

CITY OF WEST TORRENS



Notice of Council Meeting

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN in accordance with Sections 83, 84, 87 and 88 of the *Local Government Act 1999*, that a meeting of the

Council

of the

CITY OF WEST TORRENS

will be held in the Council Chambers, Civic Centre
165 Sir Donald Bradman Drive, Hilton

on

TUESDAY, 21 FEBRUARY 2023

at 7.00pm

**Terry Buss PSM
Chief Executive Officer**

City of West Torrens Disclaimer

Please note that the contents of this Council Agenda have yet to be considered by Council and officer recommendations may be altered or changed by the Council in the process of making the formal Council decision.

INDEX

1	Meeting Opened	1
	1.1 Acknowledgement of Country	
	1.2 Evacuation Procedures	
	1.3 Meeting Livestream	
2	Present	1
3	Apologies	1
4	Disclosure Statements	1
5	Confirmation of Minutes	1
	5.1 Presentation of Australia Day Awards	1
6	Mayors Report	2
7	Elected Members Reports	4
8	Petitions	5
	8.1 Petition requesting for parking restrictions on Armour Avenue, Underdale	5
9	Deputations	10
	9.1 Breakout Creek Stage 3 Redevelopment Project	10
	9.2 Camden Community Centre Funding	10
10	Adoption of Standing Committee Recommendations	10
	10.1 City Services and Climate Adaptation Standing Committee Meeting	10
	10.2 City Facilities and Waste Recovery Standing Committee Meeting.....	10
11	Adoption of General Committee Recommendations	10
12	Questions with Notice	10
13	Questions without Notice	10
14	Motions with Notice	10
15	Motions without Notice	10
16	Reports of the Chief Executive Officer	11
	16.1 Breakout Creek Stage 3 Redevelopment project joint funding arrangements - Green Adelaide request for additional Council contribution	11
	16.2 Brown Hill Keswick Creek Stormwater Project Capital and Operating Contributions.....	18
	16.3 Parliamentary Inquiry into the Urban Forest	30
	16.4 Kerbside Waste Management Services.....	41
	16.5 ALGA National General Assembly of Local Government 2023 - Call for Motions	127
	16.6 ALGA National General Assembly of Local Government 2023	151
	16.7 2023 Waste and Resource Strategy Summit.....	155
	16.8 Nominations for the 2023 Joy Baluch Award	165
	16.9 Nominations Sought for the Dog and Cat Management Board	172
	16.10 Nominations sought to the Freight and Supply Chain Strategy Consultative Committee.....	179

16.11	Nominations sought to the SA Country Arts Trust	187
16.12	Creditor Payments	194
16.13	Council Budget Report - SEVEN Months to 31 January 2023	203
16.14	Budget Review - December 2022.....	211
16.15	Weslo Holdings - Update - Confidential Order Review	222
17	Local Government Business.....	224
18	Member's Bookshelf	224
19	Correspondence	224
19.1	Heritage Places (Adelaide Park Lands) Amendment Bill 2022	224
19.2	Mayors for Peace News Flash - January 2023	224
19.3	Mayors for Peace Joint Appeal on the invasion of Ukraine.....	224
19.4	National Malaya and Borneo Veterans' Association Inc SA/NT Branch communications	224
20	Confidential.....	286
20.1	Possible Acquisition of Land and Staged Upgrade - Update Report.....	286
21	Meeting Close	286

1 MEETING OPENED**1.1 Acknowledgement of Country****1.2 Evacuation Procedures****1.3 Meeting Livestream****2 PRESENT****3 APOLOGIES****4 DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS**

Elected Members are required to:

1. Consider Section 74, 75 and 75A of the *Local Government Act 1999* and determine whether they have a conflict of interest in any matter to be considered in this Agenda; and
2. Disclose these interests in accordance with the requirements of Sections 75B and 75C of the *Local Government Act 1999*.

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 17 January 2023 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

5.1 Presentation of Australia Day Awards

6 MAYORS REPORT

(Preliminary report for the agenda to be distributed Friday, 17 February 2023)

In the five weeks since the last Council Meeting of 17 January functions and meetings involving the Mayor have included:

19 January

- Attended the LGA Board of Directors meeting at LGA House.

20 January

- Met with representatives from Immanuel College, along with the Chief Executive Officer.
- Attended the 2023 Australia Day Awards held at Government House.

21 January

- Attended the Adelaide Tamil Association's Pongal Festival event at Bonython Park.
- Attended the Open Air Cinema event in the West Torrens Memorial Gardens as part of the City of West Torrens' Summer Festival 2023.

22 January

- Attended the City of Unley's Trackside VIP event as part of the 2023 Santos Tour Down Under as a guest of Mayor Michael Hewitson AM.

26 January

- Attended the City of West Torrens Australia Day Awards Presentation and Citizenship Ceremony held at Thebarton Community Centre.
- Attended the Aus Lights on the River Official Ceremony 2023 at Elder Park.

28 January

- Attended the Splash event at Mellor Park as part of the City of West Torrens' Summer Festival 2023.
- Attended the Indian Multicultural Forum of SA's Inaugural Ceremony at the Clovelly Park Community Hall.

30 January

- Attended a meeting of the Greater Adelaide Regional Organisation of Councils (GAROC) at LG House.

31 January

- Participated in the inaugural meeting of the Thebarton Oval Precinct Masterplan Advisory Group (MAG), held at the Civic Centre.

1 February

- Met with representatives from the South Australian Bangladeshi Community Association (SABCA), along with the General Manager Business and Community Services.

2 February

- Met with representatives from the Youth Advisory Council at the City of Campbelltown Civic Centre.

3 February

- Attended the Community Corporate Business Luncheon.

4 February

- Attended the Touch-a-Truck event at Kings Reserve as part of the City of West Torrens' Summer Festival 2023.
- Attended the Cyprus Festival at the Cyprus Community of SA Centre.

5 February

- Attended the Losar Nepalese Food and Culture Show at Thebarton Community Centre.
- Attended 2023 Camden Classic 400m finals event at the PHOS Camden Football Club.

6 February

- Attended the Elected Member briefing session on the Thebarton (Brewery Precinct) Code Amendment, held at the Civic Centre.

7 February

- Met with representatives from the Adelaide Football Club, along with the Chief Executive Officer and Deputy Chief Executive Officer.
- Attended the City Services and Climate Adaptation & City Facilities and Waste Recovery Standing Committee meetings.

8 February

- Attended a briefing on the South Australian Youth Forum's Annual Report, held at the Civic Centre.

9 February

- Met with the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport and Minister for Energy and Mining, the Hon. Tom Koutsantonis MP and the Chief Executive Officer of the Department for Infrastructure and Transport, Jon Whelan, along with the City of West Torrens Chief Executive Officer, Terry Buss.

10 February

- Attended the National Servicemen's Association's Memorial Service.

11 February

- Attended the King's Fork event at Kings Reserve as part of the City of West Torrens' Summer Festival 2023.
- Attended the Western Youth Centre Cricket Club's 60 + 1 Anniversary Dinner event.

13 February

- Met with representatives from the Adelaide Football Club, along with the Chief Executive Officer and Deputy Chief Executive Officer.
- Participated in the second meeting of the Thebarton Oval Precinct Masterplan Advisory Group (MAG), held at the Civic Centre.
- Attended the Adelaide Omonia Cobras Football Club's Season Launch Night event at Pro Paint N Panel Oval, Plympton.

14 February

- Attended a tour of the AFL Max facility at Adelaide Airport.

15 February

- Met with the Principal of Immanuel College, Kevin Richardson, along with the Chief Executive Officer and Deputy Chief Executive Officer.
- Attended a meeting of the LGA Audit and Risk Committee at LG House.
- Attended the West Adelaide Football Club Annual General Meeting (AGM).

16 February

- Attended a meeting of the Local Government Transport Advisory Panel (LGTAP) at LG House.
- Attended the Frank Norton Reserve Community Consultation drop-in session.

17 February

- Attended the Local Government Association of SA Principal Member Forum at LG House.

18 February

- Attending the Ethiopian Orthodox Annual Celebration Service of Our Lady St. Mary.
- Attending the Local Government Association of SA Principal Member Forum at LG House.

19 February

- Attending the St George Parish Community Annual Lunch Meat Fare Sunday event.

21 February

- Attending the February meeting of Council.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Mayor's Report be noted.

7 ELECTED MEMBERS REPORTS

8 PETITIONS

8.1 Petition requesting for parking restrictions on Armour Avenue, Underdale

Brief

This report presents a petition requesting two hour parking restrictions to be introduced, street monitoring for trucks and the use of IRIS on Armour Avenue, Underdale.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended to Council that:

1. The Petition be received.
2. A report be presented to a future meeting of the City Services and Climate Adaptation Standing Committee and the Head Petitioner be notified accordingly.

Introduction

A petition has been received from Lee Gregory, Head Petitioner, on behalf of 19 residents of Armour Avenue, Underdale requesting that two hour parking restrictions be introduced during the hours of 7am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, the street be monitored for truck movements, and that IRIS, Council's mobile CCTV unit be placed in the area to monitor trucks and deter hoon activity (**Attachment 1**).

Discussion

The petition states that:

"The petition of residents / ratepayers of Armour Avenue Underdale, draws the attention of the Council to:

1. *Car parking issues caused by local businesses lack of on premises parking for their employees and trucks continuing to use the street which is designated "no trucks".*
2. *Parked vehicles protruding into driveways causing access and egress issues.*
3. *That the Council place IRIS near the corner of Armour Avenue and Sherriff Street to record truck movements to identify companies and to deter ongoing street hoons conducting burn outs."*

The petitioners therefore request that the Council:

1. *"Implement a 2 hour parking limit on Monday to Friday 7:00am to 5:00pm.*
2. *Have the street monitored for truck movements.*
3. *Place IRIS in the area to monitor trucks and to deter hoon activity."*

The petition contains nineteen (19) signatures, sixteen (16) of which are compliant with the requirements of Clause 8 of the *Code of Practice - Procedures at Meetings* (Code) and Regulation 10 of the *Local Government (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2013* (Regulations). There are three (3) non-complying signatures on page three of **Attachment 1**, which do not comply for the following reasons:

- Two (2) have an incomplete name;
- One (1) has an incomplete name and incorrect address.

The petition is otherwise compliant with the requirements of the Code and the Regulations. The petition is three (3) pages in length.

Climate Impact Considerations

(Assessment of likely positive or negative implications of this decision will assist Council and the West Torrens Community to build resilience and adapt to the challenges created by a changing climate.)

There is no direct climate impact consideration in relation to this report.

Conclusion

A petition has been received to introduce two hour parking restrictions to be introduced, street monitoring for trucks and the use of IRIS on Armour Avenue, Underdale.

Attachments

- 1. Petition to introduce parking restrictions on Armour Avenue, Underdale**

PETITION

To the Mayor and Councilors of the City of West Torrens

Part 1.

Head Petitioner (contact person): LEE GREGORY

Telephone number: 84438593

Address: 11 ARMOUR AVE
UNDERDALE SA
5032

Part 2.

The petition of (identify the individuals or group, eg. Residents of the City of West Torrens)

..... **Residents / Ratepayers Armour Ave - Underdale**

Part 3.

Draws the attention of the Council to (identify the circumstances of the case)

- 1. Car Parking issues caused by local businesses lack of on premises parking for their employees & Trucks continuing to use the Street which is designated "No Trucks"
- 2. Parked vehicles protruding into driveways causing access and egress issues
- 3. That the Council place IRIS near the corner of Armour Ave and Sherriff St to Record truck movements to identify companies and to deter ongoing street Hoons conducting Burn Outs.

Part 4.

The petitioners therefore request that the Council (outline the action that the petitioners are requesting **Council should** ~~or should not~~ take)

.....

Implement a 2 Hr parking limit Mondays to Fridays 7.00AM to 5.00PM
Have the street monitored for truck movements
Place IRIS in the area to monitor trucks and to deter Hoon Activity.

Part 5.

Please use **CAPITAL LETTERS**

FULL NAME (i.e. JOHN SMITH)	FULL ADDRESS (i.e. 165 SIR DONALD BRADMAN DRIVE, HILTON, SA, 5031)	SIGNATURE

Continued

PETITION

To the Mayor and Councilors of the City of West Torrens

Head Petitioner: LEE GREGORY
 Telephone number: 84438593
 Address 11 ARMOUR AV
 UNDERDALE SA
 5032

Outline the action that the petitioners are requesting Council **should take or not take** (Copy Part 4 on the first page);

- ... Implement a 2 Hr parking limit Mondays to Fridays 7.00AM to 5.00PM
- Have the street monitored for truck movements
- Place IRIS in the area to monitor trucks and to deter Hoon Activity.

.....

Please use CAPITAL LETTERS

FULL NAME (i.e. JOHN SMITH)	FULL ADDRESS (i.e. 165 SIR DONALD BRADMAN DRIVE, HILTON, SA, 5031)	SIGNATURE
IAN LEE GREGORY	11 ARMOUR AV UNDERDALE 5032	<i>[Signature]</i>
MATTHEW JOHNSTON	13 ARMOUR AVE. UNDERDALE	<i>[Signature]</i>
<i>[Signature]</i>	16 Armour Ave Underdale	<i>[Signature]</i>
<i>[Signature]</i>	18 Armour Ave Underdale	<i>[Signature]</i>
HOWARD WEBER	9A ARMOUR AVE UNDERDALE	<i>[Signature]</i>
ANNE HUNTER	8 ARMOUR AVE UNDERDALE	<i>[Signature]</i>
Georgia Burbrook	6 Armour Ave Underdale	<i>[Signature]</i>
GALEA FELICIANO	12 ARMOUR AVE UNDERDALE	<i>[Signature]</i>
Rob Forze	133B Halbrooks Rd Underdale	<i>[Signature]</i>
FRANK TRIMBOLI	5 ARMOUR AVE UNDERDALE	<i>[Signature]</i>
Andrew O'Loughlin	14 Armour Ave Underdale	<i>[Signature]</i>
Rosanna Turci	9 Armour Ave, underdale	<i>[Signature]</i>
Jun Wang	10 Amair Ave, Underdale	<i>[Signature]</i>

Continued

PETITION






To the Mayor and Councilors of the City of West Torrens

Head Petitioner: LEE GREGORY
 Telephone number: ~~11~~ 84438593
 Address: 11 ARMOUR AV
UNDERDALE
5032

Outline the action that the petitioners are requesting Council **should take** ~~or not take~~ (Copy Part 4 on the first page);

- ... Implement a 2 Hr parking limit Mondays to Fridays 7.00AM to 5.00PM
- Have the street monitored for truck movements
- Place IRIS in the area to monitor trucks and to deter Hoon Activity.

Please use CAPITAL LETTERS

FULL NAME <small>(i.e. JOHN SMITH)</small>	FULL ADDRESS <small>(i.e. 165 SIR DONALD BRADMAN DRIVE, HILTON, SA, 5031)</small>	SIGNATURE
David Francis	7 Armour Ave, Underdale	
Erick Reyna	12 Armour Ave, Underdale	
Bec Reyna	12 Armour Ave Underdale	
Michael C	15 Armour Ave Underdale	
RAJKUMAR .K	4A Armour Ave, underdale	
STANDHIMATHI	4 ARMOURAVE, underdale	K. C. L.

NOT ACCEPTED
INCOMPLETE NAME

NOT ACCEPTED
INCOMPLETE NAME

NOT ACCEPTED
INCOMPLETE NAME AND
INCORRECT ADDRESS

9 DEPUTATIONS

9.1 Breakout Creek Stage 3 Redevelopment Project

Mr Brenton Grear, Dr Stuart Collard, and Professor Chris Daniels, Presiding Member of the Green Adelaide Board, wish to address Council in relation to the Breakout Creek Stage 3 Redevelopment project.

9.2 Camden Community Centre Funding

Nick Kyriazopoulos, General Manager of Camden Community Centre, wishes to address Council in relation to a Council contribution towards a Community Vehicle for Camden Community Centre.

10 ADOPTION OF STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 City Services and Climate Adaptation Standing Committee Meeting

RECOMMENDATION

That the recommendations of the City Services and Climate Adaptation Standing Committee held on 7 February 2023 be adopted.

10.2 City Facilities and Waste Recovery Standing Committee Meeting

RECOMMENDATION

That the recommendations of the City Facilities and Waste Recovery Standing Committee held on 7 February 2023 be adopted.

11 ADOPTION OF GENERAL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Nil

12 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

Nil

13 QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

14 MOTIONS WITH NOTICE

Nil

15 MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

16 REPORTS OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

16.1 Breakout Creek Stage 3 Redevelopment project joint funding arrangements - Green Adelaide request for additional Council contribution

Brief

Council received correspondence from Green Adelaide on 1 February 2023 regarding the Breakout Creek Stage 3 Redevelopment project joint funding arrangements, the increase to project costs, and seeking an additional contribution from Council of \$500,000 to complete the project.

This report seeks a decision of Council to approve the additional funding contribution.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended to Council that:

1. It commits to provide additional funding of up to \$500,000 towards the Breakout Creek Stage 3 Redevelopment project within the 2022/23 financial year, to enable the project to be completed.
2. The contribution is subject to the City of Charles Sturt also providing matching funding towards this project, which at its meeting on 13 February 2023, resolved to fund, subject to the City of West Torrens also committing.
3. It authorises the Chief Executive Officer to write to the Minister for Planning, the Hon Nick Champion MP, to request additional funding via the State Government's 'Open Space Grant Program' to assist with this \$500,000 contribution.
4. A further financial commitment towards this project is not presently identified within Council's current 2022/23 budget or Long Term Financial Plan and therefore, any additional Council contribution to the project is to be sourced from borrowings.

Introduction

At Council's meeting of 19 May 2020, it resolved to become a funding partner for the Breakout Creek Stage 3 redevelopment project by providing \$2 million and another \$2 million via an open space program grant.

The Breakout Creek Stage 3 redevelopment project -

The project is an exciting, iconic development, with multiple cultural, community and ecological benefits, showcasing best practice in waterway management. The Breakout Creek Stage 3 redevelopment project is the final stage of revitalising the western end of the River Torrens/Karrawirra Pari, creating a healthier, more natural and more accessible environment.

The project has the following primary objectives:

- To create a high-quality community space of regional and Kaurna significance that enhances recreational and tourism opportunities through the interaction of people, nature, the river, the coast and culture.
- To improve river water quality and provide habitat for threatened species through plant selection and innovative design.

It is the longest stretch of the 30-year redevelopment project, transforming 1.5km of the river and banks, from Tapleys Hill Road in Lockleys to the sea.

When complete, the project will:

- Open up 15 hectares of currently fenced-off land, for the community to enjoy;
- Create new habitat for endangered and rare animals to live and breed;
- Create wetlands that will improve the water quality of the river;
- Remove weeds and plant more than 215,000 new native plants;
- Create new accessible paths and river crossings, a boardwalk, viewing decks, and picnic areas;
- Create new places to learn about Kaurna culture and history;
- Maintain a designated horse area along the river and new bridle path for the local horse riding club near Apex Park; and
- Enhance the safety and amenity of the area by improving existing paths, upgrading lighting and improving access for pedestrians, cyclists and maintenance vehicles.

Construction works began in early 2022 by the lead contractor, Bardavcol. Since then, construction has progressed steadily, despite significant delays due to wetter than average conditions, and construction is now over halfway through, and due to be completed by June 2023.

A Kaurna reflection space is currently being developed as part of the project on the north-western portion of Breakout Creek. This will include a wheelchair accessible path connecting to the river precinct. The installation of lighting for the project has progressed; paths are being constructed, as well as the new wetlands. Preparation of garden beds has started, and construction is almost complete of the retaining walls on the south side of the river and the many gabion (rock basket) walls surrounding the wetlands and habitat pools.

Work will soon commence on the north side retaining walls and access stairs, adjacent Opie Street at West Beach.

SA Water with Green Adelaide and project partners are implementing a construction communications plan to keep residents and the wider community informed of the redevelopment project.

Project partners and funding arrangements -

The project is a truly collaborative effort between three levels of government, the community and the Kaurna Nation. All of these partners are critical to the eventual success of the project.

The funding partners for the project and their initial contributions totalling \$12 million are listed below:

- City of West Torrens, \$2 million, matched by the State Government's 'Open Space and Places for People Fund' of \$2 million.
- City of Charles Sturt, \$2 million, matched by the State Government's 'Open Space and Places for People Fund' of \$2 million.
- Green Adelaide Landscape Board (previously Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management Board), \$2 million; and
- Commonwealth government, through the Environment Restoration Fund, \$2 million.

The combined \$12 million investment was based on a cost estimate of the concept design in 2018. An updated concept design for the project was completed at the end of 2020, with significant community engagement. Following this refinement, a detailed design was completed in 2021, with the tender for the construction contract being released in September 2021, by project partner and construction authority, SA Water. Initial tenders received were over the secured funding amount, so a comprehensive value management exercise was undertaken and additional funding of \$2.5 million was provided to the project by Green Adelaide.

Discussion

As construction has progressed, a number of unforeseen factors have resulted in the total cost of the project increasing to an estimated \$18.7 million in January 2023. These factors include:

- The current high demand for civil contractors resulting in high construction costs;
- Significant escalation in the cost of materials (e.g. asphalt, steel and timber), primarily due to the ongoing impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic;
- Discrepancies between design and construction documentation, primarily due to the complexities of this multi-objective project requiring community-based landscape architecture and biodiversity outcomes all within a highly constrained site requiring high levels of engineering expertise;
- Unexpected “latent conditions” at the project site, despite previous geotechnical investigations; and
- Costs associated with accommodating the requests of Lockleys Riding Club, including offsite agistment during construction, fencing, recontouring, irrigation and turf.

De-scoping of the project (i.e. removing high-cost elements) at this late stage of the project is likely to result in detrimental outcomes, in terms of both cost / time impacts and community expectations.

The Green Adelaide Board appreciates the importance of this project to the community and region and is committed to ensuring that the project is successfully completed with additional funding. As such, it is seeking funding partners to increase their contributions.

The Green Adelaide Board understands that the Commonwealth government has declined the opportunity to provide additional funding.

Subject to the required Board and Cabinet approvals, Green Adelaide is prepared to increase its contribution by \$2.8 million, taking its total contribution to \$7.3 million (this includes funding allocated to future financial years).

Council received correspondence from Green Adelaide on 1 February 2023 seeking an additional contribution from Council of \$500,000 to complete the project (**Attachment 1**). The City of Charles Sturt also received the same request from Green Adelaide. To date each Council has committed \$4,000,000 to the project, being \$2,000,000 in Council funds and an additional \$2,000,000 in grant funding.

The additional funding for the project will need to be made available in the current (2022/2023) financial year to ensure that construction works continue unimpeded and that works are completed by June 2023 before the wet weather returns, and to ensure that works are completed by 30 June 2023 to comply with Council's grant open space funding completion deadline.

A further financial commitment towards this project is not currently identified in Council's Long Term Financial Plan; therefore, any additional contribution is to be sourced from borrowings unless a further grant source becomes available.

To that end, Green Adelaide has suggested that the two councils approach the Minister for Planning to request additional funding via the State Government's Open Space Grant Program to assist with this additional contribution.

Council's endorsement of additional funds will facilitate completion of the project, delivering an open space project of regional significance without bearing the full financial burden by this Council alone.

Without additional funds, the project will require de-scoping (i.e. removal of high cost elements), and as mentioned earlier, de-scoping at this late stage is likely to result in detrimental outcomes in terms of cost/time impacts and community expectations of this project.

It is recommended that Council's CEO now formally writes to the Minister for Planning seeking additional funding via the 'Open Space Grant Program' to assist with the \$500,000 contribution.

It is also recommended that an additional commitment from the City of West Torrens is subject to a similar financial commitment from the City of Charles Sturt. The City of Charles Sturt Council, at its meeting on 13 February 2023, resolved to provide the additional contribution, subject to West Torrens also committing.

Upon completion of the project, should the full additional amount not be expended, it is suggested that all funding parties be reimbursed commensurate with their additional contribution.

Climate Impact Considerations

(Assessment of likely positive or negative implications of this decision will assist Council and the West Torrens Community to build resilience and adapt to the challenges created by a changing climate.)

Quality public open space plays an important role in adapting and mitigating to the impacts of climate change, such as by cooling urban heat, facilitating stormwater management, providing biodiversity habitat, and providing opportunities for people to connect to others and to nature. Public open space is essential to supporting healthy, liveable communities, and its role in supporting the community's physical and mental health has been demonstrated during the COVID-19 situation.

Conclusion

The City of West Torrens, the City of Charles Sturt and Green Adelaide have worked collaboratively in the development and delivery of the Breakout Creek Stage 3 Redevelopment project. Since 2019, these parties have progressed the project from an unfunded concept plan to secure funding and facilitate construction which is currently in progress. A number of factors have resulted in an increase to the total project costs, necessitating the need to seek additional funding from project partners.

Attachments

- 1. Letter from Green Adelaide, 1 February 2023 - Breakout Creek Stage 3 Redevelopment project joint funding arrangements**



Government of
South Australia



Ref No: GA-D00000228

1 February 2023

Mr Terry Buss
Chief Executive Officer
City of West Torrens
165 Sir Donald Bradman Drive
HILTON SA 5033

81-95 Waymouth St
Adelaide SA 5000
GPO Box 1047
Adelaide SA 5001 Australia

P: +61 (08) 7424 5760
E: dew.greenadelaide@sa.gov.au

www.greenadelaide.sa.gov.au

Dear Terry

Re: Breakout Creek Stage 3 Redevelopment project joint funding arrangements

The Breakout Creek Stage 3 Redevelopment project is an exciting, iconic development, with multiple cultural, community and ecological benefits, showcasing best practice in waterway management. The project is a truly collaborative effort between three levels of government, the community and the Kurna Nation. All of these partners are critical to the eventual success of the project. The project has the following primary objectives:

- To create a high-quality community space of regional and Kurna significance that enhances recreational and tourism opportunities through the interaction of people, nature, the river, the coast and culture.
- To improve river water quality and provide habitat for threatened species through plant selection and innovative design.

The success of previous stages (Stage 1 in 1999 and Stage 2 in 2010) led to community pressure to “complete” Stage 3, and the project began in 2015 with community engagement to inform the design principles to develop a concept plan for the area. When project funding was secured in 2019, the funding partners and their contributions were:

- City of Charles Sturt, \$2 million, matched by the Planning and Development Fund (Attorney-General’s Department) \$2 million.
- City of West Torrens, \$2 million, matched by the Planning and Development Fund (Attorney-General’s Department) \$2 million.
- Green Adelaide Landscape Board (previously Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management Board), \$2 million
- Commonwealth government, through the Environment Restoration Fund, \$2 million

The combined \$12 million investment was based on a cost estimate of the concept design in 2018. An updated concept design for the project was completed at the end of 2020, with significant community engagement. Following this refinement, a detailed design was completed in 2021, with



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the tender for the construction contract being released in September 2021, by project partner and construction authority, SA Water. Initial tenders received were over the secured funding amount, so a comprehensive value management exercise was undertaken and additional funding of \$2.5 million was provided to the project by Green Adelaide.

Construction works began in early 2022 by the lead contractor, Bardavcol. Since then, construction has progressed steadily, despite significant delays due to wetter than average conditions, and construction is now over halfway through, and due to be completed by June 2023.

Unfortunately, as construction has progressed, a number of unforeseen factors have resulted in the total cost increasing to an estimated \$18.7 million in January 2023. These factors include:

- The current high demand for civil contractors resulting in high construction costs;
- Significant escalation in the cost of materials (e.g. asphalt, steel and timber), primarily due to the ongoing impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic;
- Discrepancies between design and construction documentation, primarily due to the complexities of this multi-objective project requiring community-based landscape architecture and biodiversity outcomes all within a highly constrained site requiring high levels of engineering expertise;
- Unexpected "latent conditions" at the project site, despite previous geotechnical investigations;
- Costs associated with accommodating the requests of Lockley's Riding Club, including offsite agistment during construction, fencing, recontouring, irrigation and turf.

The Green Adelaide Board understands the importance of this project to the community and region and is therefore committed to ensuring that the project is successfully completed with additional funding. In the spirit of collaboration, the Green Adelaide Board are also asking other funding partners to increase their contributions. The Green Adelaide Board understands that the Commonwealth government have declined the opportunity to provide additional funding. De-scoping of the project (i.e. removing high-cost elements) at this late stage of the project is likely to result in detrimental outcomes, both in terms of cost/ time impacts and community expectations.

It is requested that both funding councils contribute an equivalent additional amount of \$500,000, with the possibility of approaching the Planning and Development Fund to also increase its contribution. Subject to the required Board and Cabinet approvals, Green Adelaide is prepared to increase its contribution by \$2.8 million, taking its total contribution to \$7.3 million (includes funding allocated to future financial years). Should the full additional amount not to be required, it is suggested that the all funding parties would be reimbursed commensurate with their additional contribution.

Additional funding for the project will need to be made available in the current (2022/2023) financial year to ensure that construction works continue unimpeded and that works are completed by June 2023 before the wet weather returns.

With high community expectations around this site and the promise of a wonderful outcome for the community and the environment, we look forward to hearing a favourable outcome from you soon.



Government of
South Australia



For further information please contact Stuart Collard, Manager Landscape Operations, on
or

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Brenton Grear'.

Brenton Grear
Director Green Adelaide

Cc: Joseph Ielasi, Manager, City Assets
Chris Daniels, Presiding Member Green Adelaide Board

16.2 Brown Hill Keswick Creek Stormwater Project Capital and Operating Contributions

Brief

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an overview of capital and operating contributions to date and seek approval for the City of West Torrens' proposed capital and operating contributions for the next 10 years.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended to Council that it approves the recommended operating and capital contributions as per the summary set out in figure 11 of this Agenda report for inclusion within Council's and the Brown Hill Keswick Creek Stormwater Project long-term financial plan.

Introduction

The Brown Hill Keswick Creek Stormwater Project (the 'Project') is a collaborative effort between the Cities of Adelaide, Burnside, Mitcham, Unley and West Torrens (the 'Constituent Councils') to mitigate significant flood risks arising from four major watercourses in metropolitan Adelaide: Brown Hill, Keswick, Glen Osmond and Park Lands Creeks. The Brown Hill Keswick Creek Catchment Stormwater Management Plan (the 'Plan') outlines a program of flood mitigation works to be delivered across the catchment.

The plan is designed to provide flood protection to the community in the event of a 100-year average recurrence interval (ARI) flood event.

The Brown Hill and Keswick Creeks Stormwater Board (the 'Board') was established in February 2018 as a Regional Subsidiary pursuant to Section 43 of and Schedule 2 to the Local Government Act 1999. The Board is responsible for coordinating delivery of the Plan. The Plan proposed a funding model whereby the capital works program is funded equally between the three tiers of government – Local, State and Commonwealth.

The Board's capital works program is currently being funded by the Constituent Councils and the Stormwater Management Authority (the 'SMA'), with 50% of funds from the 5 Constituent Councils and 50% of funds from the SMA. Commonwealth Government funding is provided to specific sub-projects via grant programs, but no broader Federal Government funding has been committed to the project.

There is inconsistency between the Long-Term Financial Plans of the 5 Constituent Councils and the level of funds allocated to delivery of the Project. Long-term funding commitment from the Constituent Councils will provide the certainty required to develop and deliver against the capital works delivery schedule and ensure sufficient funding is allocated to existing services such as operations and maintenance of completed assets.

Discussion

The Brown Hill Keswick Creek Stormwater Project (the 'Project') is a collaborative effort between the Cities of Adelaide, Burnside, Mitcham, Unley and West Torrens (the 'Constituent Councils') to mitigate significant flood risks arising from four major watercourses: Brown Hill, Keswick, Glen Osmond and Park Lands Creeks. The catchment is largely contained within the Constituent Council areas and the Brown Hill Keswick Creek Catchment Stormwater Management Plan (the 'Plan') outlines a program of flood mitigation works to be delivered across the catchment.

The plan is designed to provide flood protection to the community in the event of a 100-year average recurrence interval (ARI) flood event.

From its inception in 2007 until 2018, the project was conducted as a joint arrangement between the Constituent Councils. The Plan was developed during this phase, leading to its subsequent approval by the Stormwater Management Authority (the 'SMA') and gazettal of its adoption in February 2017.

A condition of the SMA approving the Plan was establishment of a Regional Subsidiary within 12 months to implement the Plan and manage its works. The Brown Hill and Keswick Creeks Stormwater Board (the 'Board') was established in February 2018 as a Regional Subsidiary pursuant to Section 43 of and Schedule 2 to the *Local Government Act 1999*.

The Board is responsible for coordinating delivery of the Plan. It is governed by a Charter which was prepared by the Constituent Councils and approved by the Minister for Local Government. The charter binds the Regional Subsidiary and each Constituent Council and governs the affairs of the Board by setting out its purpose, function and powers.

The *Local Government Act 1999* (Act) and its regulations require Councils to have a Long-Term Financial Plan (LTFP), an Infrastructure and Asset Management Plan (IAMP) and a Business Plan. This obligation is also set out in the Charter of the Brown Hill and Keswick Creeks Stormwater Board (Board), which states at Clause 20.1 –

'The Regional Subsidiary must prepare a Long-Term Financial Plan and Asset and Infrastructure Management Plan and a Business Plan.'

There are various inputs to the LTFP, IAMP and Business Plan that rely on confirmation from Constituent Councils regarding the extent of funding available to the project and the resultant delivery schedule.

Funding from Constituent Councils is provided at pre-agreed contribution percentages, as set out in the SMP and confirmed in the Board's charter. Operating costs are shared equally between the 5 Constituent Councils while capital contributions are based upon the benefits that each Council will receive from the mitigation works (SMP section 17.4.1).

The SMP (section 17.4.2) proposed a funding model whereby the 5 Constituent Councils fund one third of the capital works cost, the State Government via the SMA contribute one third of the capital works cost and the Commonwealth Government contribute the remaining third.

The Board's capital works program is currently being funded by the Constituent Councils and the SMA, with 50% of funds from the 5 Constituent Councils and 50% of funds from the SMA. Commonwealth Government funding is provided to specific sub-projects via grant programs, but no broader Commonwealth Government funding has been committed to the project.

There is inconsistency between the LTFPs of the 5 Constituent Councils and the level of funds allocated to delivery of the Project.

Long-term funding commitment from the Constituent Councils will provide the certainty required to develop and deliver against the capital works delivery schedule and ensure sufficient funding is allocated to existing services such as operations and maintenance of completed assets.

1. Capital Funding Arrangements

1.1 Cost sharing between spheres of Government

The SMP (section 17.4.2) proposed a funding model whereby the 5 Constituent Councils fund one third of the capital works cost, the State Government via the SMA contribute one third of the capital works cost and the Commonwealth Government contribute the remaining third.

Further, the SMP recommended endorsement of a strategy whereby:

- The five councils allocate funding in their budgets for one third of the cost;
- A funding commitment is sought from the State Government to at least match that commitment; and

- Once the State Government has agreed to that commitment, the five councils through the regional subsidiary work jointly with the State Government to obtain a commitment from the Commonwealth Government for a minimum of one third of the cost to offset against the state and local government contributions.

Funding commitments that are broadly in keeping with this strategy have been made by both local and state governments, albeit there is some inconsistency in the level of funding available from each of the five Constituent Councils. Commonwealth Government grant funding has been secured by the Board to contribute toward delivery of individual works packages but to date, no broader Commonwealth Government funding commitment has been made.

1.2 Local Government - Constituent Council funding

The cost sharing arrangements detailed within the SMP were based on the following principles (section 17.4.1):

- *The proposed works are the type of works covered by the 2006 agreement between the State of South Australia and the LGA on stormwater management and in particular, both spheres of government each have an interest in reducing flood risk.*
- *Cost sharing between Councils should reflect both the extent of their contribution to the problem and the benefits that they each receive from any flood management actions and be related to the specific location where those actions are implemented.*
- *The approach should be as simple and transparent as reasonably possible.*

Following analysis and negotiation between the Constituent Councils, capital cost share arrangements were agreed, as set out in Figure 1.

Figure 1 – Constituent Council Capital Cost-Share Percentages

Council	% Share of Capital Costs
Adelaide	8%
Burnside	12%
Mitcham	10%
Unley	21%
West Torrens	49%

To date, the level of capital funding being provided by Constituent Councils has been based on forward work plans and project scheduling, with consideration to the availability of funding from each Constituent Council. The total allocation of funds in any given year is generally influenced by the availability of funding from City of West Torrens, given the sizeable contribution being made by this Constituent Council in comparison to the remaining four councils.

1.3 State Government - Stormwater Management Authority funding

The SMA is a statutory corporation established under Schedule 1 A of the Local Government Act 1999 to act as a stormwater planning and prioritising body for South Australia. The SMA promotes the development of integrated Stormwater Management Plans and played a key role in supporting the development and adoption of the Board's Plan.

Under Schedule 1A of the Local Government Act 1999, the SMA is also charged with the management of the Stormwater Management Fund, which is established primarily to assist local government to meet the costs of stormwater management planning and stormwater management works.

The state government, via the SMA and the Stormwater Management Fund, has committed to fund up to \$70 million of the total cost of the works identified in the Plan, matched at least dollar for dollar by the Constituent Councils with these funds being provided over a period of twenty-years.

The FY23 commitment from the SMA is \$4.5m and forward estimates indicate that a \$4m per annum contribution will be made to the project thereafter, until the total contribution of \$70m is reached.

1.4 Commonwealth Government

In 2022, \$10M in Commonwealth Government grant funding was secured by the Project as part of the Preparing Australian Communities Program. This funding will contribute toward the delivery of the Lower Brown Hill Creek capacity upgrade, between Adelaide Airport and Birdwood Terrace. To date, no broader Commonwealth Government funding commitment has been made.

2. Delivery Schedule and Cost Estimates

The SMP sets out the logical progression of works with consideration to:

1. The relative effectiveness of the individual works.
2. The requirement to ensure the staging of works does not result in the temporary transfer of a flood problem elsewhere.
3. Works involving temporary detention of flood waters can proceed at any time. They provide benefit even if other works are not completed.
4. Channel upgrades should progress from downstream to upstream and should follow the construction of flood detention works, because channel upgrades are sized for reduced outflows from upstream detention systems.

Figure 2 – Project Stages and Progression of Works



The SMP (Section 15.5) envisaged a 10-year works implementation program but noted that this timeframe “may not correspond to the budgetary program of individual catchment councils”.

Further, the SMP (section 17.4.2) proposed a funding model whereby the 3 spheres of government each contribute one third of the capital cost based on the 10-year construction program. A full Federal government commitment has never been made to the project and current works are being delivered using funds contributed by the Constituent Councils and the SMA.

The SMA has committed up to \$70m to be provided over 20 years and the availability of this funding has driven the current 20-year delivery timeframe.

Figure 3 provides a summary of the estimated cost to deliver the project, in 2021 figures with no allowance for escalation.

Figure 3 – 2021 Construction Cost Estimates (no escalation)

Stage	2021 Cost Estimate ¹
1 – Flood Detention & Completed Works ²	\$34.5m
2 – Lower Brown Hill Creek	\$51.5m
3 – Keswick Creek Flow Diversions	\$70.5m
4 – Upper Brown Hill & Glen Osmond Creeks	\$30.5m ³
Total	\$187.0m

¹ Rounded to half millions; no allowance for escalation
 Lower Brown Hill Creek and Keswick Creek Flow Diversions based on Reference Design
 Upper Brown Hill Creek and Glen Osmond Creek reference design process is ongoing

² Flood detention works include:

- o Glenside
- o South Park Lands
- o Upper Brown Hill Creek – Ridge Park Dam

Also includes completed channel upgrade works:

- o Lower Brown Hill Creek – Daly Street
- o Upper Brown Hill Creek – DPTI Culvert
- o Upper Brown Hill Creek – Area 1, Everard Park
- o Upper Brown Hill Creek – Hawthorn Reserve

The total cost to deliver the capital works program will be dependent upon the delivery schedule and the availability of funding to accelerate the program. Three scenarios have been modelled:

a. Current Funding Model

Assumes committed funding from the SMA and the Constituent Councils of \$140m, for partial delivery of the Project over a 20-year timeframe concluding in 2037. Under this scenario, the project will remain incomplete.

b. Current Delivery Schedule

Assumes committed funding from the SMA and the Constituent Councils of \$140m plus uncommitted funding of \$104.9m required from other sources, equating to total funding of \$244.9m for completion of the project over a 20-year timeframe concluding in 2037.

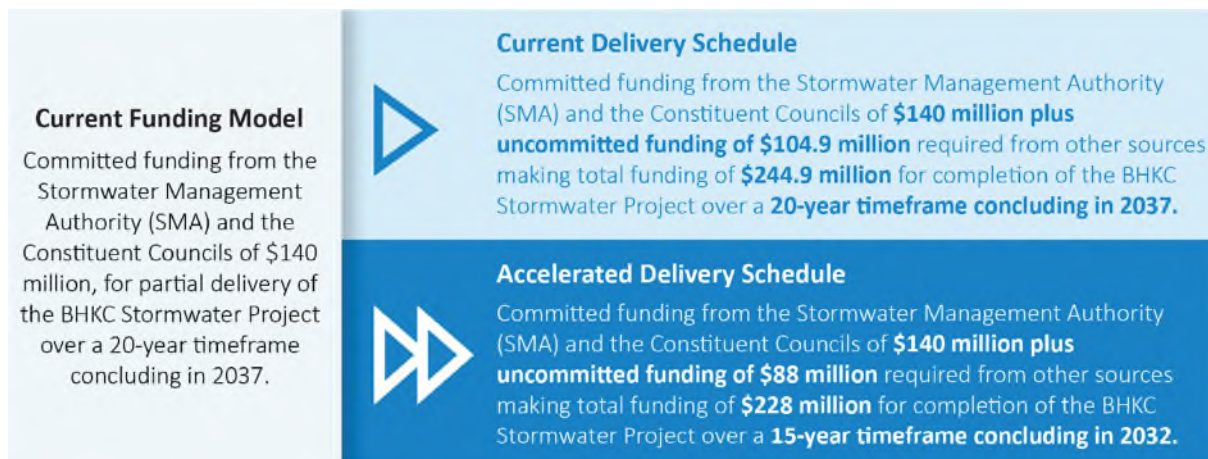
c. Accelerated Delivery Schedule

Assumes committed funding from the SMA and the Constituent Councils of \$140m plus uncommitted funding of \$88m required from other sources, equating to total funding of \$228m for completion of the project over a 15-year timeframe concluding in 2032.

Figure 4 provides a visual representation of these three scenarios.

The project has a significant funding shortfall resulting from the lack of Commonwealth Government funding. Additional project funding is required to 'fill the gap' and ensure project completion. Priority remains on working with Constituent Councils and the SMA to secure the required level of additional project funding.

Figure 4 – Funding Scenarios



3. Current Funding Status

Figure 5 provides a summary of the current level of capital funding provided to the project, including projections for FY23 contributions not yet received. In the early stages of project delivery, SMA funding was provided in arrears following project expenditure being incurred. This resulted in significantly higher levels of Constituent Council funding being required to fund delivery ahead of SMA funding being received. Arrangements are now in place for SMA funding to be provided annually in advance.

Figure 5 – Capital Funding Summary to 30 June 2023 (\$'000s)

	Pre FY20	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23 ¹	Total
Constituent Councils	9,812	2,302	5,639	4,000	2,450	24,203
SMA	3,895	1,697	6,821	5,000	4,500	21,913
Commonwealth	0	0	0	0	4,120 ²	4,120
Other	0,025	0,065	0,872	0	0	0,962
Total	13,732	4,064	13,332	9,000	11,070	51,198

¹ FY23 figures include allowances for committed funds not yet received from Constituent Councils and the SMA

² \$10m in Commonwealth Government funding has been secured under the Preparing Australian Communities Program to contribute to delivery of Lower Brown Hill Creek works. This funding will be provided over 3 years.

4. Project Funding Strategy

Recent engagement between the Board and representatives from each of the Constituent Councils has supported the development of actions for continued project delivery. The actions were agreed subject to confirmation from Constituent Councils regarding the level of capital funding available to the project.

The Board has recommended long-term capital funding contributions of \$4m per annum from Constituent Councils to ensure sufficient matching funds are available to sustain the continued SMA contribution. This level of funding from both the Constituent Councils and the SMA will ensure continued project delivery at a level similar to that achieved over the past 3-4 years. Council contributions will reach \$70m in FY35.

Recommended actions for continued project delivery		
The following actions will ensure project delivery can continue and will provide an agreed, structured approach to identify and deliver on priorities with flexibility to increase scope and/or change course should additional funding be secured:		
1	Long-term capital funding contributions from Constituent Councils to be confirmed at a base of \$4m per annum to maintain consistency with Stormwater Management Authority contributions and provide certainty in planning project deliverables.	Not yet approved
2	Any proposed increase or acceleration of capital funding from Constituent Councils to be presented to the Owners Executive Committee for consideration.	Agreed
3	Delivery schedule to prioritise completion of Lower Brown Hill Creek Upgrades and targeted priority areas within Upper Brown Hill Creek. BHKC to engage with Constituent Councils to develop a schedule of project priorities with consideration to available funding and high-risk areas.	Agreed
4	Keswick Creek Flow diversions to remain 'unfunded' under the current funding model and to form the basis of a targeted bid for additional project funding.	Agreed
5	BHKC to continue to drive the pursuit of additional project funding with the support of the Constituent Councils.	Agreed

It is necessary to reach an agreement regarding a consistent level of capital funding that will ensure continued project delivery, no reductions to SMA funding and provide the Project with the best opportunity for completion while being sustainable for Constituent Councils.

It is intended that the Constituent Council and Stormwater Management Authority contributions fund the delivery of the Lower and Upper Brown Hill Creek upgrades along with the Glen Osmond Creek upgrades. Federal government funding will continue to be pursued to fund the flow diversions sub-project.

Figure 6 provides a breakdown of the annual contributions required from each Constituent Council to support a total Council capital contribution of \$4 million per annum.

Figure 6 – Individual Council Contributions – per annum

Adelaide	8%	\$320k
Burnside	12%	\$480k
Mitcham	10%	\$400k
Unley	21%	\$840k
West Torrens	49%	\$1.960m
Total	100%	\$4m

Figure 7 provides a summary of the proposed capital contributions over the life of the project.

Figure 7 – Proposed Capital Contributions over life of project
Remaining contributions to be pursued by the Board with support from SMA and Constituent Councils

Annual Contributions	to FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY28	FY29	FY30	FY31	FY32	FY33	FY34	FY35	FY36	FY37	Total
	\$'000s	\$'000s	\$'000s	\$'000s	\$'000s	\$'000s	\$'000s	\$'000s	\$'000s	\$'000s	\$'000s	\$'000s	\$'000s	\$'000s	\$'000s	\$'000s	\$'000s
Adelaide	8%	1,740	0,196	0,320	0,320	0,320	0,320	0,320	0,320	0,320	0,320	0,320	0,320	0,144	0,000	0,000	5,600
Burnside	12%	2,610	0,294	0,480	0,480	0,480	0,480	0,480	0,480	0,480	0,480	0,480	0,480	0,216	0,000	0,000	8,400
Mitcham	10%	2,175	0,245	0,400	0,400	0,400	0,400	0,400	0,400	0,400	0,400	0,400	0,400	0,180	0,000	0,000	7,000
Unley	21%	4,568	0,515	0,840	0,840	0,840	0,840	0,840	0,840	0,840	0,840	0,840	0,840	0,378	0,000	0,000	14,700
West Torrens Councils	49%	10,659	1,201	1,960	1,960	1,960	1,960	1,960	1,960	1,960	1,960	1,960	1,960	0,881	0,000	0,000	34,300
SMA		17,413	4,500	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	1,798	0,000	0,000	70,000
Commonwealth		0,000	4,120	3,346	2,534	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	10,000
Other*		0,962	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,962
Total		40,128	11,070	11,346	10,534	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	5,798	0,087	0,000	150,963
<i>Remaining works to be funded using Commonwealth Funds not yet secured</i>																	
Cumulative Totals	to FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY28	FY29	FY30	FY31	FY32	FY33	FY34	FY35	FY36	FY37	
Adelaide	8%	1,740	1,936	2,256	2,576	2,896	3,216	3,536	3,856	4,176	4,496	4,816	5,136	5,456	5,600	5,600	
Burnside	12%	2,610	2,904	3,384	3,864	4,344	4,824	5,304	5,784	6,264	6,744	7,224	7,704	8,184	8,400	8,400	
Mitcham	10%	2,175	2,420	2,820	3,220	3,620	4,020	4,420	4,820	5,220	5,620	6,020	6,420	6,820	7,000	7,000	
Unley	21%	4,568	5,082	5,922	6,762	7,602	8,442	9,282	10,122	10,962	11,802	12,642	13,482	14,322	14,700	14,700	
West Torrens Councils	49%	10,659	11,859	13,819	15,779	17,739	19,699	21,659	23,619	25,579	27,539	29,499	31,459	33,419	34,300	34,300	
SMA		21,752	24,202	28,202	32,202	36,202	40,202	44,202	48,202	52,202	56,202	60,202	64,202	68,202	70,000	70,000	
Commonwealth		0,000	4,120	7,466	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	
Other*		0,962	0,962	0,962	0,962	0,962	0,962	0,962	0,962	0,962	0,962	0,962	0,962	0,962	0,962	0,962	
Total		40,128	51,198	62,544	73,078	81,078	89,078	97,078	105,078	113,078	121,078	129,078	137,078	145,078	150,963	150,963	
<i>Remaining works to be funded using Commonwealth Funds not yet secured</i>																	

*Other includes Council contributions to local projects with value-add components and grant funding

5. Operating Funds from Constituent Councils

Operating contributions from Constituent Councils are equivalent to the budgeted operating expenditure for each financial year, with each Council contributing equally at 20% each. Most operating expenses are relatively stable year on year and are generally expected to increase by rates consistent with the Local Government Price Index annually. The exceptions to this are:

- Staff salaries which may vary if considerable additional funding is secured and increase to administrative and other resources is required.
- Asset maintenance and operating costs that are dependent on the delivery schedule and completion of works.
- Depreciation expense which is dependent on the delivery schedule and completion of works.

