided at **Addendum 3b**

The following addenda were included:

**Addendum 3c** – Direct Grants

**Addendum 3d** – Road Projects, including any Commodity Routes

**Addendum 3e** – State and Federal Black Spot Projects

**Commodity Route Supplementary Funding** Applications have been called for the 2023/24 financial year. Submissions were to be emailed to the RRG Secretariat prior to the deadline, for review and collation. Deadline for submissions to WALGA was 23 September 2022.

### 6.4 2021/2022 Federal and State Black Spot

The 2022/2023 Federal Black Spot programme has been announced.

The 2022/2023 State Black Spot programme has been announced.

The deadline for nominations for 2023/2024 of 08 July 2022 was extended to 11 July 2022, one nomination was received from the WBS RRG.

There will be Crash Map training offered to all LGs again in the new year, prior to the call for Black Spot funding submissions.

### 6.5 State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement

**Advice Only** – For 2022/2023, there has been no indication or advice of any alteration to the existing funding formula of 75/25 for road project funding distribution to all Regional Road Groups.

## 7 - Administrative - External Presentations, Reports and State Advisory Committee (SAC) Minutes

### 7.1 Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Network

Precis of the feedback by Leith Collins on the WSN Governance Plan

Minutes of previous WSN meetings were provided at **Addenda 4a-d**

A summary of the Vote on Consultants' Voting Rights on WSN Tech Committee was Included **Addendum 4e**

- Leith was engaged to review the WSN Governance Plan in July 2022
- Comments were requested from the 42 Wheatbelt LGs
- 14 Submissions were received, collated and paraphrased into a table
- The Governance Plan was then updated with relevant amendments and submitted to the Steering Committee for review and endorsement
- The Final Draft was then distributed to the 42 LGs to review and discuss at Subgroup level and then brought to the RRG for approval
- Four submissions out of the 14 received, mentioned the requirement for an independent Chair on the Steering Committee. While this could be a consideration, the requirement for impartiality and transparency has been addressed by the increase in numbers to the Steering Committee, from 2 per region to 1 per Subgroup – effectively increasing the voting members on the SC from 4 to 8. Chair is voted in by the 8 elected members.
- In addition, a conflict-of-interest clause has been included in the Governance Plan
- Questions taken into consideration for an independent Chair included who that would be, how the person would be remunerated, how the Chair would be elected, whether they would fall under the host LG arrangement, and a host of other considerations
- The concept was not eliminated, however, the present focus for the WSN is to have a robust Governance Plan, to move forward with the construction of the funded projects and to assess the success of the current structure
- The idea has been floated to eventually incorporate the WSN as a legal entity, at which point, an independent Chair could be reconsidered
- The next issue was whether external consultants could be nominated delegate for the Technical Committee. There were 22 submissions received and 14 voted that a consultant could be nominated to represent the Subgroup on the TC but could not be a voting member. This clause has been included in the Governance Plan
- A reminder that the TC only provides recommendations to the SC and does not have decision making or approval authority
- The table of recommendations/comments and the individual submission emails were distributed to all LGs in **Addendum 2b**

The floor was opened for questions and comments (precis of the discussion):

- D. Blurton, Shire of Narembeen: Did any of the submissions calling for an independent Chair provide suggestions/recommendations on how that person should be elected or how that process would work?

- No, there were no suggestions made, other than to suggest an independent Chair
- K. Crute, Shire of Brookton: The recommendation for an independent Chair was put forward by the Hotham-Dale Subgroup. It would not be necessary to write the process for how that comes about in the Governance Plan, however, the SG believe that there is more to the role than just a neutral view on the SC, there is a need for a person to lobby for future funding with State and Federal governments. Not necessarily Tuck Waldron, but someone like them, with the connections, would be invaluable to the program. The current arrangement puts added workload on the elected member, who has other roles to fill within their own Council.
- G. Robins, Shire of Kulin: Not to take anything away from the comments, but the engagement of a Program Director will alleviate some of that pressure from the Chair.
- K. Crute: The Chair will still need to lobby for funding and that cost is borne by the individual LG. That is Hotham-Dale SG's position on the matter.
- D. Hickey, Shire of Corrigin: It is important to note that the suggestion of an independent Chair is not off the table, but the current situation is to bring some stability, to steady the ship. The need right now is to get the Governance Plan approved and to keep the momentum of the program in a forward direction, to get the next lot of funding in place. When the need arrives for an independent Chair, and that will happen, the decision and process can be put in motion then.
- I. Turton, Shire of Wandering: The Hotham-Dale SG had a hard look at this and now is the time for processes to be put in place to ensure that the program is seen as a strong and viable organisation. With the work that has been done, the group believe now is the time for this to be put in place.

There were no further questions or comments.

K. Crute: Requested to foreshadow Brookton's motions 1 and 2 **at Item 9.5 in the agenda.**

D. Hickey: There has been a lot of work has gone into this, to get the Governance Plan to this position. The 42 LGs have taken time to review the Draft Governance Plan, discuss the document at Council and Subgroup meetings and to make submissions. The draft put forward is a workable document, increasing the delegates and improving meetings. The Governance Plan can be implemented for now and will likely change in future as required by review. I am happy with the document as it stands.

K. Crute: I would just urge that the delegate have a look at the suggestions the Hotham-Dale SG put through, especially Motion 2. There have been some significant changes to the document that was approved by the RRG over the past two years. Draw attention to the table on the delegations and approval, final approval of the staging plan, annual budget and individual projects has always been with WBN and WBS RRGs, that final approval has been removed from the group and put back to the SC. The SC gets final approval of all funding allocations going forward, which contrasts with every other decision that gets made in relation to RRG funding. I urge you to not accept the Governance Plan as presented to you and to consider Hotham-Dale's changes. We believe this will improve the document and leave the final approval of the funding with the RRG, where it should be.

G. Robins: Requested L. Collins to comment.

L. Collins: When reviewing the changes proposed, I believe that some suggestions would benefit the Plan, including changes to the approval side of things. There is still work to be done on the supporting documents, like the Delivery Plan, but that doesn't take anything away from the Plan as it stands.

Motion:

That the WBS RRG accept the WSFN Governance Plan as presented, including the changes outlined by Leith Collins.

Moved: Cr D. Hickey      Seconded: Cr J. Russell      Carried 6/8

K. Crute: Requested that Hotham-Dale's objection to the motion be recorded.

### **7.2 State Advisory Committee (SAC)**

A We Transfer link to the April 2022 SAC Meeting Minutes was provided at **Addendum 5**. These documents can also be found on the Main Roads website.

### **7.3 WALGA Regional Road Group Report**

Mark Bondiotti presented information on road assets and expenditure. A copy of the presentation is attached.

The Regional Road Group Reports for April 2022 and August 2022 were provided at **Addendum 6a and 6b**.

Mark advised that the current State Roads Fund to Local Government Agreement will expire in July 2023. Negotiations for a new agreement have been progressing, including a delegation from Local Governments, SAC and Main Roads. At this stage, there is no appetite for any major changes to the current agreement. There is a push for a new category of funding for road safety improvements, but that will depend on getting additional funding into the agreement. The committee will endeavour to negotiate that funding revert to 27% of licensing, as opposed to the current 20% over the 5-year term of the agreement. That will be a crucial focus over the coming months. Once there is a draft agreement and an idea of what the funding will look like, the draft will be distributed to the zones and State Council at the November meetings.

A condition survey of the roads of regional significance across the State is underway. The Shires will be contacted individually and there is an option to leverage off that contract to have local roads assessed if required.

The data can be uploaded into RAMM databases and there will be high definition videos taken of the roads.

There is a proposed WALGA Roadside Vegetation Management Field Day, to be hosted by the Shire of Pingelly on 29 September. A call for registrations will be out soon.

### **7.4 WALGA RoadWise Report**

The RoadWise Report was presented by Rodney Thornton.

The region has several crashed car display trailers, which are in need of updating and maintenance, which will cost quite a bit of money. The question is to be posed to the LGs as to whether they will make use of these trailers if they are rebranded.

Current statistics on road safety as follows:

- Fatalities: 94 in the State
  - o 50 on Local Government roads
  - o 44 on State roads

- Fatalities: 15 in the Wheatbelt
  - o 5 in Wheatbelt South
- The 2015-2019 Local Government Road Safety Performance Report is due for delivery soon. This will detail crash types for the regions and for Local Governments – traditionally in the Wheatbelt, the trend has been single vehicle run off road crashes. Treatments need to be targeted towards those crash types.
- Rodney will be available to discuss the results of the report, if required. LGs are encouraged to set targets to reduce fatalities on the roads and to include funds in the budget for road safety treatments.

A brief discussion surrounding eligible treatments under RRG funding took place, as the current model does not support sufficient additional treatments. M. Bondiotti advised there is an ongoing discussion around additional funding for road safety treatments, over and above the norm, in the new agreement.

### **7.5 Main Roads Presentation**

Mohammad Siddiqui presented an update on the In-house Maintenance Transition and an update on the 2022/2023 Annual Works Program

A copy of the presentation is attached.

## **8 - WBN RRG Sub Groups – Minutes and Reports**

- **Hotham-Dale Subgroup (Secretary Stephen Gollan)**  
Minutes of Hotham-Dale Sub-Group from the meeting held on 22 July 2022 were attached at **Addendum 7a.**
- **Lakes Subgroup (Secretary Shire of Dumbleyung)**  
Minutes of Lakes Sub-Group meeting held on 22 August 2022 were attached at **Addendum 7b.**
- **Narrogin Subgroup (Secretary Geoff McKeown)**  
Minutes of Narrogin Sub-Group meeting held on 04 May 2022 were attached at **Addendum 7c.**
- **Roe Subgroup (Secretary Natalie Manton)**  
Minutes of Roe Sub-Group meeting held on 05 August 2022 were attached at **Addendum 7d.**

### **8.1 Matters arising from Subgroup meetings for endorsement by the Wheatbelt South Regional Road Group:**

#### **8.1.1 Hotham-Dale Subgroup Shire of Wandering**

The Shire of Wandering received endorsement from the Hotham Dale RRG subgroup to fully reallocate the 2022/23 RRG Project Funding

- From North Wandering Road – Project No 30001748, for vegetation clearing, table drain maintenance, single coat bitumen seal to 7.2m wide using 10mm on 14mm seal.
- To the unfinished work on the 2021/22 RRG North Wandering Road – Project No 30000852, for the cement stabilization and bitumen sealing work.

The original 2021/22 RRG North Wandering Road (Project No 30000852) budget was \$156,491 of which \$104,327 is RRG funding. Of this RRG funding the Shire of Wandering has updated details on the actual amount reallocated that was endorsed by the RRG Hotham Dale Subgroup voting delegates on the 6 April 2022 for the following:

- The Shire has spent a total of \$63,498 on the project has received 80% in RRG funding or \$83,461.60



Proposed reallocation and program adjustment:

<b>Project Allocation 22/23</b>	<b>Project Total Allocation</b>	<b>Min 1/3 LG Contribution</b>	<b>Max 2/3 RRG Contribution</b>
(amended) Old Ravensthorpe Rd 14.40-22.10	\$385,825	\$128,611	\$257,214
(amended) North Lake Grace- Karlgarin Rd 19.69-25.73	\$436,767	\$153,726	\$283,041
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$822,592</b>	<b>\$282,337</b>	<b>\$540,255</b>
<i>Less 2022/23 RRG Allocation</i>			-\$450,000
<i>Less Transfer in savings from 2021/22</i>			-\$90,255
<b>RRG funding shortfall (to be made up by Council Funds)</b>			<b>\$0</b>

Moved: Cr Bevan Doney  
WSFN Proxy Delegates

Seconded: Cr Julie Russell

Moved: Cr Bevan Doney      Seconded: Cr Julie Russell      Carried  
That Cr Greg Ball, Shire of Wagin, be nominated as the Proxy of the WSFN Steering Group.

Moved: Cr Grant Robins      Seconded: Cr Len Armstrong      Carried  
That Craig Elefsen, Shire of Lake Grace, be nominated as the Proxy of the WSFN Technical Group.

Motion:

That the Wheatbelt South Regional Road Group endorse the resolution taken by the Lakes Group as above.

Moved: Cr G. Ball      Seconded: Cr D. Hickey      Carried: 8/8

### **8.1.3 Narrogin Subgroup:**

Moved: Graham Broad      Seconded: Stan Scott      Carried

The Narrogin Sub-Regional Road Group endorses:

- 1) Cr Graham Broad and Cr Jarrad Logie as Regional Road Group Representatives, with Cr Murray Fisher and Cr Peter Dowdell as their proxies; and
- 2) Torre Evans and Geoff McKeown as Technical Committee Representatives, with Stan Scott as their proxy.

Moved: Torre Evans      Seconded: Stan Scott      Carried

The Narrogin Sub-Regional Road Group endorses:

- 1) Cr Graham Broad as the Narrogin Sub-Group's Representative to the Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Network Steering Committee for the period of the governance review; and
- 2) Geoff McKeown as the Narrogin Sub-Group's Representative to the Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Network Technical Advisory Group for the period of the governance review.

### **Shire of West Arthur**

The Shire of West Arthur requested a change to the scope of works for this road due to failures that developed due to the wet winter last year. The original work was proposed to include two stages, being:  
Stage 1 reconstruct section (SLK 23.19 to 24.59)





## Shire of Corrigin

The Shire of Corrigin requests a variation of the 2022/23 allocation of funds to RRG projects submitted on MCA's due to increased bitumen and construction costs. The total RRG funding will need to be reallocate across the projects.