The Constituent Councils are particularly sensitive to increases in operating costs as they can have a direct impact on Council rates. Additional consideration has therefore been given to asset maintenance and operating costs in particular as this is the operating cost that has the greatest likelihood of increase and the most significant impact.

5.1 Asset Costs

Asset maintenance is work that is carried out on a regular basis and is essential to ensure the assets continue to operate. These works may include weed eradication, gross pollutant trap and channel cleaning, cleaning and desilting of assets. It may also include immediate repairs where components of an overall asset fail, and work is required to return the asset to an operational condition. Inspections include regularly scheduled activities to monitor the performance of assets and identify any deficiencies or maintenance works required. Asset operating costs include ongoing costs associated with the asset functioning.

Maintenance responsibilities are assigned on the basis that:

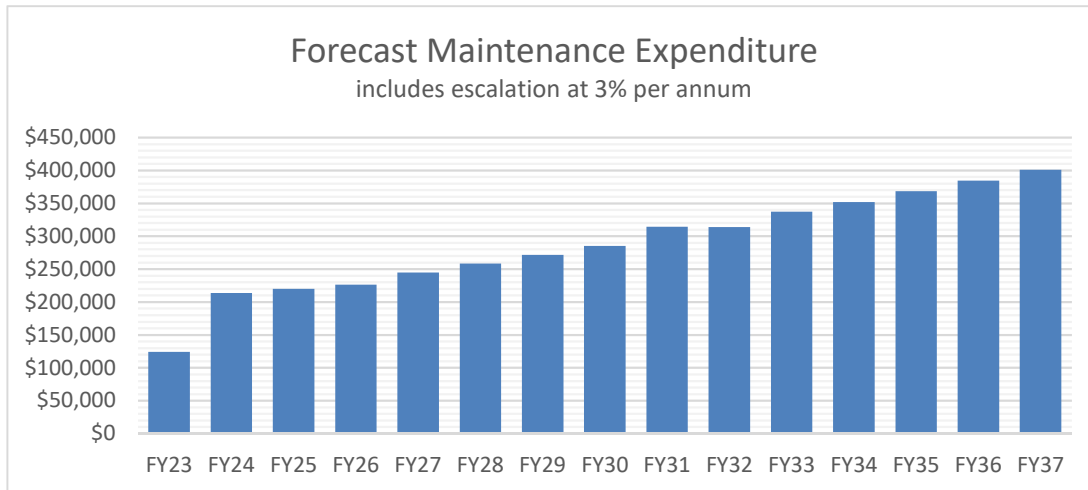
- The Board is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of all stormwater infrastructure delivered under the SMP. This includes assets such as concrete channels, gabion walls, culverts, pump stations, gross pollutant traps, pipes, wetland batters and clay lining.
- The property owner (whether that be a Council or private landowner) will be responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of any existing assets (such as the existing channel walls at Hawthorn Reserve), all new non-stormwater assets (such as footbridges, boardwalks, stone cladding to channel walls) and all landscaping components (such as batter plantings and replacement trees; except for wetland plants which are integral to the successful operation of the wetland).

The Stormwater Management Plan (SMP) assumes annual maintenance costs will be approximately 0.3% of the accumulated asset construction cost – in excess of \$400k per annum based on the 2016 SMP capital works estimate of \$140m. In reality, the majority of the assets will have minimal maintenance requirements. Following construction, a 12-month maintenance period is established whereby the construction contractor retains responsibility. Thereafter, most assets have a long life and those that will be the responsibility of the Board do not require regular or ongoing maintenance.

Glenside and the South Park Lands wetland are the two sites that are most costly to maintain. The majority of the cost associated with the Glenside site relates to cleaning and maintaining the 3 gross pollutant traps and this cost will be ongoing. The wetland site is currently being maintained as part of the project's capital works budget during the initial 12-month establishment phase but will become an asset maintenance expense from FY24.

Figure 8 provides an overview of projected asset expenditure for the existing completed and proposed new works over the delivery schedule. The most significant year on year increase is from FY23 to FY24 as maintenance of the wetland will become an operating cost. Thereafter, annual increases are expected to be minimal. There is also a smaller spike in FY31 as an allowance has been made for the dewatering and cleanout of the wetland inlet pond.

Figure 8 – Forecast Asset Expenditure



The forecast expenditure is a significant reduction on previous estimates on the basis that the maintenance responsibility will predominantly rest with the property owner. The Board’s responsibility will be limited to infrastructure critical to the stormwater management function. Any improvements beyond the base stormwater infrastructure will remain the responsibility of the property owner. Annual maintenance costs have been set at 0.05% of the accumulated asset construction cost for remaining works and escalation of 3% per annum has been applied.

5.2 Operating Expenses

Figure 9 provides forecast figures for the next 10 years. Budgeted operating expenses for FY23 have been escalated at 3% per annum with the exception of asset expenditure which is in accordance with the forecast depicted in figure 3. These forecasts are influenced by the capital works schedule and are therefore subject to change following confirmation of capital funding availability.

Figure 9 – Forecast Operating Expenses (\$'000), includes escalation at 3% per annum

	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY28	FY29	FY30	FY31	FY32
Operating	0,544	0,560	0,577	0,594	0,612	0,631	0,650	0,669	0,689	0,710
Asset Costs	0,124	0,213	0,220	0,226	0,245	0,258	0,272	0,285	0,314	0,314
Total	0,668	0,774	0,797	0,821	0,857	0,889	0,921	0,954	1,003	1,024
Each Council	0,134	0,155	0,159	0,164	0,171	0,178	0,184	0,191	0,201	0,205

5.3 Operating Contributions

There is an opportunity for accrued operating surplus to be used to fund portion of the increase in asset maintenance expense each year. This surplus is predominantly the result of interest accruing on capital funds and it has previously been used to fund the development of the business case and funding strategy.

Interest is currently being accrued at approximately \$20k-\$25k per month based on recent interest rate increases and current level of funds held. The level of funds held will start to reduce as Lower Brown Hill Creek works are delivered.

Figure 10 provides a summary of the expected operating contribution required from each Constituent Council over the next 10 years. The accrued operating surplus has been used to subsidise contributions. The accrued surplus balance will need to be assessed annually prior to the annual budget being prepared and ahead of funding contributions being confirmed with Constituent Councils.

Figure 10 – Proposed Operating Contributions (\$'000), includes escalation at 3% per annum

	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY28	FY29	FY30	FY31	FY32
General	0,544	0,560	0,577	0,594	0,612	0,631	0,650	0,669	0,689	0,710
Asset	0,124	0,213	0,220	0,226	0,245	0,258	0,272	0,285	0,314	0,314
Total Expense	0,668	0,774	0,797	0,821	0,857	0,889	0,921	0,954	1,003	1,024
Less accrued surplus (estimate)	0,000	0,075	0,050	0,025	0,025	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000
Total Contribution	0,668	0,699	0,747	0,796	0,832	0,889	0,921	0,954	1,003	1,024
Each Council	0,134	0,140	0,149	0,159	0,166	0,178	0,184	0,191	0,201	0,205

As Constituent Councils are sensitive to increases in operating contributions, it will be necessary for sufficient allowance to be made over the longer term to accommodate the increase in operating expenses that will be incurred as project works are completed.

Climate Impact Considerations

(Assessment of likely positive or negative implications of this decision will assist Council and the West Torrens Community to build resilience and adapt to the challenges created by a changing climate.)

There is no direct climate impact consideration in relation to this report.

Conclusion

Proposed operating and capital contributions from City of West Torrens over the next 10 years are set out in Figure 11. These contributions include an allowance for escalation at 3% per annum.

Figure 11 – City of West Torrens Proposed Operating and Capital Contributions (\$'000)

	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY28	FY29	FY30	FY31	FY32
Operating	0,134	0,140	0,149	0,159	0,166	0,178	0,184	0,191	0,201	0,205
Capital	1,201	1,960	1,960	1,960	1,960	1,960	1,960	1,960	1,960	1,960
Total Contribution	1,335	2,100	2,109	2,119	2,126	2,138	2,144	2,151	2,161	2,165

Figure 12 shows how the proposed operating and capital contributions compare with the amounts allocated for this purpose in CWT's Long Term Financial Plan.

The analysis reveals that an additional \$6.390M is required as the CWT contribution over the next 10 years.

Some potential funding sources are also shown below, namely, using the Phase 4 Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program grant funding of \$699K for this purpose in 2023/24 (FY24) together with a component of the rate increase for 2023/2024 (FY24) being a 0.02% increase and other rate component increases specifically for this purpose over the remaining financial years as shown below.

It is not recommended that additional funds be borrowed for this purpose as Councils level of borrowings is expected to be at capacity over the course of the next 10 years.

Figure 12 – Additional Contribution required from the City of West Torrens (\$'000)

BHKC Proposal	Owing											Total	
	from PY	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY28	FY29	FY30	FY31	FY32		
Operating		134	140	149	159	166	178	184	191	201	205	1,707	
Capital		1,201	1,960	1,960	1,960	1,960	1,960	1,960	1,960	1,960	1,960	18,841	
Total Contribution		1,335	2,100	2,109	2,119	2,126	2,138	2,144	2,151	2,161	2,165	20,548	
CWT LTFP													
Operating (included in capital amount)		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Capital		1,418	1,429	1,429	1,429	1,429	1,429	1,429	1,429	1,429	1,429	14,283	
Total Contribution	126	1,418	1,429	1,429	1,429	1,429	1,429	1,429	1,429	1,429	1,429	14,283	
Variance	126	-	83	671	680	690	697	709	715	722	732	736	6,390
Funding Sources													
LCRI Phase 4		-	699	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	699	
Rate increase		-	14	680	690	697	709	715	722	732	736	5,691	
Shortfall		42	-	42								-	
Additional Rate Increase													
% Required			0.02	1.13	1.15	1.16	1.18	1.19	1.20	1.22	1.23		

Attachments

Nil

16.3 Parliamentary Inquiry into the Urban Forest

Brief

This report presents recommended feedback as it applies to the City of West Torrens to the Environment, Resources and Development Committee's Inquiry into the Urban Forest.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended to Council that:

1. The proposed response attached to this report be approved and submitted to the Environment, Resources and Development Committee's Inquiry into the Urban Forest.
2. The Chief Executive Officer be authorised to make any amendments of a minor nature, finalise and submit the feedback contained in this report to the Environment, Resources and Development Committee.

Introduction

The Environment, Resources and Development Committee (Committee) has begun an inquiry into the urban forest, with a focus on tree species selection and other measures to preserve and improve the tree canopy in metropolitan Adelaide and a focus on trees for urban infill developments.

Discussion

An urban forest encompasses all the trees in an urban area, including trees on private land such as gardens and businesses, trees on state government land including public schools, state parks and reserves and trees on local government land such as local parks, reserves and streets.

Tree canopy in the Adelaide metropolitan area is declining significantly in many suburbs as subdivisions and urban infill replaces gardens, trees and brownfield sites with hard surfaces e.g. buildings, paving, driveways, and roads to support higher density living.

It is widely recognised that reductions in tree canopy, which provides shading and cooling through evapotranspiration, results in increased temperatures locally through urban heat island effect due to hard surfaces absorbing and re-radiating more heat than vegetation. This has implications for the liveability of urban areas as climate induced temperature rises combine with greater urban heat island effect to render some locations inhospitable.

As the climate changes, urban areas need to prepare for more extreme drought and heat and the impact such extremes will have on urban trees and plants. Many of the current species of trees that comprise the urban forest (trees on private land, street trees and park and reserve trees) may be unable to thrive in a hotter, drier climate and will need to be progressively replaced with more resilient species and fitted with water sensitive urban design infrastructure to assist with tree health and survival.

Consequently, the Committee is keen to hear from individuals and organisations, including Councils with an interest in the inquiry topic (**Attachment 1**). The Committee is accepting written submissions that examine:

1. Best practice and innovative measures to assist in the selection and maintenance of site appropriate tree species to improve the resilience of the urban forest, with a focus on trees for urban infill developments;
2. Legislative and regulatory options to improve the resilience and longevity of trees comprising the urban forest; and
3. Any other related matters.

Submissions close Friday 24 February 2023 and public hearings may be held at a later date to be advised. Up to date information with the Committee's activities will be kept on the Parliament website (www.parliament.sa.gov.au/en/Committees/Committees-Detail)

The release of the Parliamentary Inquiry into the Urban Forest is very timely, having overlapped with the Expert Panel's Planning System Implementation Review (Review). Part of this Review asked questions around tree canopy, tree protections, development impact on tree protection, current off-set schemes and public realm planting.

Consequently, it is proposed that **Attachment 2** that this proposed submission to the Committee be cloned and submitted to the Review as Council's response to the Review which also identifies that there is a greater opportunity to incorporate climate resilience within the State's Planning System, on the understanding that maintaining and improving the urban forest in tandem with other measures will help improve climate resilience and achieving the targets contained in *The 30 Year plan for Greater Adelaide*.

Climate Impact Considerations

(Assessment of likely positive or negative implications of this decision will assist Council and the West Torrens Community to build resilience and adapt to the challenges created by a changing climate.)

Shady streetscapes are an effective means of reducing urban heat island effects, resulting in savings in energy use and reduced production of greenhouse gases. Urban trees and other flora, whether native, indigenous or exotic, provide habitat for urban fauna.

Conclusion

This report presents the recommended response to the Committee which is undertaking a parliamentary inquiry into the Urban Forest. The recommended response is presented for the Council's approval to submit and largely reflects advice provided to the Expert Panel who were undertaking the Planning System Implementation Review.

Attachments

- 1. Advertisement - Inquiry into the Urban Forest**
- 2. Draft Response to Parliamentary Inquiry into the Urban Forest**



Parliament of South Australia

ENVIRONMENT, RESOURCES & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

INQUIRY INTO THE URBAN FOREST

The Environment, Resources and Development Committee is calling for submissions to its inquiry into the urban forest. The ERDC will inquire into and report on:

1. Best practice and innovative measures to assist in the selection and maintenance of site-appropriate tree species to improve the resilience of the urban forest, with a focus on trees for urban infill developments;
2. Legislative and regulatory options to improve the resilience and longevity of trees comprising the urban forest; and
3. Any other related matters.

The Committee is seeking written submissions and expressions of interest to appear before the Committee from interested individuals and organisations by 24 February 2023.

Submissions addressing the terms of reference above should be sent to: erdc.assembly@parliament.sa.gov.au or Environment, Resources & Development Committee, GPO Box 572, ADELAIDE SA 5001.

For further information, phone **8237 9284** or visit:

www.parliament.sa.gov.au/en/committees/committees-detail

W15158

Trees

Tree Canopy

What are the implications of master planned/greenfield development areas also being required to ensure at least one (1) tree is planted per new dwelling, in addition to the existing provision of public reserves/parks?

Some recurring issues experienced as well as within the master planned developments include:

- Open space is not always provided due to staging of the development to avoid open space trigger.
- Developers seeking 9% citing that as adequate open space, therefore limited open space is provided (noting a cash top up is provided).
- Provision of trees only in open space will not facilitate the dispersal of tree canopy amongst the development, open space tends to be consolidated.
- Open space is not only for tree planting, the function of the open space needs to be considered.
- Without trees planted on private land, targets will not be met.
- Verges need to be an appropriate size to accommodate tree planting and other competing uses e.g. waste collection, WSUD and allow for separation from dwelling. Design standards should capture all relevant elements.

City of West Torrens is vulnerable to changes in temperature, extreme weather events, sea level rise, and associated storm surges. Greater Adelaide's future prosperity and liveability will depend on how effectively we address and respond to the impacts of climate change. Policy that seeks to improve environmental quality, rather than increase pressure on public land to achieve all greening, cooling and sustainability targets would be detrimental. Climate resilience requires action from multiple stakeholders and through a number of measures.

If this policy was introduced, what are your thoughts relating to the potential requirement to plant a tree to the rear of a dwelling site as an option?

West Torrens is supportive of the requirement to include planting on private land in master planned/greenfield sites. Ultimately, an increase in tree canopy is sought with appropriate tools/policy to enforce the tree planting and maintenance (which is the responsibility of the property owner) to be monitored and supported.

There is merit in seeking planting in the rear of the site particularly in zones where 0m or small front setback is sought. Another benefit to planting trees in the rear of small allotments in lieu of the front is to reduce conflict with council street tree plantings due to proximity.

The Adelaide Garden Guide for New Homes prepared by Green Adelaide in partnership with the State Planning Commission, PlanSA and the Office for Design and Architecture SA is a great resource, and provides an opportunity to also work up designs for smaller gardens that may be seen in master planned areas.

Tree Protections

The government's changes to the legislation, although required to balance development with canopy conservation, has now resulted in an ineffective framework to protect trees and with this, a wholesale removal of trees, some of which predate European settlement. These

Parliamentary Inquiry into the Urban Forest

trees, once gone, cannot be replaced are an intergenerational asset, make regions desirable places to live/invest and provide important means of protection from habitat loss.

There is a large body of evidence based research demonstrating the loss of canopy cover and how this is now occurring at an alarming rate. A City of Burnside canopy study identified a 10% loss of Canopy cover over a 5 year period between 2010 and 2015

(<https://www.burnside.sa.gov.au/Environment-Sustainability/Trees/Tree-Canopy-Report>).

From the body of research undertaken across metropolitan SA it is evident that most of the loss is occurring on private land. Should the rate of canopy loss trend continue, the Government's ability to maintain canopy cover or offset this loss on public land is unachievable. Effective legislation is therefore required to protect those trees on private land that significantly contribute canopy cover.

Since the introduction of Significant Tree Legislation those measures introduced to help protect trees have been eroded. Examples include those amendments in 2012 (Development Amendment Act – Regulated Tree Variation 2012) reducing the circumference to trigger protection from 2 metres to 3 metres, the exemption of species most commonly occurring on private land regardless of historic, amenity or environmental attributes, the exemption of all species within 10m of a property (excluding Eucalyptus and Agonis), the removal of all species within 20m of an asset in a bushfire prescribed area and the removal of those public owned trees occurring on public schools. These changes now make the Legislation valueless in its ability to protect trees, including those last remnant ingenious trees that predate European settlement, those trees that have significant cultural value and or those that protect against habitat loss.

The 30-year Plan for Greater Adelaide recognises the value and importance of Urban Green Cover setting the objective (Target 5) to maintain and increase canopy cover.

Considering loss of canopy cover is occurring on private land and recognising public land to offset this loss is limited, without changes to improve tree protection targets, to increase tree canopy will be unachievable. Particularly in established areas that currently already have poor canopy cover.

The introduction of the Planning and Design Code has seen the tone of development assessment provisions change from ensuring that development minimises impact on trees to the trees needing to demonstrate exceptional attributes in order to make them worthy of retention. For the Expert Panel's consideration are the former provisions contained in the West Torrens Development Plan:

Objectives:

2 Development in balance with preserving regulated trees that demonstrate one or more of the following attributes:

- (a) significantly contributes to the character or visual amenity of the locality*
- (b) indigenous to the locality*
- (c) a rare or endangered species*
- (d) an important habitat for native fauna.*

Principles of Development Control

1 Development should have minimum adverse effects on regulated trees.

2 A regulated tree should not be removed or damaged other than where it can be demonstrated that one or more of the following apply:

- (a) the tree is diseased and its life expectancy is short*
- (b) the tree represents a material risk to public or private safety*
- (c) the tree is causing damage to a building*

Parliamentary Inquiry into the Urban Forest

-
- (d) development that is reasonable and expected would not otherwise be possible
 (e) the work is required for the removal of dead wood, treatment of disease, or is in the general interests of the health of the tree.

3 Tree damaging activity other than removal should seek to maintain the health, aesthetic appearance and structural integrity of the tree.

3 Significant trees should be preserved, and tree-damaging activity should not be undertaken, unless:

- (a) in the case of tree removal, where at least one of the following apply:
- (i) the tree is diseased and its life expectancy is short
 - (ii) the tree represents an unacceptable risk to public or private safety
 - (iii) the tree is within 20 metres of a residential, tourist accommodation or habitable building and is a bushfire hazard within a Bushfire Prone Area
- (b) the tree is shown to be causing or threatening to cause substantial damage to a substantial building or structure of value
- (c) all other reasonable remedial treatments and measures have been determined to be ineffective
- (d) it is demonstrated that all reasonable alternative development options and design solutions have been considered to prevent substantial tree-damaging activity occurring
- (e) in any other case, any of the following circumstances apply:
- (i) the work is required for the removal of dead wood, treatment of disease, or is in the general interests of the health of the tree
 - (ii) the work is required due to unacceptable risk to public or private safety
 - (iii) the tree is shown to be causing or threatening to cause damage to a substantial building or structure of value
 - (iv) the aesthetic appearance and structural integrity of the tree is maintained
 - (v) it is demonstrated that all reasonable alternative development options and design solutions have been considered to prevent substantial tree-damaging activity occurring.

The Code is likely to support the removal of more trees.

[What are the implications of reducing the minimum circumference for regulated and significant tree protections?](#)

A number of exemptions were introduced in 2011 to the protections for regulated and significant trees noticeably it weakened and undermined the original intention of tree protections in South Australia - preventing unnecessary removals. While South Australia's tree laws have always focused on protecting individual large trees, interstate attention has turned to protecting the "urban forest".

As recommended by the [Urban Tree Protection in Australia](#) report from the University of Adelaide, change to the definition of a regulated tree to:

- Has a trunk circumference of 50cm or more measured 1m above the ground
- Or has a height of 6m or more
- Or has canopy of over 9sqm

There is a need to review the definition. If the parameters were to change away from a circumference from 2-3metres there would be more trees captured. Looking at the street trees within the City of West Torrens and on public land only, if the following parameters

Parliamentary Inquiry into the Urban Forest

were changed, then additional trees would potentially be protected under the definition above:

- 5-10m height- 17,278 street trees,
- 5-10m canopy- 17,982 street tree, and
- 5-10m height and 5-10m canopy- 10,971 street trees.

Currently, there are only 2,094 street trees captured and protected that have a circumference equal to or greater than 2m.

What are the implications of introducing a height protection threshold, to assist in meeting canopy targets?

Data capture and identification of canopy size may be an issue. Council has tree canopy mapping (Forestreet), so that would likely assist in identifying tree canopy of street trees, however this may be difficult to gain data for privately owned trees. Although, [Urban Heat and Tree Mapping Viewer \(environment.sa.gov.au\)](https://environment.sa.gov.au/urban-heat-and-tree-mapping-viewer) has information of canopy and height estimations (this is being revised over coming months but there may be issues with timing between mapping being captured, tree canopy brought over into the mapping).

Another implication would be ensuring that the community are aware of how to measure the canopy, and raising awareness of any policy change, it could be difficult to update people affected.

What are the implications of introducing a crown spread protection, to assist in meeting canopy targets?

West Torrens is supportive of crown spread protection and identifies the following:

- Remove the ability to prune up to 30% of a regulated / significant tree without requiring approval and implement a system that requires the use of the AS4373 Standard.
- 30% pruning of the canopy is an excessive amount, and in addition, to establish exactly what 30% removal is, becomes very difficult. Proof is need in the form of before photos and even then the amount is subject to visual assessment only and difficult to prove. There continues to be the oversight that 30% could be removed today, a further 30% could be removed in 3 months' time and so on, until there is nothing left of the canopy (and tree).

The City of West Torrens would seeks evidence to be provided when applying for council rebates to help retain trees onsite. There is the possibility/ability to capture private trees on Councils tree asset management system (Forestreet) once the information is provided. It could then be implement state-wide via a Local Government tree portal.

What are the implications of introducing species-based tree protections?

A review and modification of the exemption list to better reflect the South Australian Environment and better protect non weed species trees is supported and recommended.

Distance from Development

Currently you can remove a protected tree (excluding *Agonis flexuosa* (Willow Myrtle) or *Eucalyptus* (any tree of the genus) if it is within ten (10) metres of a dwelling or swimming pool. What are the implications of reducing this distance?

The City of West Torrens would like to see more trees protected. Reducing the 10 metre distance appears to provide a mechanism to support trees growing closer to a building or structure of significance.

Consideration should be given to bringing this into line with other states e.g. 0m distance unless it has gone through an assessment process to demonstrate that the tree is causing irreparable damage.

However, if this policy were to be retained the following is sought:

- Clarity around where the measurement for the 10 metres is taken from e.g. pool coping, slab protruding past verandah posts, the post of the wall of the dwelling.
- Recognising the importance of balancing tree protection and development needs, there is a need for investigation into expanding the list of tree species that should be included within the Regulations (Part 2, 6A(5)(a)) in relation to trees that require development approval when located within 10 metres of an existing dwelling, or an existing in-ground swimming pool. This is to ensure and recognise that there are more trees of significance than only the two listed currently that are worthy of consideration for further protection.

What are the implications of revising the circumstances when it would be permissible to permit a protected tree to be removed (i.e. not only when it is within the proximity of a major structure, and/or poses a threat to safety and/or infrastructure)?

Some thoughts when considering this question include:

- Automatic approvals are not supported for the removal of trees that should be protected either currently or under revised legislation. An assessment is sought with a qualified professional making the recommendations (arborist, structural engineer)
- Increase the use of arborists to assess applications affecting regulated and significant trees and allow for streamlined approval process for applications to remove regulated and significant trees.
- In order to reduce conflicts of interest, do not allow the same company or arborist who makes an assessment for a regulated or significant tree removal to undertake the work. This would provide opportunity for the veracity of the assessing arborist's assessment to be seen.
- Mechanism to prevent tree removal if the development requiring the trees removal does not proceed, particularly in instances where the tree is in good health and not requiring removal other than to accommodate the development.
- Tree protections may limit a site's development potential just as other site constraints do so unless the tree is diseased with a short life expectancy then tree retention should be the aim.
- Qualify what is meant by the following terms to ensure consistency and clarity:
 - a major structure
 - what is the threat
 - what is perceived risk
 - potential for fail

Parliamentary Inquiry into the Urban Forest

- Restore the requirement for the Department of Infrastructure and Transport and the Department of Education to publicly consult and gain planning approval to remove regulated trees

Urban Tree Canopy Off Set Scheme

What are the implications of increasing the fee for payment into the Off-set scheme?

Implications of increasing the fee for payment into the off-set scheme include:

- Money paid into the fund should be reflective of costs associated with tree removal, tree establishment and lifetime maintenance
- May motivate applicants to plant trees instead of paying
- There is a flaw in the policy. Applicant's currently don't need to demonstrate that they can't plant even though site may be large enough to accommodate
- The rationale for including the Housing Diversity Neighbourhood Zone in the off-set scheme is understood but is considered a flawed approach; areas with a high proportion of medium density development (typically multi-dwelling sites with small setbacks, high levels of hard surfaces and in some cases more 'affordable' housing options compared to lower density areas) are more likely to benefit from trees provided on site because this type of development is hotter than areas with landscaping.

If the fee was increased, what are your thoughts about aligning the fee with the actual cost to a council of delivering (and maintaining) a tree, noting that this would result in differing costs in different locations?

West Torrens is supportive of modifying the Urban Tree Canopy Offset Scheme to better reflect the value of trees to the community by increasing the offset fees to match the costs that are consequently passed on to Councils to plant, establish and maintain replacement trees. Money generated from the payment of any off-set scheme implemented should go to the affected council.

What are the implications of increasing the off-set fees for the removal of regulated or significant trees?

If the off-set fee for the removal of a regulated or significant tree was to be increased, clear and sound justification needs to be provided for the basis of the fee. Implications to increasing the fee may include increased replacement planting over financial contribution. People paying into the fund may expect the tree(s) to be planted near to their development. However, without other policy changes, it may be difficult to enact replacement tree plantings in close proximity to where the tree was removed. This is largely due to not planting replacement trees within 10 metres of building etc. This has had implications for tree planting on verges for West Torrens. Effectively it can be difficult to replant when meeting the 10 metres away from structure policy.

West Torrens is supportive of a review of the off-set fee and seeking a more realistic replacement and maintenance cost.

Public Realm Tree Planting

Should the criteria within the Planning and Development Fund application assessment process give greater weighting to the provision of increased tree canopy?

The Planning and Development Fund (the Fund) operates under the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016* (the Act) and provides a means for open space and public realm

Parliamentary Inquiry into the Urban Forest

investment across South Australia. The aim of the Fund is not to increase tree canopy per se. By all means canopy could form a component within the project assessment criteria e.g. how was canopy considered, are there opportunities to increase planting, could trees be retained. However, not all open space projects applied for will be suited as a rewilding project but may be open space for an oval for example. In some instances tree removal may be appropriate. The consideration of canopy would serve more to show how it was considered in a submission.

The risk could be that open space is not considered in all its varied purposes with preference provided to attainment of tree canopy as the main driver to the granting of funds at the expense of community needs.

General Comments (Trees)

For the Expert Panels consideration are the following comments as they relate to trees, these are other considerations that did not fit the line of questioning contained in the discussion paper:

- Incorporate Vegetation Overlays into the Planning and Design Code, similar to those used in Victoria, to better reflect the expectations of local communities by allowing for the protection of significant urban vegetation. Tree canopy could form an overlay within the Code.
- Consider increasing the number and size of trees required by the Code to be planted in new developments.
- Tree owners claim trees warrant removal due to falling limbs, which could be managed by periodic tree maintenance. An expert report could also help ensure that pruning is done to an acceptable standard.

An expert report would also provide evidence on the current state of the tree which could be relied upon if legal action was to be taken later for tree damaging activity. There is concern however, that if maintenance of the tree becomes too difficult and/or expensive that people will remove the tree in preference to maintaining and retaining the tree.

- The Code should explore ways to retain mature vegetation and tree preservation. There is no policy on this in the Code unless significant or regulated.
- No reference to Regulated or Significant Trees is referred to for Accepted and Deemed to Satisfy Development within the Code. There is argument to say that a development cannot be an Accepted Development or Deemed to Satisfy Development if tree damaging activity will occur. However the following are not considered tree damaging activity:
 - Removal of up to 30% of the crown of the tree;
 - Construction within the critical root zone; and
 - Root damage.

These types of activities can reduce the life span of the tree or increase its risk of causing damage to people and property. Both of these situations are likely to result in the removal of the tree. It is suggested that stipulating that development cannot be Deemed to Satisfy (DTS) or Accepted when it is located within the Critical Root Zone of a Regulated or Significant tree to ensure that considerations on the impact of the tree are adequately considered.

- Members of the CAP have identified that a particular challenge over the past twelve months has been the assessment of a number of complex significant tree applications which have involved multiple and competing professional opinions from arborists. There is benefit in encouraging the State Government to invest in the

Parliamentary Inquiry into the Urban Forest

development of a consistent tree risk assessment methodology/standard to support a greater level of consistency in the professional advice provided by arborists in support of these applications.

General Comments (Climate Resilience)

For the Expert Panels consideration are the following comments as they relate to climate resilience. It was noted that this is an extremely important consideration in development assessment that appeared to be missing from the discussion papers, related questions posed and Code policy. Climate resilience could be brought into the Code as a stronger element of assessment relatively easily and help form the basis of achieving the targets contained in *The 30 Year plan for Greater Adelaide*.

For context, heatwaves and higher temperatures experienced in summer impact community health, which often results in increased mortality, medical needs and hospital admissions. In particular, higher temperatures impact members of the community who have pre-existing conditions relating to heart, renal and mental health. The City of West Torrens and Western Adelaide Region which forms part of AdaptWest have higher rates of pre-existing medical conditions within the community, putting them at greater risk of the impacts from heat. Results from the initial urban heat mapping in 2017 showed that around 31% (11.5km²) in our council area had areas of high heat or 'hot spots' which predominately occurred east of Adelaide Airport in Netley, as well as the eastern edge of the council boundary in Keswick, Ashford, Mile End South and Thebarton. The Western Adelaide Urban Heat Mapping report (2017) also explored case studies of how heat is impacted by material choice and green infrastructure, with the impact of roof colour being explored in case studies on page 30 and 31 (see attached Western Adelaide Urban Heat Mapping Project Report). Suggested improvements to better assess and recognise climate resilience and address it during the development assessment process include:

- Inclusion of performance based standards and associated tools to assess applications at planning stage for energy efficiency and other measures aimed at improving climate resilience and cost of living outcomes. This would also be consistent with other states including Victoria and New South Wales and would seek to upfront these considerations at the beginning of the assessment rather than leaving it until the building rules assessment, when opportunity to make substantive changes to the design are generally harder to implement.
- Integrated hazard overlays – primarily a heat hazard overlay that builds on the investment that Adelaide metro councils have made in heat mapping and LiDAR data. The overlay would need performance outcomes that seek to mitigate the *further* creation of heat islands and the associated hazards in the urban environment. The easiest metric that this could initially tackle would be roof colour and material selection.

16.4 Kerbside Waste Management Services

Brief

This report presents the findings of the Auditor General's Kerbside Waste Management Services examination report.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended to Council that the *Kerbside Waste Management Services* report be noted.

Introduction

In 2021, the South Australian Auditor-General (Auditor-General) announced that it intended to conduct an examination of this Council's, and another council's, kerbside waste management services. The period that the examination targeted was from 2015 to 2021.

The Auditor-General directed that all communication regarding the examination (including email correspondence) be treated as confidential and not made publicly available or published (such as in the Council's meeting agenda and/or minutes) until such time as the report was finalised and he makes the report publicly available. As a result of these confidentiality requirements, the City of West Torrens (CWT) was not informed which other council was concurrently being examined. However, on 27 May 2022, the Auditor-General provided the independent assurance report on the findings of the management of kerbside waste services review. The report was tabled in Parliament and published on 17 August 2022. At this time it was revealed that the other council subject to an examination was the City of Norwood Payneham and St Peters.

The cost of conducting examinations and preparing the Reports to Parliament was funded by the Auditor-General's Department.

This examination was conducted under s32(1)(a) of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* (PFAA). This section of the PFAA allows the Auditor-General to examine the accounts of a publicly funded body and the efficiency, economy and effectiveness of its activities. A publicly funded body is defined by s4 of the PFAA as a council constituted under the *Local Government Act 1999* or a subsidiary of such a council.

The purpose of this report is to provide the results of this examination which were presented to the 11 October 2022 Audit General Committee meeting. At that meeting, it was considered prudent to present the findings of the Auditor-General's audit report to the newly elected Council in 2023 for its information.

Discussion

Rationale to Conduct Examination

The Auditor-General's Audit Team verbally confirmed that the CWT was not chosen as a result of poor performance or complaints to external agencies. They provided their methods for selecting a sample was based on the following criteria:

- The councils selected must be metropolitan local government areas;
- The sample must have a mix between private kerbside waste collections and regional subsidiary kerbside waste arrangements; and
- The sample must have a Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) collection.

The Auditor-General stated that the examination provided independent assurance to the Parliament and the public on kerbside waste arrangements and sought to contribute to the public sector accountability and performance for the benefit of all South Australians.

Report of the Auditor-General - Management of Kerbside Waste Services (Report)

The examination assessed whether Council had effectively managed kerbside waste services to work towards achieving individual targets and the targets set by the State Government for diversion of waste to landfill. It should be noted that the two councils were not compared in any way against one another in the examination process or in the Report.

The Report of the Auditor-General (**Attachment 1**) concluded that the CWT successfully collects, transports and processes kerbside waste to a high level of community satisfaction. The Auditor-General provided an overview of where the CWT operated effectively and also included a number of recommendations.

The Audit found that the CWT was operating effectively in the following areas:

- Establishment of waste management roles and responsibilities;
- Sound risk management frameworks and processes; and
- Sound service levels and complaint management processes for waste collection services.

However, it was noted that improvement opportunities exist in the form of:

- Implementation of a waste strategy plan;
- Establishing a formal waste education strategy or program; and
- Setting local waste performance targets.

Consultation

The Administration was consulted several times in the drafting of the Report and provided commentary and written responses. These were included in the Report in sections 5.3 to 5.5 and in section 5.7. A written response was also included as Appendix 7 to the Report.

Report Recommendations

This examination was not risk based and therefore the recommendations within the Report do not carry any risk assessment against the *Council Policy - Enterprise Risk Management* or *Administration Policy - Enterprise Risk Management Framework*. It should also be noted that there is no obligation for the CWT to implement any of the actions recommended by the Auditor-General. However, as Waste and Recyclables Management is a Strategic Risk of the organisation, it is recognised that it is in the organisation's best interests to give regard to the recommendations of this Report.

It is also worthy of note that many of the actions recommended by the Auditor-General are already in progress with the Draft Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy in its final approval stages.

Climate Impact Considerations

(Assessment of likely positive or negative implications of this decision will assist Council and the West Torrens Community to build resilience and adapt to the challenges created by a changing climate.)

It is acknowledged that waste and recyclables management has a significant environmental impact. However, this examination focussed on the public sector accountability and performance of the CWT's kerbside waste services. The Report did consider the environmental benefits of an effective kerbside waste management program, albeit through a financial lens.

Conclusion

The review, undertaken by the Auditor General, served as a comprehensive overview of Council's waste services and was tabled at Parliament and published on 17 August 2022. As a result of the review, the Auditor General concluded that the CWT successfully collects, transports and processes kerbside waste to a high level of community satisfaction.

Attachments

1. Report of the Auditor General - Management of Kerbside Waste Services

Report of the Auditor-General



Report 5 of 2022

Management of kerbside waste services



Government of South Australia

[P.P.4D

Report of the Auditor-General

Report 5 of 2022

Management of kerbside waste services

Delivered to the President of the Legislative Council and the Speaker of the House of Assembly on 15 August 2022 and published on 17 August 2022 under to section 38(2) of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987*

First Session, Fifty-Fifth Parliament

By authority: C. McArdle, Government Printer, South Australia

2022

*The Auditor-General's Department acknowledges and respects
Aboriginal people as the State's first people and nations, and
recognises Aboriginal people as traditional owners and occupants of
South Australian land and waters.*

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15 August 2022

President
Legislative Council
Parliament House
ADELAIDE SA 5000

Speaker
House of Assembly
Parliament House
ADELAIDE SA 5000

Dear President and Speaker

**Report of the Auditor-General:
Report 5 of 2022 *Management of kerbside waste services***

Under section 32(1)(c) of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* (PFAA), I have conducted a review of the management of kerbside waste services by The Corporation of the City of Norwood, Payneham and St Peters (NPSP Council) and the City of West Torrens (West Torrens Council).

I present to each of you my independent assurance report on the findings of the review.

Copies of this report have also been provided to the NPSP Council and the West Torrens Council.

Content of the report

Our review assessed whether the NPSP Council and the West Torrens Council have effectively managed kerbside waste services to work towards achieving their targets and the targets set by the State Government for diversion of waste from landfill.

We concluded that both Councils successfully collect, transport and process kerbside waste to a high level of community satisfaction. We found some common areas where neither Council was operating effectively, including that they:

- did not have strategic plans for waste management setting out their objectives, strategies and performance targets
- did not have a formal waste education strategy and program
- did not monitor and report against local waste performance targets.

We also found some areas where both Councils were operating effectively in managing kerbside waste services.

Our detailed conclusions are in section 4.1 for the NPSP Council and section 5.1 for the West Torrens Council of this report.

My responsibilities

Reviews conducted under section 32(1)(c) of the PFAA are assurance engagements that assess whether a publicly funded body is achieving economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its activities. These engagements conclude on the performance of the activities evaluated against identified criteria.

The Auditor-General's roles and responsibilities in undertaking reviews are set out in the PFAA. Section 32(1)(c) of the PFAA empowers me to conduct this review while sections 32(4) to (6) deals with the reporting arrangements.

The review was conducted in line with the Standard on Assurance Engagements *ASAE 3500 Performance Engagements*. We complied with the independence and other relevant ethical requirements for assurance engagements.

Acknowledgements

The audit team for this report was Salv Bianco, Andrew Corrigan, Iolanda Telford, Kris Slaytor and Sharon Ryan. They were assisted by Blue Environment Pty Ltd.

We appreciate the cooperation and assistance given by staff of the NPSP Council and the West Torrens Council.

Yours sincerely



Andrew Richardson
Auditor-General

Contents

1	Report overview	1
1.1	Introduction	1
1.2	Overall observations	1
1.3	The structure of this report	2
2	Background	3
2.1	Why this review is important	3
2.2	Roles and responsibilities	4
2.3	South Australia's waste strategies	6
2.4	Waste management services	8
2.5	Metropolitan councils' kerbside waste performance	11
2.6	Solid waste levy	13
2.7	Challenges in managing kerbside waste services	14
3	Audit mandate, objective and scope	19
3.1	Our mandate	19
3.2	Our objective	19
3.3	What we reviewed and how	19
3.4	What we did not review	20
4	The Corporation of the City of Norwood, Payneham and St Peters	21
4.1	Executive summary	21
4.2	Overview of The Corporation of the City of Norwood, Payneham and St Peters	22
4.3	Strategic planning for waste management services	27
4.4	Governance and service arrangements	33
4.5	Waste management education activities	42
4.6	What The Corporation of the City of Norwood, Payneham and St Peters did well	45
5	City of West Torrens	46
5.1	Executive summary	46
5.2	Overview of the City of West Torrens	47
5.3	Governance and strategic planning for waste management services	52
5.4	Service arrangements	59
5.5	Processes to assess the effectiveness of education activities	61
5.6	What West Torrens Council did well	63
5.7	Other observation	64
	Appendices	
	Appendix 1 – Abbreviations and terms used in this report	67
	Appendix 2 – Waste management frameworks	71
	Appendix 3 – Metropolitan councils' organics food waste systems	72

Appendix 4 – The Corporation of the City of Norwood, Payneham and St Peters flyer	73
Appendix 5 – Overview of roles, legislation and policy	74
Appendix 6 – Response from the Chief Executive Officer, The Corporation of the City of Norwood, Payneham and St Peters	75
Appendix 7 – Response from the Mayor, City of West Torrens	76

1 Report overview

1.1 Introduction

We chose two councils, The Corporation of the City of Norwood, Payneham and St Peters (NPSP Council) and the City of West Torrens (West Torrens Council), to assess whether they have effectively managed their kerbside waste services to work towards achieving their targets and the targets set by the SA Government for diverting waste from landfill.

Kerbside waste management is an essential and highly valued service provided by councils to their communities. The kerbside waste services we refer to in this report are the household three-bin waste system: residual waste bin (red or blue), co-mingled recyclables bin (yellow) and organics bin (green).

Metropolitan councils spent \$158 million on providing these services in 2019-20 and not effectively managing them increases the risks of:

- reduced levels of waste services, negatively impacting community satisfaction and public health and safety
- significant cost increases
- less waste diverted from landfill, and the associated costs and environmental impacts
- higher rates of contamination in recycling and organic kerbside bins.

However, if kerbside waste services are properly managed, waste can become a valuable resource for reuse, repurposing or recycling.

The SA Government has set targets for metropolitan councils for landfill diversion in its waste strategies. While these targets are not mandatory, we found that both Councils we reviewed are committed to working towards them and to continuous improvement in this area.

All further comments and analysis are for kerbside waste management in the metropolitan area unless otherwise stated.

1.2 Overall observations

We concluded that both Councils successfully collect, transport and process kerbside waste to a high level of community satisfaction.

There are many related areas that contribute to the overall effective management of kerbside waste services. We found some common areas where neither Council was operating effectively, including that they:

- did not have strategic plans for waste management setting out their objectives, strategies and performance targets

- did not have a formal waste education strategy and program
- did not monitor and report against local waste performance targets.

We also found some areas where both Councils were operating effectively in managing kerbside waste services.

Our detailed conclusions are in section 4.1 for the NPSP Council and section 5.1 for the West Torrens Council.

Councils face many challenges in providing kerbside waste services to their communities and achieving the State targets for waste. Section 2.7 provides more detail on these challenges.

1.3 The structure of this report

This report details our review approach and results (including audit conclusions, findings and recommendations) for the two metropolitan councils we reviewed and their responses as follows:

- section 2 provides an overview of kerbside waste management across the local government sector
- section 3 details our review mandate, objectives and approach
- section 4 provides an overview of the NPSP Council's kerbside waste management services, the results of our review and the Council's responses
- section 5 provides an overview of the West Torrens Council's kerbside waste management services, the results of our review and the Council's responses.

2 Background

2.1 Why this review is important

Kerbside waste is a shared concern for governments, communities and individuals. It must be effectively managed to ensure the health, wellbeing and safety of the public is preserved, the environment is protected and resources are recovered.

Councils incur significant costs in providing these services and not effectively managing them increases the risks of:

- reduced levels of waste services, negatively impacting community satisfaction and public health and safety
- significant cost increases
- less waste diverted from landfill, and the associated costs and environmental impacts
- higher rates of contamination in recycling and organic kerbside bins.

The benefits of effective kerbside waste management to public health, wellbeing and safety are clear. They range from preventing the infestation and spread of disease by vermin and the emission of odours, to averting unsightly and cluttered kerbsides that can impact the safety of pedestrians and enjoyment of street aesthetics.

The environmental benefits of effectively managing kerbside waste are also well established. Less waste in landfill (particularly food waste) reduces the release of greenhouse gases, keeps valuable material resources circulating within the economy, lowers energy demands and saves water usage.¹ Diverting organic waste such as food and garden waste from landfill to appropriate resource recovery and treatment, including aerobic commercial composting systems reduces the amount of methane,² a contributor to climate change, being emitted from landfills.

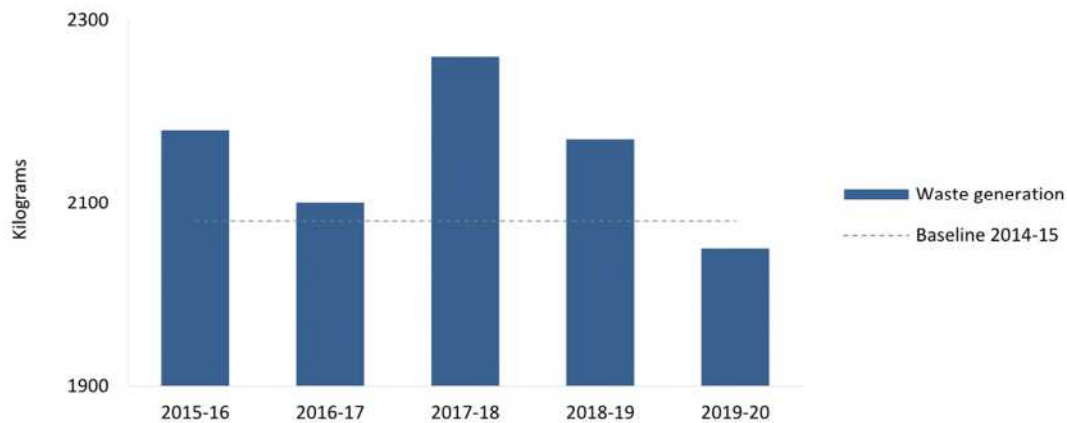
However, waste generation per capita remains a challenge for South Australians.³ Figure 2.1 shows the total waste generated per capita in South Australia for the last five years.

¹ Green Industries SA 2021, *South Australia's Recycling Activity Survey 2019-20 Report*, Government of South Australia, Adelaide, p. 77.

² Green Industries SA 2021, *Valuing our Food Waste, South Australia's strategy to reduce and divert household and business food waste 2020–2025*, Government of South Australia, Adelaide.

³ Green Industries SA 2020, *South Australia's Recycling Activity Survey 2018-19 Report*, Government of South Australia, Adelaide, p. 8.

Figure 2.1: Total per capita waste generation for South Australia



Source: *South Australia’s Recycling Activity Survey 2016-17 Financial Year Report*, p 10 and *South Australia’s Recycling Activity Survey 2019-20 Report*, p. 12.

South Australia’s Waste Strategy 2015–2020 set a target to reduce waste generated per capita by 5% by 2020 from 2015 levels. In 2017-18, waste generated per capita increased by 8.7% from the 2015 baseline. While 2018-19 saw a decrease, waste generated per capita was still 4.3% higher than 2015. In 2019-20, waste generated per capita was 1.4% lower than the baseline, but still fell short of the 5% reduction target.

All levels of government have publicly committed to improving waste management practices to reduce landfill disposal rates. This is demonstrated by the frameworks and strategies currently in place, including the national waste policy and action plan and South Australia’s waste and food waste strategies.

2.2 Roles and responsibilities

Appendix 2 lists the international, national, state and local government frameworks that govern the roles and responsibilities for managing waste.

While all levels of government, together with business, waste industry groups and the community, have a role to play in managing waste, the regulation of waste management and resource recovery in Australia is shared between the Commonwealth, state and local governments. Appendix 5 provides an overview of these roles, legislation and policy.

2.2.1 Commonwealth Government

The Commonwealth Government is responsible for a national framework for waste and resource recovery, which recognises obligations under international agreements. In addition, the *Recycling and Waste Reduction Act 2020* (Cth) establishes a legislative framework to enable Australia to manage the environmental and human health and safety impacts of products and waste material more effectively, as well as the impacts of disposing of our waste.

The Commonwealth Government has developed the 2018 *National Waste Policy: Less Waste, More Resources*, and the corresponding 2019 action plan, which focuses on circular economy principles and outlines the roles and responsibilities for collective actions by businesses, governments, communities and individuals for waste management. It sets national targets, including an 80% average resource recovery rate from all waste streams by 2030.

The Commonwealth Government has also established a national food waste strategy that aims to halve food waste by 2030.

2.2.2 State government

The regulation and management of waste and resource recovery in Australia is primarily the responsibility of state and territory governments. The SA Government's key legislation in this area is the:

- *Environment Protection Act 1993* (EP Act) which provides a broad framework for the protection of the State's environment, including the regulation of waste management and promoting the waste management hierarchy. Under the EP Act, the SA Government has issued the *Environment Protection (Waste to Resources) Policy 2010*. This requires metropolitan councils to provide a weekly kerbside residual waste collection service for residential premises within their areas⁴
- *Green Industries SA Act 2004* (GISA Act) which promotes innovation and business activity in the State's waste management, resource recovery and green industry sectors and includes the principles of:
 - the circular economy
 - the waste management hierarchy
 - ecologically sustainable development
 - best practice methods and standards in waste management and efficient use of resources.

The GISA Act requires Green Industries SA (GISA) to develop a waste strategy for the state every five years.⁵ The South Australian waste strategy is discussed further in section 2.3. The GISA Act also allows GISA to provide grants to the waste and resource recovery industry, including local government.

2.2.3 Local government

The *Local Government Act 1999* (the LG Act) requires South Australian councils to provide services that benefit their areas, ratepayers, residents and visitors.⁶

In line with the LG Act, local councils:

- provide household waste and recycling collection and disposal services

⁴ *Environment Protection (Waste to Resources) Policy 2010*, clause 10(2).

⁵ GISA Act, section 18.

⁶ LG Act, section 7.

- deliver education and awareness programs
- can form regional subsidiaries (waste management authorities) that receive and process material for their constituent councils and a range of clients, including businesses and industry.

Some South Australian councils have established waste management authorities to provide waste management services. Others provide these services directly or outsource them to the private sector.

Metropolitan councils must provide a weekly kerbside collection of residual waste. However, in consulting with their communities, councils determine the level of service they will provide for recyclables and organic waste, including the frequency of bin collections. While these services are discretionary, there is a long history of metropolitan councils collecting recyclables and organic waste fortnightly. All metropolitan councils have offered a food organics and garden organics (FOGO) collection service since 2020.

Councils must balance the cost of providing these services against community expectations and the SA Government's desire that they work towards achieving landfill diversion targets.

Councils are supported by the Local Government Association of South Australia, which advocates on their and the communities' behalf to the Commonwealth and SA Governments. It has established a Waste Action Plan that outlines local government views on actions needed to stabilise the waste industry, ensure the ongoing commercial viability of recycling services and establish a circular economy.

2.3 South Australia's waste strategies

In 2005, the SA Government released South Australia's first waste strategy. Since then, waste strategies setting out the State's objectives, targets and priorities have been released every five years. Each one has sought to avoid and reduce waste, maximise the useful life of materials through reuse and recycling and maximise the diversion of waste from landfill.

Our review principally focused on the period of *South Australia's Waste Strategy 2015–2020*, although we also considered developments to December 2021. The strategy had three objectives:

- to encourage a resource efficient economy where the best or full value is obtained from products and materials produced, consumed and recovered
- to establish a clear policy framework to encourage investment in the sector
- to establish a culture enabling the community to implement zero waste strategies/ programs.

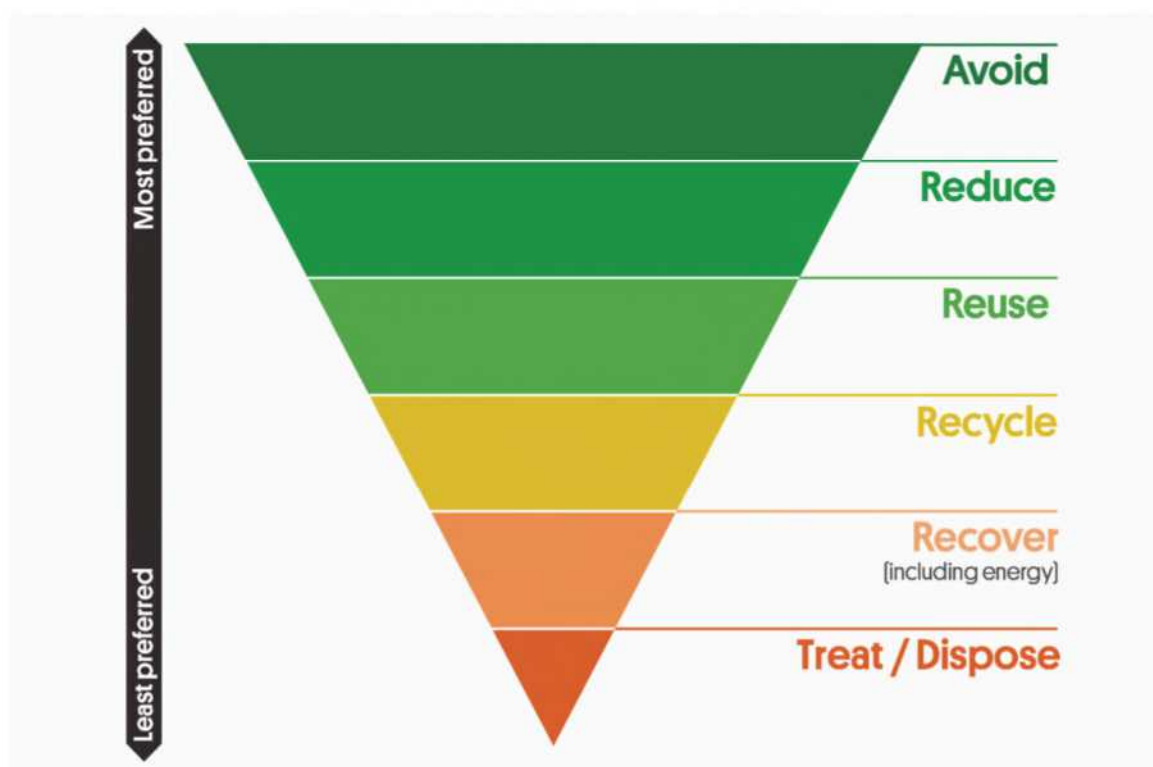
The SA Government set a landfill diversion target of 70% for metropolitan municipal solid waste by 2020. Included in this target was a goal of 60% diversion from landfill for waste in the kerbside bin system that is not mandatory for metropolitan councils. The most recent available published data about kerbside waste performance⁷ shows that no metropolitan council has achieved this goal. Some possible reasons for this are discussed in section 2.7.

The State’s current waste strategy *Supporting the Circular Economy: South Australia’s Waste Strategy 2020–2025* has increased the landfill diversion target for municipal solid waste to 75% by 2025. This includes a goal of 70% diversion from landfill for waste in the kerbside bin system for metropolitan councils by 2025.⁸

The State’s current waste strategy also includes the internationally recognised waste management hierarchy model. This model sets the guiding principles for waste management in South Australia and its principles are enshrined in legislation across Australian states, including the EP Act and GISA Act.

Figure 2.2 shows the waste management hierarchy, which provides an order of priority⁹ for managing waste. The first priority is to avoid producing waste and the last option is to dispose of it where all other options are not reasonably practicable.

Figure 2.2: The waste management hierarchy



Source: Supporting the Circular Economy: South Australia’s Waste Strategy 2020–2025.

⁷ Green Industries SA 2021, *South Australia’s Kerbside Waste Performance Report 2018-19*, March, Government of South Australia, Adelaide.
⁸ Green Industries SA 2020, *Supporting the Circular Economy: South Australia’s Waste Strategy 2020–2025*, Government of South Australia, Adelaide, p. 17.
⁹ *Environment Protection Act 1993*, section 4B.

Councils generally focus their education programs on the priorities of avoid, reduce, reuse and recycle, while offering waste collection and processing services involving recycling, recovery, treatment and disposal.

In support of the State's waste strategy and move to a circular economy, some councils have implemented the waste management hierarchy in their own strategies, for example by:

- using recyclable materials (such as glass and plastics) in roads and park bench seats
- creating plastic-free council run venues and events
- building infrastructure to process recyclable materials.

In support of the national and State waste strategies, the SA Government has also established a food waste strategy, *Valuing our Food Waste: South Australia's strategy to reduce and divert household and business food waste 2020–2025*. Its objectives include reducing the generation of food waste, improving food waste collection and processing systems for beneficial resource use, and working towards a biological circular economy. It also includes actions for change to address food waste in households, as well as in the commercial and industrial sectors.

2.4 Waste management services

In South Australia, local councils are responsible for providing waste management services to residents. They do this primarily by collecting, processing and disposing of kerbside waste, as well as through education programs and materials for residents about responsible waste behaviour.

Figure 2.3: Metropolitan councils kerbside waste management services



All metropolitan councils offer the three-bin system to residents. However, in some metropolitan councils organics bins are optional or must be purchased by residents.

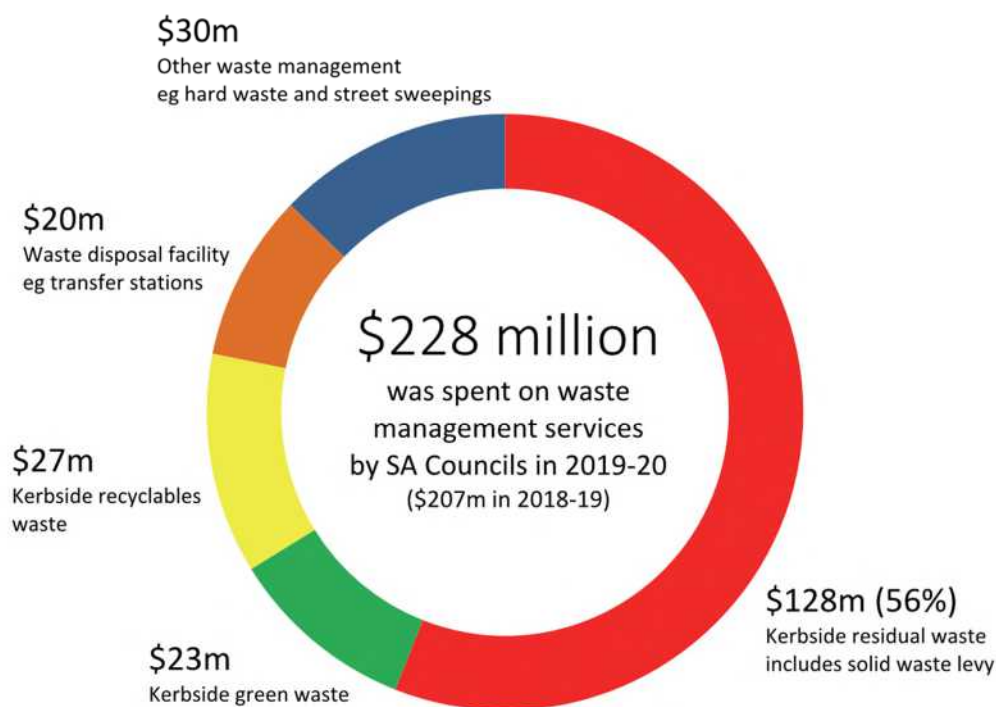
All metropolitan councils collect the residual waste bins weekly as mandated by the *Environment Protection (Waste to Resources) Policy 2010*, and the recyclables and organics bins fortnightly.

All metropolitan councils use a waste contractor or regional subsidiary to manage waste collection and disposal, with the exception of two that collect their own residual waste.

While some metropolitan councils have issued food caddies to all their households to encourage the collection of food waste, many provide them on an opt-in basis. Appendix 3 lists Adelaide metropolitan councils’ organics food waste systems.

In 2019-20, South Australian councils (metropolitan and regional) spent \$228 million on waste management services. Figure 2.4 shows where this was spent.

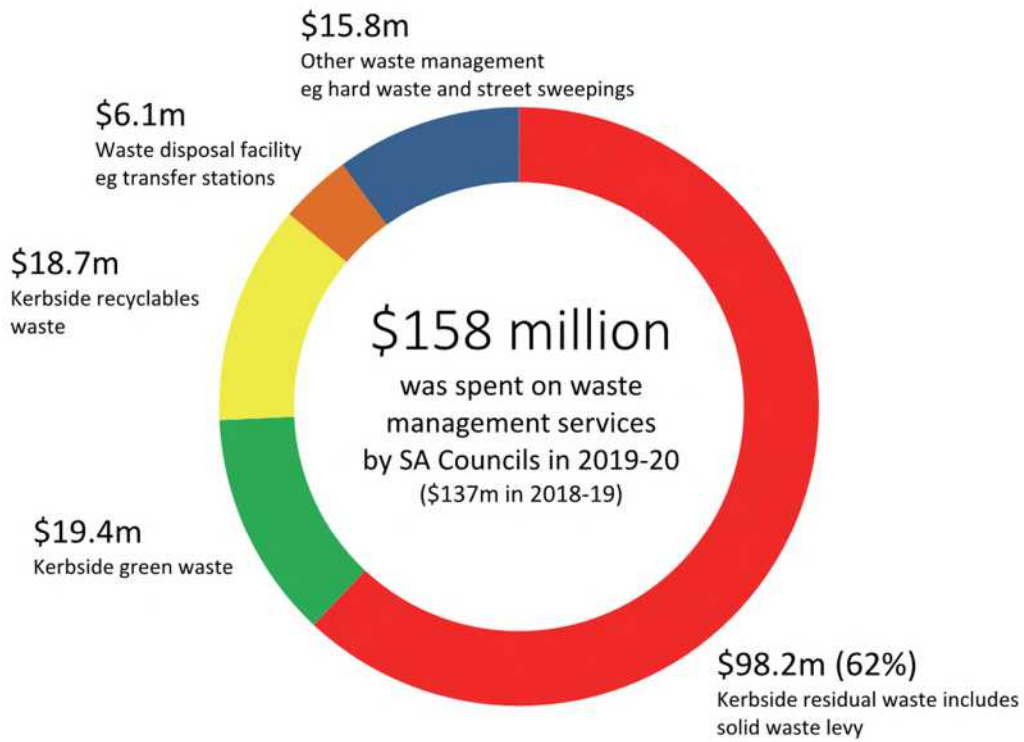
Figure 2.4: South Australian councils’ waste management costs for 2019-20



Source: Prepared from South Australian Local Government Grants Commission unaudited data and GISA’s annual kerbside waste performance reports.

Figure 2.5 shows that metropolitan councils spent \$158 million on waste management services in 2019-20, an increase of \$21 million (15%) from 2018-19.

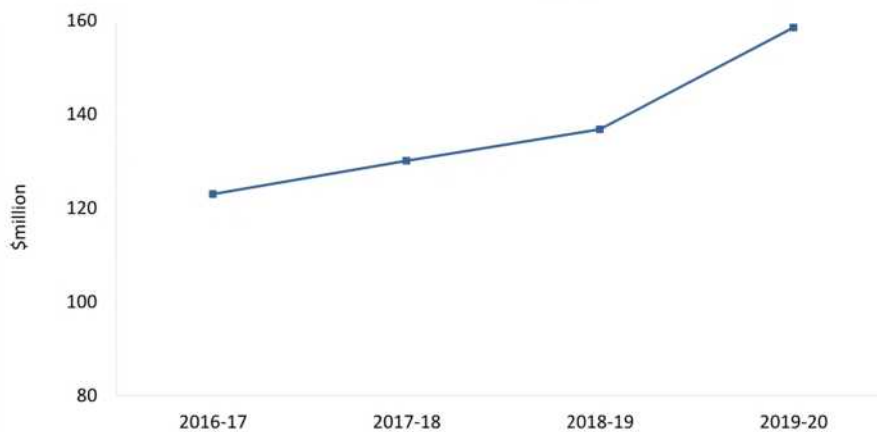
Figure 2.5: Metropolitan councils' waste management costs for 2019-20



Source: Prepared from South Australian Local Government Grants Commission unaudited data and GISA's annual kerbside waste performance reports.

While the public expects kerbside waste will be managed effectively and provided at a reasonable cost, councils' waste management expenses have increased significantly in recent years as shown in figure 2.6.

Figure 2.6: Metropolitan councils' waste management costs for last four years



Source: GISA's kerbside waste performance reports. Information for 2016-17 is based on South Australian Local Government Grants Commission unaudited data.

Ratepayers are directly impacted by the cost increases as councils seek to recover them through rates. But despite these increasing costs, there has been little change in the rate at which metropolitan councils have diverted kerbside waste from landfill. Potential reasons for this are explored in section 2.7.

2.5 Metropolitan councils' kerbside waste performance

GISA helps councils to improve kerbside waste collection systems for residents through grants, incentives and education campaigns. Reporting undertaken by GISA and published on its website includes councils' three-bin recovery rate, which represents the percentage of recyclable material (co-mingled recyclables and organics) diverted from landfill.

The formula used to calculate the three-bin recovery rate is:¹⁰

$$\text{Three-bin recovery rate} = \frac{\text{organics} + \text{recyclables}}{\text{organics} + \text{recyclables} + \text{residual}} \times 100\%$$

While GISA's kerbside waste performance report refers to this recovery rate, the State's waste strategy sets a non-mandatory landfill diversion target of 60% for metropolitan councils' household kerbside bin system. Metropolitan councils provide the waste tonnes collected from the household kerbside bin system to GISA. GISA uses this data to calculate the average metropolitan council three-bin recovery rate and reports this against the landfill diversion target in its annual kerbside performance reports. This measures the household kerbside waste performance at the beginning of the waste diversion process, being at the point of waste collection. Because recovery rates and the diversion target in this instance are both based at the point of collection from the kerbside, these measures can be compared.

The three-bin recovery rate formula does not consider contamination in the organics and recyclables bins. Contamination constitutes any material found in the recyclables bin that a materials recovery facility cannot recycle or any material found in the organics bin that is not compostable by a processing facility. Therefore, the three-bin recovery rate does not reflect the actual amount of material diverted from landfill. GISA has reported contamination of around 13% by weight (post-collection) in recyclables bins and 2% in organics bins.¹¹

GISA advised us that it collects gross data about organics and recyclables collections because this provides valuable insights into understanding:

- household behaviour and areas requiring further intervention
- trend analysis of kerbside behaviour
- geographic and socio-economic impact
- actions needed to support the State's waste strategy targets, such as education
- investment requirements for resource recovery infrastructure.

In 2019-20, about 517,800 tonnes of waste was collected from kerbsides in metropolitan Adelaide. This represented an increase of 5.8% from 2018-19 and equated to 390 kilograms

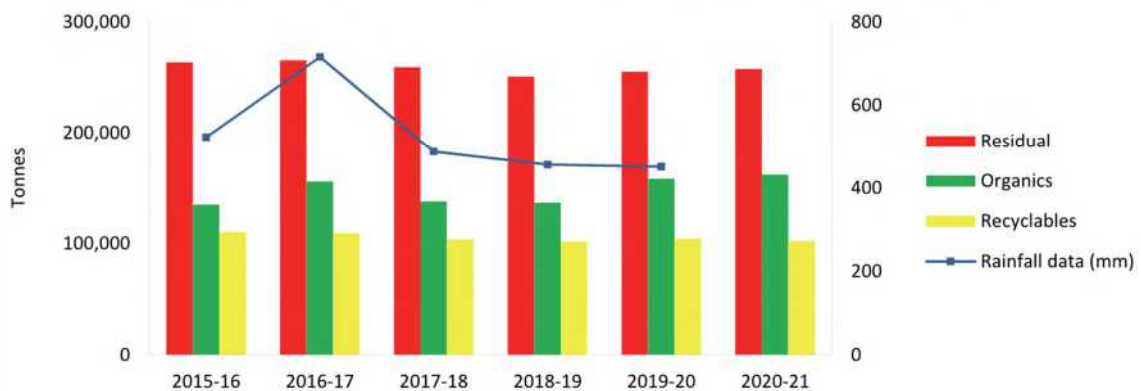
¹⁰ Green Industries SA 2021, *South Australia's Kerbside Waste Performance Report 2018-19*, March, Government of South Australia, Adelaide, p. 9.

¹¹ *ibid*, p. 29.

of kerbside waste per person or 1,039 kilograms of kerbside waste per serviced household. Of this, 262,600 tonnes were recovered as organics (60.2%) or recyclables (39.8%), for a total recovery rate of 50.7% (48.7% in 2018-19).¹²

Figure 2.7 shows the tonnes of waste collected in kerbside bins between 2015-16 and 2020-21 by metropolitan councils. It shows that the amount of waste collected for each kerbside bin type has remained consistent during this period. There was a slight increase in organics waste collected in 2016-17 due to higher levels of rainfall¹³ and in 2019-20 due to the full impact of a fortnightly organics bin service being introduced in Adelaide’s largest metropolitan council.¹⁴

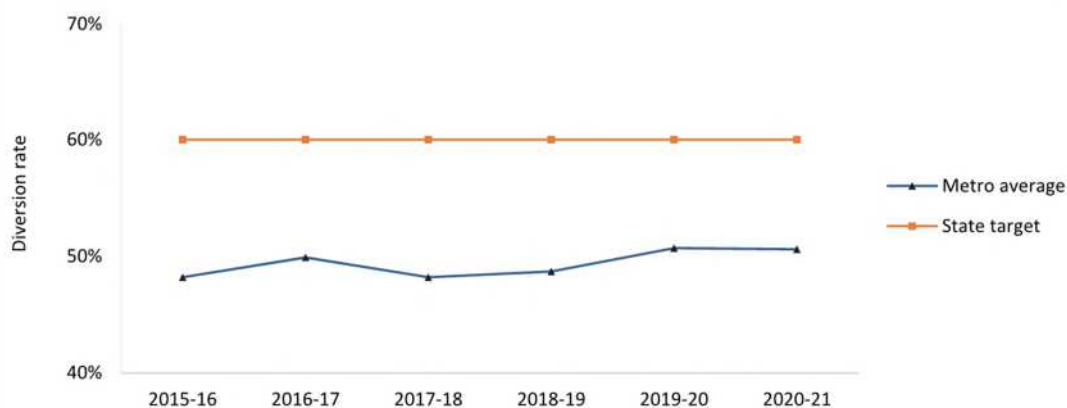
Figure 2.7: Metropolitan councils tonnages collected by kerbside bin type



Source: GISA’s annual kerbside waste performance reports.

Figure 2.8 shows the metropolitan councils’ average three-bin recovery rate against the State’s waste strategy target for metropolitan councils of 60% landfill diversion from the kerbside bin system for the last six years.

Figure 2.8: Metropolitan councils’ average recovery rate against the State landfill diversion target



Source: GISA’s annual kerbside waste performance reports and South Australia’s waste strategy.

¹² Data provided to us by GISA.

¹³ Green Industries SA 2020, *South Australia’s Kerbside Waste Performance Report 2017-18*, Government of South Australia, Adelaide, p. 26.

¹⁴ Data provided to us by GISA.

The average recovery rate for metropolitan councils between 2015-16 and 2020-21 has fluctuated between 48.2% and 50.6% (an increase of 2.2%).

The Adelaide metropolitan council recovery rate of 50.7% for 2019-20 is below the State’s landfill diversion target of 60% for metropolitan councils. In 2020-21 the Adelaide metropolitan council recovery rate decreased by 0.1% to 50.6%, but still fell short of the target. The State’s target remains at 60% until 2023 but increases to 70% by 2025.¹⁵

2.6 Solid waste levy

Under the EP Act a solid waste levy is payable to the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) on solid waste disposed to landfill. The waste levy incentivises resource recovery by increasing the costs of waste disposal, making resource recovery a preferable financial option.¹⁶

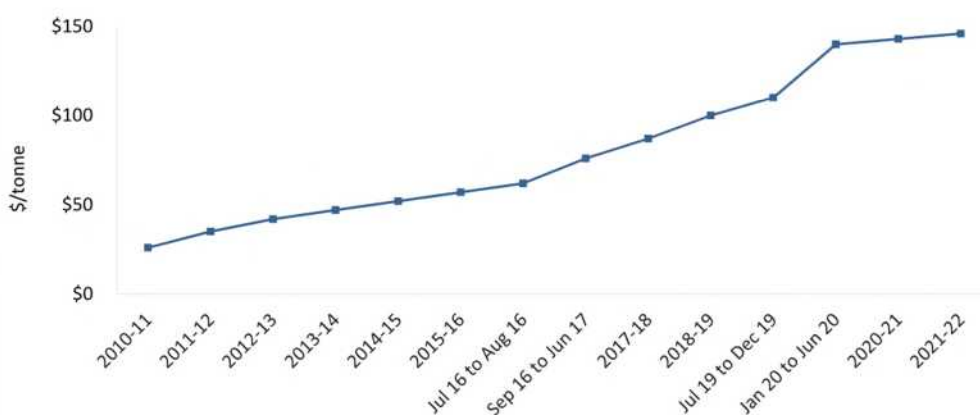
The levy comprises a proportion of overall waste management costs for councils. The waste levy has significantly increased in recent years, reflecting:

- the SA Government’s desire to reduce waste to landfill and move to a circular economy model¹⁷
- China’s introduction of the National Sword Policy in 2018, which prevents Australia from exporting certain waste and heavily reduces contamination rates for recyclables.

The solid waste levy was \$146 per tonne in 2021-22 compared to \$35 per tonne 10 years ago, an increase of 317%. The levy has increased by 151% since 2015-16 for metropolitan councils.

Figure 2.9 shows the increase in the solid waste levy for metropolitan councils over the past 12 years.

Figure 2.9: Solid waste levy for metropolitan councils



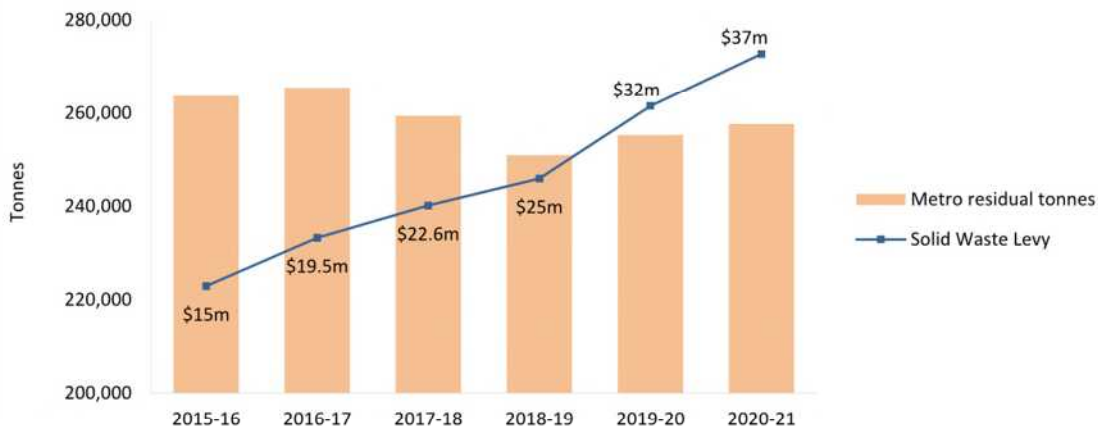
¹⁵ Green Industries SA 2020, *Supporting the Circular Economy: South Australia’s Waste Strategy 2020–2025*, Government of South Australia, Adelaide, p. 17.

¹⁶ www.epa.sa.gov.au, viewed 20 June 2022.

¹⁷ Green Industries SA 2020, *Supporting the Circular Economy: South Australia’s Waste Strategy 2020–2025*, Government of South Australia, Adelaide.

Figure 2.10 shows the effect the increase in the solid waste levy has had on the cost of disposing residual waste since 2015-16.

Figure 2.10: Total metropolitan councils' residual tonnes and solid waste levy



Source: GISA's annual kerbside waste performance reports for residual tonnes. Solid waste calculation based on total tonnage multiplied by solid waste levy.

The GISA Act requires the EPA to transfer 50% of the levies to the Green Industry Fund. The fund can only be applied by:

- GISA:
 - in line with a business plan approved by the Minister
 - in any other manner authorised by the Minister for the purposes of the GI Act
- the Minister for Climate, Environment and Water, towards the costs of:
 - climate change initiatives, including research and development, education, innovation and business activity, for mitigating the effects of climate change, minimising carbon emissions and adapting to climate change
 - managing waste or debris, or harm to the environment, following an identified major incident, major emergency or disaster under the *Emergency Management Act 2004*.

In 2020-21, the EPA transferred \$48 million (\$37 million in 2019-20) to the fund, which had a balance of \$90 million on 30 June 2021 (\$114 million on 30 June 2020).

GISA has provided approximately \$13 million in grants for waste management to councils from the fund over the last six years.

2.7 Challenges in managing kerbside waste services

Councils face many challenges in providing kerbside waste management services and achieving local and state landfill diversion targets. While some can be addressed by council activities, others are externally imposed and beyond their control. Some of the challenges are discussed below.

2.7.1 Cost pressures

Cost pressures faced by councils include:

- increases in costs at landfill sites to dispose of residual waste, primarily due to the increase in the solid waste levy explained in section 2.6. Food waste discarded in the residual bin is heavy, contributing substantially to the weight of waste sent to landfill and therefore these costs
- increases in gate fees at materials recovery facilities to dispose of co-mingled recyclables. The gate fees are impacted by the often fluctuating market prices for recycled products. For example, China's 2018 National Sword Policy impacted the price of mixed paper and cardboard and mixed plastics. At the time, the estimated increase in cost was around \$8.8 million across South Australia based on a one-year period¹⁸
- increases in transport costs (eg fuel) to collect and dispose of all waste.

2.7.2 Food waste in residual bins

The SA Government has recognised that food waste in residual bins is a financial challenge for councils with significant environmental impact. In response it published a food waste strategy (see section 2.3).¹⁹

South Australian households and businesses send around 200,000 tonnes of food waste to landfill each year. Up to 40% of the material content in residual waste bins is food waste.²⁰ This directly impacts the costs paid by councils to dispose of waste to landfill, such as the solid waste levy. The NPSP Council has estimated that savings of \$395,000 per year in landfill fees could be achieved if food waste is diverted from landfill. Appendix 4 provides a copy of the flyer that the NPSP Council distributed to its community.

Food waste is heavy due to its moisture content. If discarded with residual waste, it contributes substantially to the weight of waste sent to landfill, increasing the solid waste levy and gate fee costs paid by councils.

Food decomposing in landfill without the aid of air produces methane, a greenhouse gas around 28 times more potent than carbon dioxide at trapping heat,²¹ and a contributor to the global greenhouse gas emissions causing climate change.

Food waste in landfill is also a lost resource that could have been used, together with other types of organic waste streams, to produce commercial compost and soil enhancement products.²² As composting is an aerobic process, it produces less or prevents the release of methane and is a better environmental alternative to landfill.

There are many reasons why residents do not dispose of food waste in organics bins. These

¹⁸ Rawtec Pty Ltd 2018, *Market Analysis of South Australian Kerbside Comingled Recyclables Report for the Local Government Association of SA*, May, Adelaide.

¹⁹ Green Industries SA 2021, *Valuing our Food Waste, South Australia's strategy to reduce and divert household and business food waste 2020–2025*, Government of South Australia, Adelaide.

²⁰ *ibid*, pp. 5 and 8.

²¹ *ibid*, p. 7.

²² *ibid*, p. 14.

include a personal dislike of the look of a food caddy on a benchtop, lack of access to free compostable bags or lack of awareness about the impact of food waste in landfill. However, it is likely that most concerns are about the pests and odours produced from decomposing food while organics bins await the fortnightly collection.

Several councils have recently trialled the weekly collection of organics bins. The results of these trials have shown positive changes in residents' waste disposal behaviour and an increase in landfill diversion rates. For example, the City of Holdfast Bay recently completed an 18-month FOGO trial that involved more than 1,000 households having their organics bin collected weekly and their residual waste bin collected fortnightly. The trial found the amount of food waste disposed of in the organics bins more than doubled, achieving a landfill diversion rate of 84% in the areas participating in the trial.²³ From July 2022, the City of Holdfast Bay will provide this bin collection service to all its residents unless they want to continue having their residual bin collected weekly.

This trial shows that a weekly collection of organics bins would encourage residents to dispose of food waste more responsibly and discourage them from putting food into residual waste bins. This would help divert food waste from landfill and increase council recovery rates. However, collecting organics bins weekly without any changes to the collection frequency of other bins would increase costs for most councils. Current legislation requires metropolitan councils to collect residual waste weekly but does not prescribe how often organics and recyclables bins must be collected.

2.7.3 Legislation mandates weekly collection of residual waste bins

The SA Government's *Environment Protection (Waste to Resources) Policy 2010* requires metropolitan councils to collect kerbside residual waste weekly from residential premises within their areas.²⁴ Councils determine how often they collect recyclables and organics bins and there is a long history of councils collecting them fortnightly. These services are highly valued and relied on. All metropolitan councils now collect organics and recyclables bins fortnightly, with the exception of three that provide these services on an opt-in basis.

Councils must balance the cost of providing weekly residual waste collections against:

- the cost of collecting organics and recyclables waste more frequently
- residents' expectations about the frequency of organics and recyclables collections
- the cost of providing services that will help achieve the SA Government's landfill diversion targets.

The most recent data published by GISA indicates that no metropolitan council's recovery rate has achieved the SA Government's landfill diversion target.²⁵ Figure 2.11 shows that the average metropolitan councils' recovery rate has remained relatively unchanged in the last

²³ www.holdfast.sa.gov.au/council/news - Households embrace weekly green bin collections | City of Holdfast Bay, viewed 22 June 2022.

²⁴ *Environment Protection (Waste to Resources) Policy 2010*, clause 10(2).

²⁵ Green Industries SA 2021, *South Australia's Kerbside Waste Performance Report 2018-19*, March, Government of South Australia, Adelaide, p. 19.

11 years. In 2009-10, the recovery rate was 48%,²⁶ with the same result achieved in 2019-20. Prior to 2015-16, the State’s waste strategy did not include landfill diversion targets for kerbside waste in the targets set for total municipal solid waste.

Figure 2.11: Metropolitan councils’ average recovery rate compared to the State target for landfill diversion



Source: GISA’s annual kerbside waste performance reports.

Allowing councils to decide how often they collect each bin type to meet community expectations may be a solution to improving landfill diversion, as demonstrated by the City of Holdfast Bay’s recent FOGO trial.

2.7.4 Multi-unit dwellings and urban infill

Multi-unit dwellings (MUDs) are generally accepted to be any dwelling other than a standalone single unit dwelling and can range from townhouses, semi-detached or row terraces, through to multi-storey apartment complexes.

Urban infill and the rise in the number of MUDs present unique challenges to councils for waste management. Councils often contract these services out to commercial contractors, as the kerbside collection service does not align with the bin types required for these buildings.

MUDs do not generally perform well in source separation, landfill diversion and the contamination of recyclables. Reasons for poor performance can include:

- design issues. Older MUDs were designed for a one or two bin waste system. Introducing a third bin can be difficult due to limited space. New MUDs may not consider waste management sufficiently in the design phase or developers may see areas for bins as expensive and wasted space.²⁷ This may result in bin systems that do not offer all three waste streams, as well as increased, ongoing waste management costs for councils and residents

²⁶ Green Industries SA 2019, *Adelaide Metropolitan Area Kerbside Waste Performance Report 2016-17*, February, Government of South Australia, Adelaide, p. 23.

²⁷ The Local Government Association of South Australia continues to advocate for the planning and design code to be reviewed to consider effective, efficient and safe waste management for medium to high density development areas.

- a lack of street access and limited turning points for waste collection vehicles
- a lack of public road verge or presentation space for kerbside bin collection
- contamination issues due to the lack of supervision or management of communal bins and residents' lack of ownership of bins.

Exploring ways to improve MUD waste performance remains a challenge for councils but is necessary to improve recovery rates.

2.7.5 Educating the community

Councils play an important role in educating the community about waste reduction and responsible recycling. Through education the community can improve its waste practices, which will reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill and councils' disposal costs and increase the volume of materials to be recycled.

However, education programs can be expensive and can absorb significant human resources. A challenge for councils is balancing the areas most in need of education to achieve the best results against the cost of providing them.

While education, in addition to other strategies such as the wider rollout and promotion of food caddy use, will help councils raise community awareness about responsible waste disposal, changing residents' behaviour long-term will remain a challenge.

3 Audit mandate, objective and scope

3.1 Our mandate

We performed our review under section 32(1)(c) of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987*. This allows the Auditor-General to review the efficiency, economy and effectiveness of a publicly funded body.

A council constituted under the LG Act is included in the definition of a publicly funded body.

3.2 Our objective

The objective of our review was to conclude on whether the two councils we reviewed were effectively managing kerbside waste services to work towards achieving their targets (and the targets set by the SA Government).

Our review covered the period of South Australia's Waste Strategy 2015–2020. We extended it to also consider developments between June 2020 and December 2021.

We considered whether the two councils had:

- documented plans and/or strategies to deliver kerbside waste services to meet their targets and community expectations
- implemented governance structures to manage and oversee the performance of their kerbside waste services to meet their targets and community expectations
- processes to assess the effectiveness of their education activities.

3.3 What we reviewed and how

There are many areas that contribute to the successful management of kerbside waste services. To inform our conclusion about how effectively the two Councils were managing their services, we assessed whether they had:

- established a waste strategy/plan that detailed service levels, local waste performance targets and the actions to be taken to achieve them
- established a waste education strategy and program to educate and promote responsible waste behaviour to the community in support of local and State targets
- engaged with the community and considered their expectations in waste planning
- established clear roles and responsibilities for waste management
- established frameworks and processes to identify, assess and manage waste risks
- implemented contract management processes to manage roles and responsibilities, communication with contractors and the community, and the reporting and monitoring of performance, costs and risks
- collected accurate and reliable data to monitor waste performance.

Our assessment considered:

- the LG Act requirements
- the *Environment Protection (Waste to Resources) Policy 2010*
- each Council's strategic management framework and policies
- South Australia's Waste Strategy 2015–2020 and 2020–2025 issued by GISA
- South Australia's Valuing Our Food Waste Strategy
- generally accepted standards of contract management and risk management practices.

We reviewed documents in detail and held discussions with relevant staff of each Council.

The NPSP Council's regional subsidiary, Eastern Waste Management Authority (East Waste), delivers kerbside waste management services to the community on its behalf.

For the NPSP Council, we also held discussions with East Waste staff to obtain an understanding of their role and responsibilities in delivering kerbside waste management services on the NPSP's behalf. We did not assess the activities of East Waste as part of this review.

We would like to acknowledge the staff of each Council and East Waste who went to considerable effort to promptly respond to our information requests and inquiries during the review.

3.4 What we did not review

We did not review the Councils' waste collection practices for:

- kerbside hard waste
- street sweepings, council operated parks and other public place locations
- other drop-off facilities they operate
- their commercial service operations.

We did not review waste collection practices managed by the private sector for:

- commercial and industrial waste
- construction and demolition waste
- the Container Deposit Scheme returns.

While we used waste data provided by the Councils to calculate recovery rates, we did not independently confirm the integrity of the data.

We did not review the methodology of kerbside bin audits performed by East Waste or contractors on behalf of the Councils.

We did not assess the activities of East Waste.

West Torrens Council has outsourced its waste management services to an independent contractor. We did not review the independent contractor's activities.

4 The Corporation of the City of Norwood, Payneham and St Peters

4.1 Executive summary

4.1.1 Audit conclusion

We assessed the effectiveness of the NPSP Council's management of kerbside waste services between 2015 and 2021 against our review objective in section 3.2.

We concluded that the NPSP Council successfully collects, transports and processes kerbside waste to a high level of community satisfaction.

There are many areas that contribute to the overall effective management of kerbside waste services. We identified some areas that were not operating effectively during the period we reviewed. These were:

- the development of a plan to support waste management services
- setting waste performance measures and targets
- establishing a service level agreement with East Waste
- evaluating and reporting on waste performance
- developing a waste education strategy and program.

These issues are explained in section 4.1.2.

We also identified some areas that were operating effectively during the period we reviewed. These were that the NPSP Council had:

- consulted its community and key stakeholders when it reviewed CityPlan 2030 to understand their expectations and satisfaction with the levels of waste management service
- sound processes to manage and resolve complaints from residents about collection services.

4.1.2 What we found and recommended

The key findings from our review of the NPSP Council's management of kerbside waste services were that it:

- did not have a corporate plan or an overarching plan to support its strategic objective and strategy for waste management (section 4.3.2)
- had not documented the initiatives it had identified and implemented to support its strategic objective and strategy for waste management. This reduced the effectiveness of achieving its strategic objectives and reaching its long-term vision (section 4.3.3)
- did not have a service level agreement with East Waste for waste management services (section 4.4.2)
- had not evaluated and reported its kerbside waste performance against the set target. This reduced the effectiveness of monitoring its waste performance and its capacity to take necessary action to improve its performance to reach, or get closer to, the set target (section 4.4.3)

- had not set any performance standards, measures and targets to monitor and evaluate East Waste's performance in delivering kerbside waste management services to its community (section 4.4.3)
- did not have a formal waste education strategy outlining its approach to community education on waste and recycling issues (section 4.5.1)
- had not evaluated and reported on the effectiveness of the waste initiatives and activities it implemented each financial year (section 4.5.1).

We recommended the NPSP Council:

- develop a corporate plan, and a plan that specifically covers waste management, which outlines its key priorities, corporate objectives, actions and activities to achieve the corporate objectives, and measures and targets to monitor and evaluate its performance (sections 4.3.2 and 4.3.3)
- set performance measures and targets for kerbside waste management that are consistent with those set by East Waste and support the State's waste strategy target (section 4.3.4)
- establish a service level agreement with East Waste to clarify and agree on the roles and responsibilities and other matters important to waste management services (section 4.4.2)
- evaluate and report on the outcome of all its kerbside waste initiatives and activities, actual kerbside waste performance against set targets and the performance of East Waste (section 4.4.3)
- develop and document a waste education strategy and program outlining its approach to community education on waste and recycling issues (section 4.5.1).

4.1.3 NPSP Council's response

The NPSP Council responded to our findings and advised us how it would action our recommendations, which it generally accepted. Its response to each recommendation is included in sections 4.3 to 4.5.

The NPSP Council provided a response to our proposed report to Parliament that is included as Appendix 6.

4.2 Overview of The Corporation of the City of Norwood, Payneham and St Peters

4.2.1 Waste management services

The NPSP Council is located just east of Adelaide's CBD and covers an area of around 15 km², with an estimated resident population of about 37,000.²⁸

²⁸ Australian Bureau of Statistics 2020, *Norwood Payneham St Peters: Region summary: Data by region*, ABS, viewed 25 May 2022, <<https://dbr.abs.gov.au/region.html?lyr=lga&rgn=45290>>.

Population, area and dwelling types determine the nature, type and collection frequency of the waste services councils provide.

The NPSP Council provides a standard kerbside three-bin service to about 17,500 residential households and 2,000 commercial properties.²⁹ 49.6% of households are multi-unit dwellings and 49.7% are separate houses.³⁰

Figure 4.1: NPSP Council standard kerbside three-bin waste collection service



Source: NPSP Council website.

The NPSP Council also provides households with a free food caddy and two rolls of compostable bags annually to make it easier for residents to compost food waste through their green bin.

A regional subsidiary,³¹ East Waste, delivers waste management services to the NPSP Council's community on its behalf. More information on East Waste is provided in section 4.4.1.

4.2.2 Waste management costs

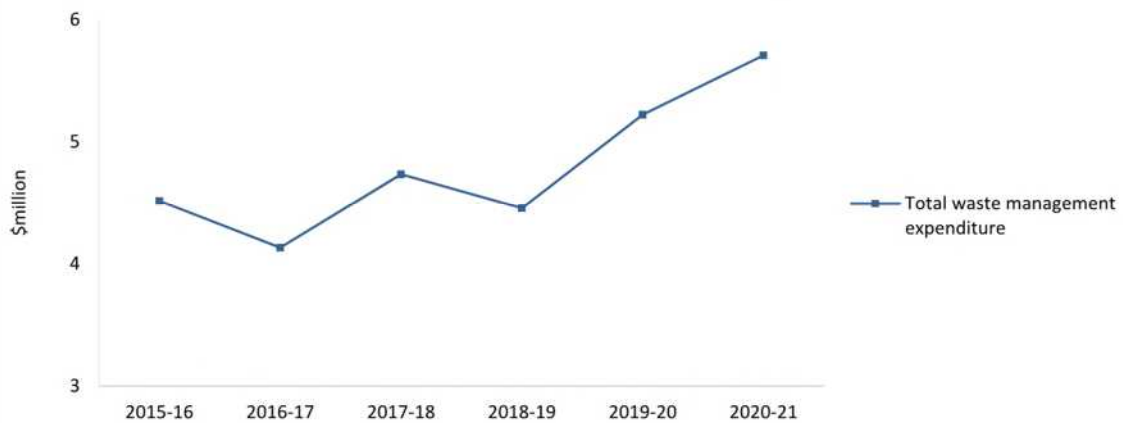
In addition to the kerbside three-bin waste service, the NPSP Council's waste management services include collecting and disposing of kerbside hard waste, public litter bins, street sweepings and illegal dumping. The costs of waste management are shown in figure 4.2 and totalled \$5.7 million in 2020-21.

²⁹ City of Norwood, Payneham and St Peters 2021, *Council Agenda and Minutes*, 5 October 2021, item 11.1, p. 19, <https://www.npsp.sa.gov.au/about_council/council_and_committees/council_agenda_and_minutes>.

³⁰ City of Norwood Payneham and St Peters 2021, *City of Norwood Payneham and St Peters: Dwelling type*, viewed 15 July 2022, <<https://profile.id.com.au/npsp/dwellings>>.

³¹ Constituent councils are Adelaide Hills Council, City of Burnside, Campbelltown City Council, City of Norwood, Payneham and St Peters, City of Mitcham, Corporation of the Town of Walkerville and City of Prospect.

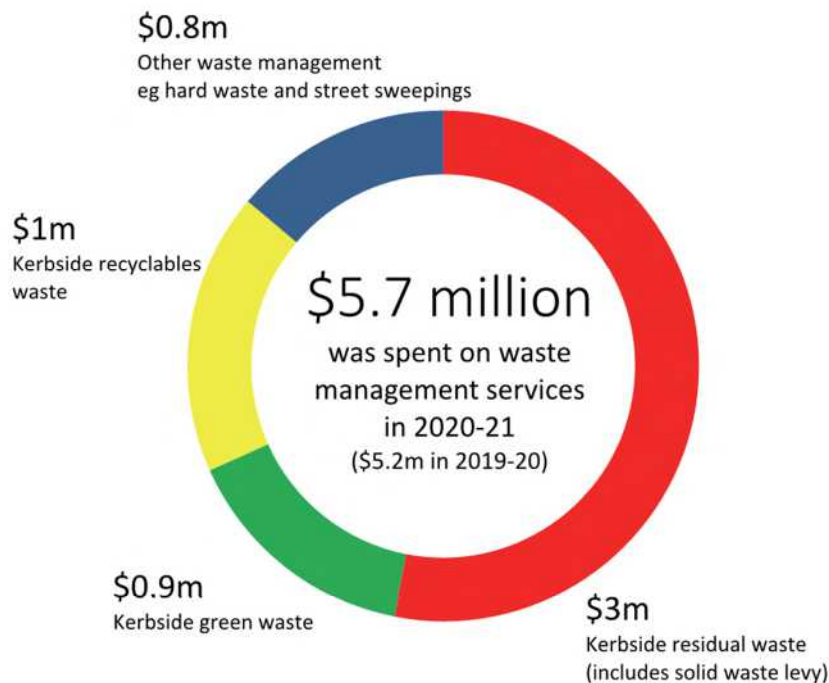
Figure 4.2: NPSP Council waste management costs for the past six years



Source: Based on data provided by the NPSP Council (unaudited).

Figure 4.2 shows that the NPSP Council’s waste management costs fluctuated annually up to 2018-19 and then increased by 17% in 2019-20 and 9% in 2020-21. This is partly due to the increase in the solid waste levy during this period. On 30 June 2019, this levy was \$100 per tonne and increased to \$143 per tonne by 30 June 2021, an increase of 43%. The increase in costs is also the result of the increase in residual waste collected by NPSP Council since 2018-19, as shown in figure 4.6. In 2020-21, the NPSP Council spent \$5.7 million on waste management services, an increase of \$500,000 (10%) from 2019-20. Figure 4.3 shows where this was spent.

Figure 4.3: NPSP Council waste management costs for 2020-21



Of the \$5.7 million, 53% was spent on collecting and disposing kerbside residual waste, including the solid waste levy. The solid waste levy is 18%³² of the NPSP Council's total waste management costs for 2020-21.

4.2.3 Kerbside waste management performance

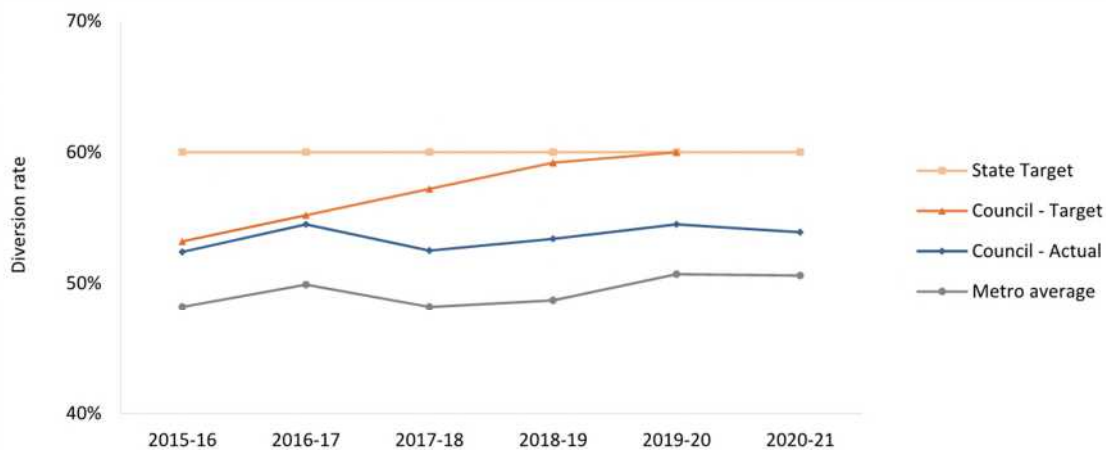
The NPSP Council’s actual kerbside waste diversion from landfill rate compared to its target and the actual metropolitan council average recovery rate since 2015-16 is shown in figure 4.4.

Figure 4.4: Kerbside waste diversion from landfill rate and performance targets

Year	NPSP Council actual ³³	NPSP Council target ³⁴	Metropolitan council average ³⁵
2015-16	52.4%	53.2%	48.2%
2016-17	54.5%	55.2%	49.9%
2017-18	52.5%	57.2%	48.2%
2018-19	53.4%	59.2%	48.7%
2019-20	54.5%	60%	50.7%
2020-21	53.9%	no landfill diversion target set	50.6%

Figure 4.5 shows the above rates compared to the State’s landfill diversion target of 60%.

Figure 4.5: Kerbside waste diversion from landfill rate and performance targets



Source: Based on data provided by the NPSP Council, East Waste and GISA.

³² Calculated by us based on the residual tonnes provided by the NPSP Council multiplied by the solid waste levy.

³³ This rate was calculated by us based on the formula published in GISA’s annual kerbside waste performance reports. The waste collection tonnages used in the formula were provided by the NPSP Council and are unaudited. The tonnages of recycling and organics collected have not been adjusted for contamination.