Shire Budget		Total	RRG	Shire
Corrigin - Quairading Road	SLK 4.81 - 6.80 Reconstruct and widen.	475,141	316,761	158,380
Corrigin - Quairading Road	SLK 6.80 - 7.90, SLK 8.90 - 10.60 Final seal	87,360	58,240	29,120
Bulyee Quairading Road	SLK 0.00 - 14.40 Reseal	241,056	20,666	220,390
		<b>803,557</b>	<b>395,667</b>	<b>402,890</b>

### Resolution

That the Roe Subgroup support the Shire of Corrigin request to vary the 2022/23 allocation of funds to RRG projects submitted on MCA's due to increased bitumen and construction costs as well as incorporate additional allocation of \$20,666.

Moved: Cr Foss

Seconded: Cr Mulcahy

Carried

## Shire of Quairading

The Shire of Quairading requests that the 21/22 funding of \$223,918 on the Quairading Corrigin Road be carried forward to the 22/23 year due to challenges in completing the project with new staff, weather and COVID issues.

### Resolution

That the Roe Subgroup support the Shire of Quairading request that 2021/22 funding for the Corrigin Quairading Road be carried over to the 22/23 project allocations.

Moved: Cr Stacey

Seconded: Cr Mulcahy

Carried

## Shire of Narembeen

The Shire of Narembeen requested that the 21/22 funding of \$179,481 on the Narembeen South Road SLK10.9-14.92 be carried forward to the 22/23 year. The requires final seal which is planned for summer 22/23 to get best result

### Note:

The Roe Subgroup supported the Shire of Narembeen's request via an out-of-session email Carried

### Motion:

That the WBS RRG endorse the resolutions taken by the Roe Subgroup as above.

Moved: Cr D. Hickey

Seconded: Cr G. Broad

Carried: 8/8

## 9 – Items on Notice

### 9.1 Distribution of funding to amalgamated Shires

(Amended from original Agenda to include second points)

The Narrogin Sub-Regional Road Group requests that the Wheatbelt South Regional Road Group consider the proposal by the Shire of Narrogin for a variation to the Regional Road Group Policy and Procedure Manual in dealing with funding for amalgamated councils.

A copy of this document is at Addendum 6c, for discussion.

### Motion:

That the WBS RRG:

- 1) Amend their Policy and Procedure Manual, under Council Amalgamations to read as follows: Amalgamating Councils are entitled to the single annual maximum cap funding amount as determined by the Wheatbelt South Regional Road Group (WBS

RRG) indicative allocation, multiplied by the number of Councils amalgamating, from the date of amalgamation continuing on an ongoing basis or until the WBS RRG resolves to change its policies and procedures in the allocation of funding to member Councils.

- 2) 2 Request its delegates to the Group to seek a resolution from that Group, that the Shire of Narrogin continues to be eligible for amalgamated funding as per point 1.

OR

- 1) Amend their Policy and Procedure Manual, under Council Amalgamations to read as follows: Amalgamating Councils are entitled to 75% of the single annual maximum cap funding amount as determined by the Wheatbelt South Regional Road Group (WBSRRG) indicative allocation, multiplied by the number of Councils amalgamating, from the date of amalgamation continuing on an ongoing basis or until the WBSRRG resolves to change its policies and procedures in the allocation of funding to member Councils.
- 2) 2 Request its delegates to the Group to seek a resolution from that Group, that the Shire of Narrogin continues to be eligible for amalgamated funding as per point 1.

Meeting Note: Cr K. Crute proposed a third option:

- 3) That the current arrangement be continued for a further 12 months, during which the WBS Technical Committee undertake a study to determine the impact of the current model, if any, on future funding in the event of additional amalgamations. The results to be presented to the WBS RRG for review and a decision at the August meeting in 2023.

The WBS RRG approved Option 3.

Moved: Cr K. Crute                      Seconded: Cr D. Hickey                      Carried: 8/8

### **9.2 Amendment of Scope – Shire of Williams**

Cr J. Logie declared an interest in the outcome of below.

The Shire of Williams would like RRG approval to amend the SLK range for works on the Quindanning-Darkan Road this year. Currently the approved project is described as:

Quindanning Darkan Rd No.4300002 - Widening and reconstruction of existing formation to achieve 7m seal width and Type 5 warrant. Works include drainage upgrades and signage improvements. (SLK 15.08-17.38).

The Shire is requesting a change to the SLK range to be (SLK 21.98 to 24.28). The distance and extent of work is the same, just a change to the location on the road.

Motion:

That the WBS RRG endorse the resolutions taken by the Roe Subgroup as above.

Moved: Cr G. Ball                      Seconded: Cr G. Broad                      Carried: 8/8

### **9.3 Reallocation of funding – Shire of Kulin**

The Shire of Kulin requests RRG consider the possibility of allowing surplus 2021/22 funds of \$7,371 from Yealering Rd (21116817) to Dudinin Jitarning Rd (30000833) to help reduce the overspend due to the unforeseen works that need to be completed.

The reason for the overspend was,

- The Shire encountered a large area (800 m2) that was moving from underground

water issues.

- Required to dig out to a depth of 1m
- Purchase of geo fab cloth,
- Treated with lime and cement to stiffen sub-base material,
- Laid sub soil drainage to sub-base to drain away any excess water from underground,
- Import new material treating 2 x 300mm layers with cement before base course was laid.

Savings were achieved by:

- Cheaper than budgeted for bitumen and aggregate,
- Completing the job by almost a day earlier.

Motion:

That the WBS RRG endorse the reallocation of surplus 2021/22 funds of \$7,371 from Yealering Rd (21116817) to Dudinin Jitarning Rd (30000833) as above.

Moved: Cr G. Ball                      Seconded: Cr D. Hickey                      Carried: 8/8

#### **9.4 Operating Conditions - Restricted Access Vehicles (RAVs) – Shire of Williams** Guidelines were attached at **Addendum 10**

Item added to original Agenda, Cr J. Logie spoke to the information as presented.

A RAV must not operate on any road that is not in the Approved Network. Main Roads publishes Operating Conditions for these vehicles that are amended from time to time.

The Shire of Williams has a concern with transport operators' ability to comply with the guidelines and therefore their actual level of compliance.

It understands the guidelines are intended to manage heavy vehicles on the road network from a safety and road maintenance perspective.

In recent years, the Williams' Shire road network has been opened to RAV – Tandem Drive Network 4 vehicles, being <27.5m in length and <88.5t maximum mass. Control of these vehicles is via operating conditions on individual roads. Typically, the operating conditions include speed restrictions i.e., 60km/hr during daylight hours and 40km/hr at night; contact with school bus operators and avoidance of the road when the school bus is on the road; no operation on an unsealed road when visibly wet, without road owner's approval, etc.

The intent of these conditions to manage heavy vehicles is understood. However, in practice, transport operators find it difficult to adhere to the conditions and are likely to be non-compliant.

To emphasise this, the following are some examples applying to RAV Network 4 vehicles in the Williams Shire:

1. Collie-Williams Road – State Road - Operation is not permitted while the school bus is operating on the road. This is a major transport route to Bunbury, carrying >350 vehicles per day. It is likely that operators are not aware of this condition.
2. York-Williams Road – LG Road – Operators are not permitted to travel over 60km/hr during daylight hours and 40km/hr at night. This route is sealed to 7m and vehicle movements are >200 vehicles per day.

3. Piesseville Tarwonga Road - LG Road – Operators are not permitted to travel over 60km/hr during daylight hours and 40km/hr at night. This route is sealed to 7m and vehicle movements are >400 vehicles per day.

Most unsealed roads in the Williams Shire have the speed restriction condition along with the requirement for the prime mover to have an amber flashing light. A heavy vehicle travelling at 40km/hr at night in a cloud of dust poses a safety risk for a light vehicle that is following, if a passing move is attempted. The amber flashing light on the prime mover is unlikely to be seen by a following vehicle.

The Shire believes that the operating conditions need to be reviewed and where conditions are imposed, they are practical and enforceable.

A starting point would be to write to Main Roads - Heavy Vehicle Services to raise this issue and include these comments and others from RRG LGs.

**Precis of the discussion:**

Cr J. Logie: LGs are putting up signs saying that you need approval to be on specific roads. When utilising the RAV Network apps, clicking on the road will raise whether permission is required from the LGA to use the road. As a transporter, there can be days when you are transporting through 3, 4 or 5 LGs. In that instance, should the transporter be applying to every LG, every time you need to go through, or would it be better to get a blanket approval/permit to cart through the LG for the season/year?

J. Warburton: The Shire of Narrogin provide a letter of approval on an annual basis, based on tonnage. There was talk a year or two ago about scrapping that letter, but not much has been heard on the matter since.

M. Bondiotti: This has been a contentious issue for some time, there have been negotiations with Main Roads on the matter, however, the requirement for a letter remains in place.

Cr J. Logie: The other problem, that the Shire has experienced, has been when the stipulation is that the transporter restricted to 40 km/hr on a gravel road and a passenger vehicle comes up too fast behind them in the dust. There were round 8 incidents at harvest time alone. The bottom line is to determine whether the RRG has the LGs' backing to go to Main Roads and have this requirement removed? Or can a LGA remove the requirement themselves?

Cr G. Robins: An LGA should be able to request the type of conditions placed on a road, unless the condition is for safety reasons.

Cr K. Crute: There are a few options: an LGA can opt not to issue the letter. The LGA can write to Main Roads to review the conditions, perhaps differentiating the conditions between sealed and unsealed. Although it's not advisable to have too many variations, as many transporters won't check what the different conditions are per road. Cr Robins has a great opportunity to raise the matter at the RRG Chairs' meeting, engaging with the LGAs around the State creating a broader discussion on the matter. There could be discussions at the AgFreight Group and the Zone meetings around the impact these conditions have. If the group is serious about creating change, it needs to be from more than just the WBS RRG, it needs to be from many groups. The Wheatbelt is probably more heavily impacted by these conditions, but even school bus routes are difficult to get, as the schools won't release that information either, it as to come from the Department of Transport.

Cr J. Logie: Collie-Williams Road is not a local road, it's now a State road and it gets 150-200 trucks a day, but the condition is that they cannot operate during school

bus times.

Cr K. Crute: That road is still classified as a low volume A road. Main Roads needs to review the conditions, if it is a State road it can't possibly be a low volume road.

Cr. G. Robins: The whole issue needs to be reviewed. An LGA can't refuse to give a transporter a letter anyway. The LGA can't deny access to Shire roads, even if the transporter isn't complying with the conditions, so why is there a requirement for a letter in the first place?

Cr S. Stirrat: The Shire of Narembreen recently had a review of the conditions on the roads, to better reflect how the roads are being used. It's been a time consuming and expensive process. Main Roads instructed the LG to get engineers to assess the roads. The conditions just don't reflect the transport needs.

Cr G. Robins: There are roads on the network that just won't pass review, they are ultra-low volume.

Further discussion and examples were raised on the same issue.

Motion:

That the WBS RRG write to Main Roads - Heavy Vehicle Services to raise this issue and include these comments and others from RRG LGs.

Moved: Cr J. Logie                      Seconded: Cr J. Russell                      Carried: 8/8

### **9.5 Hotham-Dale Subgroup – WSFN Governance Plan Commentary**

Item added to original Agenda. Draft amendments by Hotham-Dale Subgroup were attached at **Addendum 11**

**Meeting note:** As a result of the earlier motion at Item 7.1 and this item was considered dealt with and not pursued in the meeting.

The Hotham Dale Subgroup gave notice on 31 August 2022 of the intention to move the following motions in relation to the Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Network at the Wheatbelt South Regional Road Group Meeting to be held on Friday 2nd September 2022.

#### **MOTION 1**

That the Wheatbelt South Regional Road Group NOT APPROVE the provided Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Network Governance Plan - Final Draft Rev 3 as circulated at this time and request the inclusion in the Governance Plan of an Independent Chairperson for the Steering Committee.

Comment

An Independent Chairperson could:

1. Give a perception of impartiality in the WSFN's SC dealing with contentious issues between the two RRGs and between SRRGs and between LGs;
2. Give a perception of impartiality in use of a casting vote;
3. Have the reputation/ contacts/ skills and abilities that assist WSFN in obtaining further funding.

#### **MOTION 2**

That the Wheatbelt South Regional Road Group APPROVE the provided Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Network Governance Plan - Final Draft Rev 3 as circulated at this time with the following amendments:

1.the table at 5. Delegations and Approvals (Page 12) be amended to read:

Document	Individual LGs	WSFN Program Management Team	WSFN Technical Committee	WSFN Steering Committee	RRG	42 LGs
Staging Plan	Develop / Commit	Collate / Submit	Recommend	Endorse	Approve	Receive
Annual Program Budget	Develop / Commit	Collate / Submit	Recommend	Endorse	Approve	Receive
Specific Projects	Develop / Construct	Review / Submit	Recommend	Endorse	Approve	Receive

Comment

This amendment has the RRGs rather than the Steering Committee approving rather than receiving:

- the project staging plan – that prioritises projects for funding
- each annual budget – that allocates annual funding
- specific projects – that are able to be funded

Changes to these plans/budgets/projects may have serious financial implications to LGs

2.at 9. Wheatbelt North and Wheatbelt South Regional Road Groups (Page 14), change dot point #7 from “Receive” to “Approve”;

This amendment makes the Governance Plan consistent with the delegations and approvals.

3. at 10.1 Roles & Responsibilities:

- a.at Dot Point #13 add “in consultation with the Host Local Government” (Page 15)
- b.at Dot Point #14 add “in consultation with the Host Local Government” (Page 15)
- c. remove Dot Point #15; (Page 15)
- d. remove Dot Point #16; (Page 15)

These amendments reflect the Roles and Responsibilities of Elected Members in a Local Government context. The Host local government will employ all staff and any employment requires their approval and therefore should be included in Governance Plan where relevant.

The Governance Plan should not define the members of the Project Management Team. The SC and PD may wish to amend the makeup of the PMT and this should not require a change in the Governance Plan.

4.at 10.1 Roles & Responsibilities remove “Subject to the endorsement of the WSRRG and WNRRG’s and MRWA, the overall program is submitted to the Commonwealth Minister for Transport for approval.” (Page 15)

The submission of PPR is not done by the SC. The PPR as prepared by MRWA is submitted by MRWA to the State Government to the Federal Government

5.at 10.2.10 Delegated Representatives add “who is also an Elected Member” (Page 18)

SC Voting Membership and Voting Proxy Membership should only be for Elected Members.

7.at 10.3 Discretionary Powers add “currently approved” before “budgeted” (Page 18)

Reinforces that the Budget is approved by RRG and SC has the authority to adjust within that approved budget

8. at 11.1 Role and Responsibilities

a. remove Dot Point #5 (Page 19)

b. remove Dot Point #6 (Page 19)

Dot Point # 5 – PPR is a Federal Government document prepared by MRWA with information supplied by PMT, it does not come to the WSFN for approval at any level. Dot Point #6 – IPP is set by the Federal Government and WSF through individual LGs provide the data to complete the reporting.

9.at 11.2.2 Membership add “, who are local government employees,” after “8 members” (Page 19)

Members of the TC should be local government employees because:

1.members of the TC will have access to WSFN not provided to other contractors/consultants;

2.decisions of the TC will lack credibility without voting input from all SRRGs;

10.at 11.2.3 Voting and Decision Making remove “An SRRG may nominate Consultants or Contractors as their member, but a Consultant or Contractor cannot be a voting member.” (Page 20)

Members of the TC should be local government employees because:

1.members of the TC will have access to WSFN not provided to other contractors/consultants;

2.decisions of the TC will lack credibility without voting input from all SRRGs;

11. at 11.2.6 LG Technical Committee Recommendation Review:

a. replace “shall engage” with “may engage” (Page 21)

LGs may wish to engage another delegate to represent them in a meeting with the SC.

b.remove “At the meeting, an LGA representative will present a reasoning for their disagreement with the recommendation, which includes endorsement by their SRRG member. Following this submission, the SC will then review the recommendation.” (Page 21)

The recommendation of the TC to the SC is just a recommendation and has no authority other than the strength of the reasoning. The SC should be reviewing every recommendation from the TC, not just those that are disputed by an LG.

12.at 11.2.8 Delegated Representatives add “a local government employee and” before “elected” (Page 21)

Proxy Members of the TC should be local government employees because:

- 1.members of the TC will have access to WSN not provided to other contractors/consultants;
- 2.decisions of the TC will lack credibility without voting input from all SRRGs;

13.at 12 Project Management Team replace “Program Manager (PM) and Executive Officer (EO) as well as” with “and” (Page 22)

The Governance Plan should not define the Project Management Team. The SC and PD may wish to amend the makeup of the PMT and this should not require a change in the Governance Plan.

14. at 12 Project Management Team:

a.At Dot Point #2 add “within authorised budget approval” (Page 21)

Change reinforces that the PMT must act within the approved Budget.

b.Dot Point #18 replace “a” with “the existing approved” approved route staging plan. (Page 21)

A Staging Plan has been adopted by the WSN and changes may have serious financial implications to LGs

c. Dot Point #21 add “by LGs” (Page 23)

Clarify who will do the investigation on a project/proposal.

d.At Dot Point #22 replace “Development of “approved” and funded shovel ready projects” with “Support local governments to further develop projects” (Page 23)

Clarify who will do development of projects/proposals.

15.At 12.1 Program Director remove “with both the PM and the Executive Officer directly reporting to the PD.” (Page 23)

The Governance Plan should not define the Project Management Team. The SC and PD may wish to amend the makeup of the PMT and this should not require a change in the Governance Plan.

15.At 12.1 Program Director remove “Apart from the Program Manager.” (Page 23)

The Governance Plan should not define the Project Management Team. The SC and PD may wish to amend the makeup of the PMT and this should not require a change in the Governance Plan.

16.At 12. Program Management Team remove section 12.2 Program Manager and renumber following sections accordingly (Page 23)



The Governance Plan should not define the Project Management Team. The SC and PD may wish to amend the makeup of the PMT and this should not require a change in the Governance Plan.

17. At 12.3 Program Host remove “Program Manager” (Page 23)

The Governance Plan should not define the Project Management Team. The SC and PD may wish to amend the makeup of the PMT and this should not require a change in the Governance Plan.

18. Remove section 12.4 LGA’s Project Development & Deliver; (Page 23)

This information is taken from Project Delivery Plan and doesn’t require repeating.

19. remove Section 13 Funding & Funding Allocation and renumber following sections accordingly (Page 24)

This information is taken from Project Delivery Plan and doesn’t require repeating.

20. remove Attachment 2 – WSF Administrative Procedures and renumber following sections accordingly. (Page 56)

This information is administrative in nature and a change in administrative procedure should not require a change in the Governance Plan.

Resolution:

The WBS RRG delegates resolved \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE:** A reminder to send invoices and correspondence to [wheatbelt@mainroads.wa.gov.au](mailto:wheatbelt@mainroads.wa.gov.au)

## 10 – General Business

### 10.1 Local Government Roles and Responsibilities - Bridges

The matter is included in in the Subgroup Meeting Agendas as standard agenda item, as a reminder to undertake Inspections and preventative maintenance, in order to be eligible for funding.

A summary of Level 1 Bridge Inspections was provided at **Addendum 8**.

The report showed that no bridge inspections ad been received, however, as the report is run on a financial year and not a calendar year, that was to be expected at this time.

All inspection reports are due by the end of April.

Reminder: MRWA can provide training on Level 1 bridge inspections and Metrocount traffic data collection, if required. LGs are asked to coordinate either at Subgroup level or as a group.

Bridge inspections are to be submitted to the dedicated email addresses of:

[StrucEngInspections@mainroads.wa.gov.au](mailto:StrucEngInspections@mainroads.wa.gov.au) and cc  
[anthony.humphreys@mainroads.wa.gov.au](mailto:anthony.humphreys@mainroads.wa.gov.au)

## **10.2 Wheatbelt Revegetation Bank Project**

An updated Fact Sheet on the Wheatbelt Revegetation Bank Project was attached at **Addendum 9**.

## **10.3 Bus Sign Specifications**

Gren Putland (NOM) has advised that he has been receiving queries from LGs regarding the specification for Bus Signs.

To confirm:

These should be B size 750x750mm – Fluro yellow/green.

MRWA requirements conforms to Australian Standard.

They should be used where required for the purpose of deficient sight distance.

The sign warns of children, not buses.

Installation is delegated to the LG as part of their warning series.

The signs need to be removed when redundant.

Meeting note: When ordering these signs, the sign number is W6-3 Size B

**NOTE:** A reminder to send invoices and correspondence to [wheatbelt@mainroads.wa.gov.au](mailto:wheatbelt@mainroads.wa.gov.au)

## **11 - Next Meeting Date**

It was agreed to hold the next meeting of the WBS RRG on 24 February 2023 at the Wickepin Community Centre.

## **12 - Meeting Close**

The meeting closed at 11:57.

# Central Country Zone

## AGENDA

Friday, 10 February 2023

Commencing at 9.30am

*Morning tea will be served from 9.00am*

### Shire of Corrigin

Corrigin Recreation & Events Centre

Larke Crescent

Corrigin

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	Opening and Welcome .....	4
2.	Attendance .....	4
3.	Apologies.....	6
4.	Declarations of Interest.....	6
5.	Announcements.....	6
6.	Guest Speakers / Deputations .....	6
6.1	Hon. John Carey MLA, Minister for Housing; Lands; Homelessness; Local Government .....	6
6.2	Saj Abdoolakhan, Executive Director Building & Energy, Department of Mines, Industry, Regulation & Safety (DMIRS).....	7
7.	Members of Parliament.....	7
8.	Agency Reports .....	7
8.1	Department of Local Government, Sport, and Cultural Industries (DLGSC).....	7
8.2	Wheatbelt Development Commission (WDC) .....	7
8.3	Regional Development Australia Wheatbelt (RDAW) .....	7
8.4	Main Roads Western Australia .....	7
9.	Minutes.....	8
9.1	Confirmation of Minutes from the Central Country Zone meeting held on Friday, 25 November 2022.....	8
9.2	Business Arising from the Minutes from the Central Country Zone Meeting held on Friday, 25 November 2022 .....	8
9.2.1	Proposed Advocacy Position on Management of Bush Fire Brigades.....	8
9.3	Minutes of the Central Country Executive Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 1 February 2023.....	9
9.3.1	(Item 5.6.1) Executive Officer Service Review.....	9
9.3.2	(Item 6) State Council Agenda Items .....	11
9.3.3	(Item 5.3) Zone Strategic Priorities .....	11
9.4	Minutes of the Central Country Executive Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 1 February 2023.....	12
10.	Zone Business.....	12
10.1	Central Country Zone Emergency Management MOU .....	12
11.	Zone Reports.....	13
11.1	Zone President Report .....	13
11.2	Local Government Agricultural Freight Group (LGAFG) .....	13
11.3	Great Southern District Emergency Management Committee (DEMC).....	13
11.4	Regional Health Advocacy Group.....	13
11.5	WALGA RoadWise.....	13
12.	Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) Business .....	14
12.1	2023 Local Government Honours Program.....	14
12.2	State Councillor Report .....	14
12.3	WALGA Status Report.....	15
12.4	Review of WALGA State Council Agenda's – Matters for Decision.....	19



12.4.1 State Council Agenda Items – (1 March 2023).....	19
12.5 WALGA President's Report.....	24
13. Emerging Issues.....	24
14. Date, Time, and Place of Next Meetings.....	24
15. Closure.....	24

## 1. Opening and Welcome

The Chair declared the meeting open at \_\_\_\_\_.

### 1.1 Housekeeping – Zone Chair

1. Welcome:  
The Zone Chair will welcome Zone members and provide OSH/bathroom/exit information to those in attendance.
2. Share your name and Local Government:  
Delegates are reminded to ensure that they call their name and Local Government when taking the floor to allow for accurate Minutes to be recorded.

### 1.2 Host Council Presentation

Cr Des Hickey, President from the Shire of Corrigin will extend a welcome to delegates and guests and will provide a presentation on activities in the Shire.

## 2. Attendance

<b>Shire of Beverley</b>	President Cr David White Deputy President Cr Chris Lawlor Mr Steve Gollan Chief Executive Officer, non-voting
<b>Shire of Brookton</b>	President Cr Katrina Crute Deputy President Cr Neil Walker Mr Gary Sherry Chief Executive Officer, non-voting
<b>Shire of Corrigin</b>	President Cr Des Hickey (Deputy Chair) Deputy President Cr Scott Coppen Ms Natalie Manton Chief Executive Officer, non-voting Cr Sharon Jacobs (observer)
<b>Shire of Cuballing</b>	Apology
<b>Shire of Dumbleyung</b>	President Cr Julie Ramm Deputy President Cr Amy Knight Mr Gavin Treasure Chief Executive Officer, non-voting
<b>Shire of Kulin</b>	President Cr Grant Robins Deputy President Cr Brad Smoker Mr Alan Leeson A/Chief Executive Officer, non-voting
<b>Shire of Lake Grace</b>	President Cr Len Armstrong Deputy President Cr Ross Chappell Mr Chris Paget, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, non-voting
<b>Shire of Narrogin</b>	President Leigh Ballard (Chair) Cr Graham Broad Mr Dale Stewart Chief Executive Officer, non-voting
<b>Shire of Pingelly</b>	President Cr Bill Mulroney Deputy President Cr Jackie McBurney

	Mr Andrew Dover Chief Executive Officer, non-voting
<b>Shire of Quairading</b>	President Cr Peter Smith Cr Jonathan Hippisley Ms Nicole Gibbs Chief Executive Officer, non-voting
<b>Shire of Wagin</b>	President Cr Phillip Blight Deputy President Cr Gregory Ball Mr Bill Atkinson Chief Executive Officer, non-voting
<b>Shire of Wandering</b>	President Cr Ian Turton Deputy President Cr Paul Treasure Mr Alan Hart Chief Executive Officer, non-voting
<b>Shire of West Arthur</b>	President Cr Neil Morrell Cr Karen Harrington Mr Vin Fordham Lamont, Chief Executive Officer, non-voting
<b>Shire of Wickepin</b>	President Cr Julie Russell Deputy President Cr Wes Astbury Mr Nathan Cain, Chief Executive Officer, non-voting
<b>Shire of Williams</b>	President Cr Jarrad Logie Cr Moya Carne Mr Geoff McKeown Chief Executive Officer, non-voting
<b>Guests</b>	
Minister for Housing; Lands; Homelessness; Local Government	Hon John Carey MLA
Office of the Minister for Housing; Lands; Homelessness; Local Government	Matthew O’Keefe
Department of Mines, Industry Regulation & Safety	Mr Saj Abdoolakhan, Executive Director Building & Energy
Wheatbelt Development Commission	Renee Manning, Principal Regional Development Officer
Main Roads WA	Brad Pearce, Operations Manager Narrogin
Water Corporation	Michael Roberts, Regional Manager Goldfields & Agricultural Region
Department of Local Government, Sport, & Cultural Industries	Tom Fleming, Principal Policy Officer, Child Safeguarding Implementation Unit
National Emergency Management Agency	Jodie Pollard, Recovery Support Officer
<b>Members of Parliament</b>	Hon Mia Davies MLA, Member for Central Wheatbelt (Leader of the Opposition) Rick Wilson MP, Federal Member for O’Connor Hon Martin Aldridge MLC, Member for Agricultural Region Hon Shelley Payne MLC, Member for Agricultural Region Hon Darren West MLC, Member for Agricultural Region Hon Colin de Grussa MLC, Member for Agricultural Region