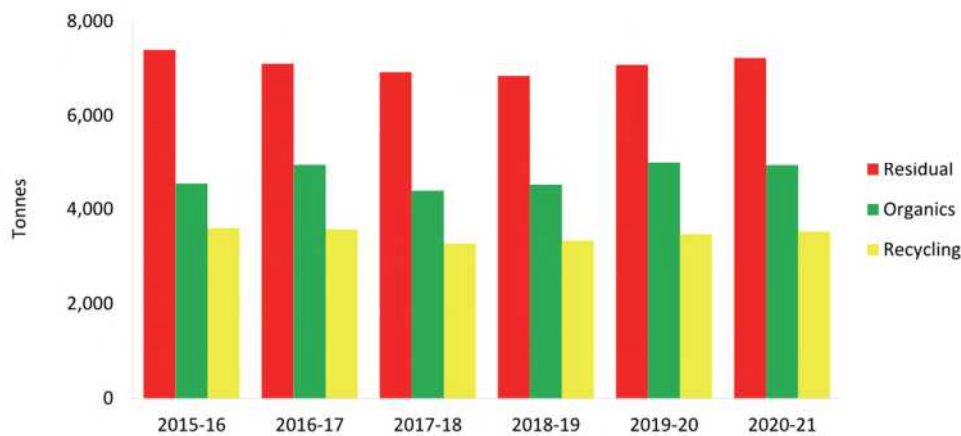
³⁴ We calculated these percentages based on the performance measure and target information disclosed in the NPSP Council’s CityPlan 2030 over that period.

³⁵ Taken from GISA’s annual kerbside waste performance reports. Data provided to us by GISA for 2019-20 and 2020-21 on 15 June 2022.

Figure 4.5 shows that the NPSP Council achieved a higher diversion from landfill rate than the metropolitan council average but fell short of its own target each year. 2016-17 and 2019-20 were the NPSP Council’s best performing years. It was close to its target in 2016-17 but by 2019-20 was 5.5% below it. Both the NPSP Council and the metropolitan council average fell short of the 60% State target by 2020-21. GISA provided us with data it has not yet published which shows that only one metropolitan council achieved a recovery rate of 60% in 2020-21.

Figure 4.6 shows the NPSP Council’s total tonnes collected by kerbside bins for each waste stream for the last six years.

Figure 4.6: NPSP Council’s kerbside waste collected

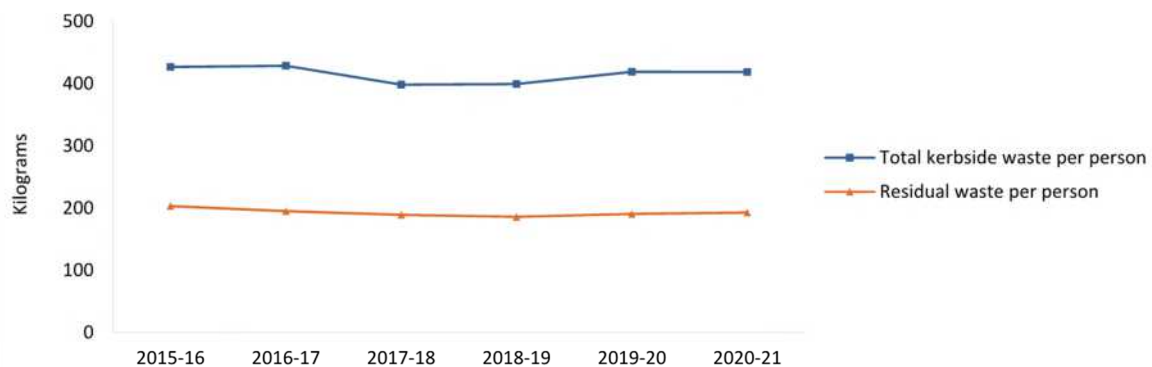


Source: Based on data from East Waste and the NPSP Council.

Figure 4.6 shows that the amount of waste collected for each waste stream has remained steady during this period. There was a slight increase in organics waste collected in 2016-17 due to higher levels of rainfall.³⁶

Figure 4.7 shows total kerbside waste and residual waste generated per person in the NPSP Council area over the last six years.

Figure 4.7: NPSP Council waste per person



Source: Based on data provided by East Waste and the NPSP Council about tonnes. Data about population is from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (<https://explore.data.abs.gov.au/>).

³⁶ Green Industries SA 2020, *South Australia’s Kerbside Waste Performance Report 2017-18*, Government of South Australia, Adelaide, p. 26.

Figure 4.7 shows a decrease in kerbside waste generated per person in 2017-18 and an increase in 2019-20. The 2017-18 decrease was driven by a 13% decrease in organics due to higher rainfall in the previous year.³⁷ An explanation for the increase in 2019-20 may be that during the pandemic more people shopped online, increasing the amount of packaging used in shipping/postage and discarded by residents. This may have been further impacted by people establishing home offices during the initial lockdown as evidenced by the shortage of office furniture and IT equipment in South Australia in March, April and May 2020. Figure 4.7 also shows that residual waste per person has remained consistent in the NPSP Council area over the past six years.

4.2.4 Other waste management initiatives

The NPSP Council has recognised the importance of implementing innovative waste reduction and education initiatives to manage waste resources sustainably and efficiently. During our review we noted some examples of this where the NPSP Council:

- joined the Local Government Association of South Australia's circular procurement pilot project. The project is working towards developing local markets and onshore processing for recyclable materials
- implemented the plastic free precincts project, which helps food retailers in the Norwood Parade precinct to switch from single-use plastic products to reusable or compostable alternatives. This aligns with an SA Government priority to ban single-use plastics
- promotes product stewardship and buy recycled opportunities on its website.

4.3 Strategic planning for waste management services

4.3.1 Background

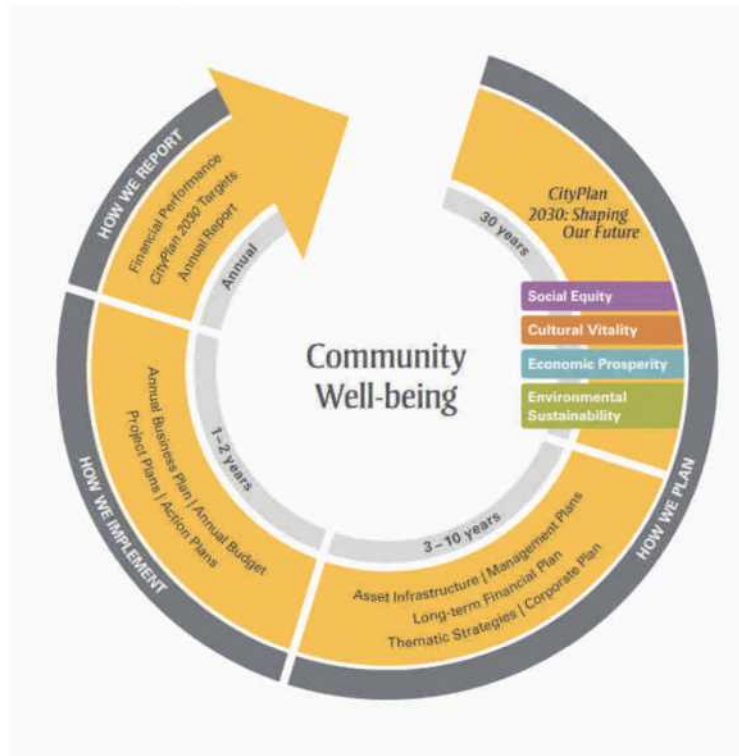
Section 122 of the LG Act requires a council to develop and adopt strategic management plans for the management of its area. It establishes a framework for each council to:

- identify its strategic objectives over a period of at least four years
- identify and implement strategies to achieve its strategic objectives and to deliver the range and level of services it intends to provide to its community
- identify the resources needed to support its strategies and protect its long-term financial sustainability
- set measures used to monitor and assess its performance against its objectives
- identify the extent of participation with other councils, regional bodies and State and national governments achieving common objectives.

³⁷ Green Industries SA 2020, *South Australia's Kerbside Waste Performance Report 2017-18*, Government of South Australia, Adelaide, p. 14.

The NPSP Council’s CityPlan 2030: Shaping our future (CityPlan 2030) provides its long-term strategic vision and plan. The plan is reviewed every four years to ensure it reflects the community’s vision and aspirations to 2030. It sets out the strategic planning and reporting framework and identifies the key plans that support its implementation (as shown in figure 4.8).

Figure 4.8: NPSP Council’s strategic planning and reporting framework



Source: The NPSP Council’s CityPlan 2030.

CityPlan 2030 focuses on four outcomes, with one being environmental sustainability where the NPSP Council strives to be a leader in this area. It provides the following objective and strategy for waste management:

Objective 4.1: Sustainable and efficient management of waste resources

Strategy 4.1.2: Investigate and implement innovative waste reduction and education³⁸ initiatives

CityPlan 2030 also states that minimising waste and increasing recycling and reuse remain important environmental priorities. The NPSP Council wants to use less resources, proactively monitor its waste production and recycling, and adapt its programs to continue to reduce waste.

³⁸ Education initiatives were included in the strategy in response to the 2020 mid-term review of CityPlan 2030.

4.3.2 The NPSP Council does not have overarching corporate objectives and priorities for waste management

Recommendation

The NPSP Council should develop a corporate plan that outlines the:

- key priorities and corporate objectives covering essential services like waste management
- actions and activities needed to achieve the corporate objectives and reach the Council's long-term vision
- measures and targets to monitor and evaluate its performance against the objectives.

The corporate plan should be published on the NPSP Council's website. The NPSP Council should also report outcomes against targets each year in its annual report to ensure transparency and accountability to the community.

Finding

CityPlan 2030 has a series of strategic documents to support its implementation. It states that:

The Council will also prepare a Corporate Plan to identify the specific programs and actions required to implement and integrate all of the elements of CityPlan over the next four years.

We found that the NPSP Council had not prepared a corporate plan. The risk register presented to its audit committee in October 2019 identified the development of a corporate plan as an action to mitigate the following strategic risks:

- not delivering the project or the right project
- the lack of innovation and forward planning
- the lack of organisational and departmental strategy.

A year later, an October 2020 report on the risk status to the audit committee stated that developing the corporate plan was deferred until the existing strategic plan documents³⁹ were finalised. The NPSP Council was performing a mid-term review of its CityPlan 2030 at the time.

Why it is important to have a corporate plan

Long-term strategic plans should be integrated into a council's daily operations through its operational plans (such as annual business plan, annual budget, project plans) and policies. This provides assurance that a council's resources are allocated to activities that will achieve its long-term strategic objectives. A corporate plan should clearly explain how the CityPlan 2030 strategic vision will be achieved and integrated into operational plans and processes, including waste management.

³⁹ These documents include the NPSP Council's CityPlan 2030, long-term financial plan and asset and infrastructure asset management plans.

A corporate plan also addresses the administration of the NPSP Council's own activities to ensure resources are employed efficiently and effectively to achieve its strategic and corporate objectives. It provides detailed guidance to integrate into short-term plans the key priorities and resources needed for each financial year.

NPSP Council's response

While there is not a legislative requirement for the Council to develop a corporate plan, the Council will prepare a corporate plan.

Waste management is an operational service ... the Council will consider the Auditor-General's comments in relation to waste management as an inclusion in a corporate plan.

4.3.3 The NPSP Council has not documented the initiatives that support its waste strategy

Recommendation

The NPSP Council should develop a specific plan for waste management, or a plan that is focused on environmental sustainability and includes waste as one component, that clearly documents:

- the innovative waste reduction and education initiatives identified that will be implemented to support CityPlan 2030 strategy 4.1.2
- the actions and activities performed annually that contribute to strategic objective 4.1
- the financial and human resources needed to implement the initiatives, actions and activities, and who is assigned the responsibility to implement them
- the measures and targets to monitor and evaluate the NPSP Council's performance
- how the NPSP Council has adopted the principles of the waste management hierarchy
- how East Waste's strategic actions and activities contribute to achieving the NPSP Council's strategic objectives.

Finding

The NPSP Council's planned strategy under CityPlan 2030 was to investigate innovative waste reduction and education initiatives that it intended to implement over time to meet its strategic objective. We found no documentary evidence of the outcome of this investigation.

NPSP Council staff advised us that there were no specific plans that provided this information and that the following activities were performed each year and resourced through the annual business plan and budget:

- the Reinvigorate the Food Recycling Project 2018–2021 – providing food caddies to new residential properties and to those existing ones that did not have access to one

- education activities including stalls at NPSP Council events, an annual collection calendar with waste service and 'which bin' information, a local services app, and an online waste and recycling guide.

We found that the annual business plans produced since 2015-16 had limited or no information on the NPSP Council's specific planned actions to implement its waste strategy and did not target kerbside waste avoidance or minimisation, the most preferred option of the waste management hierarchy.

East Waste delivers waste management services to the community on the NPSP Council's behalf, including education programs. The NPSP Council relies on East Waste's service and performance to help meet its strategic objectives. There is little to no detail in the NPSP Council's existing documented plans of these services to demonstrate the alignment of waste management strategies between the entities.

Why this is important

As waste disposal costs have grown substantially in recent years following SA Government increases to the solid waste levy, there is significant financial incentive for the NPSP Council to provide a cost-effective and efficient kerbside waste management service to:

- reduce the amount of kerbside waste going to landfill
- increase waste recycling and recovery
- contribute to the reduction in carbon emissions from landfill.

A documented waste management plan would help the NPSP Council to effectively implement waste strategies, achieve its strategic objectives and reach its vision.

NPSP Council's response

There is no legislative requirement on the Council to develop a waste management plan either separately or as component of another plan.

East Waste has been established by the Constituent Councils for the purposes of delivering effective kerbside waste management. It is East Waste's role to develop plans which reduce landfill, promote recycling and organics re-processing. East Waste reports to the Council in its Annual Report on how it achieves its functions under its Strategic Plan and Charter.

Notwithstanding this, East Waste has a 2030 Strategic Plan which sets out Strategies and Key Performance Indicators for leadership in waste management logistics and innovative collection and resource management services for the Constituent Councils of East Waste.

4.3.4 The NPSP Council no longer has kerbside waste performance measures and targets

Recommendation

The NPSP Council should set performance measures and targets in line with the kerbside waste management results it wants to achieve. These should be consistent with any key

performance indicators set by East Waste and support the State's waste strategy target for metropolitan councils.

Finding

Section 122(1)(d) of the LG Act requires a council's suite of strategic management plans to provide the financial and non-financial measures used to monitor and assess a council's performance against its objectives.

CityPlan 2030 outlined an objective and strategy for kerbside waste management along with the performance measure and target to evaluate the NPSP Council's performance. The performance measure and target changed over the period we reviewed.

We found that from 2016-17 the NPSP Council's kerbside performance target⁴⁰ was to achieve the State's waste target of 60% of waste diverted from landfill by 2020.

The NPSP Council removed this performance measure and target when it reviewed the CityPlan 2030 in 2020 and no longer has a landfill diversion target. NPSP Council staff advised us:

... that this performance measure was no longer a valid measurement due to the following factors, packaging weight can change, might be more volume of plastic but is lighter; or people are avoiding packaging and tonnes decrease.

We consider that these factors would impact the performance target set but would not make the performance measure invalid.

NPSP Council staff advised us that it decided to focus on circular procurement. The target set for this is a year-on-year increase in corporate purchases of products or materials that contain recycled content. However, this is not a relevant measure for the kerbside three-bin waste system.

Removing the performance measure and target means that the NPSP Council cannot clearly demonstrate:

- what it will monitor and evaluate its waste performance against. This may reduce the effectiveness of understanding changes in waste behaviours and making better and informed decisions about future education programs/initiatives
- its commitment to contributing to the State's waste target, which increases to 70% by 2025.⁴¹

We noted that East Waste's 2030 Strategic Plan provides key performance indicators to measure its success in reaching its objectives. These include:

- a percentage of total kerbside three-bin system materials is separately collected and recycled, targeting 75% by 2030 (ie waste diverted from landfill)

⁴⁰ We calculated this percentage based on the performance measure and target information disclosed in the NPSP Council's CityPlan 2030 over that period.

⁴¹ Green Industries SA 2020, *Supporting the Circular Economy: South Australia's Waste Strategy 2020-2025*, Government of South Australia, Adelaide.

- a percentage of total food waste is separately collected and recycled by 2030, targeting 100% by 2030
- reduced average contamination of the kerbside co-mingled recycling stream, targeting less than 7% by 2030.

The NPSP Council has not set performance measures and targets that align with those set by East Waste.

Why it is important to have kerbside waste performance measures and targets

For the NPSP Council to effectively oversee and monitor its kerbside waste performance, it should set performance measures and targets and regularly report actual results against them. This will inform the NPSP Council about whether its actions have been successful in achieving its targets, or whether changes to activities are needed to improve results.

NPSP Council's response

Waste reduction targets have been removed from City Plan 2030, which due to current legislative constraints, is an outcome of the Council having little control over this, other than through seeking to influence behaviour change through education. Obtaining accurate information through household bin audits, to measure progress against targets, is very costly and cannot be replicated or indeed justified on an annual basis.

It is noted that the South Australian Waste Strategy 2020-2025, sets a Municipal Solid Waste target of 75% diversion by 2025. The Council has and will continue to work with the State Government to deliver programs and initiatives that seek to achieve this target. It is noted that following previous major waste system interventions, such as food waste programs, a plateau has been reached in household behaviours and new critical intervention will be required which are led or supported by the State Government. These interventions will, by necessity, need to include changes to legislation which has been set by the State Government in respect to Local Government waste collection services.

The Council accepts that it should set performance measures and targets that align with East Waste's 2030 Strategic Plan. However, these performance measures and targets are operational rather than strategic. It is intended to incorporate performance measures and targets in the service agreement with East Waste.

4.4 Governance and service arrangements

4.4.1 Background

The NPSP Council is a constituent council of East Waste, a regional subsidiary established under section 43 of the LG Act. East Waste operates under a Charter that outlines its

governance, administrative and financial management arrangements. It is governed by a board of management and a councillor of the NPSP Council has been appointed to this board. The NPSP Council receives a copy of the board of management's meeting minutes and agenda papers.

East Waste delivers waste management services to the community on the NPSP Council's behalf. Its primary purpose is to collect and dispose of waste within the areas of its constituent councils. The NPSP Council may arrange for East Waste to provide other functions such as:

- promote the minimisation of waste and recycling of recyclable materials
- undertake waste community education programs
- conduct all activities in a way that complies with regulatory requirements and minimises risk to the constituent councils.⁴²

An NPSP Council manager attends a regular East Waste Committee meeting to discuss service and operation matters.

4.4.2 The NPSP Council does not have a service level agreement with its service provider for waste management services

Recommendation

The NPSP Council should establish a service level agreement with East Waste to have clarity and agreement on roles and responsibilities and other matters important to delivering waste management services.

Finding

We found that there is no contract or service level agreement between the NPSP Council and East Waste for the provision of waste services. East Waste prepared an 'offerings' spreadsheet that outlines the services agreed with the NPSP Council. This document did not include any details on the NPSP Council's operational performance expectations and standards.

East Waste is subject to the joint direction and control of its constituent councils, who are ultimately liable for its activities. It is important that the NPSP Council properly oversees and monitors East Waste's performance, manages risks and takes action to direct its activity when necessary. This will help ensure East Waste effectively implements the NPSP Council's service level policy decisions.

We found the NPSP Council has little oversight over the waste activity and service delivery performance specific to it and its community. This is because the NPSP Council has not set any key performance measures and targets to enable it to monitor and evaluate East Waste's performance.

⁴² Eastern Waste Management Authority Charter, clause 9.2, 26 September 2017.

NPSP Council staff advised us that information specific to the NPSP Council's performance and activity is limited to waste tonnages, additional bins and service exceptions.

The NPSP Council should have a service level agreement that at a minimum:

- clearly outlines its and East Waste's roles and responsibilities for common functions such as community education activities and dealing with complaints
- sets out its expectations of performance standards, measures and targets in delivering the agreed services. These would need to be aligned with the NPSP Council's strategic objectives, performance standards and targets for waste management
- provides the data and information required to enable it to:
 - monitor and evaluate East Waste's performance in service delivery against the pre-determined standards, performance measures and targets
 - inform its future waste management strategy and policy decisions
 - inform its future community education programs, including an evaluation of the effectiveness of existing education programs and waste initiatives
 - assess and evaluate East Waste's management of risks
- requires East Waste to detail the controls in place to ensure waste data used for reporting and decision making is complete and accurate. East Waste should also certify annually that the controls have been operating effectively.

NPSP Council's response

The Council agrees that a Service Level Agreement with East Waste would allow the Council to set governance and performance measures and targets addressing waste management. The Council intends to develop a Service Level Agreement that allows the Council to monitor East Waste on the service delivery of kerbside waste management and other services. As discussed, the Service Level Agreement will include the recommendation outlined in [section 4.3.4].

4.4.3 The NPSP Council did not evaluate and report against the key performance targets and waste initiatives

Recommendation

The NPSP Council should ensure there is proper oversight, monitoring and reporting on the performance of kerbside waste management services by:

- setting clear performance measures and targets it wants to achieve and that support the State's waste strategy
- evaluating and reporting actual performance against set targets
- evaluating and reporting on the outcome of all waste initiatives and activities that support performance
- consulting with East Waste to establish key performance measures and targets and define the data and information needed to monitor and evaluate their performance.

Finding

We reviewed how the NPSP Council monitored, evaluated and reported on the performance of its kerbside waste management services. We found that it has gaps in some important areas. This is because the NPSP Council:

- did not evaluate and report on actual performance against established targets
- did not evaluate the effectiveness of all waste initiatives and activities to inform decisions on future actions and allocation of resources
- did not consider and decide on the opportunities identified as part of evaluating one of its key waste initiatives
- did not establish performance measures and targets for East Waste.

Key performance measure and target

Prior to 2020-21, the NPSP Council aimed to achieve a target of 60% of waste diverted from landfill by 2019-20.

East Waste provided the total tonnages collected by waste stream and the percentage of waste diverted from landfill for each financial year. The NPSP Council's annual reports provided the annual waste tonnages by waste stream but did not report on its performance against the 60% diversion target.

Our analysis of the NPSP Council's actual kerbside waste diversion from landfill rate compared to the performance target and the metropolitan council average since 2015-16 is provided in section 4.2.3.

If the NPSP Council had clear oversight of its kerbside bin waste performance against targets, it would have been evident that it had not achieved its target each year and was not on track to achieve this and the State target over time. It could have then considered changes needed to improve its performance to reach, or get close to, the targets.

Waste reduction and education initiatives and activities

NPSP Council staff advised us that information on waste management activity is provided to elected members when needed. For example, the elected members were informed of the Reinstantiate the Food Recycling Project 2018–2021. This project's purpose was to increase the use of food caddies by giving them out to residents between 31 August 2019 and 30 June 2021. The NPSP Council exceeded its target of 3,200 with a total of 4,211 food caddies given out.

The NPSP Council prepared a report for the elected members and GISA⁴³ on the outcome of its evaluation of the project, which included:

- the outcome of the resident survey results
- an analysis of organics collection data.

⁴³ GISA provided funding to the NPSP Council under its Kerbside Performance Plus Food Organic Incentives Program.

The report outlined a further opportunity to increase the diversion of food waste from landfill by reviewing the frequency of kerbside waste collection at the State level and undertaking further modelling and trials to better understand how this could further influence behaviour change. The report did not provide any recommendations to the elected body for decision on these opportunities and the next steps to further the NPSP Council's waste initiatives and education programs.

We also found that the NPSP Council is not evaluating the effectiveness of all the waste management initiatives and activities it undertakes during the year. Consequently, a summary of the outcome and impact of these activities on achieving strategic objectives is not provided to the elected body to inform future decisions on waste management services.

East Waste's performance and kerbside bin service to the community

The NPSP Council has not set any performance standards, measures and targets to monitor and evaluate East Waste's performance in delivering kerbside waste management services to its community.

East Waste's 10-year business plan recommends key performance indicators that could be implemented and reported against to the NPSP Council.

Why it is important to monitor and report on kerbside waste performance

To effectively oversee and monitor its waste performance, the NPSP Council must regularly see actual results reported against set performance targets. This comparison, together with evaluation of programs/initiatives and East Waste's performance, will inform the NPSP Council about whether its actions have been successful in achieving its targets, or whether changes are needed to improve results and work towards achieving its strategic objectives and vision.

NPSP Council's response

The Council intends to develop a Service Level Agreement with East Waste and part of that Agreement, will include key performance measures and targets for East Waste to deliver and report to the Council. This will increase East Waste's accountability to the Council, as well as shaping future performance measures and targets.

The Council accepts that regular reporting of key performance measures and targets is necessary and is ultimately a key facet in informing the community on waste management indicators.

4.4.4 No reporting on kerbside waste performance targets to the community

Recommendation

The NPSP Council's annual report should provide performance information on its kerbside waste management activity against measures and targets.

Finding

Schedule 4 of the LG Act requires a council to report on its performance in implementing its strategic management plans and against its annual business plan each year. A council is required to provide this information in its annual report.

Consistent with these requirements, the NPSP Council's strategic planning and monitoring framework provides for regular reporting to its community through its annual report.

Our review of the NPSP Council's annual reports from 2015-16 to 2020-21 found that they did not provide information on waste management performance against the measure and target published in CityPlan 2030. However, they did comment on the various waste activities and initiatives the NPSP Council had implemented during the year. The lack of performance reporting makes it difficult for a reader of the annual report to have a clear and accurate understanding of how well the NPSP Council performed against its waste management objectives.

Why it is important to report on performance

Clear performance reporting on the delivery of waste management services against set measures and targets:

- enables the NPSP Council to demonstrate, and be held to account for, its achievements in meeting its objectives and working towards its vision
- provides useful information about the effectiveness of services provided that strengthens community trust
- keeps the community and key stakeholders better informed, which may strengthen future community engagement in managing waste.

NPSP Council's response

It is intended to report the established performance measures and targets as per the Service Level Agreement with East Waste in the Council's 2022-2023 Annual Report.

4.4.5 Residual waste tonnages collected are not reconciled

Recommendation

The NPSP Council should consult with East Waste to:

- identify effective controls to ensure residual waste data is complete and accurate
- determine who is responsible for implementing these controls.

Finding

East Waste provides data on the waste tonnages collected from the kerbside three-bin system to the NPSP Council, which is published in its annual report. NPSP Council staff advised us that they do not check the data for accuracy or completeness.

East Waste staff advised us that each month they reconcile the tonnes of organics and recyclables collected recorded on its drivers' weigh bridge dockets to invoices received from third parties who sort and process this material. East Waste then invoices the NPSP Council for the disposal of organics and recyclables once this reconciliation is done.

East Waste records the data on the drivers' weigh bridge dockets for residual waste, but does not perform a reconciliation as the NPSP Council receives these invoices directly from the third party. NPSP Council staff advised us that they review the invoices for reasonableness only.

Why it is important to reconcile the data

Reconciling the data East Waste records and what the NPSP Council is invoiced helps to minimise the risk of overpayment.

NPSP Council's response

The Council agrees that tighter measures need to be put in place to cross-check data provided by East Waste and the third-party at the time of invoicing. To progress this, discussions will be held with East Waste to better understand the process and take correct action as required.

4.4.6 Risk management framework not fully implemented

Recommendation

The NPSP Council should finalise and fully implement its risk management framework as a matter of priority. To assist with this, it should develop an implementation plan that provides the key activities, allocation of responsibilities and time frames to implement the framework. Key activities should include:

- endorsing the risk management procedure and distributing it to all staff
- delivering a risk management training program to all staff as soon as practicable after the risk management procedure is released
- having a dedicated resource to ensure its policy requirements are being met, risks are regularly reviewed, evaluated and reported, and the risk register is maintained
- assigning responsibility for managing individual risks to the manager level and recording this in the risk register
- regularly reviewing and reporting on risks as provided in the policy and procedure.

Finding

Risk management is the process by which potential impediments and opportunities for a council to achieve its objectives are managed. It underpins a council's control environment and is therefore integral to its operations.

The NPSP Council's risk management policy (dated October 2020) provides its risk management principles and defines responsibilities for risk management across its operations. Its audit committee is responsible for monitoring the NPSP Council's risk exposure by determining if appropriate risk management processes are in place.

We found that some aspects of the NPSP Council's risk management process had not been finalised and fully implemented across its operations. This is because:

- the risk management procedure was in draft and had not been distributed to NPSP Council staff
- the risk register does not assign responsibility for managing risk at the manager level
- the information in the risk register is incomplete as the risk assessment and the evaluation of the effectiveness of controls are not documented for some risks
- the risk treatment plans we reviewed did not assign responsibility and time frames for implementing the appropriate action
- there was no documentary evidence that the risk registers had been reviewed since 2019
- the executive leadership team had not provided the audit committee with quarterly reports on extreme and high operational risks
- there was no annual reporting of strategic risks to the audit committee.

NPSP Council staff advised us that the manager responsible for helping the executive leadership team to implement the risk management framework was seconded to assist the local government sector in responding to emergency events for extended periods of time. The NPSP Council did not have a dedicated resource to progress the implementation of its risk management framework and practices during these absences. Our review of audit committee meeting minutes and agenda papers found no evidence that it had considered the implications of these secondments and whether to reassess the time frames to implement the framework.

NPSP Council's response

The Council has endorsed a Risk Management Policy which is periodically reviewed and updated and which is supported by a Risk Register which sets out key strategic and operational risks. A new Risk Management Procedure and a Risk Management Implementation Plan is currently being finalised to ensure that the new Procedure is effectively embedded throughout the organisation. The new Procedure - and supporting Implementation Plan - has been designed to improve the quality of Council's Risk Register, assign risk control plans (including responsibilities) and ensure the necessary training is undertaken.

Since the examination conducted by the Auditor-General, the Council has drafted an Implementation Plan. A large number of the comments and recommendations in these findings have been actioned and systematically adopted to the risk management framework.

In addition, a Service Level Agreement with East Waste will assist the Council set, monitor and evaluate key performance measures and targets delivered by East Waste.

4.4.7 Waste management risks not fully assessed and documented

Recommendation

The NPSP Council should regularly assess East Waste's assessment and response to risks to determine whether they are appropriate and adequate in delivering waste management services. The outcome of this assessment should be documented in the NPSP Council's risk register and reported to its audit committee.

The NPSP Council should identify and assess any remaining waste management risks it is responsible for managing. These risks should be clearly documented in the risk register.

The NPSP Council should review its business continuity plan (BCP) to ensure it is up to date and contains accurate information in preparing and responding to emergency events. The NPSP Council should have a copy of East Waste's current BCP.

Finding

We found that the NPSP Council's risk register did not specifically identify risks related to the delivery of waste management services. Without these risks being clearly documented it was difficult to determine if the NPSP Council had identified and was managing all of its waste management risks. NPSP Council staff advised us that the risk statements are broad and the operational risk of business interruption was relevant to these services.

The NPSP Council's risk register identifies its BCP as a key existing control to mitigate business interruption risk. Its BCP (dated May 2018) identifies domestic waste management as a critical function. It outlines the policy and procedures in place to be ready for an event and the immediate action response. For waste management, the contract with East Waste is identified as the policy and procedure but we found that there is no contract. One immediate action needed in response to an emergency is to ask East Waste about its BCP.

It is important that the NPSP Council has a copy of East Waste's current BCP in preparedness for an emergency. This will ensure the risks and responsibilities of the NPSP Council and East Waste are clearly understood before an event occurs and enable the NPSP Council to respond quickly.

In response to our document requests, NPSP Council staff also referred us to East Waste's risk documents, including its risk management framework, risk registers and business continuity framework and plan.

This shows how reliant the NPSP Council is on East Waste's risk management practices. However, the NPSP Council did not provide documentary evidence that it had assessed and accepted East Waste's risk responses as appropriate and adequate in delivering waste management services.

We also found that the NPSP Council's risk analysis did not consider:

- the financial impacts of a failure in recyclables and organic waste collections, to facilitate waste reduction and the market fluctuations in recyclable materials
- the impacts on pathways of collected material due to various disruptions. For example, the NPSP Council relies on third parties to manage the recycling and disposal of collected materials. In recent years there have been fires and materials recovery facilities market failures that have had major impacts on pathways of collected material, including additional financial outlays (such as costs for transporting recyclables to interstate facilities or storing them pending local sorting availability, or additional costs and levies of sending recyclables to landfill) and reputational impacts (such as community affront on landfilling collected recyclables)
- the oversight and monitoring of East Waste's performance.

NPSP Council's response

See the NPSP Council's response in section 4.4.6.

4.5 Waste management education activities

4.5.1 Background

East Waste's services include delivering waste community education programs to its constituent councils. It developed an education program for them in 2016-17, which focused on promoting behaviours to ensure residential waste material is put in the correct bin.

The program is updated each year for the activities that will be delivered across the constituent councils, including the delivery of waste education to schools and the general community and a range of education resource materials (such as waste tips via social media, street signage, bin stickers and articles for the constituent councils' websites).

The NPSP Council also provides community education, which includes:

- stalls at events
- an annual collection calendar with waste service and 'which bin' information
- a local services app
- an online waste and recycling guide to things like the supply of compostable bags and educational materials.

The NPSP Council provides education resources directly to residents based on weekly reports it receives from East Waste for illegal additional bins and service exceptions (such as missed bins, contamination in bins and bins too heavy to lift).

4.5.2 The NPSP Council does not have a formal waste education strategy

Recommendation

The NPSP Council should develop and document a waste education strategy and program. This should align with its overall waste strategy and support the achievement of its strategic objectives.

The NPSP Council should establish a system for annual planning of the education program, monitoring its implementation and reviewing its performance.

Finding

The NPSP Council relies primarily on East Waste's community education activities but also carries out some of its own.

We met with NPSP Council and East Waste staff to discuss the waste education activities that had been carried out during the review period.

We found that the NPSP Council does not have its own policy, strategy or plan that:

- demonstrates how its, and East Waste's, community education programs will support its strategic objectives and contribute towards achieving the State's waste strategy and targets
- outlines the activities and information needed to inform the education approach to address waste and recycling issues
- describes the nature and extent of East Waste's role in community waste education
- shows how East Waste's waste education strategy aligns with its own
- provides the financial and human resources allocated to deliver education programs and activities
- outlines the approach to evaluating the effectiveness of waste education programs and activities in improving kerbside waste performance, such as bin audits, regular analysis of waste data and community involvement
- supports the implementation of innovative waste education initiatives.

East Waste's education activities

We found that East Waste's education program was not documented in, or linked to, an NPSP Council strategy. There was no documentary evidence that the NPSP Council had assessed this program to ensure it would help meet its strategic objectives for waste management and agreed service delivery to its community (such as how many and which schools in the NPSP Council area East Waste would deliver waste education to in each year).

The NPSP Council's waste education activity evaluation

East Waste staff advised us that it is very difficult to evaluate the effectiveness of a specific education activity/initiative. It conducted a kerbside bin audit in late 2019 to assess kerbside waste performance and understand household waste disposal and recycling behaviour. These audits identify issues in waste behaviours, such as the nature of contamination and the incorrect use of bins. This information helps to make informed decisions to improve services and make changes to the education program for the region and the NPSP Council.

The NPSP Council engaged a third party to do a kerbside bin audit in 2016. The purpose was to gain accurate and reliable data on the performance of the kerbside waste management system and the recycling behaviours of its residents. This information would then be used to identify opportunities for performance improvement and develop education materials targeting specific behaviour issues.

NPSP Council staff advised us that some recommendations from the 2016 bin audit were progressed, including facilitating ongoing and more frequent data collection to monitor progress. We found no documentary evidence that the NPSP Council had regularly analysed kerbside waste data to monitor performance and determine whether it was successful in changing community behaviour.

We found that the NPSP Council did not have a documented approach to evaluating the effectiveness of its waste education activities, such as the impact the education activity has on landfill diversion rates.

Why it is important to have a waste education strategy

A documented waste education strategy will help the NPSP Council to define its strategic education directions, set clear objectives and describe the actions it will take to educate the community on areas such as:

- practicing the waste management hierarchy with increased focus on avoiding or minimising waste
- increasing the level of food scrap recycling
- disposing of food scrap recycling in the organics bin
- increasing the level of recycling
- decreasing the level of contamination in recycling.

Further, a documented strategy will help the NPSP Council make decisions about the priority of education programs and activities, prepare plans and allocate resources to them.

Education programs can be expensive and can absorb significant human resources. Without a clear vision of program objectives, the NPSP Council may find it difficult to assess whether sufficient and suitable resources have been applied to deliver specific programs.

NPSP Council's response

The Council agrees that educating the community on waste management with a focus on minimising waste and increasing the recycling, food scrap and general recycling, is fundamental to reducing landfill and improving recycling.

The Council will seek to provide greater clarity over the educational activities which it already conducts each year, with the production of an internal Waste Education Calendar, documenting events, campaigns, materials that will be rolled out in any given year and how this integrates with the educational activities conducted by East Waste which the Constituent Councils fund.

The Service Level Agreement will also document the education programs and formats to be delivered or overseen by East Waste (such as schools' education) and the expectation for the minimum number of sessions to be delivered. The Service Level Agreement will include a requirement on East Waste to report to the Council on the effectiveness of the education activities in accordance with the opening statement of the service level agreement and East Waste's 2030 Strategic Plan.

The Service Level Agreement will not remove the education activities undertaken by the Council. However, these activities will be consistent with the topics provided for in the Service Level Agreement. The Council will endeavour to publish the annual education plan on its website.

4.6 What the NPSP Council did well

We found some areas of effective waste management that were operating effectively during the period we reviewed. These included the NPSP Council:

- consulting its community and key stakeholders when it reviewed CityPlan 2030 to understand their expectations and satisfaction with the levels of waste management service
- having sound processes to manage and resolve complaints from residents about kerbside waste collection services
- having a waste management policy that outlined domestic kerbside waste collection services, additional bin requirements and lost and stolen bins. It was updated in late 2021 to provide direction on specific areas such as MUDs and hard waste services.

5 City of West Torrens

5.1 Executive summary

5.1.1 Audit conclusion

We assessed the effectiveness of West Torrens Council's management of kerbside waste services between 2015 and 2021 against our review objective in section 3.2.

We concluded that West Torrens Council successfully collects, transports and processes kerbside waste to a high level of community satisfaction.

There are many areas that contribute to the overall effective management of kerbside waste services. We identified three areas that were not operating effectively during the period we reviewed. These were:

- establishing a stand-alone waste strategy
- setting local performance targets
- establishing a formal education strategy.

These issues are explained in section 5.1.2.

We also identified some areas where West Torrens Council was operating effectively during the period, including that it had:

- established clear roles and responsibilities for waste management, including an oversight and monitoring committee
- sound frameworks and processes to identify, assess and manage waste risks
- clear processes to manage and resolve complaints from residents about collection services.

West Torrens Council has recognised the importance of continuous improvement in waste management. For example, it has recognised the need for and developed a local waste strategy and has completed, or has plans in place to start, other initiatives.

5.1.2 What we found and recommended

The key findings from our review of West Torrens Council's management of kerbside waste services were that it:

- did not have a stand-alone waste strategy that identified its key priorities and objectives for waste management, established local targets and measures to monitor performance and detailed the specific actions and activities that it would take to achieve these. We acknowledge West Torrens Council commenced developing a stand-alone waste strategy (see section 5.3.2)

- had not set local performance targets for waste management, reducing the effectiveness of its monitoring of waste performance (see section 5.3.3)
- did not have a formal waste education strategy that outlined its approach to community education on waste and recycling issues and defined how it would assess the effectiveness of its education activities (see section 5.5.1).

We recommended that West Torrens Council:

- sets local performance targets that support the State's waste strategy targets for metropolitan councils and reports its waste performance against them
- develops and documents a waste education strategy that aligns to its waste strategy and local targets.

5.1.3 West Torrens Council's response

West Torrens Council responded to our detailed findings and advised us how it would action our recommendations, which it accepted.

West Torrens Council's response to each individual recommendation is included in sections 5.3 to 5.5 and in section 5.7.

West Torrens Council provided a response to our proposed report to Parliament that is included as Appendix 7.

5.2 Overview of the City of West Torrens

5.2.1 Waste management services

West Torrens Council is located immediately west of the City of Adelaide. Its estimated resident population is around 61,000 with a population density of 1,649 people per square kilometre. It covers an area of around 37 km² and census data from 2021 shows that 37% of its dwellings are medium or high density, while 63% are separate houses.⁴⁴

Population, area and dwelling type determine the nature, type and collection frequency of the waste services councils provide. West Torrens Council provides a three-bin kerbside waste collection service that consists of:

- weekly residual waste
- fortnightly organics
- fortnightly recycling.

⁴⁴ City of West Torrens 2021, *City of West Torrens: dwelling type*, viewed 15 July 2022, <<https://profile.id.com.au/west-torrens/dwellings>>.

Residents are entitled to a free food caddy and a roll of compostable bags, as well as replacement bags.

West Torrens Council has developed a shared waste service for MUDs to provide kerbside services to developments that would not have qualified for its waste collection service.

An independent waste contractor provides collection and transportation services for West Torrens Council’s three-bin kerbside waste.

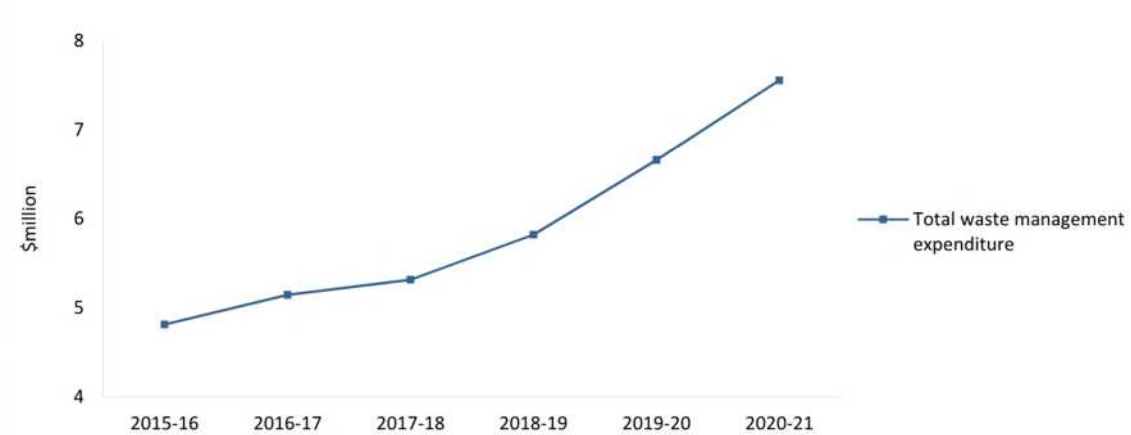
In addition to the kerbside three-bin waste service, West Torrens Council collects and disposes of kerbside hard waste and public litter bins, street sweepings and illegal dumping.

5.2.2 Waste management costs

In 2020-21, West Torrens Council incurred \$7.5 million in waste management costs.

Figure 5.1 shows West Torrens Council’s waste management costs over six years.

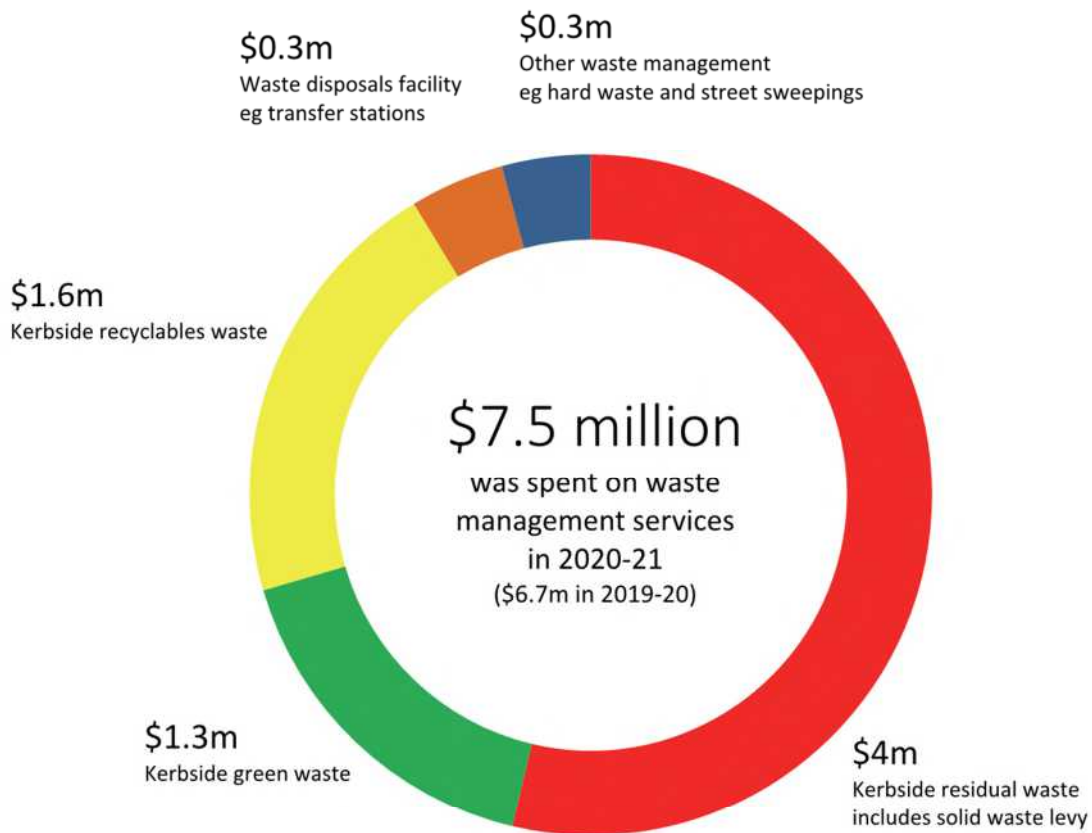
Figure 5.1: West Torrens Council’s waste management costs over six years



Source: West Torrens Council’s audited financial statements which are audited by a private sector accounting firm.

Figure 5.1 shows that waste management costs have increased since 2018-19. This is partly due to the increase in the solid waste levy during this period. On 30 June 2019, the solid waste levy for metropolitan councils was \$100 per tonne. By 30 June 2021, the levy for metropolitan councils was \$143 per tonne, an increase of 43%. The increase in costs is also the result of the increase in residual waste collected by West Torrens Council since 2018-19, as shown in figure 5.3. In 2020-21, West Torrens Council spent \$7.5 million on waste management services, an increase of \$800,000 (12%) from 2019-20. Figure 5.2 shows where this was spent.

Figure 5.2: West Torrens Council waste management costs for 2020-21



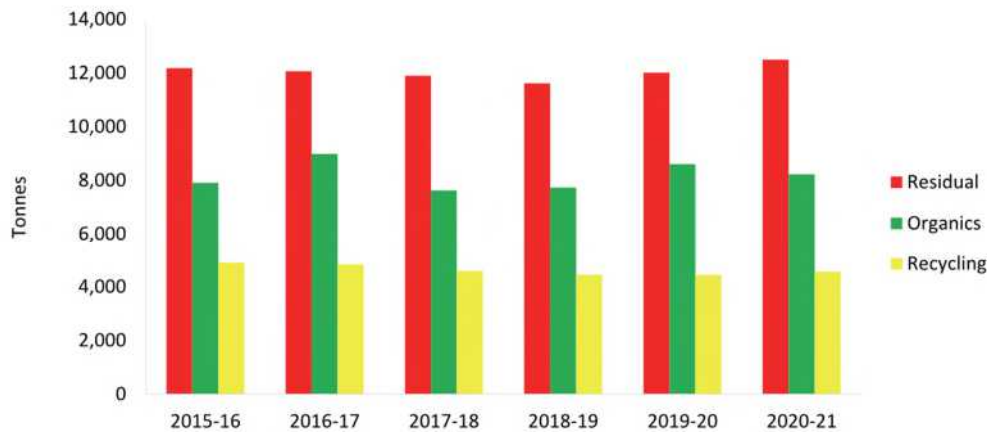
Of the \$7.5 million, 53% was spent on collecting and disposing kerbside residual waste, including the solid waste levy. The solid waste levy is 24%⁴⁵ of West Torrens Council's total waste management costs for 2020-21.

5.2.3 Kerbside waste management performance

Figure 5.3 shows the total tonnages by waste stream collected by West Torrens Council over six years.

⁴⁵ Calculated by us based on the residual tonnes provided by West Torrens Council multiplied by the solid waste levy.

Figure 5.3: Kerbside waste collected by West Torrens Council

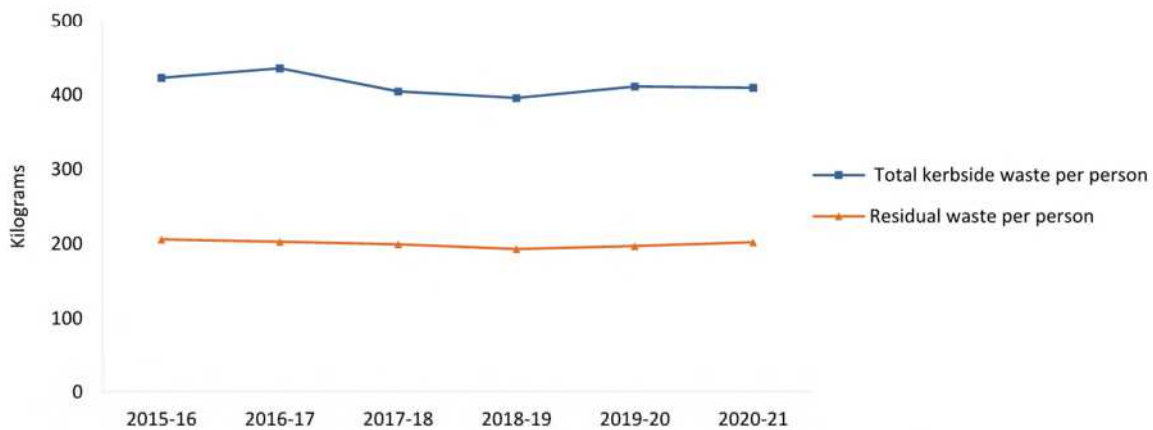


Source: Based on data provided by West Torrens Council (unaudited).