**WALGA**  
 Nick Sloan, Chief Executive Officer  
 Tony Brown, Executive Director Member Services  
 Kathy Robertson, Executive Officer Governance & Organisational Services  
 Tom Zaubmayr, Senior Media & Communications Advisor  
 Rodney Thornton, Regional Road Safety Advisor

### 3. Apologies

<b>Shire of Cuballing</b>	President, Cr Eliza Dowling Deputy President, Cr Rob Harris Mr Stan Scott, Chief Executive Officer
<b>Shire of Lake Grace</b>	Mr Alan George, Chief Executive Officer
<b>Members of Parliament</b>	Hon Mia Davies MLA, Member for Central Wheatbelt (Leader of the Opposition) Hon Peter Rundle MLA, Member for Roe Hon Shelley Payne MLC, Member for Agricultural Region Hon Sandra Carr MLC, Member for Agricultural Region Hon Steve Martin MLC, Member for Agricultural Region Susan Hall A/Chief Executive Officer
<b>Wheatbelt Development Commission</b>	
<b>Regional Development Australia WA</b>	Mandy Walker, Director Regional Development
<b>Department of Local Government, Sport, &amp; Cultural Industries</b>	Samantha Cornthwaite, Regional Manager Wheatbelt

### Attachments

The following are provided as attachments to the agenda:

1. Item No. 8.3 RDAW Zone Report – February 2023
2. Item No. 9.3 Minutes of Executive Committee meeting – 1 February 2023
3. Item No. 10.1 Memorandum of Understanding for Emergency Management
4. Item No. 12.5 WALGA President’s Report – February 2023

### 4. Declarations of Interest

WALGA representatives will declare an interest in Item 9.3.1.

### 5. Announcements

### 6. Guest Speakers / Deputations

**6.1 Hon. John Carey MLA, Minister for Housing; Lands; Homelessness; Local Government**

Hon. John Carey will present to the Zone on matters within his portfolio.



## **6.2 Saj Abdoolakhan, Executive Director Building & Energy, Department of Mines, Industry, Regulation & Safety (DMIRS)**

Saj Abdoolakhan Executive Director Building and Energy, DMIRS will present to the Zone on the matters of the network safety and pole top fires.

## **7. Members of Parliament**

*Members of Federal and State Government, representing the Zone Member Local Government Districts, are invited to provide a brief update on matters relevant to Zone Members.*

Federal Member:

- Rick Wilson MP, Federal Member for O'Connor

State Members:

- Hon Mia Davies MLA, Member for Central Wheatbelt (Leader of the Opposition)
- Hon Martin Aldridge MLC, Member for Agricultural Region
- Hon Darren West MLC, Member for Agricultural Region
- Hon Colin de Grussa MLC, Member for Agricultural Region

## **8. Agency Reports**

### **8.1 Department of Local Government, Sport, and Cultural Industries (DLGSC)**

Tom Fleming, Principal Policy Officer, Child Safeguarding Implementation Unit will present to the Zone on the current status of the Child Safe Awareness Policy template for local government.

The presentation will outline the Policy's position within the range of child safe reforms recommended by the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse that will impact local government, including the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations and the Reportable Conduct Scheme.

The presentation will also outline the Unit's role in supporting local government to implement the child safe reforms.

**For Noting**

### **8.2 Wheatbelt Development Commission (WDC)**

Renee Manning, Principal Regional Development Officer will provide an update to the Zone.

**For Noting**

### **8.3 Regional Development Australia Wheatbelt (RDAW)**

Mandy Walker, Director Regional Development, is an apology. The RDAW report for February 2023 is attached. **(Attachment 1)**

**For Noting**

### **8.4 Main Roads Western Australia**

Brad Pearce, Operations Manager Narrogin, will provide an update to the Zone.

**For Noting**

## 9. Minutes

### 9.1 Confirmation of Minutes from the Central Country Zone meeting held on Friday, 25 November 2022

The Minutes of the Central Country Zone meeting held on Friday, 25 November 2022 have previously been circulated to Member Councils.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Moved:

Seconded:

**That the minutes of the Central Country Zone meeting held on Friday, 25 November 2022 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.**

### 9.2 Business Arising from the Minutes from the Central Country Zone Meeting held on Friday, 25 November 2022

#### 9.2.1 Proposed Advocacy Position on Management of Bush Fire Brigades

At the September 2022 State Council meeting the following was the response to the Zone's positions;

#### CENTRAL COUNTRY ZONE

That the following Advocacy Position on Management of Bush Fire Brigades be endorsed.

##### *Management of Bush Fire Brigades*

1. The State Government to consider the most appropriate operational model for the management of Bush Fire Brigades, which may include the establishment of an independent Rural Fire Service, as recommended in the 2016 Ferguson Report.
2. *Bush Fire Brigade volunteers play a critical role in helping to protect their local communities. Local knowledge and skills are integral to bushfire management in Western Australia.*
3. *Future management and funding of volunteer Bush Fire Brigades must:*
  - a) *Recognise the changing risk environment, including work health and safety requirements, and the increasing intensity and frequency of bushfires;*
  - b) *Take account of the differing circumstances of Bush Fire Brigade units and regional variations in bush firefighting approaches; and*
  - c) Be adequately and equitably resourced through the Emergency Services Levy to ensure that Local Government has the same or similar capacity to manage and attend emergency bush fire events to DFES resourcing capability.
4. *The State Government, through the Consolidated Emergency Services Act and/or other mechanism's must:*
  - a) *establish a clear framework to enable transfer of Bush Fire Brigades to the State Government if a Local Government decides to do so in consultation with their local volunteer bush fire brigades;*
  - b) *Consult on the process, timeline, and implications for transfer of responsibility for Bush Fire Brigades in accordance with 3(a) through the establishment of a working group comprising representatives of Local Government, Bush Fire Brigades, the Department of Local Government, Sport, and Cultural Industries (DLGSC) and the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES);*
  - c) *Provide for mandatory and minimum training requirements and recognition of competency and prior learning for Bush Fire Brigade volunteers, supported by a fit-for-purpose and universally accessible training program, designed in consultation with Bush Fire Brigade representatives, Local Government and LGIS, and managed by DFES; and*

- d) *Develop a co-designed suite of relevant management guidelines and materials to assist in the management of Bush Fire Brigades.*

### **SECRETARIAT COMMENT**

The Zone has made comment about the need for the State Government to consider, as a matter of priority, the appropriate operational model for Government management of Bush Fire Brigades, which may include the establishment of an independent Rural Fire Service, as recommended in the 2016 Ferguson Report. WALGA Recommendation 4 has been amended to highlight this.

Addition at 3c not considered necessary as provided for with existing wording 'adequately and equitably'.

Addition at 4a not supported as removes the decision-making power from the Local Government. Additionally, the working group proposed at 4b includes representatives of VFBs.

### **For Noting.**

## **9.3 Minutes of the Central Country Executive Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 1 February 2023**

The recommendations from the Executive Committee Meeting that require Zone consideration have been extracted for the Zones consideration.

### **9.3.1 (Item 5.6.1) Executive Officer Service Review**

#### **Background**

A Special Meeting of the Central Country Zone was held on Friday 9 April 2021 to consider the recommendations of its Executive Committee with respect to the appointment of a new Executive Officer. The meeting resolved as shown below:

**RESOLUTION:** *Moved: President Ballard* *Seconded: Cr Hopper*

*That the:*

1. *Central Country Zone not proceed with interviews for either applicant due to the non-compliant nature of the applications and the failure to address key criteria.*
2. *Central Country Zone suspend the recruitment of an Independent Executive Officer and request the Western Australian Local Government Association provide the secretariat support to the Zone for a period of 12 months from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021 to the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022 to allow the executive to conduct a thorough review of what Zone members are looking for in the role of executive officer.*
3. *Central Country Zone acknowledges the contract with BHW Consulting expires on the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021 and thanks BHW Consulting for their service over the past 13 and a half years.*
4. *Central Country Zone Executive undertake a review over the coming 12 months and arrange for a formal report to be prepared for February 2022 CCZ Zone Meeting, to allow enough time for recruitment should the Zone wish to engage an independent Zone Executive Officer.*

**CARRIED**

*Executive Officer Comment:*

*The Executive Officer wrote to the WALGA CEO on Friday 9 April as per part 2 of the above resolution.*

*A response was provided to the Executive Officer on Thursday 15 April 2021.*

*Copies of the letter and proposal from the WALGA CEO form attachments to the meeting agenda. WALGA proposes to provide the Central Country Zone of WALGA with Executive*

*Support at no cost to the Zone or its members, including:*

- *A dedicated Zone Executive Officer as the principal point of contact for all Zone business;*
- *Liaison with the President and Executive Committee as required;*
  - *Preparation of agendas and minutes of all meetings;*
  - *Organisation of meeting logistics, in relation to meeting room bookings and set-up;*

- Preparation of correspondence and action items;
- Arrangement of guest speakers for Zone meetings; and,
- Organisation of any other meetings or deputations.

Should the Zone require work outside any of the services detailed above, WALGA will facilitate the appointment of consultants for specialist work as required. WALGA's Governance & Organisational Services Team will provide the service and one dedicated senior officer will be assigned to the Zone.

WALGA can undertake the services outlined above at no cost to the Zone, which aligns with WALGA's Corporate Strategy.

RESOLUTION:                      Moved: Cr Hopper                      Seconded: Cr Blight

That:

1. The Central Country Zone accept WALGA's proposal to provide it with Executive Support, for a period of 12 months from 1st July 2021 to the 30th June 2022, at no cost to the Zone or its members, acknowledging that the service will include:
  - A dedicated Zone Executive Officer as the principal point of contact for all Zone business;
  - Liaison with the President and Executive Committee as required;
  - Preparation of agendas and minutes of all meetings;
  - Organisation of meeting logistics, in relation to meeting room bookings and set-up;
  - Preparation of correspondence and action items;
  - Arrangement of guest speakers for Zone meetings; and,
  - Organisation of any other meetings or deputations.
2. Should the Central Country Zone require work outside any of the services provided by WALGA and detailed above, WALGA agrees it will facilitate the appointment of consultants for specialist work as required. The costs associated with this work would be borne by the Zone.
3. The Central Country Zone retain the existing financial management arrangements until the review on executive support services beyond the 2021/2022 financial year has been concluded.

CARRIED

At the November 2021 Central Country Zone meeting, the Executive Committee resolved to defer any review of the Executive Officer position for 12 months, to November 2022.

Zone Comment:

Feedback from the floor was the Zone have other more timely matters they want to progress and focus on. It was also mentioned that WALGA have only facilitated two meetings to date, and a review at this time may be too early.

RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Katrina Crute

Seconded: Cr Julie Russell

The Central Country Zone Executive Committee defer any review of the Executive Officer position for 12 months to November 2022.

Comment

Unfortunately, this item was overlooked for consideration at the November 2022 meeting and was presented to the Committee for consideration.

WALGA is prepared to continue the current arrangement at no cost to the Zone.

The Executive Officers left the meeting room at 8:25am for the Executive Committee to consider this matter and returned to the meeting room at 8:48am.

Executive Committee Resolved at their 1 February meeting:

That the Central Country Zone:

1. Continue with WALGA for executive services until February 2025. This will follow on from the WALGA Governance Review and implications.

2. A review to be carried out in February 2025 by the Executive Committee. A Zone agenda item to be tabled for the November 2024 meeting advising of the review to be considered at the February 2025 Zone meeting.

## **ZONE RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved:**

**Seconded:**

**That the Central Country Zone endorse the Executive Committee's resolution.**

1. Continue with WALGA for executive services until February 2025. This will follow on from the WALGA Governance Review and implications.
2. A review to be carried out in February 2025 by the Executive Committee. A Zone agenda item to be tabled for the November 2024 meeting advising of the review to be considered at the February 2025 Zone meeting.

### **9.3.2 (Item 6) State Council Agenda Items**

- 5.1 Voice to Parliament and Referendum on constitutional recognition for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders

#### Executive Committee Resolved

*That the Central Country Zone acknowledge that Local Governments should not be a part of a political process. The referendum is a Federal Government advocacy position.*

This item will be considered at Item 12.4.1.

- 5.3 Child Safeguarding Advocacy Position

#### Executive Committee Resolved

*That Local Governments should not be involved in the Child Safety reporting. Reporting should be done by the State Government Agency.*

This item will be considered at Item 12.4.1.

## **For Noting**

### **9.3.3 (Item 5.3) Zone Strategic Priorities**

The Zone endorsed the following items at the April 2022 Zone meeting:

1. Local Government Act — Amendments
2. Red Tape Reduction
3. Regional Collaboration and resource sharing
4. Local Government staff shortages
5. Housing
6. Work Health & Safety
7. Telecommunications
8. Disaster Preparedness

#### **5.3.1 Local Government Act — Amendments**

The committee discussed the proposed Local Government Act amendments relating to electoral reform. In particular the Ministers request for Local Governments to consider reducing Elected Members as per the reform proposals as per below:

- Reduce numbers to the following;
  - up to 5,000 – five to 7 councillors (including the President)



- *between 5,000 and 75,000 – five to nine councillors (including the Mayor/President)*
- *above 75,000 – nine to fifteen councillors (including Mayor).*
- *Directly elect a Mayor/President for Band 1 & 2 Local Governments (21 LGs effected)*
- *Abolish Wards for Band 3 and 4 Local Government (6 LGs effected)*

Local Governments have until 14 February 2023.

71 Local Governments are not affected; however, all other Local Governments have been asked to consider putting forward a proposal to the Local Government Advisory Board.

The Shire of Narrogin are affected as they have a population above 5,000 people, so are entitled to have up to nine elected Members (including the President), however the most recent census had incorrect information that recorded the population as under 5,000.

Executive Committee Resolved

*That the Central Country Zone support the Shire of Narrogin for Census data reforms, to obtain the correct population data.*

**ZONE RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved:**

**Seconded:**

**That the Central Country Zone support the Shire of Narrogin for Census data reforms, to obtain the correct population data.**

**9.4 Minutes of the Central Country Executive Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 1 February 2023**

The Minutes of the Central Country Zone Executive Committee meeting held on Wednesday, 1 February 2023 are attached. **(Attachment 2)**

The remainder of the items are for the Zones consideration.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved:**

**Seconded:**

**That the Minutes of the Central Country Zone Executive Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 1 February 2023 be noted, and the items not considered above be endorsed.**

**10. Zone Business**

**10.1 Central Country Zone Emergency Management MOU**

At the November 2022 Zone meeting it was resolved that the Zone Executive Officer circulate a new draft MoU and request Local Governments to extend the MoU review date to 5 years.

The MoU has been updated (as attached) and circulated to all Local Governments. **(Attachment 3)**. An item will be prepared for the April meeting advising on the Zone and Local Government response.

**For Noting**

## **11. Zone Reports**

### **11.1 Zone President Report**

Zone President Leigh Ballard will provide a report to the Zone.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved:**

**Seconded:**

**That the Zone President's Report be received.**

### **11.2 Local Government Agricultural Freight Group (LGAFG)**

Cr Katrina Crute will provide a report to the Zone on the Local Government Agricultural Freight Groups activities.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved:**

**Seconded:**

**That the Local Government Agricultural Freight Groups Report be received.**

### **11.3 Great Southern District Emergency Management Committee (DEMC)**

President Leigh Ballard will provide a report to the Zone.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved:**

**Seconded:**

**That the Great Southern District Emergency Management Committee Report be received.**

### **11.4 Regional Health Advocacy Group**

Ms. Natalie Manton will provide an update to the Zone.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved:**

**Seconded:**

**That the Regional Health Advocacy Report be received.**

### **11.5 WALGA RoadWise**

Rodney Thornton, Regional Road Safety Advisor will provide a report to the Zone.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved:**

**Seconded:**

**That the WALGA RoadWise Report be received.**

## **12. Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) Business**

### **12.1 2023 Local Government Honours Program**

The annual Local Government Honours Program affords significant public recognition and celebration of the outstanding achievements and lasting contributions made by Elected Members and Local Government officers to their respective Councils, the WA Local Government sector, and the wider community.

Nominations for the 2023 Honours Program are open now.

There are six awards in the 2023 Program:

1. Local Government Medal
2. Life Membership
3. Eminent Service Award
4. Merit Award
5. Local Government Distinguished Officer Award
6. Young Achievers Award

Nominations will close at **5:00pm on Friday, 9 June** and the awards will be presented as part of the WALGA Annual General Meeting held on Monday, 18 September.

For more information or to submit a nomination, visit the WALGA website or contact Kathy Robertson, Executive Officer Governance, on 9213 2036 or via email at [honours@walga.asn.au](mailto:honours@walga.asn.au).

#### **For Noting**

### **12.2 State Councillor Report**

Cr Phillip Blight

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved:**

**Seconded:**

**That the State Councillor Report be received.**





**12.3 WALGA Status Report**

By Tony Brown, Executive Officer

**BACKGROUND**

Presenting the Status Report for February 2023 which contains WALGA’s responses to the resolutions of previous Zone Meetings.

## CENTRAL COUNTRY ZONE STATUS REPORT February 2023

Zone	Agenda Item	Zone Resolution	WALGA Response	Update	WALGA Contact
Central C	2022, 18 February Zone Agenda Item 11.1	That the Central Country Zone recommend that the Local Government Agricultural Freight Group be disbanded and request WALGA to consider establishing a policy forum to encompass all Freight issues.	<p>The Infrastructure Policy Team noted that a decision to disband the Agricultural Freight Group is a matter for the participating Zones.</p> <p>The Infrastructure Policy Team considered potential terms of reference for an Agricultural Freight Policy Forum at their December meeting and ultimately determined to ask WALGA staff to identify deficiencies in the current State Government freight strategy in the Agricultural region to inform their consideration. The strategy is covered in five documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revitalising Agricultural Region Freight Strategy (2018)</li> <li>• Draft South West Supply Chain Strategy (2020)</li> <li>• Regional Freight Plan (2013)</li> <li>• Agricultural Supply Chain Improvement Program (ASCI) – Phase 1 (2021)</li> <li>• Infrastructure Australia – Western Australia Agricultural Supply Chain Improvements Proposal</li> </ul> <p>The December Policy Team meeting did not have time to further discuss deficiencies in the strategy that may support the case for a Policy Forum.</p>	Ongoing	<p>Ian Duncan Executive Manager Infrastructure <a href="mailto:iduncan@walga.asn.au">iduncan@walga.asn.au</a> 9213 2031</p>

			<p>In the immediate term, funding that has been provided by the Federal Government, specifically in the Secondary Freight network programs (Wheatbelt, Mid West and Great Southern) and rail siding investments exceed the capacity of the construction industry to deliver.</p> <p>However, there is likely to be the need for strategic planning for medium term investments.</p>		
<b>Central C</b>	<p>2019 Nov 29 Zone Agenda Item <b>10.8 Western Australia's Share of Fuel Excise</b></p>	<p>That WALGA prepares and endorses a strategy to obtain transparency of the distribution of the fuel excise with the intent to maximise the return to Western Australia for road maintenance.</p>	<p>The resolution has been referred to the Infrastructure Policy Team and based on direction provided further research to support an advocacy position is being carried out.</p> <p>The Association met with the RAC and received access to a 2020 revision of a report commissioned by the RAC quantifying motorist taxation and Federal Government investment in WA transport infrastructure.</p>	<b>Ongoing</b>	<p><b>Ian Duncan</b> Executive Manager Infrastructure <a href="mailto:iduncan@walga.asn.au">iduncan@walga.asn.au</a> 9213 2031</p>
<b>Central C</b>	<p>25 November 2022 Zone Agenda Item <b>10.1 Aged Care Services</b></p>	<p>That the Zone request WALGA to research the impact of this issue on local communities in WA and look to engage the Commonwealth and State Minister of Health and Health Departments to consider solutions.</p>	<p>WALGA has followed up with ALGA to determine if there is a state-wide Local Government response to the 24/7 initiative in the regions. LGNSW have undertaken advocacy in the space around workforce issues and funding for Council run aged care services in regional areas. WALGA will follow up with LGNSW and other key stakeholders including Western Australia Primary Health Alliance (WAPHA), WA Country Health Services (WHACS) and Rural Health West to further examine the current situation and identify opportunities for advocacy.</p>	<b>February 2023</b>	<p><b>Nicole Matthews</b> Executive Manager Policy <a href="mailto:nmatthews@walga.asn.au">nmatthews@walga.asn.au</a> 9213 2039</p>
<b>Central C</b>	<p>2020 February 21 Zone Agenda Item <b>12.1 General Practitioner Services in Rural Areas - Shire of Corrigin</b></p>	<p>That WALGA be requested to investigate tendering issues around General Practitioner Services in Rural Areas with consideration given to including an exemption from tendering for such services under the Local Government (Functions and General) Regulations 1996.</p>	<p>The Minister for Local Government has held 2 roundtable meetings with some of the effected Local Governments and has listened to the argument. The Minister has advised of the following position he will look to implement.</p> <p><i>"Recognising the importance of obtaining value for money in a competitive way in the initial procurement of medical services, an exemption is proposed from the requirement to seek public tenders where a local government is extending, varying, or renewing a contract. This will make it easier for local governments to vary and extend contracts relating to the provision of medical services; however, they will still need to go through a public tender process when first engaging a</i></p>	<b>February 2023</b>	<p><b>Tony Brown</b> Executive Director, Member Services <a href="mailto:tbrown@walga.asn.au">tbrown@walga.asn.au</a> 9213 2051</p>



			<p><i>GP. To ensure the transparency of the decision to extend a medical services contract, it is proposed that an absolute majority of council as currently defined in the Local Government Act 1995 is required. This will require a council report to be prepared and presented, setting out the basis for making the decision. This is consistent with other decision-making and reporting processes currently undertaken by local governments."</i></p> <p>Between 35 and 40 Local Governments in regional Western Australia currently subsidise a local GP service in their community. This is an advocacy success for the Local Government sector.</p> <p>We have been advised that the regulations are expected to be amended shortly.</p>		
<b>Central C</b>	2021 19 November Zone Agenda Item <b>12.1 Sector ICT Solution</b>	That the Zone request WALGA to research providers and the viability of an in-house IT system.	<p>The idea of an all-of-sector model ICT solution is not viable for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Different size Local Governments – no one size fits all.</li> <li>• Local Government's being at different levels of need and maturity in the ICT requirements.</li> <li>• We are unlikely to get the requisite LG buy-in to warrant the investment; and</li> <li>• The inherent complexity of a custom-built system is time and cost prohibitive.</li> </ul> <p>A more workable suggestion is for a group of similar size/maturity level Local Governments to engage a consultant to define a model set that meets their needs. Any recommendations could be reviewed by a representative of the LG ICT Managers Network to ensure it is appropriate.</p> <p>It would be expected that the following range of recommendations are achievable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suitable hardware requirements (including remote options where appropriate)</li> <li>• Suggested lightweight accounting software</li> <li>• Baseline model directory structure</li> <li>• Security options</li> <li>• Backup software and procedures</li> <li>• Suitable internet options</li> </ul>	<b>February 2023</b>	<p><b>Tony Brown</b> Executive Director, Member Services <a href="mailto:tbrown@walga.asn.au">tbrown@walga.asn.au</a> 9213 2051</p>



## Zone Comment

This is an opportunity for Member Councils to consider the response from WALGA in respect to the matters that were submitted at the previous Zone Meeting.

## RECOMMENDATION

Moved:

Seconded:

**That the Central Country Zone, WALGA Status Report for February 2023 be noted.**

### 12.4 Review of WALGA State Council Agenda's – Matters for Decision

#### 12.4.1 State Council Agenda Items – (1 March 2023)

##### Background

WALGA State Council meets five times each year and as part of the consultation process with Member Councils circulates the State Council Agenda for input through the Zone structure.

The full State Council Agenda can be found via this link: [State Council Agenda 1 March 2023](#)

The Zone is able to provide comment or submit an alternative recommendation that is then presented to the State Council for consideration.

##### Matters for Decision

#### 7.1 Proposed Advocacy Position on Constitutional Recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders

##### Executive Summary

- The Australian Government will hold a referendum in the second half of 2023 on amending the Constitution to enshrine an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice to Parliament (the Voice) as part of its commitment to implement the Uluru Statement from the Heart.
- At its December 2022 meeting State Council resolved that WALGA prepare an advocacy position in support of constitutional recognition to be circulated to WALGA Zones for their next meeting for consideration and feedback.
- WALGA has prepared the attached Information Paper for WALGA Zones and State Council to facilitate discussion on the proposed WALGA Advocacy Position.

##### WALGA Recommendation

That the following Advocacy Position be endorsed: WALGA supports constitutional recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People through the enshrining of a Voice to Parliament.

##### Central Country Zone Recommendation

The Central Country Zone Executive Committee has recommended as follows on this item:

**That the Central Country Zone acknowledge that Local Governments should not be a part of a political process. The referendum is a Federal Government advocacy position.**

#### 7.2 Community Disaster Resilience Strategy Submission

##### Executive Summary

- The State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) has released the draft Western Australian Community Disaster Resilience Strategy (CDRS) for public consultation, until
- 3 March 2023.

- The Strategy intends to provide the guidance to support all Western Australians to increase their disaster resilience.
- The Strategy builds on a CDRS Discussion Paper. WALGA previously provided input on the discussion paper, and Local Government Consultation was also undertaken by SEMC
- WALGA has prepared a draft Submission that is supportive of the CDRS

### **WALGA Recommendation**

That the submission on the draft Western Australian Community Disaster Resilience Strategy be endorsed.