Figure 5.3 shows that residual waste is consistently West Torrens Council’s largest waste stream, followed by organics and then recyclables. This is in line with other metropolitan councils as shown in figure 2.7.

Figure 5.4 shows total kerbside waste and residual waste generated per person in the West Torrens Council area over six years.

Figure 5.4: Waste per person in West Torrens Council



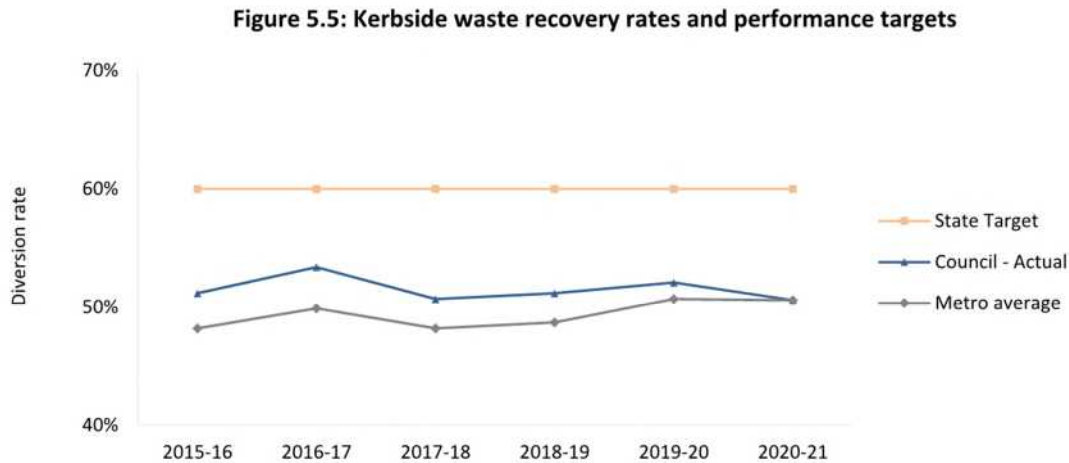
Source: Based on data about tonnes provided by West Torrens Council. Data about population is from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (estimated resident population by local government area) (<https://explore.data.abs.gov.au/>).

Figure 5.4 shows that total kerbside waste generated per person decreased from 2016-17 until 2019-20. The decrease in 2017-18 was driven by a 13% decrease in organics due to higher rainfall in the previous year.⁴⁶ An explanation for the increase in 2019-20 may be that during the pandemic more people shopped online, increasing the amount of packaging used in shipping/postage then discarded by residents. This may have been further impacted by

⁴⁶ Green Industries SA 2020, *South Australia’s Kerbside Waste Performance Report 2017-18*, Government of South Australia, Adelaide, p. 14.

people establishing home offices during the initial lockdown as evidenced by the shortage of office furniture and IT equipment in South Australia in March, April and May 2020. Figure 5.4 also shows that residual waste generated per person has remained relatively consistent in the West Torrens Council area over the past five years.

Figure 5.5 shows West Torrens Council’s actual recovery rates compared to the metropolitan council average since 2015-16 and the State target for metropolitan councils of 60% landfill diversion from the kerbside bin system.



Source: Based on data provided by West Torrens Council and GISA.

West Torrens Council’s actual recovery rates compared to the State metropolitan council averages are shown in figure 5.6.

Figure 5.6: West Torrens Council and metropolitan council average recovery rates

Year	West Torrens Council kerbside collection recovery rate ⁴⁷	Metropolitan councils average recovery rate ⁴⁸
2015-16	51.2%	48.2%
2016-17	53.4%	49.9%
2017-18	50.7%	48.2%
2018-19	51.2%	48.7%
2019-20	52.1%	50.7%
2020-21	50.6%	50.6%

These results show that West Torrens Council has mostly achieved a higher recovery rate than the average attained by metropolitan councils. 2016-17 was West Torrens Council’s best performing year with it ahead of the metropolitan councils’ average recovery rate by 3.5%. However, during this period West Torrens Council still fell 6.6% short of the State’s waste strategy landfill diversion target for metropolitan councils of 60%. The 1.5% decrease in West Torrens Council’s recovery rate from 2019-20 to 2020-21 was in part due to people

⁴⁷ This rate was calculated by us using unaudited data about collection tonnages provided by West Torrens Council using the formula published in GISA’s kerbside waste performance reports. The tonnages of recycling and organics collected from the kerbside have not been adjusted for contamination.

⁴⁸ GISA’s annual kerbside waste performance reports. Data provided by GISA for 2019-20 and 2020-21.

working from home during the pandemic and some residents disposing of recyclable material in the residual bin rather than waiting for the recycling bin collection week. There was also a fruit fly outbreak in late 2020 and 2021 and some residents were instructed to dispose of fruit in their residual bin instead of their organics bin. In June and July 2020 and in March, April and May 2021, Adelaide experienced drier than average weather resulting in a reduced need for pruning and therefore garden waste generation.

GISA provided us with data it has not yet published which shows that only one metropolitan council achieved a recovery rate of 60% in 2020-21.⁴⁹

5.2.4 Other waste management initiatives

West Torrens Council has recognised the importance of continuous improvement in waste services and the solutions it provides to its community are key to encouraging responsible waste behaviour. During our review we noted some examples of its commitment to improvement and innovation including that it:

- had recently undertaken a weekly green waste bin collection trial in West Beach, intended to encourage responsible food waste recycling and diversion of food waste away from landfill
- planned a trial with RecycleSmart to provide a booked home collection service for recyclable items not accepted through kerbside recycling
- planned a pilot to determine the most effective interventions to improve source separation of waste in MUDs
- together with industry parties is investigating the technical, commercial and economic feasibility of using municipal solid waste to produce hydrogen from gasification to be used for hydrogen derived fertiliser products and hydrogen powered heavy haulage vehicles.

5.3 Governance and strategic planning for waste management services

5.3.1 Background

Legislation

The LG Act requires councils to develop and adopt plans for the strategic management of their areas.⁵⁰ These are published on councils' websites for community scrutiny and information.⁵¹ Strategic planning helps councils to set long-term directions and priorities, evaluate their operations (including community services) and address issues unique to their local areas. This process also gives councils the opportunity to consider strategies to achieve SA Government objectives.

⁴⁹ GISA's annual kerbside waste performance reports. Data provided by GISA for 2019-20 and 2020-21.

⁵⁰ LG Act, section 122.

⁵¹ LG Act, section 132.

While the LG Act does not require councils to have dedicated waste strategies, their strategic management plans must indicate how they have considered State objectives and strategies. Increasingly councils have recognised the importance of waste strategies to set goals for waste reduction, communicate how these will be achieved and demonstrate their support for State objectives.

Community plan

West Torrens Council's community plan has guided the strategic planning of waste management. It is the lead strategic document that determines key priorities for the coming years and is a statement about what West Torrens Council will do to achieve the community's vision.

The Towards 2025 Community Plan was first released in 2009 and updated several times during its lifetime. It was replaced in February 2021 by the current lead strategic plan, the Community Plan 2030.

City Facilities and Waste Recovery General Committee

West Torrens Council has established the City Facilities and Waste Recovery General Committee under the LG Act. The Committee's primary objective is to assist West Torrens Council in its oversight and monitoring responsibilities as well as enquire into and report about operational matters including waste management. It is comprised of the Mayor and up to seven elected members and meets in alternate months.

5.3.2 West Torrens Council does not have stand-alone waste strategy

Recommendation

Although not required by legislation, we acknowledge and support West Torrens Council's development of a stand-alone waste strategy.

We recommend the waste strategy:

- identifies West Torrens Council's key priorities and objectives for waste management
- establishes local targets and measures to monitor performance and describes the actions and activities that will be taken to achieve them
- clearly identifies how West Torrens Council will support the objectives of the State's waste strategy, including any targets.

We further recommend West Torrens Council publishes the waste strategy on its website and reports outcomes against targets each year in its annual report for community information and accountability purposes.

Finding

West Torrens Council does not have a stand-alone waste strategy or plan.

Its community plan has guided the strategic planning of waste management. The Towards 2025 Community Plan acknowledged the community aspiration of reducing the ecological footprint and outlined West Torrens Council's long-term and short-term waste management strategies. Although these strategies altered slightly between versions of the plan, their intent was consistent:

- Long-term strategy:
 - To facilitate the minimisation of waste production and disposal to landfill and maximise resource recovery.
- Short-term strategies:
 - To promote waste minimisation and resource recovery within West Torrens Council, community, local businesses and industry.
 - To establish alternative waste disposal and utilisation options to reduce waste to landfill.

These strategies broadly aligned with the State's objectives of minimising waste and reducing landfill.

While each version of the plan communicated West Torrens Council's waste management goals through these strategies, it did not include detailed information about specific actions or activities that would be taken to achieve them. Further, clear targets to measure West Torrens Council's performance against were set at a high level or were not set at all and no details were provided about how waste management performance would be monitored and reviewed.

Why a waste strategy is important and what it should say

As waste disposal costs have substantially grown in recent years following the SA Government's increases to the solid waste levy,⁵² there is significant financial incentive for West Torrens Council to make every effort to reduce the amount of kerbside waste going to landfill. Further, to protect the environment it should promote reducing waste generation and increasing reuse and recycling in line with the waste management hierarchy.⁵³ A waste strategy would support West Torrens Council in this regard.

A local based waste strategy would enable West Torrens Council to:

- identify its objectives, principles and strategies, including measurable performance targets, and state how these will support the State's waste strategy
- describe the activities and actions it will take to achieve these targets, including time frames, resources and responsibilities
- describe the activities and actions it will take to monitor and maintain its performance
- assess whether its activities and actions have been effective and have resulted in reduced waste disposal costs such as the solid waste levy

⁵² The SA Government announced the solid waste levy increase in its 2019-20 State Budget. The solid waste levy increased to \$110 per tonne on 1 July 2019, and to \$140 per tonne on 1 January 2020.

⁵³ *Environment Protection Act 1993*, section 4B.

- identify and assess risks that may prevent it from achieving its objectives and targets and communicate plans about how they will be addressed.

West Torrens Council has recognised the importance of establishing a local waste strategy and has engaged a consultant to develop a 10-year waste and resource recovery strategy and a five-year action plan.

West Torrens Council's response

The Council acknowledges that there is no legislative requirement to have a standalone waste strategy. Waste management has always formed a part of Council's Community Plan and as a result departmental service plans have been prepared and reported on regularly by the waste team. However, since the 2018-2019 restructure of the waste team, efficiencies have emerged including new management with fresh and focused considerations for waste innovation, planning, processes and practices. This has culminated in Council providing budgeted funding for, and engaging with, a consultant to design a foundational waste strategy which is expected to be completed in the 2nd half of 2022. This will be a 10 year waste strategy and will align with the State's Waste Strategy and Council's Community Plan (2030), and it will consider broader global and environmental factors, and is open to bold future opportunities and innovations.

Council supports transparency and accountability in the local government sector. Publishing the strategy on the Council website facilitates improving community understanding of the Council's commitment to waste management.

While Council provides an overview of activities undertaken in the Annual Report, we currently do not measure against targets. Consideration will be given to future annual reports and whether it is appropriate to include comparison of outcomes against targets following the formal release of Council's Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy and Action Plan. Council will also consider the development of data tracking and comparisons against targets on a regular basis in a format that will be easily accessible by the general public.

5.3.3 West Torrens Council does not have local targets to easily assess its waste management performance against

Recommendation

To improve the effectiveness of the City Facilities and Waste Recovery General Committee's monitoring and oversight function, we recommend:

- West Torrens Council sets local targets in line with the waste management results it wants to achieve. These should support the State's waste strategy targets for metropolitan councils

- the bi-monthly waste management activity reports received by the Committee include reporting of actual performance against West Torrens Council's targets. This will inform the Committee which waste strategies are effective and help it to make decisions about where to spend money to achieve the best results.

Finding

The Towards 2025 Community Plan, which outlined West Torrens Council's long-term and short-term waste management strategies, did not include targets to easily measure and assess its performance against. Also, one version of the plan included an indicator of success that reflected the State average of waste to landfill. As this indicator included regional councils' performance it was not the most appropriate measure, as many regional councils do not offer all bin types and the same frequency of collection services as those offered by West Torrens Council and other metropolitan councils.

Why West Torrens Council needs local targets to monitor its waste performance

West Torrens Council needs local targets to help the City Facilities and Waste Recovery General Committee effectively oversee and monitor its waste performance.

The Committee receives a waste management activity report at each meeting that includes year-to-date data about:

- monthly kerbside bin collection tonnages by waste stream
- the monthly percentage of kerbside bin collections diverted from landfill.

While the report compares West Torrens Council's current year waste performance to the prior year, it does not compare this data to either local or State targets. This results in a less effective review by the Committee, which cannot easily assess actual waste performance against the goals West Torrens Council hopes to achieve.

Comparing actual performance to targets will inform the Committee about whether West Torrens Council's actions have been successful, or whether changes to activities are needed to achieve success. The Committee must be able to readily identify where targets are not being met, so it can determine why this has occurred and what action is needed to improve results. For instance, the effectiveness of education programs and other waste trials aimed at changing community behaviour, such as diverting food waste from residual to organic collections, can be determined by observing improved landfill diversion rates against targets over time.

West Torrens Council's response

Council is not legally required to report waste management targets against the State targets, however the Council agrees that this would provide transparency and performance benchmarking in the sector.

Council will consider opportunities to progress a reporting system to improve the tracking of real-time service and kerbside performance.

Council currently reports on the performance of kerbside service through the City Facilities and Waste Recovery General Committee, and will consider enhancing this report to compare this data against Council, Local and State targets. However, Council have identified that tracking Council's performance against other metropolitan councils is difficult while the State's Waste Strategy is not legislated. Councils calculate waste performance data using different methodologies so comparing metropolitan councils would not give a correct or clear indication of results.

5.3.4 West Torrens Council does not have a formal program for kerbside bin audits

Recommendation

We recommend West Torrens Council:

- formalises in its waste strategy its approach to kerbside bin audits which considers:
 - how often audits will be performed and their purpose, such as to provide timely and relevant information about community behaviour and waste performance to inform an education strategy
 - the audit methodology and sampling base to be used
 - the reporting requirements
- clarifies with its independent contractor who is responsible for performing kerbside bin audits and how they will be funded.

Finding

West Torrens Council does not have a formal program for kerbside bin audits. However, it did perform two audits during the period we reviewed. A formal program for kerbside bin audits would help it to:

- determine how often audits should be performed
- schedule audits
- select suburbs/streets for review
- allocate sufficient resources in advance
- ensure audits are performed.

Why kerbside bin audits are important

Kerbside bin audits are a valuable tool in the management of waste. They help a council understand the waste and recycling disposal behaviour of its community, by measuring the contents of residual waste, recycling and organics bins. This data allows the council to:

- identify waste and recycling trends within its community
- identify problems in the kerbside bin system and opportunities for improvement
- provide feedback to its community about waste management performance

- design targeted education programs to change community waste behaviour
- measure residents' waste behaviour over time, to assess whether education programs or other waste initiatives, such as supplying and distributing food caddies and compostable bags, have been successful
- compare community performance to other councils performing similar audits.

What the waste and recycling collection contract says about kerbside bin audits

An independent contractor provides West Torrens Council with kerbside waste collection, transportation and processing services.

The waste and recycling collection contract requires the independent contractor to provide West Torrens Council with electronic reporting and data for certain services. The contract describes the timing and reporting requirements for these services and refers to biennial kerbside garbage, recyclables and organics audits.

The independent contractor did not perform kerbside bin audits during the period we reviewed.

West Torrens Council has not interpreted this reporting requirement as obliging the independent contractor to perform biennial kerbside bin audits. It believes the independent contractor is obliged to contribute to the cost of the audits arranged or performed by West Torrens Council. The independent contractor has previously contributed in-kind support for kerbside audits arranged or performed by West Torrens Council by providing staff and vehicles to collect and transport bins for auditing from households to its waste and recycling centre.

How often kerbside bin audits should be performed

We are not aware of any industry standard that indicates how often kerbside bin audits should be performed. Bin audits can be costly, so West Torrens Council must weigh up the benefits of the usefulness of the information and intelligence they provide about community behaviour against the financial and human resources they commit.

The waste and recycling collection contract refers to kerbside bin audits being performed every two years. A biennial audit would provide West Torrens Council with timely and useful data about community waste behaviour and give valuable and relevant insight about areas needing improvement for its waste and education strategies.

West Torrens Council's response

Council agrees that tangible and measurable data collected through regular auditing would provide valuable measurements to identify how Council is performing, however the cost associated with the routine audit would require ongoing budget considerations.

Routine auditing will be considered for integration in Council's Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy and Action Plan (currently under development) to support budget development and will be subject to endorsement from Council each financial year. As part of the Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy and Action Plan development, Council will confer with [its] ... (waste contractor) regarding the responsibility for performing kerbside bin audits.

5.4 Service arrangements

5.4.1 West Torrens Council's original waste disposal contract could not be located

Recommendation

In line with the requirements of the LG Act, we recommend West Torrens Council keeps all contracts or correspondence that describe the terms and conditions agreed with service providers in its records management system for safekeeping and ease of retrieval.

Finding

West Torrens Council first engaged its independent contractor to provide kerbside waste transportation and disposal services in September 2010. Since then it has extended these arrangements three times.

At the time of our review, West Torrens Council's original contract with the independent contractor could not be located. Some terms of the original contract, such as those concerning fees, have no doubt changed over time or been superseded by more recent agreements. Other terms, such as those concerning roles and responsibilities, may still form the basis of current arrangements.

West Torrens Council was able to provide us with an extract from the original contract. This referred to documents that were stated to comprise the contract. However, these documents were not described in a manner that would allow them to be clearly and easily identified. For instance, no details of dates or identity of authors and recipients of correspondence were included in the references to these documents.

Without these details there is no certainty about which documents comprise the contract, and therefore the nature, content and extent of the terms and conditions agreed between the West Torrens Council and the independent contractor.

The risks to West Torrens Council if a contract cannot be found

Contracts confirm and demonstrate a meeting of the minds between parties and contain essential information about their roles and responsibilities. If West Torrens Council cannot refer to a contract to confirm these, it could be exposed to the risk of uncertainty about terms and conditions agreed with the independent contractor should a dispute arise.

Further, contracts contain valuable information needed for planning, managing compliance, performance and decision making. West Torrens Council may overlook details or information relevant to these activities if it cannot confirm the agreed terms and conditions.

The LG Act requires councils to keep accounting records that explain their revenues, expenses, assets and liabilities.⁵⁴ The LG Act includes all records and documents relevant to any receipt or payment of money in its definition of accounting records.⁵⁵

We believe a contract for the provision of services would constitute an accounting record as defined by the LG Act.

West Torrens Council's response

Since 2019, records management processes within Council's waste team have greatly improved ensuring routine uploading of documents and emails into the Council's document management system using uniformity in naming conventions to enable efficient information retrieval. This has been facilitated by the review of the waste management team and expanding the number of employees in this area with a designated team leader. As a result, Council has addressed this finding.

5.4.2 West Torrens Council does not independently check the weight of kerbside bin collections

Recommendation

We recommend the West Torrens Council investigates ways it can obtain independent assurance about the weight of kerbside bin collections. This could include:

- performing regular spot audits to observe the independent contractor's staff performing the weighing and recording process
- requesting confirmation of the calibration of the independent contractor's weighbridge, such as a letter of confirmation or a certificate from the calibrator
- considering how independent assurance of the calibration process could be included in the processing and disposal service specifications in the next procurement of these services.

Finding

West Torrens Council does not independently check the weight of kerbside bin collections.

The independent contractor weighs the kerbside residual waste, recyclables and organics bin collections on behalf of the landfill operator, the recycling company and the organics processor. It provides West Torrens Council with a monthly report on the weight of kerbside bin collections.

⁵⁴ LG Act, section 124.

⁵⁵ *ibid*, section 4.

West Torrens Council reviews the monthly report and monitors tonnages for unexpected variances against its large history of collection data. It also relies on the routine calibration of the independent contractor's weighbridge by an expert, although it does not obtain evidence that the calibration process has occurred.

Why West Torrens Council should independently check the weight of kerbside bin collections

West Torrens Council receives a monthly invoice for collection, processing and disposal services. While collection fees are based on the number of bins serviced or a fortnightly collection rate, processing and disposal fees are based on the number of tonnes collected. Further, the solid waste levy is based on the number of residual waste tonnes disposed of.

Without an independent check of the weight of collections, West Torrens Council cannot be certain of the accuracy of tonnages advised by the independent contractor, the amounts invoiced for kerbside bin processing and disposal, and the solid waste levy.

West Torrens Council's response

[The waste contractor is] ... required to operate in accordance with Environment Protection Regulations 2009. The Environment Protection Regulations 2009 outline the approval, maintenance and certification of accuracy for weighbridges in accordance with the National Measurement Act 1960. However, as part of independent data checking, Council will consider requesting calibration reports from [the waste contractor] and conduct periodic audits of weighbridge dockets to verify accuracy.

5.5 Processes to assess the effectiveness of education activities

5.5.1 West Torrens Council does not have a formal waste education strategy

Recommendation

We recommend West Torrens Council develops and documents a waste education strategy that aligns to its waste strategy and local targets. The waste education strategy should:

- demonstrate how the education programs will support West Torrens Council's and the State's waste strategy objectives and targets
- outline activities/information needed to inform the education approach, for instance kerbside bin audits
- consider the nature of resources required to develop and deliver education programs and activities
- include community input options
- include mechanisms for measuring the effectiveness of education programs and activities.

We further recommend West Torrens Council establishes a system for annual planning of the education program, monitoring its implementation and reviewing performance.

Finding

West Torrens Council does not have a formal policy, strategy or plan outlining its approach to community education on waste and recycling issues. It also does not have a process to formally evaluate the effectiveness of its education tools and programs.

In December 2020, West Torrens Council engaged its community on what they found important and what actions it should prioritise to meet their expectations. Waste management was identified as an area of community interest. Key considerations for West Torrens Council included:

- seeking to reduce waste volumes through best practice management, education and recycling
- helping businesses and organisations to pursue waste minimisation philosophy as well as West Torrens Council leading by example
- considering how it can positively influence community values of recyclable materials to help rebuild the recycling industry in South Australia and Australia.⁵⁶

What community waste education West Torrens Council currently provides

West Torrens Council currently provides a comprehensive range of waste and recycling education resources on its website, including 'what goes in which bin', an A to Z guide on waste and recycling, and a chatbot that can be used to determine whether an item can be recycled. West Torrens Council also invites face-to-face engagement with schools, community groups and businesses, and has participated in events such as National Recycling Week to engage its community on waste education.

Why West Torrens Council needs a waste education strategy

Councils play a key role in educating the community about waste reduction and responsible recycling. Through education the community can improve its waste practices, which will reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill and increase the volume of materials to be recycled.

Community behaviour directly impacts costs paid by councils for waste disposal. As the solid waste levy increases the cost of sending kerbside waste to landfill, there is strong financial incentive along with environmental concern for West Torrens Council to promote the reduction of waste generation and increase in reuse and recycling in line with the waste management hierarchy. Changing community behaviour will be key to achieving this.

A documented waste education strategy will help West Torrens Council define its strategic education directions, set clear objectives and describe the activities it will take to educate

⁵⁶ Intermethod, 6 March 2020, *Community Needs Analysis prepared for The City of West Torrens, 6 March*, p. 59.

the community on areas such as:

- practicing the waste management hierarchy
- increasing the level of food scrap recycling
- disposing of food scraps in the organics recycling bin
- increasing the level of recycling
- decreasing the level of contamination in recycling.

Further, a documented strategy will help West Torrens Council to make decisions about the priority of education programs and activities, prepare plans and allocate resources for them. Education programs can be expensive and can absorb significant human resources. Without a clear vision of education program objectives, West Torrens Council may find it difficult to assess whether sufficient and suitable resources have been applied to deliver specific programs.

West Torrens Council's response

Council recognises that no formal waste education strategy or program existed during the Review period. However, a dedicated officer has been appointed and is responsible for waste education in the community.

Following the 2018-2019 restructure of the waste team, Council's general approach to waste management has developed and matured. A new Team Leader Waste Management role was created in 2019 and a comprehensive review of the Project Officer Waste and Recycling role was completed in 2022. Council's newly employed Project Officer Waste and Recycling is seeking new tools and systems for the purposes of waste education. So, whilst no formal waste education strategy was in place during the Review period, significant developments have occurred in this area and a strategy of this nature is currently being developed as appropriately skilled and experienced resources have been engaged.

Council's current waste education program is being reviewed and reconsidered to meet the needs and expectations of the Community (including the State intended targets). The Council will consider the development of a Waste Education Strategy which aligns Council's intended goals and efforts with the State strategies. KPI's will be considered for each activity whereby measurable outputs will be generated identifying with success, and effect of change.

5.6 What West Torrens Council did well

We identified some areas of effective waste management that were operating effectively during the period we reviewed. These included that the West Torrens Council had:

- established clear roles and responsibilities for waste management, including an oversight and monitoring committee
- sound frameworks and processes to identify, assess and manage waste risks
- clear processes to manage and resolve complaints from residents about collection services.

5.7 Other observation

5.7.1 Background

Legislation

The LG Act requires councils to have procurement policies, practices and procedures directed towards achieving:

- value in the expenditure of public money
- the ethical and fair treatment of participants
- probity, accountability and transparency in procurement.⁵⁷

The LG Act requires the procurement policies to identify the circumstances when councils will call for tenders.⁵⁸

West Torrens Council's procurement policy

West Torrens Council's procurement policy provides its framework for procuring goods, works and services. It requires the West Torrens Council to be guided by principles such as value for money, probity and accountability, support of local business and engagement with the market.

While the policy recognises the appropriate procurement approach will be determined by the nature and circumstances of each purchase, it requires the West Torrens Council to use a select or open request for tender for purchases above \$200,000.

5.7.2 West Torrens Council has not used competitive procurement processes since its initial agreements for kerbside waste services

Recommendation

We recommend the West Torrens Council, in line with its procurement policy, undertakes a competitive tender process for its:

- kerbside waste, recycling and organics collection services when the current arrangements with the independent contractor expire in 2025
- kerbside waste disposal services when the current arrangements with the independent contractor expire in 2022.

Finding

West Torrens Council has not used a competitive procurement process for its kerbside waste, recycling and organics collection services since its initial contract with the independent contractor in 2005.

⁵⁷ LG Act, Part 4 section 49.

⁵⁸ LG Act, Part 4 section 49.

West Torrens Council has not used a competitive procurement process for its kerbside waste transportation and disposal services since it first engaged the independent contractor to provide these services in 2010.

West Torrens Council's kerbside waste, recycling and organics collection services

In December 2005, West Torrens Council established a contract with the independent contractor to provide kerbside waste, recycling and organic bin collection services, following a tender process. The contract was for about seven years and offered an extension to these arrangements of up to three years. It has been extended at least three times since the first extension expired, but terms have changed and services expanded during this time.

In January 2019, the independent contractor approached West Torrens Council with an offer to extend the kerbside bin collection arrangements. At this time, West Torrens Council engaged an independent waste expert to review and provide feedback about the independent contractor's offer. Following the expert's advice, West Torrens Council renegotiated certain terms and these, together with the original contract, form the basis of current arrangements that will expire in April 2025.

West Torrens Council's kerbside waste disposal services

Following a competitive procurement process, West Torrens Council first engaged the independent contractor to provide kerbside waste transportation and disposal services in September 2010.

Since its initial engagement, West Torrens Council has extended arrangements with the independent contractor three times.

In October 2014, the independent contractor presented West Torrens Council with two offers to extend the disposal arrangements. At this time, West Torrens Council engaged an independent consultant to provide advice about the competitiveness of the independent contractor's offers. This resulted in a revised offer and the first extension to the contract in February 2015.

West Torrens Council has since extended the arrangements in February 2020 and March 2021 without undertaking a competitive procurement process.

Why a competitive procurement process is important

Waste management is a key local government service provided to communities and is a substantial annual expense for councils. In 2020-21, West Torrens Council spent \$7.6 million⁵⁹ (approximately 30% of its materials, contractors and other expenses) on waste management activities. Collection and disposal costs of kerbside waste comprise a significant

⁵⁹ City of West Torrens audited financial report for the year ended 30 June 2021:

- note 3(b) shows materials, contracts and other expenses of \$24.983 million
- note 12(a) shows waste management costs of \$7.557 million.

portion of these expenses. Therefore, it is important that West Torrens Council can demonstrate it has acted appropriately and in the community's best interest when engaging providers of these services.

A competitive procurement process inviting potential suppliers to bid for the opportunity to provide West Torrens Council with significant goods or services will help demonstrate this. By encouraging competition, the community will have increased confidence that public money is used efficiently and effectively, and that:

- value for money will be achieved
- suppliers will be treated fairly and ethically
- there will be probity and transparency of process
- officers will be held accountable for their decisions.

These principles are acknowledged in the LG Act and in West Torrens Council's procurement policy.

West Torrens Council's response

Council has entered into agreements for kerbside waste services using appropriate and risk assessed procurement practices.

Council have invested significant resources in its procurement program during the Review period. Similarly to the waste team review, the procurement team was subjected to a three (3) year facilitative audit as the procurement roadmap was enacted.

Procurement processes are robust with structured templates, conventions and an increase in dedicated resources.

Council is committed to undertaking a competitive tender process in 2025 for its kerbside waste collection.


Appendix 1 – Abbreviations and terms used in this report

The terms used in this report were sourced from legislation and information published by the Environment Protection Authority and Green Industries SA.

Abbreviation or term	Description
China's National Sword Policy	<p>In 2018 China introduced its National Sword Policy. This policy included restrictions on imports of 24 categories of waste and requiring contamination to be 0.5% or lower. Prior to the policy, accepted contamination rates varied from 1.5% to 5%. Other countries such as Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam also declared restrictions on importing waste following China's policy implementation.</p> <p>It is estimated that China's policy has predominantly impacted the price of mixed paper and cardboard as well as mixed plastics. Due to the high proportion of mixed paper and cardboard that materials recovery facilities receive, the estimated increase in cost is approximately \$8.8 million across the State based on a one-year period.⁶⁰</p> <p>A \$12.4 million support package for local government and the recycling industry was released by the SA Government in response to the National Sword Policy. The package included a range of measures to enable industry investment in remanufacturing and local re-use, as well as improved sorting and processing to enhance the quality of recovered materials.⁶¹</p>
Circular economy	<p>This refers to an economic model that contemplates the production of goods and services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • by a reduced reliance on virgin materials • on the basis of continuously functioning utility and an extended lifecycle • in a manner that eliminates, as far as is reasonably practicable, waste or pollution, or harm to the environment. <p>At the broadest level, a circular economy aims to change the patterns of natural resource use in the economy to achieve sustainable growth by slowing, narrowing or closing material loops.</p>

⁶⁰ Rawtec Pty Ltd 2018, *Market Analysis of South Australian Kerbside Comingled Recyclables Report for the Local Government Association of SA*, May, Adelaide.

⁶¹ Green Industries SA, *China's New Policy on Waste and Recycling*, Government of South Australia, Adelaide, <<https://www.greenindustries.sa.gov.au/chinas-new-policy-on-waste-and-recycling>>.

Abbreviation or term	Description
	 <p>The diagram illustrates the circular economy model for South Australia. At the center is 'South Australia's Circular Economy'. The cycle consists of several stages: REDESIGN (Production & Re-manufacturing), REDUCE (Sales & Distribution), REUSE (Use, Repair & Resale), RECYCLE (Collection & Sorting), and REPROCESSING (Energy Recovery). External inputs include RAW MATERIALS and ENERGY RECOVERY, while outputs include WASTE TO LANDFILL and MINIMISE.</p>
Commercial and industrial waste	Comprises solid waste generated by the business sector as well as solid waste created by state and federal government entities, schools, and tertiary institutions.
Construction and demolition waste	Includes waste from residential, civil and commercial construction and demolition activities, such as fill material (eg soil), asphalt, bricks and timber. This waste excludes construction waste from owner/ occupier renovations, which is included in the municipal waste stream.
Food caddy	A kitchen benchtop food container for the collection of household food waste, usually with a compostable bag, to be placed in the organic waste bin.
Food organics	Organic waste derived from food preparation and/or surplus food.
Food Organics Garden Organics (FOGO)	FOGO is a common name used for the green organics bin
Garden organics	Organics derived from garden sources such as grass clippings and tree prunings.
Hard waste	Large materials that are not suitable for collection in the kerbside three-bin system. Common items include furniture, appliances and mattresses.
Kerbside collection	Collection of household waste, recyclable materials (separated or co-mingled) and organic waste that are left at the kerbside for collection by a local council collection service.
Landfill	A waste disposal site used for the controlled deposit of solid waste onto or into land.
Materials recovery facility	A facility where mixed recyclable materials are received, stored and sorted to specification, then baled, shredded, crushed, compacted or otherwise prepared for shipment to market.
Metropolitan council	Comprises Adelaide, Adelaide Hills, Campbelltown, Burnside, Norwood Payneham and St Peters, Prospect, Unley, Walkerville, Gawler, Playford, Salisbury, Tea Tree Gully, Marion, Mitcham, Onkaparinga, West Torrens, Charles Sturt, Holdfast Bay and Port Adelaide Enfield councils

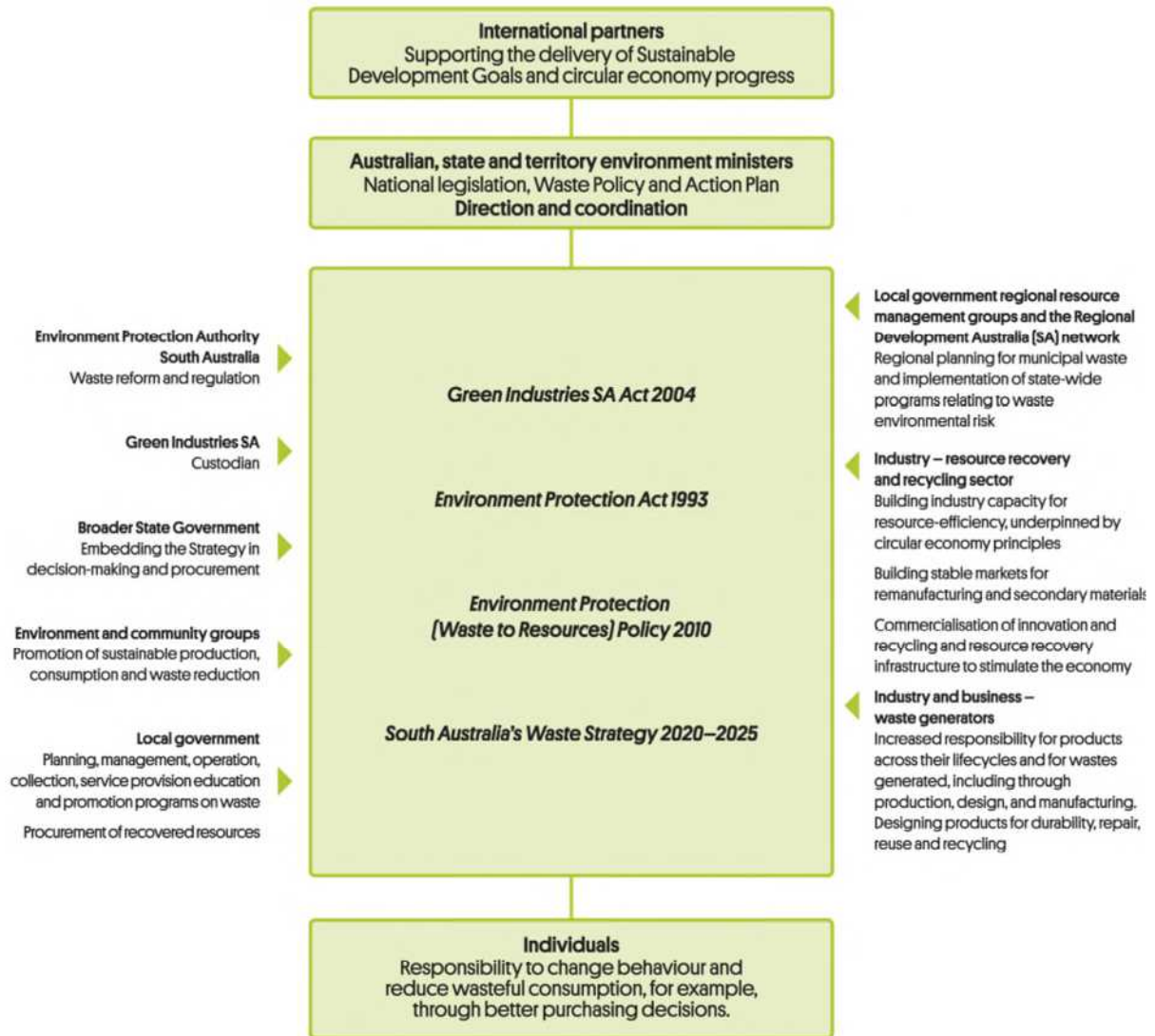
Abbreviation or term	Description
Multi-unit dwelling (MUD)	Medium and high density housing. Sometimes includes commercial tenancies such as cafés in addition to residential dwellings.
Municipal solid waste – kerbside bin collection	Solid waste generated from domestic (household) premises and council activities such as street sweeping, litter and street tree lopping. May also includes waste dropped off at recycling centres, transfer stations and construction waste from owner/occupier renovations.
Recovery	A process that extracts materials or energy from the waste stream.
Residual waste	Waste determined by its owner to be unsuitable for recovery.
Resource recovery	In relation to waste, means reusing or recycling or recovering energy or other resources from the waste.
Waste disposal	<p>3(3) Waste disposal <i>the conduct of—</i></p> <p>(a) a landfill depot, being a depot, facility or works for the disposal of waste to land; or</p> <p>(b) a liquid waste depot, being a depot, facility or works for the reception and disposal of liquid waste, or the reception, treatment and disposal of liquid waste; or</p> <p>(c) an incineration depot, being a depot, facility or works for the disposal, by incineration, pyrolysis or gasification by high temperature chemical decomposition, or thermal oxidation using fuel burning equipment, of solid waste, a listed waste or quarantine waste, but excluding a prescribed approved activity or an activity in respect of which the Authority is satisfied, having regard to the prescribed factors, that an environmental authorisation is not justified</p>
Waste reprocessing	<p>3(2) Waste reprocessing <i>the conduct of—</i></p> <p>(a) composting works, being a depot, facility or works with the capacity to treat, during a 12-month period—</p> <p>(i) in the case of works located wholly or partly within a water protection area—more than 200 tonnes of organic waste or matter; or</p> <p>(ii) in the case of works located wholly outside of a water protection area—more than 1 000 tonnes of organic waste or matter, for the production of compost; or</p> <p>(b) scrap metal treatment works, being a depot, facility or works for the treatment of scrap metal (by processes involving electrically heated furnaces or other fuel burning equipment or by mechanical processes); or</p> <p>(c) tyre waste treatment works, being a depot, facility or works with the capacity to treat more than 5 tonnes of tyre waste during a 12-month period; or</p>

Abbreviation or term	Description
	<p><i>(d) waste lead acid battery treatment works, being a depot, facility or works with the capacity to treat more than 500 waste lead acid batteries during a 12-month period;</i></p> <p><i>or</i></p> <p><i>(e) any other waste reprocessing facility, being a depot, works or facility other than a depot, facility or works specified in a preceding paragraph) that, during a 12-month period, receives or has the capacity to treat—</i></p> <p><i>(i) more than 100 tonnes of solid waste or matter; or</i></p> <p><i>(ii) more than 100 kilolitres of liquid waste or matter</i></p>
Waste treatment	The removal, reduction or immobilisation of hazardous characteristics to enable the waste to be sent to its final fate or further treatment.

Appendix 2 – Waste management frameworks

Figure A2.1 shows that the three levels of government, waste industry groups, businesses, community groups and Australian citizens all play a role in managing waste.

Figure A2.1 Roles and relationships in managing waste



Source: Green Industries SA 2020, *Supporting the Circular Economy: South Australia's Waste Strategy 2020-2025*, Government of South Australia, Adelaide.

Appendix 3 – Metropolitan councils' organics food waste systems

This table shows the organics food waste system for each metropolitan council, which was provided to us by GISA.

Metropolitan council	Organics bin	Kitchen caddy
Adelaide City	Area-wide	Opt-in
Adelaide Hills		Limited
Burnside	Area-wide	Area-wide
Campbelltown	Area-wide	Opt-in
Charles Sturt	Area-wide	Opt-in
Holdfast Bay	Area-wide	Area-wide
Marion	Area-wide	Opt-in
Mitcham	Area-wide	Limited trial
Norwood, Payneham	Area-wide	Area-wide
Onkaparinga	Area-wide	Opt-in
Playford	Opt in	Opt-in
Port Adelaide Enfield	Area-wide	Area-wide
Prospect	Area-wide	Area-wide
Salisbury	Opt in	Opt-in
Tea Tree Gully	Area-wide	Opt-in
Town of Gawler	Opt in	Opt-in
Town of Walkerville	Area-wide	Opt-in
Unley	Area-wide	Opt-in
West Torrens	Area-wide	Opt-in

Appendix 4 – NPSP Council flyer

**Don't waste
your rates.**

*\$395,000 per year
in landfill fees
could be saved.*

*Get a FREE
kitchen Caddy
from Council
today!*



www.npsp.sa.gov.au



City of
Norwood
Payneham
& St Peters

Appendix 5 – Overview of roles, legislation and policy

Commonwealth Government	State Government	Local Government
<p>Role Responsible for a national framework for waste and resource recovery which recognises obligations under international agreements</p>	<p>Role Responsible for regulation and management of waste and resource recovery</p>	<p>Role Responsible for providing household waste and recycling collection and disposal services and deliver waste education and awareness programs</p>
<p>Act <i>Recycling and Waste Reduction Act 2020 (Cth)</i></p>	<p>Act <i>Environment Protection Act 1993</i> <i>Green Industries SA Act 2004</i></p>	<p>Act <i>Local Government Act 1999</i></p>
<p>Policy National Waste Policy 2018: Less Waste, More Resources</p>	<p>Policy Environment Protection (Waste to Resources) Policy 2010</p>	<p>Policy Waste management service policy</p>
<p>Plan/Strategies National Waste Action Plan 2019 National Food Waste Strategy</p>	<p>Plan/Strategies State Waste Strategy State Food Strategy</p>	<p>Plan/Strategies A council determines its strategies for waste management and the actions it will take. This information is commonly presented in a council's strategic management plan(s)</p>

Appendix 6 – Response from the Chief Executive Officer, The Corporation of the City of Norwood, Payneham and St Peters

File Number: qA74130
Enquiries To: Lisa Mara
Direct Telephone: 8366 4549

4 August 2022

Mr Andrew Richardson
Auditor-General
Level 9
State Administration Centre
200 Victoria Square
ADELAIDE SA 5000

Dear Andrew

Review of the Management of Kerbside Waste Services

Thank you for providing a copy of the final report, *Review of the Management of Kerbside Waste Services* (the Report), to the Council.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for incorporating the Council's comments which were provided to you on 23 June 2022, in response to the draft Report.

The Report presents as well measured. It discusses what the Council does well, incorporates our responses to the findings and the challenges that the Council faces in respect to waste management. An audit of this type is valuable as it provides the Council with an opportunity to review how its operations associated with waste management could be improved.

Yours sincerely



Mario Barone PSM
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



City of
Norwood
Payneham
& St Peters

CHIEF
EXECUTIVE'S
OFFICE

175 The Parade,
Norwood SA 5067

PO Box 204
Kent Town SA 5071

Telephone
8366 4555

Facsimile
8332 6338

Email
townhall@npsp.sa.gov.au

Website
www.npsp.sa.gov.au



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Social Equity
Cultural Vitality
Economic Prosperity
Environmental
Sustainability

[http://onenpsp/sites/teams/gca/Executive Management/Management/Correspondence/2022/040622 Auditor General - Audit of Kerbside Waste Services.docx](http://onenpsp/sites/teams/gca/Executive%20Management/Management/Correspondence/2022/040622%20Auditor%20General%20-%20Audit%20of%20Kerbside%20Waste%20Services.docx)

Appendix 7– Response from the Mayor, City of West Torrens

Civic Centre
165 Sir Donald Bradman Drive
Hilton, SA 5033
Tel: 08 8416 6333
Email: csu@wtcc.sa.gov.au
SMS: 0429 205 943
Web: westtorrens.sa.gov.au



27 July 2022

Andrew Richardson
Auditor-General
Level 9 State Administration Centre
200 Victoria Square
ADELAIDE SA 5000

Dear Mr Richardson,

Review of the management of kerbside waste services

The City of West Torrens ('Council') supports transparency and accountability in all levels of government thus the Auditor-General's review into the Council's kerbside waste management services ('Review') was welcomed as a continuous improvement and assurance measure. Further, Council recognises the importance of effective waste management for communities in a range of different contexts including public health, environment and climate change as well as amenity.

I am pleased to advise that there are no additional comments regarding the draft report to Parliament regarding the management of kerbside waste services received by Council on 20 July 2022. The report represents a fair and accurate assessment of the City of West Torrens' performance and capability. The recommendations will be considered and integrated where required into future programs.

I take this opportunity to thank the Local Government Audit team from the Auditor-General's Department for the collaborative approach to the audit process.

Yours sincerely,

Michael S Coxon
Mayor



16.5 ALGA National General Assembly of Local Government 2023 - Call for Motions

Brief

This report seeks proposed notices of motion for the 2023 Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly to be held between 13 and 16 June 2023.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended to Council that:

1. The recommended process for the lodgement of proposed Notices of Motion for the 2023 Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly, contained within this report, be approved.
2. It authorises the Chief Executive Officer to finalise the wording of any Notice of Motion and submit them to the Australian Local Government Association.

Introduction

The Australian Local Government Association's (ALGA) 2023 National General Assembly (NGA) will be held between 13 and 16 June 2023, at the National Convention Centre in Canberra. The theme for the 2023 NGA will be "Our Communities, Our Future". Cr Linda Scott, ALGA President, has written to Council seeking notices of motion for the NGA (**Attachment 1**).

Discussion

ALGA was established in 1947, and its structure is a federation of member state and territory local government associations. The purpose of the NGA is to build the profile of local government on the national stage and demonstrate to the Australian Government the strength and value of working with local government nationally. The NGA also assists ALGA and member state and territory associations to gain insight into council priorities, emerging national issues and gauge the level of need and support from emerging policy and program initiatives and advocacy.

ALGA is focussing on eight priority areas for their 2023 NGA, these are:

- Productivity;
- Local Government Infrastructure;
- Community Wellbeing;
- Local Government Workforce;
- Data, Digital Technology and Cyber Security;
- Climate Change and Renewable Energy;
- Natural Disasters; and
- Housing.

To be eligible for inclusion in the NGA Business Papers, and subsequent debate on the floor of the NGA, motions must meet the following criteria:

- Be relevant to the work of local government nationally.
- Not be focussed on a specific jurisdiction, location or region - unless the project or issue has national implications.
- Be consistent with the themes of the NGA.
- Complement or build on the policy objectives of ALGA and state or territory local government association.
- Be submitted by a council which is a financial member of their state or territory local government association.

- Propose a clear action and outcome i.e. call on the Australian Government to act on something.
- Not be advanced on behalf of external third parties that may seek to use the NGA to apply pressure to Board members, or to gain national political exposure for positions that are not directly relevant to the work of, or in the national interests of local government.
- Address issues that will directly improve the capacity of local government to deliver services and infrastructure for the benefit of all Australian communities.
- Not see to advance an outcome that would result in a benefit to one group of councils to the detriment of another.
- Be supported by sufficient evidence to support the outcome being sought and demonstrate the relevant and significance of the matter to local government nationally.

A detailed explanation of these considerations and further guidelines can be found in **Attachment 2**.

All motions submitted will be reviewed by the NGA Sub-committee, in consultation with state and territory local government associations, to determine their eligibility for inclusion in the NGA Business Papers. When reviewing motions, the Sub-committee will consider the motions criteria, clarity of the motion and the importance and relevance of the issue to local government.

To ensure an efficient and effective debate where there are numerous motions on a similar issue, the Sub-committee will group motions together under an overarching strategic motion. The strategic motions will have either been drafted by ALGA or will be based on a motion submitted by a council which best summarises the subject matter.

Any motion deemed to be primarily concerned with local or state issues will be referred to the relevant state or territory local government association and will not be included in the NGA Business Papers.

If the City of West Torrens (CWT) does submit a motion, there is an expectation that a CWT Council representative (or their proxy) will be present at the NGA to move and speak to that motion if required.

For a proposed motion to be considered for the NGA in June, proposals must be received by ALGA no later than 11:59pm on Friday 24 March 2023. In line with previous practice, it is recommended that the process outlined below be followed if Elected Members wish to lodge a Motions with Notice for the 13-16 June 2023 ALGA NGA:

1. Draft Items be provided to the Chief Executive Officer by **Friday 3 March 2022**.
2. Draft Items to be presented to the **Tuesday 21 March 2023** Council Meeting for approval.
3. The CEO to subsequently finalise the wording of any Items to facilitate changes of a practical nature without the need to refer back to a formal meeting of Council.
4. Administration to provide approved motions to ALGA by no later than the close of business on **Friday 24 March 2023**.

A further report will be presented to Council seeking nominations to the 13-16 June 2023 ALGA National General Assembly when more details are made available.

Climate Impact Considerations

(Assessment of likely positive or negative implications of this decision will assist Council and the West Torrens Community to build resilience and adapt to the challenges created by a changing climate.)

There is no direct environmental impact in relation to this report.

Conclusion

This report responds to ALGA's request for proposed Notices of Motion to its National General Assembly to be held in June 2023 in Canberra.

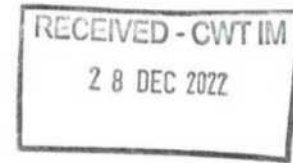
Attachments

1. **Letter from Cr Linda Scott, ALGA President - Call for Motions 2023 National General Assembly**
2. **ALGA Discussion Paper - Call for Motions**



19 December 2022

Mayor Michael Coxon
City of West Torrens
165 Sir Donald Bradman Drive HILTON SA 5033
csu@wtcc.sa.gov.au



To the Mayor, Councillors and CEO (please distribute accordingly).