## **7.3 Child Safeguarding Advocacy Position**

### **Executive Summary**

- Since 2018 WALGA has consulted extensively with Local Government in relation to the response to the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse (the Royal Commission) including the National Redress Scheme, Reportable Conduct and Child Safety Officers.
- WALGA has developed a Child Safeguarding Advocacy Position which will be used to guide policy development, advocacy, and capacity building activities for Local Government within the State framework.
- The new Advocacy Position has been developed based on submissions previously endorsed by State Council and extensive consultation with Local Government and is supported by the Local Government Child Safety Communities of Practice network and the Community Industry Reference Group (CIRG).

### **WALGA Recommendation**

That the Child Safeguarding Advocacy Position as follows be endorsed:

#### Child Safeguarding

1. *Local Government supports:*
  - a. *the recommendations from the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse 2017, in particular Recommendation 6.12 which can be achieved by Local Government implementing and embedding child safeguarding across its functions with support from Governments at the national, state and territory levels; and*
  - b. *the ten National Principles for Child Safe Organisations (Australian Human Rights Commission).*
2. *The State Government through an Independent Oversight Body should provide financial, resourcing and capacity building support to Local Governments to implement and embed child safeguarding across its functions, through the provision of:*
  - a. *supporting materials such as template policies, procedures, and guidelines;*
  - b. *consistent key messaging and resources to promote and share in venues and facilities and online;*
  - c. *examples of best practice, including case studies;*
  - d. *self-assessment tools to assist Local Government;*
  - e. *ongoing training and skills development for Local Government staff, including online training options;*
  - f. *funding for the delivery of the child safeguarding function within smaller, less well resourced (Band 3 and Band 4) Local Governments; and*
  - g. *expert officers within each region to provide support and guidance to Local Government on child safeguarding.*
3. *The Local Government sector supports Local Government participation in the State's National Redress Scheme, with full financial coverage by the State.*

## **Central Country Zone Recommendation**

The Central Country Zone Executive Committee has recommended as follows on this item:

**That Local Governments should not be involved in the Child Safety reporting. Reporting should be done by the State Government Agency.**

### **7.4 Submission on Draft Guideline Minimising Noise Impact from Outdoor Community Basketball Facilities**

#### **Executive Summary**

- The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation released the *Draft Guideline: Minimising noise impact from outdoor community basketball facilities* on 23 December 2022 for a 10 week consultation period.
- The Draft Guideline includes options for how noise, from new community basketball facilities can be mitigated. This includes separation distances between the facility and residents in different circumstances, engineering, and facility management controls.
- A draft Submission was circulated to Local Government for feedback and the final Submission has been updated based on the information provided.
- The WALGA Submission provides feedback on the costs and practicality of the various interventions suggested.

#### **WALGA Recommendation**

That the submission on the Draft Guideline: Minimising noise impact from outdoor community basketball facilities be endorsed.

### **7.5 Main Roads Draft Roadside Advertising Policy and Application Guidelines**

#### **Executive Summary**

- Main Roads is seeking feedback on their Draft Roadside Advertising Policy and Application Guidelines.
- This policy could be used to significantly curtail the deployment of roadside advertising devices, which are currently used by Local Governments as a source of public realm amenity, support funding bus shelter improvements and are a source of revenue for Local Government in some cases.
- As drafted, these guidelines would apply to most of the public road network, including Local Government roads, and signs on private property that are visible from the road. The draft guidelines would cover advertiser-funded bus shelters and information or decorative banners.
- There is no demonstrated road safety problem resulting from roadside advertising devices, as currently deployed in Western Australia. Road safety is the stated rationale for developing this policy.
- WALGA has prepared a submission to Main Roads on the guidelines, requesting:
  - Greater delegation of authority in assessing small format static signs and small format digital signs.
  - Guaranteed processing times for classes of signs for which Main Roads retains the assessment function. This includes requesting a schedule of approval time frames, and a “deemed approved” clause in the event of these timeframes not being met.

#### **WALGA Recommendation**

That the submission to Main Roads on its Draft Roadside Advertising Policy and Application Guidelines be endorsed.

## **Policy Team Reports**

### **8.1 Environment and Waste Policy Team Report**

1. Matters for State Council Decision



The Submission on the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation draft Guideline *Minimising noise impact from outdoor community basketball facilities* was considered and endorsed for State Council decision at the March 2023 meeting (see [Agenda item 7.4](#)).

## 2. Matters for State Council Noting

The following updates were noted by the Policy Team:

New Urban Forest promotional videos – available on the WALGA website [here](#).

Varroa mite and backyard beekeepers – WALGA continues to engage with DPIRD on this issue.

In relation to Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) and Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD):

- Release of a [National LSD Action Plan](#);
- A Northern Australian Coordination Network has been [established](#) and funded to assist in managing the threat of LSD and FMD;
- The Western Australian taskforce continues to meet, this group includes DPIRD, industry groups, livestock agents and processors; and
- The National FMD Biosecurity Response Zone extended to 30 June 2023 to ensure Australia's strong protections against FMD remain in place.

### **WALGA Recommendation**

**That the matters considered by the Environment and Waste Policy Team be noted.**

## **8.2 Governance and Organisational Services Policy Team Report**

*The Governance and Organisational Services Policy Team includes the following subject areas:*

- *Employee Relations*
- *Governance*
- *Strategy and Association Governance*
- *Training*
- *Regional Capacity Building / Local Government Reform*

The Governance and Organisational Services (GOS) Policy Team have not had a meeting since the last State Council meeting in December 2022.

A meeting of the GOS Policy Team is scheduled for Friday, 3 February.

A Report providing an update on matters considered at that meeting will be included in the next State Council Agenda.

### **WALGA Recommendation**

**That the Governance and Organisational Services Policy Team Report be noted.**

## **8.3 Infrastructure Policy Team Report**

*The Infrastructure Policy Team includes the following subject areas:*

- *Roads and paths*
- *Road safety*
- *Transport*
- *Freight*
- *Utilities (including telecommunications and underground power)*

This Report provides an update on matters considered, since the last State Council meeting, by the Infrastructure Policy Team at its meetings held on 7 December 2022 and 11 January 2023.

## 1. Matters for State Council Decision

Nil.



## 2. Matters for State Council Noting

### 2.1 Policy Team meeting on 7 December 2022

At the meeting on 7 December, the Infrastructure Policy Team considered matters related to:

#### Road Traffic Issues

This matter was deferred for consideration after the development and endorsement of a clear Local Government advocacy position on speed management.

#### Car Parking and Traffic Congestion Around Schools

The Policy Team requested WALGA use its role at the Safe Active Travel to School Working Group to advocate for desired outcomes and to provide advice back to the Local Government sector.

#### Proposal for Regional Road Maintenance Contracts with Main Roads

The Policy Team requested WALGA explore, in discussion with Main Roads WA, opportunities and interest in contracting Local Governments to undertake maintenance and minor works on the State road network.

#### Northern Australian Beef Roads Program

The Policy Team requested that WALGA engage with the Goldfields-Esperance Regional Road Group regarding the matter of Northern Australian Beef Roads Program.

### 2.2 Policy Team meeting on 11 January 2023

#### Western Power Access Arrangement 5

At the meeting on 11 January, the Infrastructure Policy Team endorsed the draft submission, consistent with the policy positions endorsed by State Council in April 2022, concerning Western Power Access Arrangement 5 (2022 – 2027) for lodgement with the Economic Regulation Authority.

#### **WALGA Recommendation**

**That the matters considered by the Infrastructure Policy Team be noted.**

## 8.4 People and Place Policy Team Report

### 1. Matters for State Council Decision

The Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act Stage 3 Co-Design Submission was considered and endorsed for State Council decision by Flying Minute (see [Agenda item 9.5](#)).

The following items were considered and endorsed for State Council decision at the March 2023 meeting:

A submission on the draft Western Australian Disaster Resilience Strategy (see [Agenda item 7.2](#)); and

An updated Child Safeguarding Advocacy Position (see [Agenda item 7.3](#)).

### 2. Matters for State Council Noting

The following noting items were considered:

The consultation response to the Draft Position Statement: Child Care Premises prior to submission to the DPLH (see [Agenda item 9.6](#)); and

The Local Development Plan Background Paper (see [Agenda item 9.3](#)).

#### **WALGA Recommendation**

**That the matters considered by the People and Place Policy Team be noted.**



## **Matters for Noting/Information**

- 9.1 Animal welfare in Emergencies Grant Program Overview
- 9.2 Emergency Management Update
- 9.3 Local Development Plan Background Paper
- 9.4 2023-24 WALGA Federal Budget Submission
- 9.5 WALGA Submission on Phase Three of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021 Co-Design Process
- 9.6 Child Care Premises Position Statement: Consultation Response
- 9.7 Report Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC)

## **RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved:**

**Seconded:**

**That the Central Country Zone**

1. **Supports Matters for Decision, items 7.2, 7.4, 7.5, 8.1 to 8.4 as listed above in the March 2023 State Council Agenda.**
2. **Does not support items 7.1 and 7.3.**
3. **Notes all Matters for Noting and Organisational Reports as listed in the March 2023 State Council Agenda.**

## **12.5 WALGA President's Report**

The WALGA President's Report is attached to the Agenda. **(Attachment 4)**

## **RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved:**

**Seconded:**

**That the Central Country Zone notes the WALGA President's Report.**

## **13. Emerging Issues**

## **14. Date, Time, and Place of Next Meetings**

The next Central Country Zone meeting will be held on Friday, 14 April 2023 commencing at 9.30am. This meeting will be hosted by the Shire of Cuballing.

## **15. Closure**

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at \_\_\_\_.



## RDA Wheatbelt Update – Local Government Zone Meetings

Mandy Walker, Director Regional Development  
[mandy.walker@rdawheatbelt.com.au](mailto:mandy.walker@rdawheatbelt.com.au) ph. 0428 372 179  
February 2023

### **LUMEN WHEATBELT REGIONAL UNIVERSITY CENTRE (LWRUC)**

#### **Staff**

We have a service agreement in place with the York CRC for provision of Student Support Services. Rebecca Atkinson is the lead there supported by Robyn Garratt. The Shire of Wongan Ballidu has completed advertising for the Student Support Officer role and interviews will be held early February. The successful candidate will be employed by the Shire of Wongan Ballidu and Lumen WRUC will enter into a service agreement for support services. RDAW will directly employ Student Support Officers in Merredin and Narrogin. The Narrogin position has been advertised and the Merredin position will be advertised shortly.

#### **Sites**

York is active and open to students, we have 5 registered there so far. Wongan CRC is not far off from being ready to accept students. Our Narrogin site is being supported by the Shire of Narrogin and will be located in a vacant retail shop on Federal Street, a few doors down from the Town Hall and there are 4 students registered there. We are currently finalising a building use agreement with the Shire of Merredin for Room 9 at the old North Merredin Primary School.

#### **Operations**

Elise is busy finalising sites, recruitment of staff, developing marketing and communication strategies and tools, building relationships with universities to connect us to students and internal procedures.

Elise's contact details are telephone 0488 025 446 email [director@lumenwruc.edu.au](mailto:director@lumenwruc.edu.au) and the website is now live and ready for registrations [www.lumenwruc.edu.au](http://www.lumenwruc.edu.au) .

### **RDAW and ODIS DEFENCE INDUSTRIES ROUNDTABLE**

RDAW is working with the Office of Defence Industry Support (ODIS) to facilitate a defence industries supply chain roundtable on the 23rd March in Dalwallinu. The purpose of the roundtable is to introduce defence industry stakeholders to Wheatbelt manufacturers, discuss supply options and opportunities potentially available in the WA Defence establishment and ship sustainment areas.

Since the first road trip in October ODIS has a better understanding of the types of capabilities available within the Wheatbelt SME community, their potential relevance to Defence and the latent capacity to supply into the Defence sector if relevant. They have been working with the businesses since our visit and one has signed up to the Federal Entrepreneurs Program for ongoing support in design and manufacturing. A similar road trip will be conducted either side of the roundtable event in March. All Wheatbelt manufacturers are invited to the roundtable, with northern and western based businesses being targeted for onsite visits.

Local Governments are asked to forward to RDAW the contact details of businesses within their shires who may be interested in meeting with ODIS.

RDAW sits on a regional defence industry working group to promote our SMEs and are currently working on an engagement plan to collaborate with industry associations and Government Departments to boost the number of Wheatbelt businesses in the Defence supply chain.

### **RDAW WORKPLAN 2023**

In 2022 our focus was to secure funds and establish Lumen Wheatbelt Regional University Centre (LWRUC). Now we move our focus for 2023 is to undertake activities which feed into the aviation, aerospace, defence industries and manufacturing sectors in the Wheatbelt region. These four sectors all demonstrate potential to have a greater contribution to the region's economy and to be supported by Lumen WRUC activities. We will also continue to advocate for improvements to the care workforce, telecommunications, transport, Federal Government investment and building productive relationships with Local Government.

### **GRANTS**

Grant Guru is an aggregation of all online grant portals, it is essentially a one stop shop for funding pathways. Remember to register for free email alerts for when grants open or if they change according to your preferences and profile. Register here <https://rdawa.grantguru.com.au/register/>.

The free community portal can be embedded on your shire websites to boost support of businesses and community groups access to grant information. We will be approaching all Wheatbelt Local Governments in March with an offer to join the subscription package to the exclusive Local Government grant portal which collates grant information only available to Local Governments.

### **NATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION FUND**

The Commonwealth Department of Industry is establishing the [National Reconstruction Fund \(NRF\)](#). Here is an extract from the website describing the fund.

This \$15 billion fund will diversify and transform Australia's industry to secure future prosperity and drive sustainable economic growth. The NRF will invest in projects across 7 industry priority areas that will help rebuild Australia's industrial capability and in the process promote well paid, sustainable jobs of the future.