2023 National General Assembly Call for Motions

We're excited to let you know that in preparation for our 2023 National General Assembly of Local Government (NGA), your Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) is now calling for councils to submit motions.

The theme of our 2023 NGA will be "Our Communities, Our Future", and it will be held at the National Convention Centre in Canberra next June. We are seeking your motions to guide ALGA's Board, in particular, where they identify opportunities for reforming and creating new Federal Government programs and policies that will support councils to build stronger communities into the future.

We heard and responded to your feedback and, as a result, the ALGA Board has ensured we will allocate additional time for debate on motions in 2023 and made improvements to the criteria to support more focused discussion.

We have also heard from some of you that you prefer presentations and panels to debate on motions, so we will be running concurrent sessions as another option for non-voting delegates during these sessions. The attached discussion paper will help you prepare your council's motions, which can be submitted online at www.alga.com.au until **Friday 24 March**.

Next year's NGA is shaping up to be even bigger than 2022, and we are working with the Prime Minister and Federal Government towards incorporating the return of the Australian Council of Local Government (ACLG).

The ACLG was originally established by the Federal Government in 2007 as an opportunity for councils to engage directly with the Government and key Ministers. We are thrilled that the Albanese Government has committed to re-establishing this forum, and we look forward to working with them to make it a success, and a key part of our NGA.

We are currently finalising the dates for the 2023 NGA and ACLG and will confirm these dates prior to the opening of registrations early next year.

We look forward to receiving your 2023 NGA motions and welcoming you to Canberra next June.

Thank you all for your dedication to your council and community! I wish you all the best for a wonderful holiday season and a happy and healthy 2023.

Yours sincerely,

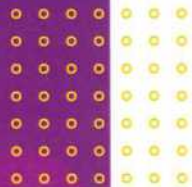
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Linda Scott".

Cr Linda Scott
ALGA President



AUSTRALIAN
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
ASSOCIATION

**2023
NGA**



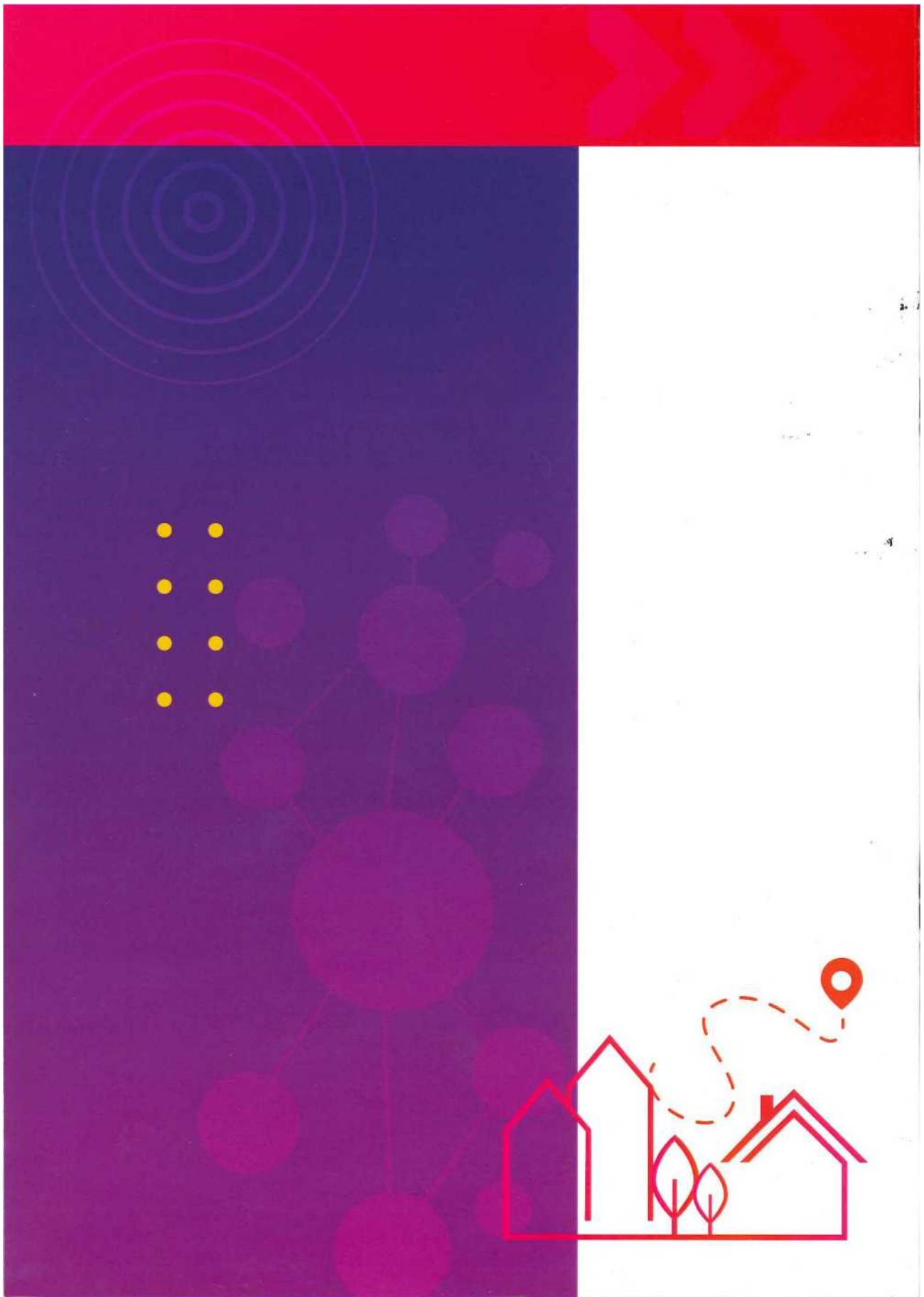
**OUR COMMUNITIES
OUR FUTURE** ▶▶▶

DISCUSSION PAPER
Call for Motions

JUNE 2023

NATIONAL CONVENTION CENTRE
CANBERRA







The Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) is pleased to convene the 29th National General Assembly of Local Government (NGA), to be held in Canberra mid June 2023.

This discussion paper contains essential information for Australian councils considering submitting motions for debate at the 2023 NGA.

It is recommended that all councils and delegates intending to attend this event familiarise themselves with the guidelines for motions contained in this paper.

Key Dates

December 2022 Opening of Call for Motions	24 March 2023 Acceptance of Motions	June 2023 * Regional Cooperation & Development Forum	June 2023 * National General Assembly
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* Dates are subject to change depending on timing of Australian Council of Local Government

**To submit your motion,
visit: alga.com.au**

Background to ALGA and the NGA

ALGA was established in 1947, and its structure is a federation of member state and territory local government associations.

Its mission is to champion and strengthen Australian councils by representing the agreed position of ALGA members, the seven local government associations from around Australia, who represent 537 Australian councils.

In 1994, the ALGA Board, in consultation with its member associations, established the NGA as a unique forum to engage with councils directly at the national level.

The purpose of the NGA was to build the profile of local government on the national stage and demonstrate to the Australian Government the strength and value of working with local government nationally.

As part of the NGA, debate on motions was introduced as a vehicle for councils from across the nation to canvas ideas, and solutions to the challenges facing Australia's councils and communities.

Outcomes of debate on motions (NGA Resolutions) could then be used by participating councils to inform their own policies and priorities, as well as their own advocacy to the Federal Government and Federal MPs.

At the same time, they assist ALGA, and its member state and territory associations to gain valuable insight into council priorities, emerging national issues, and gauge the level of need and support for emerging policy and program initiatives and advocacy.

Changes for 2023

The ALGA Board has undertaken a comprehensive review of the motions process.

As a result, ALGA has allocated additional time for debate on motions at the 2023 NGA and amended the criteria with a view to improving the quality and relevance of motions included in the Business Papers.

The updated criteria for motions is listed on page 6.

ALGA's policies and priorities will continue to be informed by motions and determined by the ALGA Board and based on the positions of its member associations.

ALGA's Board thanks all councils for attending the NGA, and those that will take the time to submit motions for debate at this event.





Submitting Motions

The theme of the 2023 NGA: Our Communities, Our Future.

This theme conveys the critical importance of our communities, how they are the focus of our attention, and how they are at the centre of all our work.

Our communities are the reason that local governments exist, and it is the health and wellbeing of our communities that will shape Australia's future.

This discussion paper is a call for councils to submit motions for debate at the 2023 NGA, to be held in Canberra mid June 2023.

A notice of motion to this year's NGA should either:

- Focus on practical and deliverable programs and policies that the Australian Government can support and work directly with the local government sector to build our communities; or
- New program ideas that would help the local government sector to deliver national objectives.

Motions should be concise, practical and able to be implemented.

They must also meet the guidelines for motions outlined in this paper.

You are encouraged to read all the sections of the paper but are not expected to respond to every issue or question. Your council's motion/s should address one or more of the issues identified in the discussion paper.

Motions must be lodged electronically using the online form available at www.alga.com.au and be received no later than 11:59pm on Friday 24 March 2023.

All notices of motions will be reviewed by the NGA Subcommittee to ensure that they meet the criteria included in this paper.

The Subcommittee reserves the right to select, edit or amend notices of motions to facilitate the efficient and effective management of debate on motions at the NGA.

All NGA resolutions will be published on www.nationalgeneralassembly.com.au.

As the convener of the NGA, the ALGA Board will communicate resolutions to the relevant Australian Government Minister and publish Ministerial responses as they are received on this website.

If your council does submit a motion, there is an expectation that a council representative will be present at the NGA to move and speak to that motion if required.

We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you at the 2023 NGA.



Criteria for motions

To be eligible for inclusion in the NGA Business Papers, and subsequent debate on the floor of the NGA, motions must meet the following criteria:

1. Be relevant to the work of local government nationally.
2. Not be focused on a specific jurisdiction, location or region – unless the project or issue has national implications.
3. Be consistent with the themes of the NGA.
4. Complement or build on the policy objectives of ALGA and your state or territory local government association.
5. Be submitted by a council which is a financial member of their state or territory local government association.
6. Propose a clear action and outcome ie call on the Australian Government to act on something.
7. Not be advanced on behalf of external third parties that may seek to use the NGA to apply pressure to Board members, or to gain national political exposure for positions that are not directly relevant to the work of, or in the national interests of, local government.
8. Address issues that will directly improve the capacity of local government to deliver services and infrastructure for the benefit of all Australian communities.
9. Not seek to advance an outcome that would result in a benefit to one group of councils to the detriment of another.
10. Be supported by sufficient evidence to support the outcome being sought and demonstrate the relevance and significance of the matter to local government nationally.

Motions must commence with the following wording:

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to ...

Other things to consider

Please note that it is important to complete the background section on the form. Submitters of motions should not assume that NGA delegates will have background knowledge of the proposal.

The background section helps all delegates, including those with no previous knowledge of the issue, in their consideration of the motion.

Motions should not be prescriptive in directing how the matter should be pursued.

Try to keep motions practical, focussed, relatively simple and capable of being implemented to ensure that relevant Australian Government Ministers provide considered, thoughtful and timely responses.

Multi-point motions that require cross portfolio coordination have not historically received meaningful responses from the Government.

All motions submitted will be reviewed by the NGA Subcommittee, in consultation with state and territory local government associations, to determine their eligibility for inclusion in the NGA Business Papers.

When reviewing motions, the Subcommittee will consider the motions criteria, clarity of the motion and the importance and relevance of the issue to local government.

If there are any questions about the substance or intent of a motion, ALGA will raise these with the nominated contact officer. With the agreement of the submitting council, these motions may be edited before inclusion in the NGA Business Papers.

To ensure an efficient and effective debate where there are numerous motions on a similar issue, the Subcommittee will group motions together under an overarching strategic motion.

The strategic motions will have either been drafted by ALGA or will be based on a motion submitted by a council which best summarises the subject matter.

Debate will occur in accordance with the rules for debate on motions published in the Business Papers and will focus on the strategic motions.

Associated sub-motions will be debated by exception only or in accordance with the debating rules.

Any motion deemed to be primarily concerned with local or state issues will be referred to the relevant state or territory local government association and will not be included in the NGA Business Papers.

Motions should be lodged electronically using the online form available on the NGA website at: www.alga.com.au.

All motions require, among other things, a contact officer, a clear national objective, a summary of the key arguments in support of the motion, and endorsement of your council.

> **Motions should be received no later than 11:59pm on Friday 24 March 2023.**

Setting the scene

'Through a devastating pandemic, through a succession of dangerous and damaging natural disasters, through global uncertainty and painful price rises – The Australian people have demonstrated the best of our national character. Resolute and resilient in hard times. Practical and pragmatic about the challenges we confront. Optimistic and confident in a better future. And ready to work together to build it.'

The Hon Jim Chalmer MP, Federal Treasurer Budget Speech 2022–23

The opening statement of the Federal Treasurer's first Budget Speech describes the backdrop against which the 2023 NGA will be held.

The 2022 NGA was held just weeks after the change in the Federal Government on 21 May 2022. On 25 October 2022, the new Government handed down its first Budget which updated the economic outlook, realigned priorities and outlined how the Government was to meet its election promises.

The Budget update foreshadows deteriorating economic conditions, citing global challenges, slowing growth, high inflation and higher interest rates, and acknowledges the mounting cost of living pressures on individuals, families and communities.

Key updates include:

- The economy is expected to grow solidly this financial year, by 3 ¼ percent – before slowing to 1 ½ percent growth for 2023/24, a full percentage point lower than what was forecast in March;
- That slowing growth will have an effect on employment, but jobs will continue to be created, and unemployment is expected to stay low by historical standards – at 4 ½ percent in 2023/24 and 2024/25;
- Inflation is expected to peak at 7 ¾ percent late in 2022, before moderating over time to 3 ½ percent through 2023/24, and returning to the Reserve Bank's target range in 2024/25; and that
- When that inflation moderates, real wages are expected to start growing again in 2024.



The Government is also committed to repairing the Budget in a 'measured and responsible' manner consistent with the objective of maintaining full employment and the delivery of essential services. It foreshadows that this will be achieved through spending restraint, with new spending focused on high-quality and targeted investments and building on the capability of the Australian people, expanding the productive capacity of the economy, and supporting action on climate change.

The Budget also included a focus on measuring and improving community wellbeing.

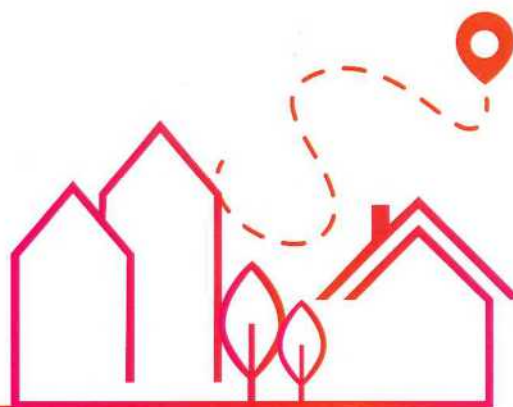
By the time of the 2023 NGA, the Government will have delivered its second Budget, which will provide further updates to the economic outlook and also refine its economic strategy going forward.

The 2023 NGA provides you - the elected representatives of Australia's local councils and communities - with the opportunity to engage with the Federal Government and key Ministers.

Further, it is your opportunity to advocate for new or extended programs and policy initiatives that could strengthen local governments' capacity to deliver services and infrastructure to communities across the nation.

This year's call for motions focusses on eight priority areas:

- Productivity;
- Local Government Infrastructure;
- Community Wellbeing;
- Local Government Workforce;
- Data, Digital Technology and Cyber Security;
- Climate Change and Renewable Energy;
- Natural Disasters; and
- Housing.



1. Productivity

In February 2022, the then Federal Treasurer asked the Productivity Commission to undertake an inquiry into Australia’s productivity performance and provide recommendations on productivity enhancing reform.

This inquiry was the second of a regular series, undertaken at five-yearly intervals, and recognises that productivity growth is vital for Australia’s future. Drawing on the Intergenerational Report the Treasurer notes that ‘... future growth in income and living standards will be driven from productivity growth as the participation effects of young migration are offset by an ageing population.’

ALGA engaged SGS Economics and Planning to undertake research to support its submissions to this inquiry.

SGS Principal and Partner Dr Marcus Spiller presented on some of the findings of this research at the 2022 NGA. In his presentation he identified that local governments generate local economic activity through employment, payment of wages and expenditure on goods and services in the local economy. In addition, SGS identified nine ways local government supports the productive capacity of the broader economy.

Figure 1 – Nine ways local governments contribute to the productive capacity of the broader economy:



Sources: Adapted from SGS Research for ALGA’s Submission to Productivity Commission (2022)

Are there programs and initiatives that the Commonwealth Government could implement to improve local government’s capacity to support productivity growth?

Are there programs that could support one, or all of the identified ways local government contributes to productivity in the broader economy?



2. Local Government Infrastructure

The 2021 National State of the Assets Report (NSoA) shone a spotlight on local government infrastructure assets. While the technical report shows that local government assets such as roads, bridges, buildings, parks and recreation, stormwater, water and wastewater and airports and aerodromes are generally in good to very good condition, around 10 percent are not fit for purpose, and around 20 - 25 percent are only fair and over time will need attention.

Over the past 12 months this situation has further deteriorated as a result of natural disasters, and particularly flooding across the eastern seaboard.

The technical report shows that in 2019/20 non-financial infrastructure assets were valued at \$342 billion and were depreciating at \$7.7 billion per year. Replacement costs of these infrastructure assets were in the order of \$533 billion.

While 86 percent of councils have adopted long term financial plans, one third of councils do not have asset management plans for their major assets, or if they do, they are out-of-date. Of the councils that do have asset management plans only 66 percent included financial projections in their financial plan.

Asset management and long-term financial planning are essential tools for councils to manage community assets now and into the future.

Are there programs or initiatives that the Commonwealth Government could adopt to improve the long-term sustainability of council's infrastructure?

Are there programs or initiatives that the Commonwealth Government could provide to improve the sector's capacity to manage local government infrastructure and to integrate these plans into long-term financial plans?



3. Community Wellbeing

While the NSoA focuses attention on physical assets, local governments also provide a wide range of important community services that improve local wellbeing. These services are provided at the discretion of councils based on local characteristics, needs, priorities and resources of the local community.

Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) data shows that local government annual expenditure in 2020/21 was \$43 billion. It is important to note that nationally local government is 83 percent self-sufficient. That is, the vast majority of local government services and infrastructure are funded at the local level either through rates, fees and charges, sale of goods and services, and interest, and only 17 percent comes from grants and subsidies from other levels of government. Unfortunately, many of these grants and subsidies are tied, and often require matching funding which restricts the ability to address local priorities in the way the council and community might like.

Local government community services are broadly defined and may include but not limited to:

- environmental health including food safety;
- childcare, early childhood education;
- aged care, senior citizens;
- services to the disabled;
- programs to address disadvantage, to reduce poverty and homelessness;
- sporting and recreational programs;
- arts and cultural activities, program and festivals;
- tourism and economic development activities; and
- library services.

Councils also play a key role making places that are attractive and liveable for current and future workers, and closing the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians.

ALGA's research shows that almost one in four councils are heavily reliant on federal Financial Assistance Grants, which make up at least 20 percent of their annual operating revenue. Financial sustainability of local governments remains an ongoing issue which threatens local service provision and community wellbeing.

Noting the funding arrangements for the provision of local government community services in your area and across the country, are there programs and initiatives that the Commonwealth Government could implement to improve the delivery of these services?

Are there changes to existing programs, including to administrative arrangements, that would significantly improve local government human service planning and provision of services and infrastructure across Australia?

Are there new programs the Australian Government could develop that would support councils to close the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians?

What are the actions the Australian Government could take to support councils to improve their ongoing financial sustainability, and their capacity to deliver the services their communities need?



4. Local Government Workforce

Local government is a major employer in Australia providing employment, career advancement and training opportunities for more than 190,800 Australians, across an estimated 400 occupations. In many communities, the council is one of the largest employers.

There are 537 local councils in Australia. Importantly, they are geographically dispersed and provide essential public administration to every corner of the nation.

According to the 2022 National Local Government Workforce Skills and Capability Survey, more than 90 percent of local governments are experiencing skills shortages, resulting in around two thirds of councils having their projects impacted or delayed.

Skills shortages occur for a variety of reasons including an inability to compete against the private sector, worker accommodation, support services for families, ageing of the workforce and geographic isolation. The attrition rate (or rate of turnover) of local government staff is estimated to be between 15 – 20 percent per annum.

The most cited skills shortages include engineers, urban planners, building surveyors, environmental officers and human resources professionals.

ALGA's submission to the Productivity Commission's Productivity Inquiry called on all levels of government to work together to improve training pathways and address skills and labour shortages for the benefit of councils, communities, and businesses right across Australia.

While local government must face its immediate workforce challenges, it must also anticipate the changing nature of work, and future skills needed to meet the changing needs of our communities.

Are there programs or initiatives that the Commonwealth Government could implement that would enhance local government's capacity to attract and retain appropriately skilled staff now and into the future?

Are there programs or changes to existing programs that would increase local government's ability to employ apprentices and trainees?

Are there other initiatives that the Commonwealth Government could provide to improve the sector's ability to plan and develop skills fit for the future?

5. Data, Digital Technology and Cyber Security

Provision of information technology to all Australians is vital for innovation, economic growth and social equity. However, it is potentially even more important to regional Australia where the tyranny of distance increases the inequity of services available – including education, health, economic and social.

Innovative technology is becoming more broadly available and has the ability to boost productivity and economic growth.

Councils around Australia continue to embrace new technologies to improve their service delivery standards and broaden consultation and engagement with their local communities. However, many councils lack basic technological infrastructure and have a shortage of necessary skills and resources.

In October 2022, cyber-attacks on major Australian corporate organisations including Optus and Medibank Private highlighted the critical importance of cyber security. It is a timely reminder as digital information, services and products become an increasing feature of modern business operation including in local government.

Like all risks, local government must manage the risk of cyber-attack and address cyber security. At a national level, there is a poor understanding of local government's vulnerability to cyber-attacks and a lack or inadequacy of risk management strategies and business continuity planning within the sector. While this is primarily a responsibility of the sector itself, governments at all levels must work together to ensure that the public have confidence in government information management systems and its security.

Drawing upon your own council experience, and your knowledge of other councils within your state, or territory, are there programs and initiatives that the Commonwealth Government could implement to help local government develop its digital technology services and infrastructure and/or to improve cyber security within the sector?



6. Climate Change and Renewable Energy

Local governments are playing an important leadership role in addressing climate change, supporting a wide range of programs to lower the carbon footprint of their own business operations and in their local communities.

As a sector, local government is leading the debate for lowering carbon emissions, sourcing renewable energy, responding creatively to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from landfills, and facilitating the construction of green buildings and water sensitive design of cities and towns.

Councils also have a role to play supporting communities in transition, moving away from fossil fuels to new industries.

Pragmatically, local government has been at the forefront of addressing the impacts of climate change and adapting to reduce its environmental footprint. These impacts include an increased number of days with high temperatures, less rainfall and more droughts in southern Australia, less snow, more intense rainfall and fire weather, stronger cyclones, and sea level rise. These changes will increase stress on Australia's infrastructure and physical assets and natural ecosystems that are already threatened, and significantly affect agriculture, forestry, fisheries, transport, health, tourism, finance and disaster risk management.

At the 2022 NGA, there were five Strategic Motions and 15 associated motions debated concerning this issue. Councils are encouraged to review these motions on ALGA's website prior to developing new motions for debate at the 2023 NGA.

Noting the Government's commitment to reducing emissions, are there programs and initiatives that the Commonwealth Government could develop to assist councils in their work to address climate change and reduce emissions?



7. Natural Disasters

Over the past five years, Australian communities have experienced unprecedented natural disasters. At the time of writing, almost every community in Australia, particularly those on the East Coast, had been adversely affected by wet weather conditions associated with the La Nina weather pattern.

Councils in Western Australia are still recovering from a cyclone in 2021, and the Black Summer bushfires in 2019/20 burned approximately 250,000 square kilometres across the country.

The impacts of heavy rainfall, record breaking floods and associated social disruption and damage to infrastructure have exposed weaknesses as well as the strength of current emergency management systems.

There have been numerous NGA motions in the past regarding natural disasters. This year, councils are encouraged to draw on their practical experience of the improvements that could be made to managing emergencies.

Please note, however, that many aspects of emergency management are state or territory responsibilities, and your motions should focus on how the Commonwealth Government could assist.

What new programs could the Australian Government develop to partner with local government to improve the current natural disaster management systems to further assist in recovery and build resilience?





8. Housing

A lack of affordable housing remains one of the biggest issues for Australian councils and communities.

There is less social and affordable housing stock available than there was a decade ago, and more low-income Australians are experiencing housing stress.

The shortage and rising costs of rental properties and affordable home ownership are having significant social and economic impacts in cities and towns across Australia, including rural and regional communities.

This is due to a range of factors including changes to recent migration patterns, cheap finance and labour and material shortages in the construction sector.

While the provision of affordable housing is not a local government responsibility, councils often facilitate affordable housing within their communities, operating within state/territory planning, financial and other legislation requirements.

Some councils are going further, addressing thin markets and developing land and housing themselves, delivering local solutions to meet the needs of their communities.

Local government also plays an important role addressing some of the causes of homelessness, including social inclusion programs that can assist mental health and family violence issues, as well as providing support for people currently experiencing homelessness.

What new programs and policies could the Australian Government develop to partner with local government to support the provision of more affordable housing?

How can the Australian Government work with councils to address the causes and impacts of homelessness?



Conclusion

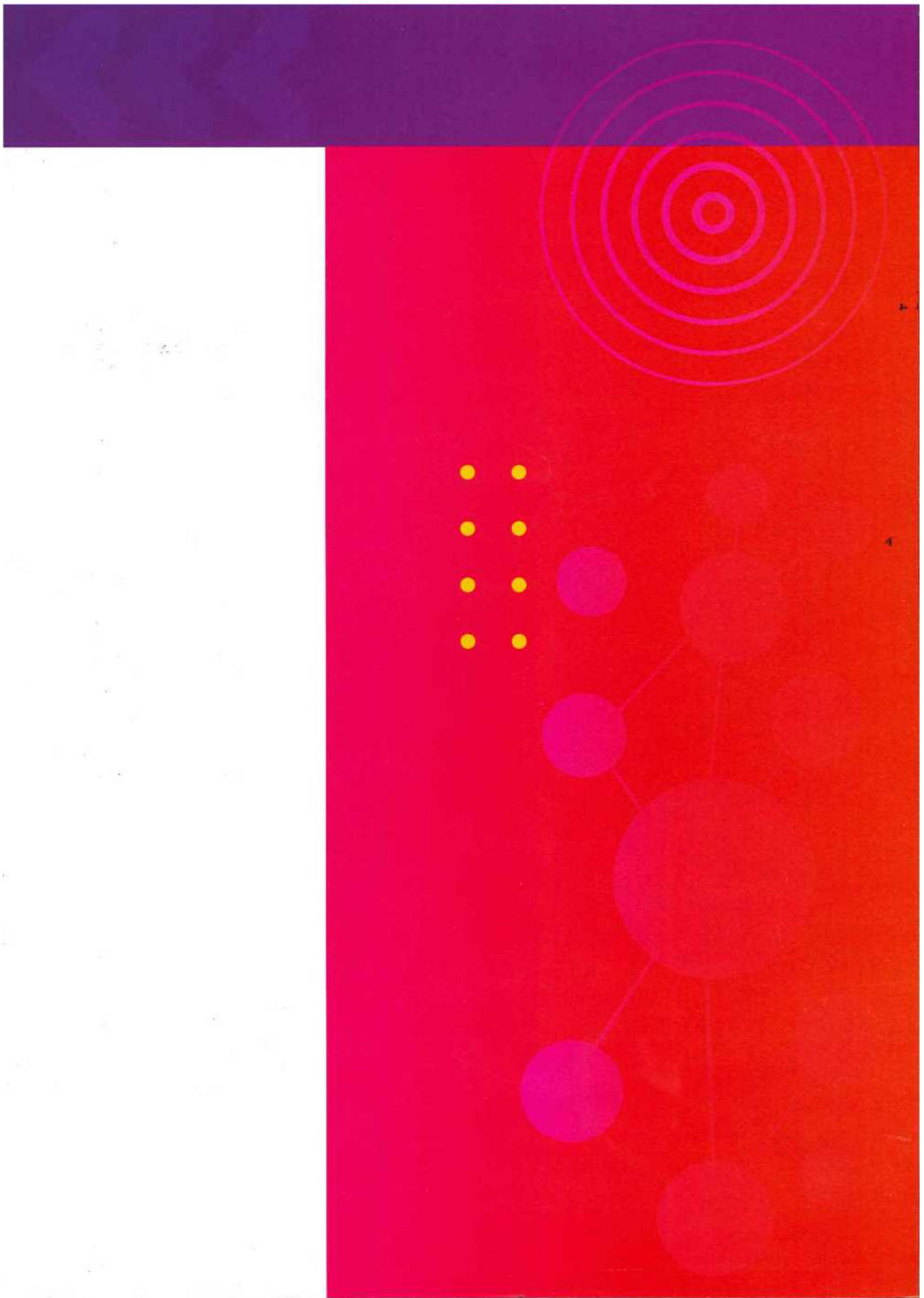
Thank you for taking the time to read this discussion paper and your support for the 2023 National General Assembly of Local Government.

A FINAL REMINDER:

- » Motions should be lodged electronically at www.alga.com.au and received no later than 11.59pm on Friday 24 March 2023.
- » Motions must meet the criteria published in this paper.
- » Motions should commence with the following wording: 'This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to...'
- » Motions should not be prescriptive in directing how the matter should be pursued
- » Motions should be practical, focussed and relatively simple.
- » It is important to complete the background section on the form.
- » Motions must not seek to advance an outcome that would result in a benefit to one group of councils to the detriment of another.
- » When your council submits a motion there is an expectation that a council representative will be present at the 2023 National General Assembly to move and speak to that motion if required.

We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you at the 2023 National General Assembly in Canberra.







AUSTRALIAN
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
ASSOCIATION

8 Geils Court | 02 6122 9400
Deakin, ACT, 2600 | alga@alga.asn.au

www.alga.com.au

16.6 ALGA National General Assembly of Local Government 2023

Brief

The Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) has advised that the 2023 National General Assembly (NGA) will be held at the National Convention Centre in Canberra from Tuesday 13 June to Friday 16 June 2023.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended to Council that:

1. Subject to their confirmation, Council approves the attendance of Mayor Michael Coxon and Cr/s at the 2023 National General Assembly at the National Convention Centre in Canberra from Tuesday 13 June to Friday 16 June 2023.
2. Expenses be reimbursed in accordance with Council policy.

Introduction

The Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) has advised that the 2023 National General Assembly (NGA) will be held at the National Convention Centre in Canberra from Tuesday 13 June to Friday 16 June 2023.

Discussion

The ALGA NGA is a major national event on the Local Government calendar and attracts mayors, councillors and senior management from councils across Australia.

The theme of the 2023 NGA is "Our Communities, Our Future". This theme conveys the critical importance of our communities, how they are the focus of our attention, and how they are at the centre of all our work. Our communities are the reason that local governments exist, and it is the health and wellbeing of our communities that will shape Australia's future.

The Provisional Program is attached for Members' information (**Attachment 1**).

Registration Fees

Type of Registration	Cost (including GST)
Virtual	
Early Bird Rate (by 19 May 2023)	\$689
TOTAL	\$689
Onsite	
Early Bird Rate (by 19 May 2023)	\$895
Return flights to Canberra from Adelaide	\$550 to \$1,250 per person
Accommodation	\$239 to \$350 per night (3 nights)
TOTAL	\$2,162 to \$3,195
Onsite	
Standard Registration (after Early Bird period)	\$995
Return flights to Canberra from Adelaide	\$550 to \$1,250 per person
Accommodation	\$239 to \$350 per night (3 nights)
TOTAL	\$2,262 to \$3,295

Full registration includes the following:

- Access to all Assembly Sessions
- Access to the Exhibition Hall
- General Assembly Satchel
- Catered Morning Tea, Lunch & Afternoon Tea
- Welcome Reception & Exhibition Opening
- General Assembly Handbook and Materials

Virtual registration includes:

- Access to the NGA 2023 Virtual Portal; and
- Access to all streamed conference sessions.

Climate Impact Considerations

(Assessment of likely positive or negative implications of this decision will assist Council and the West Torrens Community to build resilience and adapt to the challenges created by a changing climate.)

Face-to-face attendance at the National Convention Centre will require flying to Canberra, which will result in aviation emissions having a negative implication on climate change.

Conclusion

The Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) has advised that the 2023 National General Assembly (NGA) will be held at the National Convention Centre in Canberra from Tuesday 13 June to Friday 16 June 2023.

Attachments

1. **ALGA NGA 2023 Provisional Program**



PROVISIONAL PROGRAM

Tuesday 13 June 2023

9.00am – 4.00pm	Regional Cooperation and Development Forum
5.00pm – 7.00pm	Welcome Reception and Exhibition Opening

Wednesday 14 June 2023

8.00am	Registration Open
9.00am	Opening Ceremony
9.30am	Prime Minister Address (invited)
10.00am	ALGA Presidential Address
10.30am	Morning Tea
11.00am	Keynote Address
11.45am	Panel
12.30pm	Lunch

1.30pm	Plenary Sessions
3.00pm	Afternoon Tea
3.30pm	Debate on Motions
5.30pm	Close Day 1
7.00pm	NGA Dinner

Thursday 15 June 2023

8.00am	Registration Open
9.00am	Panel
10.30am	Morning Tea
11.00am	Keynote Address
11.45am	Panel
12.30pm	Lunch
1.30pm	Breakout Sessions
3.00pm	Afternoon Tea
3.30pm	Debate on Motions
5.30pm	Close Day 2

Friday 16 June 2023

9.00am	Day 3 to be confirmed
--------	-----------------------

16.7 2023 Waste and Resource Strategy Summit

Brief

This report provides notice of the 2023 Waste & Resource Strategy Summit to be held at the Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel, Sydney NSW from Thursday 30 March 2023 to Friday 31 March 2023.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended to Council that:

1. Subject to their confirmation, Council approves the attendance of Cr/s..... at the 2023 Waste & Resource Strategy Summit to be held at the Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel, Sydney NSW from Thursday 30 March 2023 to Friday 31 March 2023.
2. Expenses be reimbursed in accordance with Council policy.

OR

3. The report be received.

Introduction

The Waste & Resource Strategy Summit returns for its 5th year to explore the present and future of waste management, resource recovery, the circular economy, and sustainability across the industry.

The 2023 Waste & Resource Strategy Summit will be held at the Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel, Sydney NSW, from Thursday 30 March 2023 to Friday 31 March 2023.

Discussion

The Waste & Resource Strategy Summit provides an annual meeting place where environmental, sustainability leaders, policymakers, stakeholders from private and public sectors, innovators, entrepreneurs and strategic thinkers come together to exchange ideas, collaborate on new projects and access the companies, technologies and strategies they need to improve their waste management.

The Waste & Resource Strategy Summit 2023 brings together all the key stakeholders in the waste sector from local councils, government authorities, private enterprise and academics to examine the necessary collaboration, investment and technology to ensure an efficient, sustainable future for public and private sector waste management and resource recovery organisations.

This year's event focuses on the essential issues impacting both public and private sector operations and their ability to capitalise on the economic and sustainability potential of waste management and resource recovery. Explore how to maximise the circular economy, elevate ESG practices, navigate climate change impacts, improve waste infrastructure, amplify waste to energy initiatives, overcome e-waste challenges, leverage technology, and more.

The key themes to be covered at this year's Summit are as follows:

- Prepare for the future of waste management, resource recovery, sustainability and the circular economy in Australia
- Elevate your ESG practices by learning from organisations leading the way
- Reduce waste going to landfill with new strategies to maximise your resource recovery efforts
- Leverage technology to elevate your waste management and resource recovery initiatives
- Overcome the e-waste crisis with innovative processes and technologies
- Convert waste to energy efficiently and effectively through innovation
- Explore regulatory updates and how to mitigate risk exposure

A copy of the program is attached for Member's information (**Attachment 1**).

Registration Fees

The 2-day Local Government Package is priced at an 'early bird' rate of \$1,795 for bookings made on or before 3 March 2023, which includes full access to the 2-day main conference sessions, networking, lunches, and networking drinks.

As a result of CWT Elected Members being unable to attend the 2021 and 2022 Waste & Resource Strategy Summit due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, restrictions on interstate travel and uncertainty around the scheduling of the Summit, credit was obtained to be put toward future registration(s).

Type of Registration	Cost (including GST)
2 Day Local Government Package (30 - 31 March)	
Early Bird Rate (by 3 March 2023)	\$1,795
Standard Rate (after 3 March 2023)	\$1,995
Return flights to Sydney from Adelaide	\$510 to \$560 per person
Accommodation	\$382 to \$421 per night (2 nights)
TOTAL	\$3,069 to \$3,393 per person

Climate Impact Considerations

(Assessment of likely positive or negative implications of this decision will assist Council and the West Torrens Community to build resilience and adapt to the challenges created by a changing climate.)

Attendance at the 2023 Waste & Resource Strategy Summit will require flying to Sydney, which will result in aviation emissions having a negative implication on climate change.

Conclusion

This report provides notice of the 2023 Waste & Resource Strategy Summit to be held at the Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel, Sydney NSW from Thursday 30 March 2023 to Friday 31 March 2023.

Attachments

- 1. 2023 Waste & Resource Strategy Summit Program**

5th annual
WASTE & RESOURCE STRATEGY
SUMMIT 2023

DISCOVERING
THE FUTURE OF
RESOURCE RECOVERY,
SUSTAINABILITY AND
THE CIRCULAR
ECONOMY

29-31 March 2023 | Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel | Sydney | Australia

Meet our line-up of waste strategy experts including:



Canon

Janet Leslie
Manager-Sustainability
Canon Australia



Margaret Stuart
Director, Corporate Affairs & Sustainability, Oceania
Nestlé



Sydney WATER

Phillip Woods
Strategic Planning Manager - Resource Recovery & Circular Economy
Sydney Water



Winning Group

Alice Kuepper
Head of Sustainable Business & Corporate Responsibility
Winning Group



coles

Wade Mosse
Head of Resource Recovery
Coles



BRIDGESTONE

Joanne Hayes
Head of Sustainability & Communications
Bridgestone ANZ



APCO

Esther Bailey
Head of Systems Transformation
Australian Packaging Covenant Organisation (APCO)



MIRVAC

Naomi Martin
Sustainability Manager, Residential Construction
Mirvac



IEPA

Leisbet Spanjaard
Executive Director, Engagement, Education & Programs
NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA)



SIMS METAL

Blaise Porter
Director, Group Corporate Sustainability & Corporate Responsibility
Sims Metal

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Supporting partners:



Organised by:



What is the **WASTE & RESOURCE STRATEGY SUMMIT 2023?**

The **Waste & Resource Strategy Summit** returns for its 5th year to explore the present and future of waste management, resource recovery, the circular economy, and sustainability across the industry.

This year's event focuses on the essential issues impacting both public and private sector operations and their ability to capitalise on the economic and sustainability potential of waste management and resource recovery. Explore how to maximise the circular economy, elevate ESG practices, navigate climate change impacts, improve waste infrastructure, amplify waste to energy initiatives, overcome e-waste challenges, leverage technology, and more.

Join the sector's premier annual gathering of environmental and sustainability leaders, policymakers, private and public sector stakeholders, innovators, entrepreneurs and strategic thinkers to elevate your knowledge, build relationships, exchange ideas, and collaborate on new projects.



A great networking opportunity and an opportunity to expand your current knowledge base with amazing interactive presentations. 💬

Kylie Douglas, Senior Landfill Engineer,
City of Greater Bendigo



TOP 6 REASONS TO ATTEND:

- 1 Prepare for the future of waste management, resource recovery, sustainability and the circular economy in Australia
- 2 Drive collaboration and action to solve challenges at an event with leaders and decisionmakers from local councils, government authorities and private enterprise
- 3 Discover how to elevate your ESG practices and improve your sustainability efforts by learning from organisations leading the way in waste and resource recovery innovation
- 4 Gain practical strategies to reduce waste going to landfill while maximising the efficiency of recycling, refurbishment, and resource recovery efforts
- 5 Unlock the power of technology to refine your waste management and resource recovery initiatives
- 6 Develop strategies to overcome the e-waste crisis, efficiently convert waste to energy, and minimise construction & demolition waste

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MEET THE SPEAKERS



Lisa McLean
Chief Executive Officer
Circular Australia



Phillip Woods
Strategic Planning Manager -
Resource Recovery & Circular
Economy
Sydney Water



Joanne Hayes
Head of Sustainability &
Communications
Bridgestone ANZ



Aife O'Loughlin
Senior Manager - Circular
Economy
Salvos Stores



Michaela Heinson
Associate Director, Economic
Growth and Sustainability,
Green Industries SA



John McKew
National Executive Officer
Australian Organics Recycling
Association



Kylie Douglas
Senior Landfill Engineer
City of Greater Bendigo



Jeff Angel
Director
Total Environmental Centre &
Boomerang Alliance



Jessica Fordyce
Waste and Recovery Officer
Canberra Region Joint
Organisation



Alice Kuepper
Head of Sustainable Business
& Corporate Responsibility
Winning Group



Esther Bailey
Head of Systems
Transformation
Australian Packaging Covenant
Organisation (APCO)



Elyse Marcolin
Resource Recovery Education
Officer
Penrith City Council



Leisbet Spanjaard
Executive Director,
Engagement, Education &
Programs
NSW Environment Protection
Authority (EPA)



Anil Gupta
Waste and Sustainability
Education Officer
Randwick City Council



Alina Tamrakar Maskey
Project Officer (Resource
Recovery)
Cumberland City Council



Layla McNeil
Waste and Resource
Coordinator
CSIRO



Margaret Stuart
Director, Corporate Affairs &
Sustainability, Oceania
Nestlé



Maria Cooke
Director, City Development &
Sustainability
City of Kwinana



Alan Jones
Operations & Maintenance
Director
Avertas Energy



Danielle Kent
Project Director, National
Clothing Product Stewardship
Scheme
Australian Fashion Council

“ Good mix of participants and scope of topics and areas included, with plenty of opportunities for interaction. ”
Terrie-Ann Johnson, Former Managing Director, Clean Up Australia

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MEET THE SPEAKERS



Alice Payne
Associate Professor- Fashion,
Co-Leader, TextileR: Future
Textile Industries
Queensland University of
Technology



Wade Mosse
Head of Resource Recovery
Coles



Blaise Porter
Director, Group Corporate
Sustainability & Corporate
Responsibility
Sims Metal



Naomi Martin
Sustainability Manager,
Residential Construction
Mirvac



Janet Leslie
Manager-Sustainability
Canon Australia



Leela Kempton
Associate Research Fellow,
Sustainable Buildings Research
Centre
University of Wollongong



Professor Leonie Barner
Centre Director, Centre for a
Waste-Free World
Queensland University of
Technology



Andre Gobett
General Manager Recycling
Boral



Omer Soker
Chief Executive Officer
Charitable Recycling
Australia



Jenny Geddes
Chief Executive Officer
Clean Up Australia



Great opportunity to connect with others who are passionate about improving resource recovery and waste management in Australia

Robert Kempton, Team Leader - Project Management, Cardno

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4



CONFERENCE DAY 1 Thursday, 30 March 2023

08:15 Registration and welcome coffee

08:50 Opening remarks from the Chair

Omer Soker
Chief Executive Officer
[Charitable Recycling Australia](#)

BUILDING A THRIVING CIRCULAR ECONOMY

09:00 **Activating Australia's circular economy by 2030**

- Investigating the metrics as part of the national dialogue towards the circular economy
- Setting targets, changing behaviours and measuring our progress in order to advance toward a circular economy
- Striving forward to deliver a zero-carbon circular economy
- Growing Australia's economy and job opportunities by protecting the earth

Lisa McLean
Chief Executive Officer
[Circular Australia](#)

09:30 **PANEL DISCUSSION: What is the path forward for developing a genuine and self-supporting circular economy?**

- What role do organisations play in supporting an active circular economy?
- What are the critical factors that need to be addressed before we can truly embrace a circular economy?
- What are the most significant challenges currently preventing the increased adoption of circular economy principles across Australia?
- How can we work to combat these issues and make it accessible to everyone?

Aife O'Loughlin
Senior Manager - Circular Economy
[Salvos Stores](#)

Phil Woods
Strategic Planning Manager - Resource Recovery & Circular Economy
[Sydney Water](#)

Joanne Hayes
Head of Sustainability & Communications
[Bridgestone Australia & New Zealand](#)

John McKew
National Executive Officer
[Australian Organics Recycling Association](#)

Rebecca Hicks
Manager, Sustainability & Circular Economy
[Regional Growth NSW Development Corporation](#)

10:20 **Leveraging circularity for people and planet positive outcomes: progress from THE ICONIC**

- Examining the challenges and opportunities for material previously viewed as waste
- Creating circular initiatives for textile resources and packaging, from design to end-of-life
- Testing and learning from circular initiatives

Nicole Conroy
Sustainability Business Partner - Circularity and Conscious Consumption
[The ICONIC](#)

10:50 Morning tea

11:20 **Developing a Circular Greater Bendigo council and community**

- Updates and insights on the process from 2022
- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions generated by current waste management practices
- Preparing for the closing of the local Eaglehawk Landfill

Kylie Douglas
Senior Landfill Engineer
[City of Greater Bendigo](#)

11:50 **Examining the learnings from REDcycle and recycling plastics in Australia**

- Creating a shift where recycling becomes "the last line of thinking" in tackling plastic waste
- Establishing effective and suitable partnerships to progress Australia's recycling process
- Investigating the issues of voluntary recycling for Australia's population
- Reviewing the role of waste and recycling regulation

Jeff Angel
Director
[Total Environment Centre & Boomerang Alliance](#)

12:20 **Ministerial Keynote**

Ministers from Queensland and South Australia have expressed interest in speaking and will confirm their participation when 2023 parliamentary calendars are announced.

12:35 **Ministerial Keynote**

Ministers from Queensland and South Australia have expressed interest in speaking and will confirm their participation when 2023 parliamentary calendars are announced.

12:50 Lunch in the exhibition hall

13:50 **Preparing for a disaster and prioritising your forward thinking from facilities to households**

- Building and increasing resilience of recycling service provisions
- Planning ahead for the increased waiting times, expenses and decreased transport access
- Examining the importance of collaboration to ensure facilities and strategies can be successful before, during and after a disaster

Michaela Heinson
Associate Director, Economic Growth & Sustainability
[Green Industries SA](#)

14:20 Partner presentation

PARTNERSHIPS, ENGAGEMENT AND EDUCATION

14:40 **Overview of the packaging sector and existing targets**

- Learnings from the packaging targets review
- Evaluating the challenges and opportunities ahead
- Reviewing the next steps for APCO and the packaging sector new topic

Esther Bailey
Head of Systems Transformation
[Australian Packaging Covenant Organisation \(APCO\)](#)

15:10 **Facilitating partnerships to support waste and resource recovery social innovations**

- Creating partnerships with council, private companies and facilities to establish supportive and innovative programs
- Maximising your collaborative advantage and putting in place the essential building blocks of effective collaboration
- Learning from others to advance your own waste and resource recovery strategy

Jessica Fordyce
Waste & Recovery Officer
[Canberra Region Joint Organisation](#)

Robbert Mels
Regional Waste & Resource Coordinator
[Canberra Region Joint Organisation](#)

15:40 Afternoon tea

16:10 **Engaging stakeholders to drive recycling at scale and achieve product stewardship outcomes**

- Overcoming the barrier of convenience for consumers to participate in resource recovery
- Engaging and training your teams to deliver on waste reduction
- The importance of industry collaboration and voluntary stewardship programs

Alice Kuepper
Head of Sustainable Business & Corporate Social Responsibility
[Winning Group](#)

16:40 **PANEL DISCUSSION: Building community education programs to increase and improve recycling behaviour**

- What are some ways organisations can increase the awareness of their communities on recycling and recovery initiatives?
- How are organisations currently building active community stewardship programs?
- How can organisations engage younger generations to establish improved recycling behaviour at the school age level?
- What are some of the practical issues we need to be aware of when establishing community-based recycling and recovery programs?
- What are the most effective marketing strategies that can improve community and customer behaviour towards recycling?

Elyse Marcolin
Resource Recovery Education Officer
[Penrith City Council](#)

Liesbet Spanjaard
Executive Director, Engagement Education & Programs
[NSW EPA](#)

Anil Gupta
Waste & Sustainability Education Officer
[Randwick City Council](#)

Alina Tamrakar Maskey
Project Officer (Resource Recovery)
[Cumberland City Council](#)

Daniel Harris-Pascal
Assistant Director, Waste Education & Partnerships, ACT NoWaste
[Transport Canberra and City Services](#)

17:30 Closing remarks from the Chair

17:35 End of Waste & Resource Strategy Summit Day 1

17:40 Networking Drinks

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5



CONFERENCE DAY 2 Friday, 31 March 2023

08:50 Opening remarks from the Chair



Layla McNeil
Waste and Resource Coordinator
CSIRO

09:00 **Nestlé Case Study: Packaging and Sustainability**
Margaret Stuart has been involved in developing Nestlé's vision for a better future for soft plastic packaging in Australia and works across the organisation's environmental sustainability initiatives. Gain insights into the challenges they've faced along the way, the strategies they've developed to overcome them, and the lessons gained from implementing new resource recovery and sustainability strategies.