The NRF will provide finance for projects that diversify and transform Australia's industry and economy. By establishing the NRF the government is helping to secure Australia's future prosperity and driving sustainable economic growth. A strong and diverse economy underpins the government's commitment to creating more sustainable, high-value jobs for all Australians. The NRF will provide finance to projects in priority areas to leverage Australia's natural and competitive strengths.

The NRF will provide a range of finance options including:

- loans
- equity investment
- guarantees.

This will ultimately help Australian industry move up the value chain to:

- become more productive
- take advantage of opportunities in a net zero economy
- address supply chain vulnerabilities.

### **Priority funding areas**

The NRF will diversify and transform Australia's industry and economy through targeted investments in the following priority areas:

1. renewables and low emissions technologies
2. medical science
3. transport
4. value-add in the agriculture, forestry and fisheries sectors
5. value-add in resources
6. defence capability
7. enabling capabilities.

### **How the NRF will operate**

The NRF will be an independent financier that operates commercially to deliver a positive rate of return. It will be governed by a board who will make independent investment decisions guided by an investment mandate. The NRF will finance projects that align with the 7 priority areas to leverage Australia's natural and competitive strengths.

The government has identified \$8 billion of the NRF's \$15 billion for the following areas:

- up to \$3 billion for renewables and low emissions technologies
- \$1.5 billion for medical manufacturing
- \$1 billion for value-adding in resources
- \$1 billion for critical technologies
- \$1 billion for advanced manufacturing
- \$500 million for value-adding in:
  - agriculture
  - forestry
  - fisheries
  - food
  - fibre.

### **Co-investment plans**

The government will work with industry to develop co-investment plans that identify high-level investment opportunities and broader reforms to support growth across priority areas.

### **Consultation and engagement**

Consultation on the NRF's key design elements and implementation approach will be happening soon.

The government is keen to hear from:

- industry
- unions
- communities
- state and territory governments.

### **NRF timeline**

The government is working to establish the NRF as quickly as possible.

Here's a copy of the [presentation](#) to RDAs on 12 December 2022 .

**Read more:** [National Reconstruction Fund](#) or [Webinars | Regional Development Australia \(rda.gov.au\)](#)

**Help:** [Nationalreconstructionfund@industry.gov.au](mailto:Nationalreconstructionfund@industry.gov.au)

Attachment 2

# **Central Country Zone Executive Committee Minutes**

**Wednesday, 1 February 2023**

**via MS Teams**

# Minutes

## Central Country Zone of WALGA Executive Committee

Wednesday, 1 February 2023  
Meeting commenced at 8:02am

### 1. OPENING AND WELCOME

The Chair declared the meeting open at 8:02am.

### 2. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

#### Attendance

President Leigh Ballard (Zone President)	President, Shire of Narrogin
Cr Phillip Blight	President, Shire of Wagin
Cr Des Hickey (Zone Deputy President)	President, Shire of Corrigin
Cr Julie Russell	President, Shire of Wickiepin
Cr Katrina Crute	President, Shire of Brookton

#### Zone Executive Officer

Tony Brown, Executive Director, Member Services  
Janine Neugebauer, Governance and Organisational Services Officer

#### Apologies

Cr Len Armstrong	President, Shire of Lake Grace
Tina Moss crop	WALGA, Accounting Manager

### 3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

WALGA staff Tony Brown and Janine Neugebauer declared an interest in Item 5.6.1.

### 4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES



#### 4.1 Confirmation of Executive Committee Minutes – Wednesday, 16 November 2022

The Minutes of the Central Country Zone Executive Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 16 November 2022 had been previously circulated and were attached to the agenda.

#### RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Katrina Crute

Seconded: Cr Des Hickey

That the Minutes of the Central Country Zone Executive Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 16 November 2022 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceeding.

CARRIED

#### 4.2 Business Arising Executive Committee Minutes – Wednesday, 16 November 2022

### 5. BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

#### 5.1 Financial Statement for the period ending 31 December 2022

##### Background

Presented the unaudited financial statement of income and expenditure for the period to 31 December 2022.

#### Central Country Zone WALGA

ABN 12 975 113 390

#### Statement of Income and Expenditure as at 31 December 2022

	Annual Budget	Actual Year To Date
<b>Income</b>		
General Subscriptions	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
Interest Earned	\$ 30.00	\$ 101.50
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 30,030.00</b>	<b>\$ 30,101.50</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Zone Expenses - Audit Costs	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 975.00
Zone Expenses - In-Person Meetings	\$ 8,800.00	\$ -
Zone Expenses - Agricultural Freight Group	\$ 800.00	\$ -
Zone Expenses - Financial Management	\$ 2,700.00	\$ 936.74
Zone Expenses - Other	\$ 500.00	\$ -
Zone Representative - Honoraria	\$ 2,600.00	\$ -
Zone Representative - Meeting Fees	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
Zone Representative - Travel Costs	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>\$ 21,600.00</b>	<b>\$ 3,411.74</b>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>\$ 8,430.00</b>	<b>\$ 26,689.76</b>

**Comment**

<b>ComAccount</b>	<b>Account Description</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
501	General Subscriptions	Annual subscriptions for -2022-23 invoiced and paid.
575	Interest Earned	Budget achieved.
1535	Audit Fees	Audit fee for 21/22.
1546	In-person meetings	Timing.
1555	Agricultural Freight Group	Local Government Agriculture Grain Freight Coup share of costs.
1558	Financial Management	Cost of managing the finances including the cost of Xero accounting.
1572	Zone Expenses - Other	Not required yet.
1580	Zone Representative - Honoraria	Timing - end of year.
1605	Zone Representative - Meeting Fees	Catering expense for meeting held on the 25 November 2022.
1610	Zone Representative - Travel Costs	Timing - end of year.

**RESOLVED**

**Moved: Cr Des Hickey**

**Seconded: Cr Phil Blight**

**That the Statement of Income and Expenditure for the period ending 31 December 2022 be received.**

**CARRIED**

**5.2 List of Accounts Paid**

**Executive Officer Comment**

Accounts paid for the period 1 October to 31 December 2022.

<b>Payment Method</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Payee Details</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount (Incl. GST)</b>
EFT	10/10/2022	UpToDate	Bookkeeping invoice 7748	\$ 39.60
EFT	10/10/2022	UpToDate	Bookkeeping invoice 7747	\$ 316.80
Direct Debit	27/10/2022	Xero	Monthly charge accounting software	\$ 59.00
EFT	22/11/2022	UpToDate	Bookkeeping invoice 7797	\$ 330.00
Direct Debit	28/11/2022	Xero	Monthly charge accounting software	\$ 59.00
Direct Debit	28/12/2022	Xero	Monthly charge accounting software	\$ 59.00

**RESOLVED**

**Moved: Cr Julie Russell**

**Seconded: Cr Des Hickey**

**That the Accounts Paid for the period 1 October to 31 December 2022 totalling \$863.40 be endorsed.**

**CARRIED**

### 5.3 Zone Strategic Priorities

The Zone endorsed the following items at the April 2022 Zone meeting:

1. Local Government Act — New Act or Amendments
2. Red Tape Reduction
3. Regional Collaboration and resource sharing
4. Local Government staff shortages
5. Housing
6. Work Health & Safety
7. Telecommunications
8. Disaster Preparedness

Speakers will be invited to address the priority issues at Zone meetings over the course of the year.

#### NOTED

#### 5.3.1 Local Government Act — Amendments

The committee discussed the proposed Local Government Act amendments relating to electoral reform. In particular the Ministers request for Local Governments to consider reducing Elected Members as per the reform proposals as per below:

- *Reduce numbers to the following;*
  - *up to 5,000 – five to 7 councillors (including the President)*
  - *between 5,000 and 75,000 – five to nine councillors (including the Mayor/President)*
  - *above 75,000 – nine to fifteen councillors (including Mayor).*
- *Directly elect a Mayor/President for Band 1 & 2 Local Governments (21 LGs effected)*
- *Abolish Wards for Band 3 and 4 Local Government (6 LGs effected)*

71 Local Governments are not affected; however, all other Local Governments have been asked to consider putting forward a proposal to the Local Government Advisory Board.

Local Governments have until 14 February 2023 to provide a submission.

The Shire of Narrogin is affected as they have a population above 5,000 people, so are entitled to have up to nine elected Members (including the President), however the most recent census had incorrect information that recorded the population as under 5,000.

#### RECOMMENDATION

**Moved:** Cr Katrina Crute

**Seconded:** Cr Julie Russell

**That the Central Country Zone support the Shire of Narrogin for Census data reforms, to obtain the correct population data.**

**CARRIED**

### 5.4 Speakers for the February Zone Meeting

- 5.4.1 Saj Abdoolakhan, Executive Director Building and Energy, DMIRS will be presenting at the February Zone meeting on matters of network safety and pole top fires.



Support at no cost to the Zone or its members, including:

- A dedicated Zone Executive Officer as the principal point of contact for all Zone business;
- Liaison with the President and Executive Committee as required;
- Preparation of agendas and minutes of all meetings;
- Organisation of meeting logistics, in relation to meeting room bookings and set-up;
- Preparation of correspondence and action items;
- Arrangement of guest speakers for Zone meetings; and,
- Organisation of any other meetings or deputations.

Should the Zone require work outside any of the services detailed above, WALGA will facilitate the appointment of consultants for specialist work as required. WALGA's Governance & Organisational Services Team will provide the service and one dedicated senior officer will be assigned to the Zone.

WALGA can undertake the services outlined above at no cost to the Zone, which aligns with WALGA's Corporate Strategy.

RESOLUTION:                      Moved: Cr Hopper                      Seconded: Cr Blight

That:

1. The Central Country Zone accept WALGA's proposal to provide it with Executive Support, for a period of 12 months from 1st July 2021 to the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022, at no cost to the Zone or its members, acknowledging that the service will include:

- A dedicated Zone Executive Officer as the principal point of contact for all Zone business;
- Liaison with the President and Executive Committee as required;
- Preparation of agendas and minutes of all meetings;
- Organisation of meeting logistics, in relation to meeting room bookings and set-up;
- Preparation of correspondence and action items;
- Arrangement of guest speakers for Zone meetings; and,
- Organisation of any other meetings or deputations.

2. Should the Central Country Zone require work outside any of the services provided by WALGA and detailed above, WALGA agrees it will facilitate the appointment of consultants for specialist work as required. The costs associated with this work would be borne by the Zone.

3. The Central Country Zone retain the existing financial management arrangements until the review on executive support services beyond the 2021/2022 financial year has been concluded.

CARRIED

At the November 2021 Central Country Zone meeting, the Executive Committee resolved to defer any review of the Executive Officer position for 12 months, to November 2022.

#### Zone Comment:

Feedback from the floor was the Zone have other more timely matters they want to progress and focus on. It was also mentioned that WALGA have only facilitated two meetings to date, and a review at this time may be too early.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Cr Katrina Crute

Seconded: Cr Julie Russell

The Central Country Zone Executive Committee defer any review of the Executive Officer position for 12 months to November 2022.

#### Comment

Unfortunately, this item was overlooked for consideration at the November 2022 meeting and was presented to the Committee for consideration.

WALGA is prepared to continue the current arrangement at no cost to the Zone.

The Executive Officers left the meeting room at 8:25am for the Executive Committee to consider this matter and returned to the meeting room at 8:48am.

## **RESOLVED**

**Moved:** Cr Julie Russell  
**Seconded:** Cr Katrina Crute

**That the Central Country Zone:**

- 1. Continue with WALGA for executive services until February 2025. This will follow on from the WALGA Governance Review outcomes and any implications.**
- 2. A review to be carried out in February 2025 by the Executive Committee. A Zone agenda item to be tabled for the November 2024 meeting advising of the review to be considered at the February 2025 Zone meeting.**

**CARRIED**

### **5.6.2 Child Safe Awareness Policy**

The Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries, Principal Policy Officer, Child Safeguarding Implementation Unit, Tom Fleming will present to the Zone as part of their regular agency update on the current status of the Child Safe Awareness Policy template for local government.

The presentation will outline the Policy's position within the range of child safe reforms recommended by the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse that will impact local government, including the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations and the Reportable Conduct Scheme.

The presentation will also outline the Unit's role in supporting Local Government to implement the child safe reforms.

**NOTED**

### **5.6.3 2023 Local Government Honours Program**

An agenda item will be prepared for the nominations of the 2023 Local Government Honours Program.

**NOTED**

## **6. STATE COUNCIL AGENDA ITEMS (1 March 2023)**

The upcoming State Council agenda will include the following items:

### **Matters for Decision**

- 5.1 Voice to Parliament and Referendum on constitutional recognition for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders
- 5.2 Community Disaster Resilience Strategy Submission
- 5.3 Child Safeguarding Advocacy Position
- 5.4 Basketball Court Noise

### 5.1 Voice to Parliament and Referendum on constitutional recognition for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved:** Cr Katrina Crute

**Seconded:** Cr Julie Russell

**That the Central Country Zone acknowledge that Local Governments should not be a part of a political process. The referendum is a Federal Government advocacy position.**

### 5.3 Child Safeguarding Advocacy Position

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

**Moved:** Cr Katrina Crute

**Seconded:** Cr Des Hickey

**That Local Governments should not be involved in the Child Safety reporting. Reports should go to the State Government Agency with responsibility for child safety.**

#### **Matters for Noting**

- 6.1 WALGA Quarterly Economic Briefing
- 6.2 Report Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC)
- 6.3 Aboriginal Cultural Heritage (ACH) Phase 3 Co-Design Submission Flying Minute
- 6.4 Animal Welfare in Emergencies Grant Summary
- 6.5 Emergency Management Update
- 6.6 Local Development Plans: Background Paper
- 6.7 Draft Position Statement Child Care Premises: Consultation Response

#### **NOTED**

## **7. OTHER BUSINESS**

### **7.1 Acknowledgement of Mia Davies**

The Committee noted that it would be appropriate at the Zone meeting to acknowledge Mia Davies contribution as the Leader of the Opposition.