Margaret Stuart
Director, Corporate Affairs and Sustainability, Oceania
Nestlé

CUTTING EDGE WASTE AND RESOURCE RECOVERY STRATEGIES ACROSS INDUSTRIES

09:30 **Waste-to-energy in Kwinana - an integral part of a local waste plan**

- Waste-to-energy - how does it work?
- Identifying the challenges involving financial investment, regulations, public opinion and infrastructure in Australia
- Understanding the role of waste-to-energy in sustainable waste management
- Highlighting the opportunities and the disadvantages of waste-to-energy facilities on a micro level (Kwinana)



Maria Cooke
Director, City Development & Sustainability
City of Kwinana



Alan Jones
Operations & Maintenance Director
Avertas Energy

10:00 Partner presentation

10:20 Morning tea

10:50 **Navigating the challenges facing the Australian recycled organics industry**

- Using broad community education to facilitate behaviour change, encourage correct source separation & mitigate contamination risk
- Navigating the impact of compostable packaging
- The need for Commonwealth and State support for innovation pathways to improved processing capability and capacity
- Promoting best practice standards through industry education



John McKew
National Executive Officer
Australia Organics Recycling Association (AORA)

11:20 **FIRESIDE CHAT: Minimising waste in the textiles industry and the new National Clothing Product Stewardship Scheme**

- Insights into Australia's first National Clothing Product Stewardship Scheme
- How do you continue to coordinate action from the whole clothing ecosystem during and after the launch of the scheme?
- How does this scheme improve the design, recovery, reuse and recycling of textiles?
- What is Australia's capacity for change and how can we implement successful strategies to reduce textile waste?



Danielle Kent
Project Director, Nationa Clothing Product Stewardship Scheme
Australian Fashion Council



Alice Payne
Associate Professor - Fashion; Co-Leader - TextileR: Future Textile Industries Program
Queensland University of Technology

11:50 **PANEL DISCUSSION: Journeying towards zero waste**

- What regulatory support is needed to tackle Australia's waste problem?
- What are the biggest challenges when it comes to reducing waste?
- What are the best strategies or solutions to combat those issues?



Jenny Geddes
Chief Executive Officer
Clean Up Australia



Wade Mosse
Head of Resource Recovery
Coles



Blaise Porter
Director, Group Corporate Sustainability & Corporate Social Responsibility
Sims Limited



Naomi Martin
Sustainability Manager
Residential Construction
Mirvac

12:40 Lunch in exhibition hall

OVERCOMING THE INDUSTRIAL AND E-WASTE CRISIS

13:40 **Managing e-waste using tactical strategies and new technologies**

- Understanding strategies implemented to prevent, reduce and reuse e-waste in a multinational information technology equipment and services company
- Learning about the importance of conducting lifecycle assessment in maximising efficiency and preventing waste
- Identifying the challenges of e-waste management and the future trends in product stewardship
- Highlighting the potential for technological innovation in e-waste management



Janet Leslie
Manager - Sustainability
Canon Australia

14:10 Partner Presentation

14:30 **Case study: Green Square, the built environment & modern waste and resource recovery strategies**
Mirvac and Boral will present a case study on how they are collaborating using circular solutions with concrete management at the Green Square residential project in Sydney.

- Examine initiatives to increase efficiency and reduce concrete waste in the supply
- Explore the principles of the Boral Circular Materials Solution and how the take-back of surplus concrete is helping to maximise recycling outcomes



Andre Gobett
General Manager Recycling
Boral



Naomi Martin
Sustainability Manager, Residential Construction
Mirvac

14:50 **Minimising the growing construction and demolition waste problem**

- Educating on the national issues of Construction and Demolition waste
- Recycling and reusing building materials
- Promoting the use of prefabricated products
- Developing strategies to improve recovery rates of recyclable materials



Leela Kempton
Associate Research Fellow, Sustainable Buildings Research Centre
University of Wollongong

15:20 Afternoon Tea

DATA, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

15:50 **The waste challenge from a technology perspective: advancements in the area of plastic, textile and agricultural waste**

- Transforming issues such as bin sorting, rubbish spotting in marine areas and the breaking down of plastic waste
- Unlocking the complete recycling and recovery of waste materials at end-of-life
- Breaking down plastic, textile and agricultural waste and possible tech solutions
- Utilisation of agricultural waste and bioeconomy



Professor Leonie Barner
Centre Director, Centre for a Waste-Free World
Queensland University of Technology

16:20 Closing remarks from the Chair

16:30 End of Waste & Resource Strategy Summit 2023



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PRE-CONFERENCE MASTERCLASS

Wednesday, 29 March 2023

AVAILABLE TO BOOK SEPARATELY OR AS A PART OF YOUR 3-DAY CONFERENCE PASS

SEPARATELY BOOKABLE

The pre-conference masterclass provides attendees with morning and afternoon tea breaks and a 1-hour lunch break allowing for extra networking opportunities and in-depth learning.

The masterclass starts at 09:00 and finishes at 17:00.

How to develop a modern waste management & resource recovery strategy

This intensive 1-day workshop examines the critical areas to consider when reviewing your waste management & resource recovery hierarchy. It will take you through the step-by-step process of collating and drafting the information you need to secure your goals.

Learning outcomes for this workshop will include:

- Outlining the critical areas in the waste management and resource recovery hierarchy when reviewing your waste and recycling programs
- How to implement a 5R review (refuse, reduce, repurpose, recycle, and recycle) to ensure your company is a better environmental steward
- Examine the goals of your waste and resource recovery strategies and develop measures and tools to ensure those goals are attainable
- Gain insights into potentially overlooked areas where you can take reduction measures to limit your waste production

Facilitator
TBC



BECOME A PARTNER OF THE WASTE & RESOURCE STRATEGY SUMMIT

The **Waste & Resource Strategy Summit 2023** will attract an audience of senior decision makers and c-suite executives as well as high profile thought leaders in waste, resource recovery, sustainability and the circular economy across a wide range of industries.

This is a unique opportunity to engage with these current and future leaders on multiple levels – both professionally and personally.

This is your chance to cut through the noise, meet the people you're looking for, build relationships and position your organisation as the solution provider of choice.

ARE YOU LOOKING TO:

- Cut your sales and marketing lead time - get in front of the influencers and decision-makers shaping the future of waste and resource recovery across a range of industries
- Demonstrate your product, make immediate face to face connections, and get real-time feedback from leaders and decision-makers
- Network with your target customer and cement relationships over two days with multiple social and business interaction opportunities
- Position your business as a thought and solutions leader

Contact Lewis Halliday today on +61 (0) 412 678 218 or by email to lewish@questevents.com.au



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REGISTRATION

<p>3 DAY STANDARD TICKET</p> <p>(29-31 March)</p>	<p>2 DAY STANDARD TICKET</p> <p>(30-31 March)</p>	<p>PRE-CONFERENCE IN-DEPTH LEARNING WORKSHOP ONLY</p> <p>(29 March)</p>
<p>Full access to the 2-day main conference sessions, networking and lunches plus pre-conference in-depth learning workshop</p> <p>Networking drinks</p> <p>Register on or before 3 February \$3,595 incl. GST (SAVE \$800)</p> <p>Register on or before 3 March \$3,995 incl. GST (SAVE \$400)</p> <p>Regular price \$4,395 incl. GST</p>	<p>Full access to the 2-day main conference sessions only, networking and lunches</p> <p>Networking drinks</p> <p>Register on or before 3 February \$2,795 incl. GST (SAVE \$700)</p> <p>Register on or before 3 March \$3,095 incl. GST (SAVE \$400)</p> <p>Regular price \$3,495 incl. GST</p>	<p>Register on or before 3 February \$1,495 incl. GST (SAVE \$500)</p> <p>Register on or before 3 March \$1,795 incl. GST (SAVE \$200)</p> <p>Regular price \$1,995 incl. GST</p>

<p>3 DAY LOCAL GOVERNMENT PACKAGE*</p> <p>(29-31 March)</p>	<p>2 DAY LOCAL GOVERNMENT PACKAGE*</p> <p>(30-31 March)</p>
<p>Full access to the 2-day main conference sessions, networking and lunches plus pre-conference in-depth learning workshop</p> <p>Networking drinks</p> <p>Register on or before 3 February \$2,195 incl. GST (SAVE \$800)</p> <p>Register on or before 3 March \$2,595 incl. GST (SAVE \$400)</p> <p>Regular price \$2,995 incl. GST</p>	<p>Full access to the 2-day main conference sessions only, networking and lunches</p> <p>Networking drinks</p> <p>Register on or before 3 February \$1,395 incl. GST (SAVE \$600)</p> <p>Register on or before 3 March \$1,795 incl. GST (SAVE \$200)</p> <p>Regular price \$1,995 incl. GST</p>

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“ Like minded future thinkers changing the way we all think about waste being a resource. ”

Nadine Venturato, Senior Environmental Officer - Waste, Transport for NSW

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16.8 Nominations for the 2023 Joy Baluch Award

Brief

This report seeks nominations for the 2023 Joy Baluch Award.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended to Council that:

1.be nominated for the 2023 Joy Baluch Award.

OR

2. The report be received.

Introduction

The Local Government Association (LGA) has called for nominations (**Attachment 1**) from councils to nominate currently serving female Elected Members for the 2023 Joy Baluch Award (Award). The Award recognises outstanding female leaders currently serving as Elected Members of South Australian councils who demonstrate leadership, innovation and support the role of women in local government.

Discussion

The Award honours the late (Nancy) Joy Baluch AM, former President of the LGA and Mayor of Port Augusta. The winner of the Award receives a framed certificate, and engraved glass award.

Eligibility

To enter, a female nominee must, at the time of the call for nominations, be a current Elected Member of a South Australian Council and be nominated by anyone representing a council, or organisation that seeks to support the advancement of women in local government.

Award Criteria

Nominees need to be able to demonstrate actions and outcomes that have been inspirational, innovative and beneficial to the council and/or community and have influenced other women to increase participation in the Local Government sector.

Selection Criteria

The nominees must:

- Have made a significant contribution to their council and/or community during the 12 months prior to the award being made;
- Demonstrate the achievement of beneficial outcomes to the council and/or community through innovation, extraordinary leadership, collaboration and vision;
- Have provided inspiration to other women to become further involved in the work of their council and/or community; and
- Exhibit the ability to promote the diverse perspectives of women in local government.

Previous Joy Baluch Award Recipients

- 2022 Winner - Mayor Clare McLaughlin, Whyalla City Council
- 2019 - 20 Winner - Mayor Ann Ferguson, Mount Barker District Council
- 2019 - 20 Commendation Award - Cr Margaret Evans OAM, Berri Barmera Council
- 2019 - 20 Commendation Award - Cr Rhonda Centofanti, Berri Barmera Council
- 2017 - 18 Winner - Mayor Kathie Bowman, District Council of Orroroo Carrieton
- 2016 - 17 Winner - Mayor Lorraine Rosenberg, City of Onkaparinga
- 2015 - 16 Winner - Cr Carol Martin, City of Port Adelaide Enfield
- 2014 - 15 Winner - Cr Betty Gill, City of Salisbury

Awards Committee

An Awards Committee is responsible for the judging of nominations. The Panel includes the LGA President, LGA Chief Executive Officer and Ms Michelle Baluch. The Panel may involve other members as necessary to gather further information.

Nomination Process

Following nomination by Council, Governance will facilitate the completion of the nomination form (**Attachment 2**) and submit to the LGA by close of business **5pm Thursday 23 February 2023**.

The judging panel will meet in March 2023 and the award will be presented at the Local Government Association Ordinary General meeting in April 2023.

Climate Impact Considerations

(Assessment of likely positive or negative implications of this decision will assist Council and the West Torrens Community to build resilience and adapt to the challenges created by a changing climate.)

There is no direct climate impact in relation to this report.

Conclusion

This report seeks nominations for the 2023 Joy Baluch Award.

Attachments

1. **LGA - Call for Nominations**
2. **2023 Joy Baluch Award - Nomination Form**

[Home](#) > [News & events](#) > [News](#) > [Latest news](#) > [Nominate women leaders for Joy Baluch Award](#)

Nominate women leaders for Joy Baluch Award

20th January 2023

The LGA is calling on councils to nominate exceptional elected women for the 2023 Joy Baluch Award.

The Award – which honours the late (Nancy) Joy Baluch AM, former LGA President and Mayor of Port Augusta – recognises outstanding female leaders currently serving as elected members of SA councils who demonstrate leadership, innovation and support the role of women in local government.

LGA President Dean Johnson said the Joy Baluch Award was a wonderful way to highlight the sector's standout women each year.

"Women play a crucial role in local government, demonstrated by the number of female mayors and councillors currently serving across South Australia, and it's important to acknowledge those who go above and beyond the call of duty," Mayor Johnson said.

"Councils are the closest level of government to communities, delivering essential services, road infrastructure, sporting grounds, libraries, playgrounds and everything in between.

"Elected members work hard to support their communities, including through emergencies and natural disasters, and I'm delighted to have an Award which puts a spotlight on those female leaders who have inspired others and achieved outstanding outcomes.

"The Joy Baluch Award honours one of our sector's fiercest female advocates and has a long list of worthy recipients since first being presented in 2014.

"I encourage councils and organisations to nominate mayors or councillors who they believe make a significant, positive impact on their communities."

The Award will be judged on how the nominee has:

- achieved a significant outcome for council or a community in the last 12 months
- promoted the diverse perspectives of women in local government
- contributed to council or community through innovation, leadership, collaboration and vision
- inspired other women to become more involved in their council or community.

Nominations are open until 23 February and can be lodged by anyone representing a council or organisations that seek to support the advancement of women in local government.

About Joy Baluch

As the Mayor of Port Augusta for 29 years, held over three separate terms, Joy was a fearless and feisty advocate for the city she loved.

She was a passionate supporter of her community and of regional Australia and was a strong defender of local government and councils' role in making a difference to their communities.

Joy was an advocate for solar power, clean air, women's rights and education, and was an empowered woman.

She led Port Augusta Council with influence, vision and tenacity. Joy sadly passed away on 14 May 2013 after a long battle with cancer.

For more information or to nominate visit: www.lga.sa.gov.au/joy-baluch-award

Contact: LGA Media: [0476 853 689](tel:0476853689) | media@lga.sa.gov.au

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[Disclosure Statement](#) | [Accessibility](#) | [Acknowledgement](#)

Home > Forms > Joy Baluch Award nomination form

Joy Baluch Award nomination form

Nominee details

Title *

First name *

Surname *

Council *

-- Please Select --

Nomination criteria

Please provide a short paragraph for each statement below to demonstrate the nominee's contribution to local government.

Criteria

Has achieved a significant outcome for their council or community in the last 12 months.

Has contributed to their council or community through innovation, leadership, collaboration, and vision.

Has inspired other women to become more involved in their council or community.

Has promoted the diverse perspectives of women in local government.

Your contact details

First Name *

Public

Surname *

User

Email Address *

Contact Number

Position *

Council *

If other, please type the organisation name below.

Submit

[Find out about the award](#)

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16.9 Nominations Sought for the Dog and Cat Management Board

Brief

This report seeks nominations to the Dog and Cat Management Board.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended to Council that:

1. be nominated to the Dog and Cat Management Board.

OR

2. The *Nominations Sought for the Dog and Cat Management Board* be received.
-

Introduction

The Dog and Cat Management Board (DCMB) is established under the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995* (Act). The DCMB is the public face for the management of companion dogs and cats in South Australia and also provides policy leadership to councils.

The Local Government Association (LGA) has called for nominations (**Attachment 1**) for two local government representatives to the DCMB for a three-year term. Nominees must be a currently serving council member or employee of a council or other local government entity (unless otherwise determined by the LGA Board of directors).

The Administration has received a nomination from City of West Torrens employee, Ms Rhianna Havis, Animal Management Officer.

Discussion

The DCMB plays a key role as an advocate and intermediary for the sector and is responsible for working with vets, breeders and pedigree organisations, along with animal rescue and shelter organisations as well as assistance dog organisations to ensure that South Australia's dog and cat laws meet the objects of the *Act*.

Under section 12 of the Act, the DCMB comprises nine members, of whom:

- 4 are nominated by the LGA
- 4 are nominated by the Minister
- Chair of the DCMB is jointly nominated by the LGA and the Minister.

Term and Appointment

Appointment to the DCMB is for a period of up to three years. The previous two members nominated by the LGA are not eligible for reappointment.

In accordance with section 42 of the *Legislation Interpretation Act 2021* the LGA must submit a panel of 5 nominees to the Minister. The panel must include at least one man and one woman.

Remuneration and meeting frequency

Members of the DCMB receive a sitting fee of \$206 per meeting. Meetings are held 11 times a year.

Selection Criteria

Nominees should have appropriate qualifications, experience and/or knowledge in:

- Practical knowledge of and experience in local government, including local government processes, community consultation and the law as it applies to local government
- Experience in the administration of legislation
- Experience in financial management
- Experience in education and training

Nomination Process

In accordance with the LGA *Appointments and Nominations to Outside Bodies Policy* the Nominations Committee of the LGA Board of Directors may undertake preliminary consideration of nominees and make recommendations to the LGA Board of Directors. In the case of the Board this may include the Nominations Committee undertaking interviews and/or requesting the details of referees.

LGA nominations on Outside Bodies will, unless determined otherwise by the LGA Board of Directors, be currently serving council members or employees of a council or other local government entity. Only nominations submitted following a resolution of Council will be considered.

The Call for Nominations Information Sheet (Part A) (**Attachment 2**) provides further information regarding the role, as well as selection criteria to be addressed by the nominee.

Nominations are required to be submitted to the LGA by **5pm Friday 31 March 2023**, and must include a completed nomination form (**Attachment 3**), a response to the selection criteria (no more than 2 pages) and a current Curriculum Vitae.

Nomination Received

City of West Torrens employee, Ms Rhianna Havis, Animal Management Officer has indicated her desire to be nominated to this position.

Climate Impact Considerations

(Assessment of likely positive or negative implications of this decision will assist Council and the West Torrens Community to build resilience and adapt to the challenges created by a changing climate.)

There is no direct climate impact in relation to this report, although the DCMB does work directly with projects which have climate impact considerations.

Conclusion

This report seeks nominations to the Dog and Cat Management Board.

Attachments

1. **LGA Circular - Dog and Cat Management Board**
2. **Selection Criteria - Dog and Cat Management Board**
3. **Nomination Form - Dog and Cat Management Board**

[Home](#) > [News & events](#) > [News](#) > [Latest news](#) > [Nominate for the Dog and Cat Management Board](#)

Nominate for the Dog and Cat Management Board

3rd February 2023

Nominations are now open for 2 local government representatives on the Dog and Cat Management Board.

Dog and Cat Management Board

The Dog and Cat Management Board is established under the [Dog and Cat Management Act 1995](#).

The Dog and Cat Management Board is the public face for the management of companion dogs and cats in South Australia. Additionally, it also:

- provides policy leadership to councils
- acts as an advocate and intermediary, working with vets, breeders and pedigree organisations, animal rescue and shelter organisations and assistance dog organisation to ensure that South Australia's dog and cat laws meet the objects of the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995 (the DCM Act).

About the position

The LGA is seeking nominations to fill 2 of the LGA-nominated positions on the Dog and Cat Management Board. The previous 2 members nominated by the LGA are not eligible for reappointment.

Under section 12 of the DCM Act, the Dog and Cat Management Board comprises 9 members, of whom:

- 4 are nominated by the LGA
- 4 are nominated by me as Minister
- and one, to chair the Board, is jointly nominated by the LGA and the Minister.

Appointments to the Dog and Cat Management Board are for a period of up to 3 years. Meetings are held 11 times a year. The sitting fees are \$206 per meeting.

In accordance with section 42 of the [Legislation Interpretation Act 2021](#) the LGA must submit a panel of 5 nominees to the Minister. The panel must include at least one man and one woman.

The [LGA Appointments and Nominations to Outside Bodies Policy](#) sets out the process to examine nominees with respect to the responsibilities and strategic importance of the outside body.

Eligibility

To be eligible to nominate, you must have:

- practical knowledge of and experience in local government, including local government processes, community consultation and the law as it applies to local government
- experience in the administration of legislation
- experience in financial management
- experience in education and training.

You must be a currently serving council member or employee of a council or other local government entity (unless otherwise determined by the LGA Board of Directors).

Only nominations submitted by a council, following a resolution of council, will be considered.

How to nominate

To nominate, please:

- read the [Call for Nominations Information Sheet \(Part A\)](#) for more information about the role and selection criteria
- complete the [Nomination Form \(Part B\)](#) with your council
- email your nomination with a current CV and response to the selection criteria (no more than 2 pages) to nominationscoordinator@lga.sa.gov.au

Applications close Friday 31 March 2023.

The LGA Board of Directors will consider nominations received after this time.

More information

For further information, please contact the Nominations Coordinator, Tami Norman, at nominationscoordinator@lga.sa.gov.au or [8224 2000](tel:82242000).

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Disclosure Statement | Accessibility | Acknowledgement

PART A

LGA Appointments and Nominations to Outside Bodies — Call for Nominations

Dog and Cat Management Board	
Governing Statute (if applicable)	Section 12(1)(a) Dog and Cat Management Act
Purpose/Objective	Public face for the management of companion dogs and cats in South Australia and provides policy leadership to councils. The Board also plays a key role as an advocate and intermediary, working with vets, breeders and pedigree organisations, animal rescue and shelter organisations and assistance dog organisations to ensure South Australia's dog and cat laws meet the objects of the Dog and Cat Management Act.
Administrative Details	11 meetings per year with a fee of \$206/session
Selection Criteria (to be addressed by applicant)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local government knowledge and experience practical knowledge of and experience in local government, including local government processes, community consultation and the law as it applies to local government experience in the administration of legislation experience in financial management experience in education and training.
<p><i>In accordance with the LGA Appointments and Nominations to Outside Bodies Policy, selection for appointment or nomination to this Outside Body may include the conduct of interviews and checking of referees by the LGA. By applying, the applicant accepts that the LGA may request an interview and/or the details of referees.</i></p>	
<p>Liability and indemnity cover</p> <p><i>The LGA requires that persons appointed to Outside Bodies be appropriately insured throughout the period of their appointment and seeks to collect details of the insurances provided by the Outside Body on an annual basis.</i></p>	
<p>For more information contact: LGA Nominations Coordinator at nominationscoordinator@lga.sa.gov.au or 8224 2000</p>	

PART B

LGA Appointments and Nominations to Outside Bodies — Nomination Form

Instructions

This form:

- *Must be submitted by a council*
- *Must be emailed in PDF format to nominationscoordinator@lga.sa.gov.au*
- *Receipt of nomination will be acknowledged by return email*
- *CV and response to selection criteria (if applicable) may be emailed separately by the nominee and will be treated confidentially*

This nomination form fulfils the requirements of the LGAs Appointments and Nominations to Outside Bodies Policy, [available here](#).

SECTION 1 to be completed by Council, SECTION 2 to be completed by Nominee.

Please refer to the *Call for Nominations* information sheet (Form: PART A) for details of the Outside Body and the selection criteria to be met by the nominee.

SECTION 1: COUNCIL to complete

Dog and Cat Management Board	
Council Details	
Name of Council submitting the nomination	
Contact details of council officer submitting this form	Name: Position: Email: Phone:
Council meeting minute reference and date	
Nominee Full Name	
elected member <input type="checkbox"/> OR employee of council <input type="checkbox"/> OR employee of local government entity <input type="checkbox"/>	
<i>Note: by submitting this nomination council is recommending the nominee is suitable for the role.</i>	

PART B**SECTION 2: NOMINEE to complete**

Dog and Cat Management Board			
Nominee Details			
Full Name		Gender	
Home / Postal Address			
Phone		Mobile	
Email			
Why are you interested in this role?			
CV	attached <input type="checkbox"/> OR forwarding separately <input type="checkbox"/>		
Response to selection criteria (if applicable) <i>Please refer to the Call for Nominations information sheet for the selection criteria to be addressed.</i>	<i>Nominee to provide response to selection criteria (of no more than 2 pages) for consideration by the LGA Board of Directors.</i> attached <input type="checkbox"/> OR forwarding separately <input type="checkbox"/>		
Do you agree for your details to be retained on the LGA Nominees Database for a period of 12 months in order to be considered for other vacancies to Outside Bodies? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> OR No <input type="checkbox"/> If Yes, please list any fields of interest or Outside Bodies of interest: • _____			
Undertaking: <i>The LGA Board resolved in January 2015 to ensure that appointees to external Boards and Committees remain current local government members or officers. If you leave local government for any reason during the term of your appointment, are you prepared to resign your appointment if requested to do so by the LGA?</i> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>			
Signature of Nominee: _____			

16.10 Nominations sought to the Freight and Supply Chain Strategy Consultative Committee

Brief

This report seeks nominations to the Freight and Supply Chain Strategy Consultative Committee.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended to Council that:

1.be nominated for the Freight and Supply Chain Strategy Consultative Committee.

OR

2. The *Nominations sought for the Freight and Supply Chain Strategy Consultative Committee* report be received.

Introduction

The Freight and Supply Chain Strategy Consultative Committee (Committee) is a committee established by the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport. The Committee provides specialist advice on the supply chain and freight sector that informs the development of a South Australian Freight and Supply Chain Strategy.

The Local Government Association (LGA) has called for nominations (**Attachment 1**) for a local government representative to the Committee for a two-year term. Nominees must be a currently serving council member or employee of a council or other local government entity (unless otherwise determined by the LGA Board of Directors). No nominations were received from the Administration.

Discussion

The Committee will provide specialist input and advice to inform the Freight and Supply Chain Strategy. This includes but is not limited to:

- stakeholder engagement
- a strategic vision and the case for change
- key challenges and opportunities
- recommended focus areas, strategies, actions and key messages
- draft strategy

The Committee is made of representatives from industry groups and sectors including:

- SA Freight Council
- Primary Producers SA
- Forestry Industry Advisory Council SA
- SA Chamber of Mines and Energy
- Adelaide Airport/Flinders Ports
- Business SA
- SA Road Transport Association and Livestock and Rural Transporters Association
- Rail Freight, Freight on Rail Group, Aurizon
- Association of Mining and Exploration Companies Inc.
- National Heavy Vehicle Regulator
- Unions, MVA and Transport Workers Union
- Local Government Association

Term and Appointment

The LGA is seeking a representative for a term of up to 2 years on the Committee.

Remuneration and Meeting Frequency

The Committee will meet at times to coincide with agreed project timeframes and milestones. It will possibly meet at other times as determined by the Chair or the Minister.

All matters discussed by the Committee will be considered confidential unless otherwise instructed by the Minister.

Remuneration of Committee members will be determined in accordance with Premier and Cabinet Circular PC016 – Remuneration for Government appointed Part-time Boards and Committees.

Selection Criteria

Nominees are expected to have appropriate qualifications, experience and/or knowledge in:

- Local Government knowledge and experience;
- Experience in freight and supply chain matters as they relate to local government.

Nomination Process

In accordance with the LGA *Appointments and Nominations to Outside Bodies Policy*, the Nominations Committee of the LGA Board of Directors may undertake preliminary consideration of nominees and make recommendations to the LGA Board of Directors. In the case of the Board this may include the Nominations Committee undertaking interviews and/or requesting the details of referees.

LGA nominations on Outside Bodies will, unless determined otherwise by the LGA Board of Directors, be currently serving council members or employees of a council or other local government entity. Only nominations submitted following a resolution of Council will be considered.

The Call for Nominations Information Sheet (Part A) (**Attachment 2**) provides further information regarding the role, as well as selection criteria to be addressed by the nominee.

Nominations are required to be submitted to the LGA by **5pm Friday 17 March 2023**, and must include a completed nomination form (**Attachment 3**), a response to the selection criteria (no more than 2 pages) and a current Curriculum Vitae.

Climate Impact Considerations

(Assessment of likely positive or negative implications of this decision will assist Council and the West Torrens Community to build resilience and adapt to the challenges created by a changing climate.)

There is no direct environmental impact in relation to this report.

Conclusion

This report seeks nominations to the Freight and Supply Chain Strategy Consultative Committee.

Attachments

- 1. LGA Circular - Freight and Supply Chain Strategy Consultative Committee**
- 2. Selection Criteria - Freight and Supply Chain Strategy Consultative Committee**
- 3. Nomination Form - Freight and Supply Chain Strategy Consultative Committee**

[Home](#) > [News & events](#) > [News](#) > [Latest news](#) >

[Nominate for the Freight and Supply Chain Strategy Consultative Committee](#)

Nominate for the Freight and Supply Chain Strategy Consultative Committee

3rd February 2023

Nominations are open for a local government representative on the Freight and Supply Chain Strategy Consultative Committee for a period of up to 2 years.

About the Freight and Supply Chain Strategy Consultative Committee

The Freight and Supply Chain Strategy Consultative Committee (Committee) is a committee established by the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport.

The Committee provides specialist advice on the supply chain and freight sector that informs the development of a South Australian Freight and Supply Chain Strategy.

The Freight and Supply Chain Strategy Consultative Committee is made of representatives from industry groups and sectors including:

- SA Freight Council
- Primary Producers SA
- Forestry Industry Advisory Council SA
- SA Chamber of Mines and Energy
- Adelaide Airport/Flinders Ports
- Business SA
- SA Road Transport Association and Livestock and Rural Transporters Association
- Rail Freight, Freight on Rail Group, Aurizon
- Association of Mining and Exploration Companies Inc
- National Heavy Vehicle Regulator
- Unions, MVA and Transport Workers Union
- Local Government Association

The Executive Director, Transport Planning and Program Development and Executive Director, Road and Marine Services from the Department for Infrastructure and Transport are ex-officio members of the Committee.

The Committee will provide specialist input and advice to inform the Freight and Supply Chain Strategy. This includes but is not limited to:

- stakeholder engagement
- a strategic vision and the case for change
- key challenges and opportunities
- recommended focus areas, strategies, actions and key messages
- draft strategy.

About the position

The LGA is seeking a representative for a term of up to 2 years on the Freight and Supply Chain Strategy Consultative Committee. The operations of the Committee are as follows:

- the Committee shall meet at times to coincide with agreed project timeframes and milestones
- the Committee may meet at other times as may be required by the Chair or the Minister
- all matters discussed by the Committee should be considered confidential unless otherwise instructed by the Minister
- remuneration of Committee members will be determined in accordance with Premier and Cabinet Circular PC016 – Remuneration for Government appointed Part-time Boards and Committees.

The [LGA Appointments and Nominations to Outside Bodies – Policy](#) sets out the process to examine nominees with respect to the responsibilities and strategic importance of the outside body.

Eligibility

To be eligible to nominate, you must have:

- local government knowledge and experience
- experience in freight and supply chain matters as they relate to local government.

You must be a currently serving council member or employee of a council or other local government entity (unless otherwise determined by the LGA Board of Directors).

Only nominations submitted by a council, following a resolution of council, will be considered.

How to nominate

To nominate, please:

- read the [Call for Nominations Information Sheet \(Part A\)](#) for information about the role and selection criteria
- complete the [Nomination Form \(Part B\)](#) with your council
- email your nomination with a current CV and response to the selection criteria (no more than 2 pages) to nominationscoordinator@lga.sa.gov.au

Applications close 5pm Friday 17 March 2023.

More information

For further information, please contact the Nominations Coordinator, Tami Norman, at nominationscoordinator@lga.sa.gov.au or 8224 2000.

Phone: 08 8224 2000 • Email: lgasa@lga.sa.gov.au
148 Frome St Adelaide SA 5000 • GPO Box 2693 Adelaide SA 5001
ABN: 83 058 386 353
Disclosure Statement | Accessibility | Acknowledgement

PART A

LGA Appointments and Nominations to Outside Bodies — Call for Nominations

Freight and Supply Chain Strategy Consultative Committee (FSCSCC)	
Governing Statute (if applicable)	Established by the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport
Purpose/Objective	<p>To provide specialist advice on the supply chain and freight sector to inform the development of a South Australian Freight and Supply Chain Strategy, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stakeholder engagement - A strategic vision and the case for change - Key challenges and opportunities - Recommended focus areas, strategies, actions and key messages - Draft strategy
Administrative Details	<p>The appointment will be for a term of up to two years. Details regarding the operations of the FSCSCC are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The FSCSCC shall meet at times to coincide with agreed project timeframes and milestones - The FSCSCC may meet at other times as may be required by the Chair or the Minister - All matters discussed by the FSCSCC should be considered confidential unless otherwise instructed by the Minister - Remuneration of FSCSCC members will be determined in accordance with Premier and Cabinet Circular PC016 – Remuneration for Government appointed Part-time Boards and Committees
Selection Criteria (to be addressed by applicant)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local government knowledge and experience • Experience in freight and supply chain matters as they relate to local government
<p>Liability and indemnity cover</p> <p><i>The LGA requires that persons appointed to Outside Bodies be appropriately insured throughout the period of their appointment and seeks to collect details of the insurances provided by the Outside Body on an annual basis.</i></p>	
<p>For more information contact: LGA Nominations Coordinator at nominationscoordinator@lga.sa.gov.au or 8224 2000</p>	

PART B

LGA Appointments and Nominations to Outside Bodies — Nomination Form

Instructions

This form:

- *Must be submitted by a council*
- *Must be emailed in PDF format to nominationscoordinator@lga.sa.gov.au*
- *Receipt of nomination will be acknowledged by return email*
- *CV and response to selection criteria (if applicable) may be emailed separately by the nominee and will be treated confidentially*

This nomination form fulfils the requirements of the LGAs Appointments and Nominations to Outside Bodies Policy, [available here](#).

SECTION 1 to be completed by Council, SECTION 2 to be completed by Nominee.

Please refer to the *Call for Nominations* information sheet (PART A) for details of the Outside Body and the selection criteria to be met by the nominee.

SECTION 1: COUNCIL to complete

Freight and Supply Chain Strategy Consultative Committee (FSCSCC)	
Council Details	
Name of Council submitting the nomination	
Contact details of council officer submitting this form	Name: <input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>
	Position: <input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>
	Email: <input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>
	Phone: <input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>
Council meeting date and minute reference	
Nominee Full Name	
elected member <input type="checkbox"/> OR employee of council <input type="checkbox"/> OR employee of local government entity <input type="checkbox"/>	
<i>Note: by submitting this nomination council is recommending the nominee is suitable for the role.</i>	

PART B**SECTION 2: NOMINEE to complete****Freight and Supply Chain Strategy Consultative Committee (FSCSCC)****Nominee Details**

* Denotes a Mandatory Field. The information in this form is provided by the LGA to the relevant Minister/State Government Authority for the purposes of actioning an appointment to an outside body. Successful Nominees may be contacted directly by the relevant body using the information provided in this form.

First Name:*		Gender	
Middle Name:*			
Surname:*			
Home / Personal Postal Address:*			
Phone:		Mobile:	
Personal Email:			
Why are you interested in this role?			
CV	attached <input type="checkbox"/> OR forwarding separately <input type="checkbox"/>		
Response to selection criteria (if applicable) <i>Please refer to the Call for Nominations information sheet for the selection criteria to be addressed.</i>	<i>Nominee to provide response to selection criteria (of no more than 2 pages) for consideration by the LGA Board of Directors.</i> attached <input type="checkbox"/> OR forwarding separately <input type="checkbox"/>		
Do you agree for your details to be retained on the LGA Nominees Database for a period of 12 months in order to be considered for other vacancies on Outside Bodies? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> OR No <input type="checkbox"/> If Yes, please list any fields of interest or Outside Bodies of interest: • • •			
Undertaking: <i>The LGA Board resolved in January 2015 to ensure that appointees to external Boards and Committees remain current local government members or officers. If you leave local government for any reason during the term of your appointment, are you prepared to resign your appointment if requested to do so by the LGA?</i> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Signature of Nominee: _____			

16.11 Nominations sought to the SA Country Arts Trust

Brief

This report seeks nominations to the SA Country Arts Trust.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended to Council that:

1.be nominated for the SA Country Arts Trust.

OR

2. The *Nominations sought for the SA Country Arts Trust* report be received.

Introduction

The SA Country Arts Trust (Trust) is a state-level committee established under the *South Australian Country Arts Trust Act 1992*. The Trust consists of representatives from arts, business, wine-making, and other sectors, including local government. The primary function of the Trust is managing the trust of Country Arts SA.

The Local Government Association (LGA) has called for nominations (**Attachment 1**) for a local government representative to the Trust. Nominees must be a currently serving council member or employee of a council or other local government entity (unless otherwise determined by the LGA Board of Directors). Appointed Trust representatives are eligible for reappointment at the end of their term. However, a person cannot serve as a Trust representatives for more than 9 years in a row.

No nominations have been received from the Administration.

Discussion

Country Arts SA is an art organisation providing arts and services across regional South Australia. This is done through a range of programs and initiatives, management of performance and visual arts venues and providing funding which supports creative endeavours of communities and individuals.

Country Arts SA's vision is for artists and communities of regional South Australia to thrive through engagement with the arts, and be recognised as essential contributors to the nation's cultural voice.

Country Arts SA ensures people across each region have access to arts and culture by presenting shows and workshops for people of all ages at their arts centres in Mount Gambier, Renmark, Noarlunga, Port Pirie and Whyalla and in community-owned venues in other towns

Term and Appointment

Section 5(1)(a) of the *South Australian Country Arts Trust Act 1992* requires the LGA to provide a panel of 3 nominees, from which the Minister for Arts will select the appointee.

In accordance with section 42 of the *Legislation Interpretation Act 2021* the panel of nominees must include at least one man and one woman.

Appointed Trust representatives are eligible for reappointment at the end of their term. However, a person cannot serve as a Trust representatives for more than 9 years in a row.

Remuneration and Meeting Frequency

Meetings are held six times a year. Five out of six meetings are held in different regional locations. Meetings can be joined in-person or online.

The sitting fees are \$206 per meeting plus reimbursement of travel expense.

Selection Criteria

Nominees should have appropriate qualifications, experience and/or knowledge in:

- Local Government knowledge and experience;
- Demonstrated experience in Arts administration or decision making at a senior level.

The LGA Board of Directors has indicated a preference to appoint a regional council member/employee.

Nomination Process

In accordance with the LGA *Appointments and Nominations to Outside Bodies Policy* the Nominations Committee of the LGA Board of Directors may undertake preliminary consideration of nominees and make recommendations to the LGA Board of Directors. In the case of the Board this may include the Nominations Committee undertaking interviews and/or requesting the details of referees.

LGA nominations on Outside Bodies will, unless determined otherwise by the LGA Board of Directors, be currently serving council members or employees of a council or other local government entity. Only nominations submitted following a resolution of Council will be considered.

The Call for Nominations Information Sheet (Part A) (**Attachment 2**) provides further information regarding the role, as well as selection criteria to be addressed by the nominee.

Nominations are required to be submitted to the LGA by **5pm Friday 31 March 2023**, and must include a completed nomination form (**Attachment 3**), a response to the selection criteria (no more than 2 pages) and a current Curriculum Vitae.

Climate Impact Considerations

(Assessment of likely positive or negative implications of this decision will assist Council and the West Torrens Community to build resilience and adapt to the challenges created by a changing climate.)

There is no direct environmental impact in relation to this report.

Conclusion

This report seeks nominations to the SA Country Arts Trust.

Attachments

1. **LGA Circular - SA Country Arts Trust**
2. **Selection Criteria - SA Country Arts Trust**
3. **Nomination Form - SA Country Arts Trust**

[Home](#) > [News & events](#) > [News](#) > [Latest news](#) > [Nominate for the SA Country Arts Trust](#)

Nominate for the SA Country Arts Trust

3rd February 2023

Nominations are now open for a local government representative on the SA Country Arts Trust.

About SA Country Arts Trust

The SA Country Arts Trust is a state-level committee established under [the South Australian Country Arts Trust Act 1992](#).

It is made up of representatives from arts, business, wine-making, and other sectors, including local government.

The primary function of this organisation is managing the trust of Country Arts SA.

Country Arts SA is an art organisation providing arts and services across regional South Australia. This is done through:

- a range of programs and initiatives
- management of performance and visual arts venues
- providing funding which supports creative endeavours of communities and individuals.

About the position

The LGA is seeking a representative on the SA Country Arts Trust.

Appointed representatives (members) are eligible for reappointment at the end of their term. However, a person cannot serve as a member for more than 9 years in a row.

Meetings are held 6 times a year. 5 out of 6 meetings are held in different regional locations. Meetings can be joined in-person or online. The sitting fees are \$206 per meeting plus reimbursement of travel expense.

Section 5(1)(a) of [the South Australian Country Arts Trust Act 1992](#) requires the LGA to provide a panel of 3 nominees, from which the Minister for Arts will select the appointee.

In accordance with section 42 of the [Legislation Interpretation Act 2021](#) the panel of nominees must include at least one man and one woman.

The [LGA Appointments and Nominations to Outside Bodies – Policy](#) sets out the process to examine nominees with respect to the responsibilities and strategic importance of the outside body.

Eligibility

To be eligible for nomination, you must have:

- local government knowledge and experience
- demonstrated experience in Arts administration or decision making at a senior level.

The LGA Board of Directors has indicated a preference to appoint a regional council member/employee.

You must be a currently serving council member or employee of a council or other local government entity (unless otherwise determined by the LGA Board of Directors).

Only nominations submitted by a council, following a resolution of council, will be considered.

How to nominate

To nominate, please:

- read the [Call for Nominations Information Sheet \(Part A\)](#) for more information about the role and selection criteria
- complete the [Nomination Form \(Part B\)](#) with your council
- email your nomination with a current CV and response to the selection criteria (no more than 2 pages) to nominationscoordinator@lga.sa.gov.au

Applications close Friday 31 March 2023.

The LGA Board of Directors will consider nominations received after this time.

More information

For further information, please contact the Nominations Coordinator, Tami Norman, at nominationscoordinator@lga.sa.gov.au or [8224 2000](tel:82242000).

Phone: 08 8224 2000 • Email: lgasa@lga.sa.gov.au
148 Frome St Adelaide SA 5000 • GPO Box 2693 Adelaide SA 5001
ABN: 83 058 386 353
Disclosure Statement | Accessibility | Acknowledgement

PART A

LGA Appointments and Nominations to Outside Bodies — Call for Nominations

SA Country Arts Trust	
Governing Statute (if applicable)	Section 5(1)(a) South Australian Country Arts Trust Act 1992
Purpose/Objective	The SA Country Arts Trust manages the trust of Country Arts SA, an art organisation providing arts and services across regional South Australia through a range of arts programs and initiatives, the management of performance and visual arts venues, and the provision of grant funding which supports the creative endeavours of communities and individuals.
Administrative Details	Term up to 3 years 6 meetings per year (5 in regional locations) Attendance by videoconference available Sitting fees \$206 per meeting plus reimbursement of travel expenses
Selection Criteria (to be addressed by applicant)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local government knowledge and experience Demonstrated experience in Arts administration or decision making at a senior level Preference: regional member/employee
<p><i>In accordance with the LGA Appointments and Nominations to Outside Bodies Policy, selection for appointment or nomination to this Outside Body may include the conduct of interviews and checking of referees by the LGA. By applying, the applicant accepts that the LGA may request an interview and/or the details of referees.</i></p>	
<p>Liability and indemnity cover</p> <p><i>The LGA requires that persons appointed to Outside Bodies be appropriately insured throughout the period of their appointment and seeks to collect details of the insurances provided by the Outside Body on an annual basis.</i></p>	
<p>For more information contact: LGA Nominations Coordinator at nominationscoordinator@lga.sa.gov.au or 8224 2000</p>	

PART B

LGA Appointments and Nominations to Outside Bodies — Nomination Form

Instructions

This form:

- *Must be submitted by a council*
- *Must be emailed in PDF format to nominationscoordinator@lga.sa.gov.au*
- *Receipt of nomination will be acknowledged by return email*
- *CV and response to selection criteria (if applicable) may be emailed separately by the nominee and will be treated confidentially*

This nomination form fulfils the requirements of the LGAs Appointments and Nominations to Outside Bodies Policy, [available here](#).

SECTION 1 to be completed by Council, SECTION 2 to be completed by Nominee.

Please refer to the *Call for Nominations* information sheet (PART A) for details of the Outside Body and the selection criteria to be met by the nominee.

SECTION 1: COUNCIL to complete

SA Country Arts Trust	
Council Details	
Name of Council submitting the nomination	
Contact details of council officer submitting this form	Name: Position: Email: Phone:
Council meeting minute reference and date	
Nominee Full Name	
elected member <input type="checkbox"/> OR employee of council <input type="checkbox"/> OR employee of local government entity <input type="checkbox"/>	
<i>Note: by submitting this nomination council is recommending the nominee is suitable for the role.</i>	

PART B**SECTION 2: NOMINEE to complete**

SA Country Arts Trust			
Nominee Details			
Name in full		Gender	
Home / Postal Address			
Phone		Mobile	
Personal Email			
Why are you interested in this role?			
CV	attached <input type="checkbox"/> OR forwarding separately <input type="checkbox"/>		
Response to selection criteria (if applicable)	<i>Nominee to provide response to selection criteria (of no more than 2 pages) for consideration by the LGA Board of Directors.</i>		
<i>Please refer to the Call for Nominations information sheet for the selection criteria to be addressed.</i>	attached <input type="checkbox"/> OR forwarding separately <input type="checkbox"/>		
Do you agree for your details to be retained on the LGA Nominees Database for a period of 12 months in order to be considered for other vacancies on Outside Bodies?			
Yes <input type="checkbox"/> OR No <input type="checkbox"/>			
If Yes, please list any fields of interest or Outside Bodies of interest:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • _____ 			
Undertaking:			
<i>The LGA Board resolved in January 2015 to ensure that appointees to external Boards and Committees remain current local government members or officers. If you leave local government for any reason during the term of your appointment, are you prepared to resign your appointment if requested to do so by the LGA?</i>			
Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>			
Signature of Nominee: _____			

16.12 Creditor Payments

Brief

This report tables a schedule of creditor payments for January 2023.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended to Council that the schedule of creditor payments for January 2023 be received.

Discussion

A schedule of creditor payments totalling \$4,590,208.14 (\$4,868,833.33 in December 2022) is attached for the information of Elected Members. Notable items include:

- A payment to Solo Resource Recovery of \$641,645.70 for both waste collection and disposal for December 2022 (refer ref. no. 377);
- Payments to Knox Construction Pty Ltd totalling \$587,890.41 for road reconstruction and kerbing works (refer ref. nos. 217 to 219);
- Payments to SA Water totalling \$401,537.27 for the Breakout Creek Redevelopment and water main alterations (refer ref. nos. 343 and 344);
- Payments to LCS Landscapes totalling \$243,141.14 for the Richmond Oval redevelopment and Westside Bikeway landscaping (refer ref. nos. 230 to 232);
- A payment to Metro & Country Civil Pty Ltd of \$241,909.05 for stormwater drainage upgrade (refer ref. no. 264);
- A payment to the Electoral Commission of SA of \$215,047.05 for the 2022 Council elections (refer ref. no. 137);
- Payments to Nova Group Services Pty Ltd totalling \$176,010.63 road reconstruction and various kerbing works (refer ref. nos. 285 and 286);
- Payments to Australian Gas Networks Limited totalling \$127,416.30 for gas main alterations (refer ref. nos. 38 and 39).

Climate Impact Considerations

(Assessment of likely positive or negative implications of this decision will assist Council and the West Torrens Community to build resilience and adapt to the challenges created by a changing climate.)

The report includes creditor payments on projects and initiatives that aim to mitigate Council's impact on the climate.

Conclusion

A schedule of creditor payments for January 2023 is provided for Elected Members' information and review.