## **8. DATE, TIME, AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETINGS**

The next Central Country Zone Meeting - Friday, 10 February 2023 in Corrigin.

The next Executive Committee meeting - Wednesday, 5 April 2023 via MS Teams.

The next Central Country Zone Meeting - Friday, 14 April 2023 in Cuballing.

## **9. CLOSURE**

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 9:06am.



# Local Government MoU

This Memorandum of Understanding is made on the (insert date)

## Parties to the Agreement

**Shire of Beverley**  
**Shire of Brookton**  
**Shire of Corrigin**  
**Shire of Cuballing**  
**Shire of Dumbleyung**  
**Shire of Kulin**  
**Shire of Lake Grace**  
**Shire of Narrogin**  
**Shire of Pingelly**  
**Shire of Quairading**  
**Shire of Wagin**  
**Shire of Wandering**  
**Shire of West Arthur**  
**Shire of Wickepin**  
**Shire of Williams**

Hereinafter called the 'partnering LGs' parties' or 'partners'.

## Aim

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) sets out a basic framework for cooperation between the Local Governments (LGs) named, to promote cooperation in a disaster event which affects one or more of the partnering LGs.

The guiding principle of this MoU is that any support given to a partnering LG in a particular emergency event shall be voluntary and of a level that will not unduly compromise the operability of the partnering LG providing the support.

## Purpose

To facilitate the provision of mutual aid between partnering LGs during emergencies and post incident recovery.

To enhance the capacity of our communities to cope in times of difficulty.

To demonstrate the capacity and willingness of participating LGs to work co-operatively and share resources within the region.

## Partnering Objectives

Partners to this MoU, in times of community distress due to an emergency incident, agree where possible to:

1. Provide whatever resources may reasonably be available within the capacity of that LG to respond to the emergency incident if requested.
2. Provide at its absolute discretion, whatever resources may be available within the means of that LG to assist with post incident recovery in the community.



## Allocation of Resources

1. This MoU acknowledges that the allocation of a partnering LG's personnel and plant resources is an operational issue, and as such is the responsibility of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the LG seeking to offer aid.
2. This MoU seeks to demonstrate that the CEO's commitment to supporting other LGs in need is supported by the Elected Members of each participating Council.
3. Acknowledges and accepts that each participating Local Government commits to make available at a minimum and if required the following resources (if they have available and or not otherwise committed or needed) at no cost for up to thirty (30) days during and immediately following an event. There after CEO discretion on allocation of these resources and cost recovery may apply:
  - Community Emergency Services Manager (CESM)
  - Local Recovery Coordinator (LRC)
  - Administration Officer
  - Plant Operator
  - Evacuation Centre Building
  - Animal Welfare Equipment
  - Community Bus (excludes fuel)
  - Emergency Generator (excludes fuel)

## Cost Recovery

The Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements, Western Australia (DRFAWA) guidelines provide for the reimbursement of expenditure incurred by partnering LGs during a disaster event. Each partnering LG is responsible for maintaining an accurate record of its expenditure during an event.

In the event the emergency is declared a Disaster, State and Commonwealth funding assistance will be sought in compliance with relevant State and Commonwealth Policies. The affected partnering LG area will claim these costs accordingly under the DRFAWA guidelines.

In the event a partnering LG's resources and/or equipment are required to assist another partnering LG, these costs may not be claimable via DRFAWA. Therefore, any intended claim for reimbursement is a matter between partnering LGs.

## Responsibilities

The partners to this MoU recognise their responsibilities to have adequate arrangements in place in order to be in a position to respond to non-natural and natural disasters.

This MoU recognises that each LG will have its own LEMPs in place in accordance with the *Emergency Management Act 2005*. However, the intention of this MoU is to improve the efficiency of joint response to a disaster, share experiences, enhance cooperation between partnering LGs and improve regional resilience to disaster events.

The parties acknowledge that the provisions of this document are not intended to create binding legal obligations between them.

The parties acknowledge that:

1. nothing in this document authorises a party to incur costs or expenses on behalf of the other party; and
2. a party has no authority to act for, or to create or assume any responsibility obligation or liability on behalf of, the other party.

### **Partnering Expectations**

1. To provide where possible both physical and human resources to assist with the immediate response and recovery. Ongoing protracted assistance may be needed, this may be subject to further negotiation and agreement in writing between the partners concerned.
2. Where possible, and if appropriate, the affected LG must utilise internal resources and local contractors before requesting assistance from another LG. This will ensure LGs are not seen to be competing with local businesses or offers of assistance.
3. All requests for support will be made through the Incident Controller (IC) of the designated Hazard Management Agency (HMA) for the incident, in consultation with the designated Local Recovery Coordinator (LRC) and the Local Emergency Coordinator (LEC).
4. All equipment provided must be covered by the partners own insurance, each LG is responsible for ensuring insurance policies allow for the provision of mutual aid.
5. Each individual Council will be responsible for continued salary and any workers compensation insurance for their own staff regardless of where they are operating during the disaster event.
6. Each LG will be responsible for any loss, damage or cost associated with the provision of support unless otherwise agreed in writing.
7. The LG requesting support will be responsible for all incidental costs associated with the provider's personnel and equipment such as catering, accommodation, OHS issues, transport, fuel, and storage.

### **Duration and Amendment**

The MoU will come into effect at the date which all parties have signed the agreement.

This MoU can be reviewed at any time but cannot be amended except with the written consent of all partners.

### **Term**

Unless mutually extended, terminated or parties withdraw, this MoU will expire on 30 June 2028.

### **Withdrawal**

Any partner may withdraw from this MoU by giving 90 days written notice to the partnering LG's and the State Emergency Management Committee.

### **Notices**

Communications in relation to this MoU should be addressed to:  
The Executive Officer, Central Country Zone of WALGA.

# President's Report

## March 2023

### Kimberley Floods

Communities in the Kimberley are experiencing the impacts of a one-in-100-year flood event that occurred following Ex-Tropical Cyclone Ellie from 28 December 2022 and into January 2023. The clean-up and recovery is expected to be long, costly and complex, with ongoing impacts being experienced in the Shire of Derby – West Kimberley. Many community members were displaced or isolated as a result of the flooding, and damage to homes, businesses and infrastructure has been significant. The Fitzroy River Bridge, which provides a critical link for community and to supply essential goods and services in the region, will need to be completely replaced.

WALGA is maintaining a watching brief on the Kimberley Floods response and recovery, including through attendance at the All Hazards Liaison Group (AHLG), State Emergency Coordination Group (SECG) and the State Welfare Emergency Coordination (SWEC) Operations Committee. WALGA is in communication with the Shires of Broome and Shire of Derby–West Kimberley and will provide support as required to the response and recovery effort.

### Local Government Legislative Reform

WALGA is continuing discussions with the Office of the Minister for Local Government and the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries on the progress of the legislative reform process. The Minister has advised that he will be introducing the legislative reform proposals in two tranches. The first to be introduced in March/April 2023 covering the following areas:

- Electoral Reform
  - Number of Elected Members – tiered limits
  - Optional Preferential voting
  - Public vote to elect the Mayor/President for Bands 1 and 2
  - No electoral wards for Bands 3 and 4
  - Filling extraordinary vacancy without extraordinary election
- Standardised Council meeting procedures,
- Live streaming of meetings for Bands 1 and 2
- Recording of meetings for Bands 3 and 4
- Caretaker period
- Publication of information relating to CEO's performance
- Community Engagement
- Council/CEO Communications agreements
- Fees paid and expenses reimbursed to committee members
- Audit Committees

The second tranche that will be introduced later in the year will cover the following:

- Office of the Local Government Inspector
- Monitors
- Conduct Panel
- Elected Member Superannuation
- WALGA's role in the *Local Government Act*
- Streamlining Regional Subsidiaries

## 2023-24 WALGA State Budget Submission

In November, WALGA provided its 2023-24 State Budget Submission to the Government, Opposition, key Members of Parliament and Heads of Agencies. The submission sets out 12 priority areas where Local Governments believe that funding should be directed in the 2023-24 Budget. These priorities will contribute towards a range of important objectives for the state, such as diversifying the economy; taking action on climate change; supporting community wellbeing; and creating a modern legislative environment.

The CEO, WALGA staff and I have been meeting with key Ministers and senior officials to brief them on the submission which has been positively received to date. In particular, the Minister for Emergency Services, Hon Stephen Dawson has responded to the Emergency Management proposals in the WALGA submission noting that ‘the funding initiatives relevant to my portfolios are all important in their contribution to the safety of communities across the State’ and advised that a review of Local Government Grants Scheme (LGGS) funding in terms of a Statewide strategic approach based on a comprehensive understanding of Local Government (LG) entities longer-term operating and capital costs is being considered.

Further meetings with key Ministers and officials being held over the coming weeks.

A copy of the submission is available on the WALGA website, [here](#).

## Media

A front-page story in *The West Australian* on 27 January about the Shire of Quairading’s actions to attract a GP was followed up by WALGA with a [media statement](#) the same day, pointing out there were more than 30 regional Local Governments having to offer wide-ranging incentives to keep doctors in town.

I did a follow up interview with ABC Goldfields (5,500 listeners), which was used on the station’s breakfast program and news segment, and was duplicated for ABC Mid-West and Wheatbelt, and ABC Esperance (combined listening audience of 6,800).

The interview was also packaged up alongside a case study from the Shire of Dundas for ABC Online (reach 593,000). A further case study emerged in the Shire Coolgardie, also via the ABC’s coverage.

Following the ABC coverage, I conducted an interview for Triple M’s state-wide regional news.

GWN7 News (45,000 viewers) used comments provided in the WALGA media statement.

## Urban Forest Conference - Valuing Canopy

WALGA will hold its second Urban Forest Conference on 17 February at Curtin University. Themed, “Valuing Canopy”, the conference will showcase innovative approaches to incorporating green space into the built environment, and planning and policy interventions from across Australia. It will also support WALGA’s advocacy to the State Government for \$20million over four years for the planting of 60,000 trees.

Speakers include: Hon Reece Whitby MLA, Minister for Environment, Climate Action; Hon Dr Brad Pettitt MLC, Member for South Metropolitan; WA Planning Commission Chairman David Caddy; and Manager Urban Forest at the City of Sydney, Karen Sweeney.

Professor Josh Byrne (who is also MCing the event), high-profile gardening presenter Sabrina Hahn, City of Victoria Park Mayor Karen Vernon and myself have been featured in videos produced by WALGA, for distribution across digital channels.

Attendance at the Conference is expected to be around 200 with representatives across Local Government, State Government, industry and academia.

## **Best Practice Governance Review**

Council endorsed submissions were sought in response to the Best Practice Governance Review [Consultation Paper](#), which outlined five potential governance models including the current arrangements, from late October 2022 until 23 December 2022.

Responses were received from 99 Local Governments, representing 71 percent of the Local Government sector.

The Steering Committee has responsibility for:

- Reviewing the final report outlining Council endorsed submissions,
- Considering the independent research undertaken by Ipsos, and
- Developing a recommended direction for State Council consideration.

The final report will be distributed to Members following the 1 March State Council Meeting.

Depending on the way forward, the intention is for an amended Constitution to be considered by State Council in July ahead of consideration by Members at the 2023 Annual General Meeting.

**Cr Karen Chappel JP**  
**WALGA President**

## **President's Contacts**

The President's contacts since 7 December 2022 and scheduled before 1 March 2023 are as follows:

### **State Government Relations**

- Minister for Housing; Lands; Homelessness; Local Government, Hon John Carey MLA
- Minister for Transport; Planning; Ports, Hon Rita Saffioti MLA
- Minister for Finance; Commerce; Women's Interests, Hon Sue Ellery MLC
- Western Australian Planning Commission Chairman, David Caddy and Planning Director Reform Projects, Phillida Rodic
- Department of Local Government; Sport and Cultural Industries Director General, Lanie Chopping
- State Roads Funds to Local Government Advisory Committee
- Minister for Agriculture and Food; Forestry; Small Business and Hon Sandra Carr MLC

### **Zone Meetings**

- Northern Country Zone Meeting
- Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisations of Councils Zone Meeting

### **Local Government Relations**

- State Council Meetings:
  - State Council Meeting
  - Strategic Forum
  - Information Forum
  - Finance and Services Committee Meeting
  - Best Practice Governance Review Steering Committee meeting x 2
  - Local Government House Trust meeting
- WALGA events
  - Valuing Canopy; Urban Forest Conference
- LGIS
  - JLT Management Committee Meeting
- ALGA
  - Board Meeting x 2
  - Special Board Meeting
  - Executive Committee meeting – Pre-Budget Submission
  - Vice President/CEO meeting x 4
  - President/Vice President meeting x 2
- Lord Mayor's Distress Relief Find Board Meeting x 3
- Regional Capitals Alliance WA meeting

### **Conferences, Workshops, Public Relations**

- Premier and Cabinet Sundowner