Attachments

1. Creditor Payments for the month of January 2023

**ACCOUNTS DUE AND SUBMITTED TO THE COUNCIL MEETING
21 FEBRUARY 2023**

Ref No.	Cheque/ EFT No.	Payee	Invoice Description	Payment Total
1	EFT77748	Access Training Centre Pty Ltd	Staff Training	470.00
2	EFT77650	Adami's Sand & Metal	Depot Supplies	2,956.31
3	EFT77745	Adelaide Belt & Hose Dist Pty Ltd	Vehicle Maintenance	202.60
4	EFT77653	Adelaide City GMSV	Vehicle Maintenance	680.00
5	EFT77539	Adelaide EWP Inc SA Diesel & Hydraulics	Plant Maintenance	5,634.16
6	061909	Adelaide Mature Age Social Club	Thebarton Community Centre Bond Return	120.00
7	EFT77452	Adelaide Property Restoration	Building Maintenance	5,720.00
8	EFT77652	Adelaide Safety Supplies Pty Ltd	First Aid Supplies	85.80
9	EFT77544	Adelaide Sewing Centre	Service Sewing Machines	599.00
10	EFT77754	Adelaide Waste & Recycling Centre	Rubbish Disposal	42,160.18
11	EFT77451	AdMerch	Depot Supplies	123.95
12	EFT77549	AdMerch	Depot Supplies	429.65
13	EFT77746	Adrian Brien Pty Ltd	Vehicle Maintenance	844.55
14	EFT77540	Advam Pty Ltd	Transaction Fees	634.44
15	EFT77750	AGL South Australia Pty Ltd	Power	1,966.53
16	EFT77551	AIG Security (SA)	Security	4,365.90
17	EFT77541	Aish Solutions Pty Ltd	Stationery	340.89
18	EFT77884	Alex Gagliardi	Thebarton Community Centre Bond Return	1,000.00
19	EFT77550	All Agencies	Depot Supplies	108.19
20	EFT77875	Allan Martin	Rainwater Tank Rebate	500.00
21	EFT77747	Allen Press Pty Ltd	Business Cards	605.00
22	EFT77548	Allsurv Engineering Surveys Pty Ltd	Field Surveys	286.00
23	EFT77647	AlSCO Pty Ltd	Dry Cleaning	28.36
24	EFT77755	Amazing Drumming Monkeys	Summer Festival Performance	1,045.00
25	EFT77450	AMC Commercial Cleaning	Cleaning	3,334.81
26	EFT77636	Andrew Travers	Delivery	155.00
27	EFT77643	Annette Summers	Refund Overpaid Rates	410.95
28	EFT77547	Aquarium Aid	Library Aquarium Maintenance	109.00
29	EFT77753	Aquarium Aid	Library Aquarium Maintenance	109.00
30	EFT77705	Artbeat	Summer Festival Performance	2,200.00
31	EFT77751	Ashdown Ingram Thebarton	Depot Supplies	730.90
32	061910	Asia Oasis Pty Ltd	Thebarton Community Centre Bond Return	260.00
33	EFT77654	ATF Services Pty Ltd	Fence Hire	1,540.15
34	EFT77649	ATF Services Pty Ltd	Camera Hire	2,327.60
35	EFT77542	Aussie Hire & Events	Summer Festival Fan Hire	462.00
36	EFT77756	Australia Post - Agency	Agency Collection Fees	2,452.64
37	EFT77545	Australia Post - Agency	Postage	3,526.66
38	EFT77465	Australian Gas Networks Limited	Gas Mains Alterations	18,961.80
39	EFT77783	Australian Gas Networks Limited	Gas Mains Alterations	108,454.50
40	EFT77546	Australian Green Clean (Commercial) Pty Ltd	Cleaning	10,192.28
41	EFT77651	Australian Green Clean (Commercial) Pty Ltd	Cleaning	639.22
42	EFT77449	Australian Green Clean (Events)	Summer Festival Cleaning	1,607.86
43	EFT77752	Australian Green Clean (Events)	Summer Festival Cleaning	3,346.34
44	EFT77749	Australian Institute of Management Education and Training	Staff Training	4,190.00
45	EFT77453	B & H Australia Pty Ltd	Audio Visual Equipment	12,072.50
46	EFT77608	BA & KA Paterson	Building Maintenance	4,160.20
47	EFT77706	BA & KA Paterson	Building Maintenance	4,295.50
48	EFT77829	BA & KA Paterson	Building Maintenance	3,701.50
49	EFT77455	Banh Mi Cafe	Catering	83.20
50	EFT77657	Battery World Hilton	Batteries	1,130.95
51	EFT77760	BCE & CJ Electrical	Electrical	12,506.86
52	EFT77553	Belair Turf Management Pty Ltd	Oval Maintenance	2,204.30
53	EFT77456	Beltrame Civil Operations Pty Ltd	Roadworks	71,910.42
54	EFT77758	Best Signs	Signage	4,114.00
55	EFT77656	Bianco Construction Supplies	Depot Supplies	827.44
56	EFT77759	Bianco Hiring Service Pty Ltd	Hire Ablution Block / Site Hut	872.96
57	EFT77761	Bianco Walling Pty Ltd	Depot Supplies	1,287.00

**ACCOUNTS DUE AND SUBMITTED TO THE COUNCIL MEETING
21 FEBRUARY 2023**

Ref No.	Cheque/ EFT No.	Payee	Invoice Description	Payment Total
58	EFT77659	BioBag World Australia Pty Ltd	BioBags	6,030.64
59	EFT77494	Bith-Hong Ling (Bella)	Reimburse Volunteer Expenses	51.30
60	EFT77524	BJ Thompson	Reimburse Volunteer Expenses	37.44
61	EFT77840	BL Shipway & Co Pty Ltd	Depot Supplies	35.51
62	EFT77660	Bob Jane T-Mart	Tyres	2,747.22
63	EFT77552	BOC Limited	Depot Supplies	304.61
64	EFT77655	BOC Limited	Depot Supplies	596.01
65	EFT77658	Body Corporate Physiotherapy Pty Ltd	Physiotherapy	197.60
66	EFT77661	Botanic Group Pty Ltd	Stormwater Easement Works	82,381.20
67	EFT77576	Brenton Gill	Reimburse Volunteer Expenses	46.80
68	EFT77874	Brianna George	Refund Apex Park Hire Fees	400.00
69	EFT77811	Bucher Municipal Pty Ltd	Vehicle Maintenance	3,223.76
70	EFT77454	Bundaleer Apiaries	Wasp Removal	210.00
71	EFT77757	Bunnings Building Supplies Pty Ltd	Maintenance Supplies	1,578.15
72	EFT77663	Cabcharge Australia Pty Ltd	Cab Fares	95.37
73	EFT77565	Cafe F93	Catering	452.50
74	EFT77461	Calamity Tash	Library Workshop	300.00
75	EFT77554	Camden Community Centre	Partnership Agreement	14,355.00
76	EFT77766	Canon Australia Pty Ltd	Copier Charges	70.90
77	EFT77769	Care Distributors Pty Ltd	Depot Supplies	16,100.07
78	EFT77558	Carvosso Constructions & Building Services	Building Maintenance	31,104.00
79	EFT77665	Carvosso Constructions & Building Services	Building Maintenance	5,093.00
80	EFT77555	Cash Security Services Pty Ltd	Banking	520.30
81	EFT77878	Cavalier Legal	Refund Overpaid Rates	308.30
82	EFT77880	CDESSA	Thebarton Community Centre Bond Return	1,000.00
83	EFT77768	Chinatown Bookshop	Library Books	699.60
84	EFT77492	Chris Lapidge	Reimburse Expenses	355.00
85	EFT77732	Christian Salvemini	Reimburse Volunteer Expenses	44.46
86	EFT77583	Christine Huggett	Reimburse Expenses	150.00
87	EFT77559	Chubb Fire & Security Ltd	Security	2,952.60
88	EFT77772	Cirqa Pty Ltd	Professional Fees	770.00
89	EFT77556	City Circle Newsagents	Library Magazines	51.38
90	EFT77458	Civica Pty Ltd	Software	7,975.00
91	EFT77664	Civica Pty Ltd	Software	1,190.92
92	EFT77765	Cleanaway Pty Ltd	Rubbish Disposal	873.54
93	EFT77763	Cleanaway Pty Ltd	Rubbish Disposal	703.00
94	EFT77764	Cleanaway Pty Ltd	Rubbish Disposal	1,198.88
95	EFT77771	CMI Truck Centre Adelaide Pty Ltd	Vehicle Maintenance	222.71
96	EFT77538	Coastal Direct Promotional Products	Promotional Products	2,864.40
97	EFT77666	Comwide Radio Services	Vehicle Maintenance	452.65
98	EFT77770	Conquest Software Pty Ltd	Software Support	5,509.53
99	EFT77459	Cornes Toyota	Vehicle Maintenance	570.59
100	EFT77560	Corporate Health Group Pty Ltd	Medical	399.30
101	EFT77563	Corpralite Audio Visual	Christmas Fare Staging and Audio Production	23,709.48
102	EFT77667	Corpralite Audio Visual	Christmas Fare Staging and Audio Production	8,052.97
103	EFT77462	Cpilates & Movement	Library Program	627.00
104	EFT77818	Cr Cindy O'Rielley	Reimburse Expenses	60.00
105	EFT77564	Credit Clear Credit Solutions	Debt Collection	1,563.39
106	EFT77778	DA Christie Pty Ltd	Purchase Barbecues	14,982.00
107	EFT77569	Dallas Equipment Pty Ltd	Contractor	2,904.00
108	EFT77777	Dallas Equipment Pty Ltd	Contractor	4,550.00
109	EFT77642	Daniel Porter & Hannah Harding	Fencing Contribution	2,663.50
110	EFT77536	Danuta Teresa Zielinski	Refund Overpaid Rates	380.10
111	EFT77672	Data#3 Limited	Computer Software	23,862.00
112	EFT77671	David Howlett CLM	Landscaping	3,201.00
113	EFT77670	DCM Services	Airconditioner Maintenance	999.32
114	EFT77506	Dean Ottanelli	Reimburse Expenses	240.00

**ACCOUNTS DUE AND SUBMITTED TO THE COUNCIL MEETING
21 FEBRUARY 2023**

Ref No.	Cheque/ EFT No.	Payee	Invoice Description	Payment Total
115	EFT77634	Department for Infrastructure and Transport	Street Lighting	32,568.13
116	EFT77860	Department for Infrastructure and Transport	Act Amendments	55.28
117	EFT77464	Detail Survey & Design	Surveys	10,389.51
118	EFT77776	Detail Survey & Design	Surveys	5,098.50
119	EFT77460	Di Caught	Reimburse Expenses	30.00
120	EFT77562	Di Caught	Reimburse Expenses	247.00
121	EFT77774	Dillons Norwood Bookshop	Library Books	203.99
122	EFT77566	Direct Mix Concrete Sales	Concrete	2,147.26
123	EFT77669	Direct Mix Concrete Sales	Concrete	5,979.14
124	EFT77669	Direct Mix Concrete Sales	Concrete	-5,979.14
125	EFT77775	Direct Mix Concrete Sales	Concrete	9,475.60
126	EFT77773	dormakaba Australia Pty Ltd	Building Maintenance	2,320.01
127	EFT77813	Dr Joseph Magliaro	Professional Fees	220.00
128	EFT77567	Drakes Supermarket	Active Ageing Program Supplies	119.93
129	EFT77568	Drakes Supermarket	Library Program Supplies	700.00
130	EFT77668	Dulux Australia	Paint	243.91
131	EFT77851	DWS Advanced Business Solutions	DBA Support	1,650.00
132	EFT77543	E & S Athanasiadis	Depot Supplies	1,768.80
133	EFT77648	E & S Athanasiadis	Depot Supplies	1,115.40
134	EFT77571	EatFirst	Milk	61.18
135	EFT77674	EatFirst	Milk	61.18
136	EFT77498	Elaine Joy Magias	Library Workshop	350.00
137	EFT77717	Electoral Commission of SA	Election	215,047.05
138	EFT77616	Elizabeth R Rinaldi	Library Workshop	350.00
139	EFT77729	Elizabeth Smith	Reimburse Volunteer Expenses	37.44
140	EFT77780	EMA Consulting	Professional Fees	1,870.00
141	EFT77581	Emma Glover	Reimburse Expenses	361.55
142	EFT77779	Environment Protection Authority	Licence Renewal	2,552.00
143	EFT77468	Eureka Enigma Publishing	Library Books	72.50
144	EFT77570	Evelyn Roth Festival Arts	Summer Festival Entertainment	1,000.00
145	EFT77673	Evelyn Roth Festival Arts	Summer Festival Entertainment	1,000.00
146	EFT77781	Evelyn Roth Festival Arts	Summer Festival Entertainment	1,000.00
147	EFT77466	Exact Cleaning & Maintenance Services Pty Ltd	Cleaning	4,461.60
148	EFT77467	Exhibition Studios	Richmond Oval Artwork	23,100.00
149	EFT77470	Face Painters Ink	Summer Festival Entertainment	950.00
150	EFT77573	Face Painters Ink	Summer Festival Entertainment	570.00
151	EFT77786	Face Painters Ink	Summer Festival Entertainment	1,140.00
152	EFT77471	Fine Choice Distribution Pty Ltd	Summer Festival Entertainment	300.00
153	EFT77572	Finsbury Green	Printing	713.02
154	EFT77474	Flowers Everywhere	Laurel Wreath	107.50
155	EFT77784	Forpark Australia (SA)	Playground Equipment	35,345.75
156	EFT77472	Fraggerocc Pty Ltd	Roadworks	34,091.09
157	EFT77574	Fraggerocc Pty Ltd	Roadworks	770.00
158	EFT77788	Fraggerocc Pty Ltd	Roadworks	3,168.00
159	EFT77876	Francis Cain	Rainwater Tank Rebate	50.00
160	EFT77469	Frank Siow Management Pty Ltd	Traffic Management Consultants	7,966.75
161	EFT77785	Fresh & Clean	Hygiene Service	3,991.58
162	EFT77473	Fridgepig	Refrigeration Services	748.00
163	EFT77676	Fridgepig	Refrigeration Services	467.50
164	EFT77789	Fridgepig	Refrigeration Services	203.50
165	EFT77575	Frontier Software Pty Ltd	Software	39,033.50
166	EFT77832	Fulham Community Centre	Partnership Agreement	15,342.43
167	EFT77641	Gang Warily Investments	Refund Overpaid Rates	1,534.55
168	EFT77678	Genpower Australia Pty Ltd	Generator Services	1,829.58
169	EFT77579	Gilbarco Australia Ltd	Plant Maintenance	2,013.51
170	EFT77877	Gillian Saunders	Heritage Grant	1,250.00
171	EFT77477	Glow Heating Cooling Electrical	Electrical	629.86

**ACCOUNTS DUE AND SUBMITTED TO THE COUNCIL MEETING
21 FEBRUARY 2023**

Ref No.	Cheque/ EFT No.	Payee	Invoice Description	Payment Total
172	EFT77521	Gordon J Tregoning Pty Ltd	Depot Supplies	44.00
173	EFT77580	Grace Records Management (Aust) Pty Ltd	Records Storage	3,019.64
174	EFT77632	Graham Tapscott	Reimburse Volunteer Expenses	853.94
175	EFT77679	Green Steel Supplies Pty Ltd	Depot Supplies	221.88
176	EFT77476	Greenfingers Indoor Plant Hire	Indoor Plant Hire	325.60
177	EFT77791	Greenfingers Indoor Plant Hire	Indoor Plant Hire	325.60
178	EFT77792	GRH Supplies	Depot Supplies	7,238.64
179	EFT77577	GS Civil	Footpath Works	43,221.75
180	EFT77677	GS Civil	Footpath Works	16,956.50
181	061916	Harry Walsh	Junior Development Grant	200.00
182	EFT77796	Haughton Power Equipment	Depot Supplies	111.00
183	EFT77794	Health & Immunisation Management Services	Immunisation Clinics	6,667.87
184	EFT77582	Hilton Locksmiths Pty Ltd	Keys	22.00
185	EFT77584	HOBAN Recruitment Pty Ltd	Temp Staff	184.61
186	EFT77680	Holcim (Australia) Pty Ltd	Roadworks	32,066.32
187	EFT77585	Iberdrola Australia	Power	56,657.54
188	EFT77681	Industrial Brushware	Sweeper Brooms	2,379.07
189	EFT77682	Inspirations Paints Seaton	Paint	1,030.00
190	EFT77480	Institute of Public Works Engineering Aust SA Div Inc	Membership	22.00
191	EFT77683	Internode Pty Ltd	Internet Connection	209.98
192	EFT77799	Internode Pty Ltd	Internet Connection	200.50
193	EFT77525	Isaac Thomas	Summer Festival Performance	825.00
194	EFT77798	iSentia Pty Ltd	Media Monitoring	1,650.00
195	EFT77481	IVE Distribution Pty Ltd	Distribution	1,902.55
196	EFT77686	Jaba Multimedia Design	Professional Fees	687.50
197	EFT77484	JALM Weed Control & Maintenance	Weed Control	9,677.91
198	EFT77688	JALM Weed Control & Maintenance	Weed Control	13,542.34
199	EFT77590	Jasmine Kappler	Reimburse Expenses	248.68
200	EFT77697	Jay Molloy	Library Program	525.00
201	EFT77685	Jensen PLUS	Professional Fees	462.00
202	EFT77586	Jet Couriers (Adelaide) Pty Ltd	Couriers	344.29
203	EFT77687	Jet Couriers (Adelaide) Pty Ltd	Couriers	130.45
204	EFT77684	JJ Richards & Sons Pty Ltd	Waste Oil Removal	169.59
205	EFT77478	John Hastings	Contractor	860.00
206	EFT77797	John Hastings	Contractor	1,020.00
207	EFT77591	John Kruger	Photography	832.49
208	EFT77482	Johnny Appleseed GPS	Computer Equipment	7,828.00
209	EFT77483	JPE Design Studio Pty Ltd	Professional Fees	58,921.78
210	EFT77800	Jump Easy Inflatables Pty Ltd	Library Program	2,600.00
211	EFT77803	Kanopy	Library Services	399.00
212	EFT77485	Kelley Jones Lawyers	Legal Fees	21,407.65
213	EFT77588	Kellogg Brown & Root Pty Ltd	Professional Fees	33,000.00
214	EFT77644	Key Conveyancing	Refund Overpaid Rates	369.85
215	EFT77488	Kids in Adelaide	Advertising	1,100.00
216	EFT77557	Kishor Chand	Reimburse Volunteer Expenses	49.92
217	EFT77487	Knox Constructions Pty Ltd	Roadworks	119,150.04
218	EFT77587	Knox Constructions Pty Ltd	Roadworks	90,327.15
219	EFT77689	Knox Constructions Pty Ltd	Roadworks	378,413.22
220	EFT77486	Koan Solutions Pty Ltd	Vehicle Maintenance	3,322.00
221	EFT77589	Kon Corolis	CAP Member Allowance	3,349.00
222	EFT77801	Kone Elevators	Lift Maintenance	127.18
223	061911	Krishnavya Garg	Junior Development Grant	200.00
224	EFT77802	Kubpower Earthmoving & Construction Equipment Co	Depot Supplies	93.20
225	EFT77810	Land Services Group	Searches	989.40
226	EFT77493	Lane Communications	Printing	881.10
227	EFT77691	Lane Communications	Printing	3,380.30
228	EFT77809	Lane Communications	Printing	936.96

**ACCOUNTS DUE AND SUBMITTED TO THE COUNCIL MEETING
21 FEBRUARY 2023**

Ref No.	Cheque/ EFT No.	Payee	Invoice Description	Payment Total
229	EFT77693	Lawrence & Hanson	Electrical Supplies	126.23
230	EFT77489	LCS Landscapes	Landscaping	133,059.52
231	EFT77690	LCS Landscapes	Landscaping	15,004.18
232	EFT77806	LCS Landscapes	Landscaping	95,077.44
233	EFT77593	LCS Maintenance (SA)	Landscaping	10,771.23
234	EFT77532	Leanne Gibbons	Refund Overpaid Rates	1,080.00
235	EFT77600	Leta Northcott	Reimburse Expenses	790.00
236	EFT77490	LGA Asset Mutual Fund	Insurance Excess	500.00
237	EFT77807	LGA Asset Mutual Fund	Insurance Excess	500.00
238	EFT77495	Limonta Sport Australia Pty Ltd	Oval Maintenance	1,204.50
239	EFT77475	Lisa Gilmartin	Reimburse Expenses	595.00
240	EFT77808	Living Turf	Depot Supplies	3,602.50
241	EFT77804	Local Community Insurance Services	Insurance Premium	2,439.67
242	EFT77594	Local Government Income Protection Fund	Insurance Premium	10,574.19
243	EFT77805	Local Government Professionals SA Inc	Staff Training	8,668.00
244	EFT77595	Lollipop Markets Pty Ltd	Library Workshop	9,190.00
245	EFT77514	Lucas Sly	Christmas Fare Performance	600.00
246	EFT77491	Lucid Consulting Engineers Pty Ltd	Professional Fees	8,745.00
247	EFT77592	Ludwig Film	Photography	660.00
248	EFT77815	Maprak	Furniture	1,226.50
249	EFT77496	Maps Consulting Services Pty Ltd	Transportation Consulting	9,240.00
250	EFT77535	Margaret Fisher	Refund Overpaid Rates	169.75
251	061908	Maria Birse	Compost Bin Rebate	50.00
252	EFT77762	Mario Ciardiello	Reimburse Volunteer Expenses	14.04
253	EFT77646	Marteenah Shonoodh	Refund Apex Park Hire Fees	1,420.00
254	EFT77597	Maryam Modirrousta	Reimburse Expenses	187.00
255	EFT77596	Maxima Group Training	Temp Staff	4,986.11
256	EFT77695	Maxima Group Training	Temp Staff	1,507.63
257	EFT77522	Maxima Tempskill	Temp Staff	41,813.66
258	EFT77633	Maxima Tempskill	Temp Staff	19,093.32
259	EFT77858	Maxima Tempskill	Temp Staff	27,294.03
260	EFT77561	Mayor Michael Coxon	Mayoral Allowance	5,707.00
261	EFT77499	Meshed Pty Ltd	Software Maintenance	8,030.00
262	EFT77598	Message4U Pty Ltd	TXT Messaging	307.51
263	EFT77698	Metalcorp EIS	Fencing	1,104.59
264	EFT77500	Metro & Country Civil Pty Ltd	Roadworks	241,909.05
265	EFT77694	Metropolitan Machinery Pty Ltd	Vehicle Maintenance	164.77
266	EFT77824	Michael O'Brien	Performance	550.00
267	061914	Radhika Naidu	Compost Bin Rebate	50.00
268	061915	Kelsea Lawson	Junior Development Grant	200.00
269	EFT77743	Brianna George	Refund Apex Park Hire Fees	120.00
270	EFT77744	Caterina Perre	Refund Apex Park Hire Fees	163.00
271	EFT77497	Modern Party	Christmas Fare Furniture Hire	2,005.85
272	EFT77599	Montessori Sensorial Activities	Library School Holiday Activity	400.00
273	EFT77814	Montessori Sensorial Activities	Library School Holiday Activity	400.00
274	EFT77812	Morestel Powder Coaters	Depot Supplies	462.00
275	EFT77696	Mt Compass Sand & Loam	Depot Supplies	2,083.85
276	EFT77702	Nelson Locksmiths	Locks	1,803.00
277	EFT77817	News Limited	Advertising	1,377.00
278	EFT77635	Nic Timotheou	Reimburse Expenses	150.00
279	EFT77516	Nicola Smith	Reimburse Volunteer Expenses	31.20
280	EFT77849	Nicola Smith	Reimburse Volunteer Expenses	23.40
281	EFT77601	Nicolas Lupo	Reimburse Expenses	582.00
282	EFT77701	Nievole Distributors Pty Ltd	Coffee	250.00
283	EFT77699	Norman Waterhouse Lawyers	Legal Fees	1,399.20
284	EFT77700	North East Group	Vehicle Maintenance	12,325.74
285	EFT77502	Nova Group Services Pty Ltd	Roadworks	113,873.24

**ACCOUNTS DUE AND SUBMITTED TO THE COUNCIL MEETING
21 FEBRUARY 2023**

Ref No.	Cheque/ EFT No.	Payee	Invoice Description	Payment Total
286	EFT77816	Nova Group Services Pty Ltd	Roadworks	62,137.39
287	EFT77504	Objective Corporation Limited	Software	150.61
288	EFT77503	Officeworks Superstores Pty Ltd	Stationery	402.86
289	EFT77602	Officeworks Superstores Pty Ltd	Stationery	314.10
290	EFT77603	Olympic Hire	Summer Festival Bean Bag Hire	460.00
291	EFT77704	Olympic Hire	Summer Festival Bean Bag Hire	460.00
292	EFT77819	Olympic Hire	Summer Festival Bean Bag Hire	460.00
293	EFT77825	Omega Picture Frames	Framing	795.00
294	EFT77823	OneMusic Australia	Licence Renewal	2,594.97
295	EFT77821	Online Path Pty Ltd	Advertising	1,650.00
296	EFT77505	oOh!media Street Furniture Pty Ltd	Bus Shelter Cleaning / Repairs	12,044.62
297	EFT77703	Orana Australia Ltd	Home Advantage Program	52.25
298	EFT77820	Origin Energy Electricity Limited	Power	9,106.17
299	EFT77822	Our Earth Pest Control	Pest Control	771.46
300	EFT77509	Paragon Work Health Safety Pty Ltd	Staff Training	565.00
301	EFT77610	Payble Pty Ltd	Software	38,959.44
302	EFT77501	PayTec Technology That Counts	Support	499.88
303	EFT77609	Pest Aid	Pest Control	830.00
304	EFT77605	Planning Studio Pty Ltd	Professional Fees	6,237.50
305	EFT77606	Playmazing	Playground Equipment	360.80
306	EFT77510	PLOT Works	Roadworks	931.70
307	EFT77604	Prestige Sports & Earthmoving Constructions Pty Ltd	Fencing	4,654.10
308	EFT77508	Pridal Services Pty Ltd	Painting	11,165.00
309	EFT77607	Pridal Services Pty Ltd	Painting	3,157.00
310	EFT77828	Pridal Services Pty Ltd	Painting	15,015.00
311	EFT77830	Pro Bitumen Pty Ltd	Roadworks	47,456.18
312	EFT77826	Professional Linemarking Pty Ltd	Linemarking	28,647.30
313	EFT77707	Programmed Property Services Pty Ltd	Verge Mowing	15,147.83
314	EFT77507	Pump Technology Services (SA) Pty Ltd	Pump Maintenance	2,151.60
315	EFT77512	Rayners Building Supplies	Depot Supplies	104.51
316	EFT77611	Realport Traders Pty Ltd	Depot Supplies	829.25
317	EFT77692	Rebecca Langham	Reimburse Expenses	150.00
318	EFT77615	RecycleSmart Pty Ltd	Subscription	7,700.00
319	EFT77708	Reece Pty Ltd	Irrigation	5,765.47
320	EFT77715	REMONDIS Australia Pty Ltd	Rubbish Removal	13.42
321	EFT77833	Rentokil Initial Pty Ltd	Pest Control	2,908.92
322	EFT77836	Rentokil Tropical Plants	Indoor Plant Hire	105.91
323	EFT77835	Rentokil Tropical Plants	Indoor Plant Hire	254.31
324	061913	Repco	Depot Supplies	49.82
325	EFT77710	Resource Furniture	Office Furniture	2,085.60
326	EFT77839	Revenue Professionals SA	Membership	220.00
327	EFT77612	Richmond Towing Services	Vehicle Tow	412.50
328	EFT77834	Ricoh Australia Ltd	Copy Charges	3,549.40
329	EFT77712	RMB Service Group	Vehicle Maintenance	10,158.07
330	EFT77614	Roadshow Films Pty Ltd	Summer Festival Film Showings	2,090.00
331	EFT77714	Roadshow Films Pty Ltd	Library Film Showing	220.00
332	EFT77713	Rosmech Sales & Service Pty Ltd	Sweeper Brooms	1,670.50
333	EFT77711	Royal Automobile Assoc of SA Inc	Fleet Membership	280.00
334	EFT77709	Royal Wolf Trading Australia Pty Ltd	Hire Storage Containers	924.31
335	EFT77511	Rundle Mall Plaza Newsagency	Library Magazines	241.55
336	EFT77613	Rundle Mall Plaza Newsagency	Library Magazines	262.60
337	EFT77837	Rundle Mall Plaza Newsagency	Library Magazines	459.11
338	EFT77620	S & P Graphics	Stationery	491.04
339	EFT77882	SA Mens & Mixed Netball Assoc	Thebarton Community Centre Bond Return	1,000.00
340	EFT77621	SA Pathology	Water Testing	539.00
341	EFT77628	SA Planning Assist	Professional Fees	17,952.00
342	EFT77844	SA Power Networks	Power	29,253.20

**ACCOUNTS DUE AND SUBMITTED TO THE COUNCIL MEETING
21 FEBRUARY 2023**

Ref No.	Cheque/ EFT No.	Payee	Invoice Description	Payment Total
343	EFT77517	SA Water	Breakout Creek Redevelopment	340,139.50
344	EFT77624	SA Water	Water Mains Alterations / Water Usage	61,397.77
345	EFT77534	SA Wide Conveyancing	Refund Overpaid Rates	369.95
346	EFT77518	SA Window Cleaning Pty Ltd	Window Cleaning	935.00
347	EFT77625	SA Window Cleaning Pty Ltd	Window Cleaning	8,343.50
348	EFT77513	Sabre Electrical & Security Services	Security	324.24
349	EFT77718	Sabre Electrical & Security Services	Security	508.19
350	EFT77645	Sadiq Agha Sayed	Thebarton Community Centre Bond Return	1,047.50
351	EFT77846	Safe Pets Safe Families	Staff Casual Day Donations	32.60
352	061912	Safeer Ali	Thebarton Community Centre Bond Return	1,000.00
353	EFT77725	SAGE Automation Pty Ltd	Roadworks	25,241.43
354	EFT77879	SAGE Developments	Refund Overpaid Rates	472.60
355	EFT77720	Saggese Transport & Crane Services Pty Ltd	Plant Maintenance	5,617.81
356	EFT77515	SAI Global Australia Pty Ltd	Standards	2,785.93
357	EFT77883	Saida Mohammadi	Thebarton Community Centre Bond Return	1,000.00
358	EFT77881	Samarth Raonta	Thebarton Community Centre Bond Return	750.00
359	EFT77530	Samir Wasif	Reimburse Volunteer Expenses	149.76
360	EFT77869	Samir Wasif	Reimburse Volunteer Expenses	149.76
361	061907	Sarah Mildren	Junior Development Grant	500.00
362	EFT77841	Sassafras Agencies Pty Ltd	Depot Supplies	137.56
363	EFT77623	Seek Limited	Advertising	660.00
364	EFT77726	Shred-X Pty Ltd	Paper Recycling	399.16
365	EFT77730	SimAC	Refrigerator Services	198.00
366	EFT77853	SimAC	Refrigerator Services	1,421.01
367	EFT77721	Sine Group Pty Ltd	Computer Equipment	910.80
368	EFT77845	Sine Group Pty Ltd	Computer Equipment	2,336.40
369	EFT77622	Smartech Systems Oceania Pty Ltd	Maintenance Agreement	451.00
370	EFT77728	Smartech Systems Oceania Pty Ltd	Maintenance Agreement	200.20
371	EFT77619	Snap Hilton	Printing	740.57
372	EFT77520	Solaris Clean	Cleaning	8,514.00
373	EFT77627	Solaris Clean	Cleaning	4,004.00
374	EFT77731	Solaris Clean	Cleaning	5,060.00
375	EFT77854	Solaris Clean	Cleaning	4,081.00
376	EFT77716	Solo Resource Recovery	Rubbish Removal	788.13
377	EFT77838	Solo Resource Recovery	Garbage Collection & Waste Disposal	641,645.70
378	EFT77843	Source Separation Systems Pty Ltd	Bin Liners	57.17
379	EFT77724	Southern Cross Protection	Patrol Service	12,225.24
380	EFT77719	Southfront	Professional Fees	5,990.60
381	EFT77842	Southfront	Professional Fees	13,530.00
382	EFT77537	Spiro Doukakis	Refund Overpaid Rates	452.05
383	EFT77723	Splashdown	Summer Festival Toilet Hire	1,298.00
384	EFT77519	Spray Shop	Depot Supplies	1,059.80
385	EFT77852	Spray Shop	Depot Supplies	1,189.10
386	EFT77626	St Jacques	Summer Festival Performance	1,300.00
387	EFT77617	St John Ambulance Australia SA Inc	Christmas Fare First Aid Support	646.00
388	EFT77618	State Theatre Company of SA	Library Workshop	792.00
389	EFT77847	Stihl Shop Fulham	Depot Supplies	899.00
390	EFT77850	Streamline Plumbing SA Pty Ltd	Plumbing	17,170.33
391	EFT77727	Stumpy Stumps	Grind Stumps	550.00
392	EFT77848	Stumpy Stumps	Grind Stumps	400.00
393	EFT77722	Suburban Transport Services	Taxi Fares	372.65
394	EFT77662	Sunday Beos	Reimburse Volunteer Expenses	49.92
395	EFT77733	Supawash Mile End	Laundry	80.00
396	EFT77787	Susan Ainslee Frazer	Reimburse Volunteer Expenses	149.75
397	EFT77855	Sync Cabling Solutions Pty Ltd	Lighting	14,487.00
398	EFT77639	Tayla Weinert	Reimburse Expenses	150.00
399	EFT77735	Tecon Australia Pty Ltd	Professional Fees	962.50

**ACCOUNTS DUE AND SUBMITTED TO THE COUNCIL MEETING
21 FEBRUARY 2023**

Ref No.	Cheque/ EFT No.	Payee	Invoice Description	Payment Total
400	EFT77737	Telstra Limited	Telephone	5,631.47
401	EFT77457	The Banner Crew	Banners	262.90
402	EFT77463	The Department for Correctional Services	Litter Collection	1,870.00
403	EFT77782	The Ergo Centre	Office Furniture	1,630.00
404	EFT77675	The Fruit Box Group Pty Ltd	Milk	307.92
405	EFT77578	The Good Guys	Electrical Goods	1,050.00
406	EFT77790	The Good Guys	Electrical Goods	1,095.00
407	EFT77795	The Highway	Venue Hire	286.00
408	EFT77831	The Paper Bahn	Stationery	2,876.55
409	EFT77827	The Personnel Risk Management Group	Security Checks	96.80
410	EFT77533	Thomas Reed	Refund Overpaid Rates	253.50
411	EFT77523	TNT Express	Courier	87.31
412	EFT77630	Tom's Car Wash	Vehicle Detailing	1,644.20
413	EFT77629	Tonkin Consulting	Professional Fees	346.50
414	EFT77856	Toro Australia Pty Ltd	Mower Repairs	1,887.29
415	EFT77736	Torrens Safety Pty Ltd	Depot Supplies	208.51
416	EFT77734	Total Tools Thebarton	Depot Supplies	632.85
417	EFT77861	Totally Workwear Richmond	Clothing	2,047.35
418	EFT77859	TPG Telecom	Telephone/Internet	4,184.91
419	EFT77857	Tree Care Machinery	Depot Supplies	2,074.15
420	EFT77631	Trims	Clothing	590.37
421	EFT77793	UHY Haines Norton	Professional Fees	8,250.00
422	EFT77738	United Fasteners SA Pty Ltd	Depot Supplies	20.67
423	EFT77479	United Petroleum Pty Ltd	Fuel	19,117.33
424	EFT77526	Urban & Regional Planning Solutions	Professional Fees	23,793.00
425	EFT77739	Urban & Regional Planning Solutions	Professional Fees	297.00
426	EFT77862	UrbanVirons Group Pty Ltd	Tree Maintenance	3,589.30
427	EFT77863	Veolia Environmental Services	Rubbish Removal	2,915.55
428	EFT77637	Veri Fire	Fire Safety	427.46
429	EFT77864	Veri Fire	Fire Safety	7,738.72
430	EFT77527	Vili's	Catering	129.49
431	EFT77741	Wallbridge Gilbert Aztec	Professional Fees	27,266.25
432	EFT77872	Waste Management & Resource Recovery Assoc of Aust	Membership	1,259.00
433	EFT77871	Watercom	Software	4,416.50
434	EFT77767	Watersource Pty Ltd	Irrigation	163.90
435	EFT77528	WAX Design Pty Ltd	Professional Fees	2,026.75
436	EFT77873	WC Convenience Management Pty Ltd	Cleaning	198.00
437	EFT77866	Web Safety Pty Ltd	Clothing	1,626.20
438	EFT77867	Westside Services (SA) Pty Ltd	Airconditioner Maintenance	46,942.54
439	EFT77868	Winc Australia Pty Limited	Stationery	464.40
440	EFT77638	Worcomp Pty Ltd	Medical	290.40
441	EFT77865	Worcomp Pty Ltd	Medical	132.00
442	EFT77870	WorkSafe Guardian	Monitoring	1,683.00
443	EFT77531	Workzone Traffic Control Pty Ltd	Traffic Control	924.83
444	EFT77640	Workzone Traffic Control Pty Ltd	Traffic Control	1,591.70
445	EFT77742	World Music SA	Summer Festival Performance	1,400.00
446	EFT77529	Worlds Best Specialised Cleaning	Graffiti Removal	5,038.00
447	EFT77740	Wurth Australia	Depot Supplies	110.26
				\$ 4,590,208.14

16.13 Council Budget Report - SEVEN Months to 31 January 2023

Brief

This report provides information to Council on budget results for the seven months ended 31 January 2023.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended to Council that the report be received.

Introduction

The report provides year to date (YTD) budget results for January 2023.

Discussion

Budget variances are summarised in the financial report which is included as **Attachment 1**, with key variances explained below in terms of:

- Operational Income
- Operational Expenditure
- Capital Expenditure
- Capital Income
- Capital Works Expenditure

Operating Position Summary

Total operational income for the seven months ending 31 January 2023 is \$70.05 million which is \$896,323 above budget YTD. Operational expenditure is \$2.12 million below budget YTD totalling \$38.61 million. Below is a breakdown of the significant items.

Operational Income

Key variances include:

- Rates income is over budget by \$208,902, largely due to lower than expected mandatory and discretionary rebate applications as well as higher than budgeted fine revenue. December budget review adjustments have been recommended.
- Statutory charges are below budget YTD by \$63,620, due to lower than expected parking income (\$107,844). This was offset by an increase in development act fee payments (\$46,212) and dog related income (\$10,680). Adjustments have been proposed in the December budget review.
- User charges are above budget YTD by \$27,996, reflecting better than expected community centre hire fees (\$51,385) and property lease fees received (\$42,498). This variance has been offset by a timing reduction in waste royalty income (\$42,958). Budget adjustments have been recommended in the December budget review.
- Grant income is above budget YTD by \$273,730, mostly due to transport related grants (\$138,597) and library material grants (\$190,084) being received earlier than expected. Minor adjustments have been recommended in the December budget review.
- Reimbursements and other income is \$449,317 above budget YTD, largely due higher interest being received on our cash deposits (\$219,712), a larger LGFA bonus (\$31,162) which is based on average deposits last financial year and better than expected Mendelson investment portfolio performance (\$117,958). December budget review adjustments have been recommended.

The end of year (EOY) forecast of operational income is expected to increase by \$298,340, largely based on variances, key information to date and adjustments recommended in the December budget review.

Operational Expenditure

Key variances include:

- Staff and related costs are \$828,261 under budget, with variances reported across most business units. This can largely be attributed to position vacancies along with underspends in the following categories: work health & safety expenditure (\$31,552) and staff training (\$26,120). Significant adjustments have been recommended in the December budget review.
- Building, furniture, plant & equipment are \$43,247 over budget YTD mainly due to an over spend in depot related plant supplies and maintenance (\$30,456). Minor adjustments have been proposed in the December budget review.
- General expenses are below YTD budgets by \$422,839, largely due to the timing of expenditure associated with professional fees (\$321,612) and advertising, publications & stationery (\$93,291). A summary of variances for selected key general expenses is attached. December budget review adjustments have been recommended.
- Council related expenditure is \$123,219 below budget YTD, mostly for timing reasons associated with community grant funding & donations (\$64,875 favourable) and street lighting (\$38,557 favourable). These variances are largely expected to rectify in the near future as payments aligns with the budget. Adjustments have been proposed in the December budget review.
- Contract and material expenditure is \$984,610 below budget YTD, largely for timing reasons associated with depot and property maintenance programs (\$624,873) and the delayed receipt of our waste disposal and collection invoices (\$321,445). Reductions in budget amounts have also been put forward in the December budget review.
- Occupancy and property costs are \$143,673 above budget YTD, largely for timing reasons associated with emergency services levy (\$73,803), cleaning (\$18,063) and an advance payment for our depot lease (\$51,481). This is offset by favourable variances for electricity (\$8,919) and water rates (\$12,121).

The EOY forecast of operational expenditure is expected to decrease by \$293,156 largely based on variances, key information to date and adjustments recommended in the December budget review.

Capital Position Summary

For the seven months ending 31 January 2023, capital income is \$2.37 million under budget YTD as we are yet to receive a large portion of our grant allocations for the year. YTD capital expenditure (excluding land and building) is \$1.64 million under budget totalling \$625,453.

Capital Expenditure

Key variances include:

- Motor vehicle expenditure is \$100,255 below budget YTD, largely for timing reasons and the availability of new vehicles.
- Computer expenditure is \$356,548 below budget YTD however commitments have been made to the value of \$71,720 which are yet to be invoiced.

- Other plant and equipment expenditure is below YTD budget by \$1,180,333, mostly for timing reasons. This will self-adjust in the near future as budgets align, given significant commitments have already been made.
- Land and building costs (net of sales) are \$14,028,867 under budget YTD, largely for timing reasons associated with community facility developments.

The EOY forecast of capital expenditure is expected to increase by \$88,962 largely based on variances, key information to date and adjustments recommended in the December budget review.

Capital Income

Key variances include:

- Capital income is \$2,367,000 under budget YTD due to a delay in receiving income associated with community capital projects.

The EOY capital income budget is not expected to change based on the recommendations put forward in the December budget review.

Capital Works Expenditure

Expenditure on capital works YTD is \$12,229,524.

A capital works expenditure summary for YTD January 2023 is attached with appropriate comments provided on the status of individual budget lines. 48.4 per cent of the capital works budget has been spent or committed by way of purchase orders as at 31 January 2023.

It is estimated that 100 per cent of the forecast budget of \$47,350,493 is required to complete the program of works and that 73 per cent will be completed by 30 June 2023.

The EOY forecast for capital works expenditure is expected to decrease by \$4,919,815 largely based on variances, key information to date and adjustments recommended in the December budget review.

Climate Impact Considerations

(Assessment of likely positive or negative implications of this decision will assist Council and the West Torrens Community to build resilience and adapt to the challenges created by a changing climate.)

There is no direct climate impact in relation to this report.

Conclusion

Information is provided in this report on budget results for the seven months ended 31 January 2023.

Attachments

1. **January Budget v Actual**
2. **Capital Works Budget v Actual**
3. **General Expenses**

**City of West Torrens
Finance Budget Report for the 7 Months Ended 31 January 2023
Operational Income and Expenditure (\$'000's)**

Adopted Budget Original	Adopted Budget Revised	Income & Expenditure	YTD Budgets	YTD Actuals	YTD Variance	YTD Variance %	Budget Remaining
65,004	65,053	Income	64,572	64,781	209	0%	272
2,179	2,182	Rates	1,415	1,351	(64)	(4%)	831
1,939	2,029	Statutory Charges	1,188	1,216	28	2%	814
3,282	3,718	User Charges	1,457	1,731	274	19%	1,987
619	730	Grants & Subsidies	522	970	449	86%	(240)
		Reimbursements & Other Income					
73,022	73,713	Total Income	69,154	70,049	896	1%	3,664
		Expenditure					
26,083	25,798	Staff & Related Costs	14,670	13,840	828	6%	11,958
7,555	7,570	Buildings, Furniture, Plant & Equipment	4,603	4,646	(43)	(1%)	2,924
12,284	12,284	Community Asset Costs	7,235	7,235	0	0%	5,048
4,942	5,458	General Expenses	3,547	3,124	423	12%	2,334
1,059	1,018	Bank & Finance Charges	299	242	57	19%	775
3,803	3,965	Council Related Expenditure	2,167	2,044	123	6%	1,922
12,542	12,687	Contract & Material Expenditure	7,109	6,124	985	14%	6,563
2,767	2,787	Occupancy & Property Costs	1,207	1,351	(144)	(12%)	1,436
(190)	(190)	Expenditure Recovered	(111)	0	(111)	100%	(190)
70,845	71,377	Total Expenditure	40,727	38,607	2,118	5%	32,770
2,177	2,336	Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	28,427	31,441			

**City of West Torrens
Finance Budget Report for the 7 Months Ended 31 January 2023
Capital Income and Expenditure (\$'000's)**

Adopted Budget Original		Adopted Budget Revised	Capital Expenditure and Sales		YTD Budgets	YTD Actuals	YTD Variance	YTD Variance %	Budget Remaining
164	414	181	Motor Vehicles	138	38	100	73%	143	
1,583	11,780	478	Computer Equipment	477	120	357	75%	358	
		2,282	Other Plant & Equipment	1,648	467	1,180	72%	1,815	
		21,363	Land & Buildings	16,454	2,426	14,029	85%	18,937	
13,940		24,303	Total Expenditure	18,716	3,051	15,666	84%	21,252	
Adopted Budget Original		Adopted Budget Revised	Capital Income		YTD Budgets	YTD Actuals	YTD Variance	YTD Variance %	Budget Remaining
1,200		3,753	Grants & Subsidies	2,553	186	2,367	93%	3,567	
1,200		3,753	Total Income	2,553	186	2,367	93%	3,567	
Adopted Budget Original		Adopted Budget Revised	Capital Works Expenditure		YTD Budgets	YTD Actuals	YTD Variance	YTD Variance %	Budget Remaining
5,660	3,455	9,752	Environment Program	5,689	4,601	1,088	19%	5,151	
	15,006	6,445	Recreation Program	3,760	2,500	1,260	34%	3,945	
		31,153	Transport Program	18,173	5,129	13,044	72%	26,025	
24,121		47,350	Total Expenditure	27,620	12,230	15,392	56%	35,121	

**CITY OF WEST TORRENS
BUDGET 2022/23 - AS AT 31 January 2023
CAPITAL WORKS EXPENDITURE**

ADOPTED BUDGET ORIGINAL	ADOPTED BUDGET REVISED	FUNCTION	YTD ACTUALS	COMMITTED OR CONTRACTED	ACTUALS AND COMMITTED	% SPENT OR COMMITTED	FORECAST EXPENDITURE TO COMPLETE	EOY FORECAST PERCENTAGE COMPLETE	COMMENT / EXPLANATION
ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM									
Stormwater & Drainage									
350,000	536,570	Minor Drainage Upgrades and Replacement Work	55,756	272,439	328,195	61.2%	536,570	90%	Minor projects ongoing - including scoping & design works for 2022/2023 program.
1,541,359	2,800,721	North Plympton/Plympton Investigations Stage 1 and Stage 2 works Stormwater upgrade	2,325,223	188,443	2,513,666	89.8%	2,800,721	90%	Works within development site is progressing and is 75% completed. North Plympton drainage works in progress and are 90% completed. Detail survey and design commencing for next two packages of works.
250,000	250,000	Small Diameter Pipe Replacements	0	2,955	2,955	1.2%	250,000	100%	Scoping and design of various upgrades are being finalised and works are being incorporated with the road construction/reseal.
1,500,000	1,500,000	Gray St, Daly Street, Warwick St, Cross Tce Drainage	7,821	62,937	70,758	4.7%	1,500,000	40%	Consultant engaged and awaiting Network Upgrade Scoping Report - Survey currently underway.
250,000	250,000	Chapel St Drainage	0	0	0	0.0%	250,000	50%	Survey and Design underway.
350,000	350,000	Novar Gardens Stormwater Renewal	21,106	27,852	48,958	14.0%	350,000	100%	Survey and Design underway.
0	447,774	Fulham Park Drive Drainage Upgrade	374,745	73,029	447,774	100.0%	447,774	100%	Civil works currently under construction - 80% Complete.
0	321,935	Burbridge Road Culvert Replacement	0	2,464	2,464	0.8%	321,935	100%	Tender documentation being developed.
0	250,000	Ashley Street Low point upgrade	17,287	17,578	34,865	13.9%	250,000	50%	Design is underway.
0	61,952	Recycled Water Pipeline Extension	0	60,900	60,900	98.3%	61,952	25%	Program of works for the expansion of the recycled water pipeline network - has been delayed. Remaining project funds have been placed in Committed Reserves, (\$447,643). Project on hold due to contract discussions - for the supply of recycled water - with SA Water. Current funds in budget to complete the design.
0	260,009	Stirling Street Outfall Interface	0	0	0	0.0%	260,009	75%	Design under development. Project to be incorporated with construction of land division drainage infrastructure.
0	150,000	Keswick Creek- Everard	0	0	0	0.0%	150,000	100%	Tender development underway.
0	1,029,221	Packard St Cut-off Drain	988,948	36,303	1,025,251	99.6%	1,029,221	100%	Civil works at approximate 90% completion.
0	0	Meyer St Drainage Extension - Thebarton Oval	0	9,460	9,460	0.0%	0	0%	Finalising design and documentation.
Other Environment									
1,418,346	1,543,913	Brown Hill and Keswick Creeks	810,070	0	810,070	52.5%	1,543,913	100%	Awaiting Invoices.
5,659,705	9,752,095	Program Total	4,600,956	754,360	5,355,316	54.9%	9,752,095	84%	
RECREATION PROGRAM									
Parks & Gardens									
585,000	856,875	Playground Upgrade	327,015	297,979	624,994	72.9%	856,875	90%	Projects in progress; refer Urban Services Activity Report, 13 Dec 2022 for an update.
470,000	665,437	Reserve Developments - Various	157,810	98,981	256,791	38.6%	665,437	80%	Projects in progress; refer Urban Services Activity Report, 13 Dec 2022 for an update.
340,000	415,879	River Torrens Upgrade	36,299	62,667	98,966	23.8%	415,879	80%	Projects in progress; refer Urban Services Activity Report, 13 Dec 2022 for an update.
30,000	30,000	River Torrens Path Upgrades	0	29,545	29,545	98.5%	30,000	100%	Works to be scheduled.
480,000	873,824	Reserve Irrigation Upgrades	423,839	271,458	695,297	79.6%	873,824	80%	Projects in progress; refer Urban Services Activity Report, 13 Dec 2022 for an update.
1,000,000	2,855,842	Breakout Creek Stage 3 Redevelopment	1,300,009	1,555,832	2,855,841	100.0%	2,855,842	80%	Projects in progress; refer Urban Services Activity Report, 13 Dec 2022 for an update.
75,000	75,000	Bikeway Path Upgrade and Reseal	34,716	36,000	70,716	94.3%	75,000	100%	Works to be scheduled / ongoing program.

**CITY OF WEST TORRENS
BUDGET 2022/23 - AS AT 31 January 2023
CAPITAL WORKS EXPENDITURE**

ADOPTED BUDGET ORIGINAL	ADOPTED BUDGET REVISED	FUNCTION	YTD ACTUALS	COMMITTED OR CONTRACTED	ACTUALS AND COMMITTED	% SPENT OR COMMITTED	FORECAST EXPENDITURE TO COMPLETE	EOY FORECAST PERCENTAGE COMPLETE	COMMENT / EXPLANATION
		Sports Facilities							
100,000	199,672	Tennis Court Upgrades	30,375	0	30,375	15.2%	199,672	75%	Works to be scheduled.
0	0	Thebarton Oval Kings Reserve	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0%	Project on hold regarding Torrens to Darlington - South Rd Corridor project / Thebarton Oval + Kings Reserve Lease.
375,000	472,386	Car Parking Upgrade	189,653	1,253	190,906	40.4%	472,386	80%	Works program continuing.
3,455,000	6,444,915	Program Total	2,499,716	2,353,715	4,853,431	75.3%	6,444,915	82%	
		TRANSPORT PROGRAM							
		Roads Sealed							
10,771,057	18,100,237	City Funds/ULRG Funds/Carryovers	4,316,132	5,444,572	9,760,704	53.9%	18,100,237	78%	Projects in progress; refer Urban Services Activity Report, 13 Dec 2022 for an update.
617,418	617,418	Roads to Recovery Grant Funds	0	0	0	0.0%	617,418	100%	
		Other Transport							
250,000	318,109	Roundabouts / Minor Road Rehabilitation	88,549	222,710	311,259	97.8%	318,109	100%	Projects scheduled / underway.
200,000	212,292	Bus Shelters	26,003	12,291	38,294	18.0%	212,292	50%	Currently scoping upgrade works.
0	1,000,000	Kurralta Park Kindergarten Pedestrian Crossing	28,937	93,080	122,017	12.2%	1,000,000	10%	Concept design completed and developing consultation material.
641,500	934,380	Traffic Management	282,360	62,098	344,458	36.9%	934,380	60%	Various detail designs and resident consultation underway.
260,000	1,058,887	Bicycle Management Schemes	36,093	398,963	435,056	41.1%	1,058,887	90%	Various Designs being completed and seeking tenders for Reece Jennings and Linear Park upgrades.
630,000	1,109,653	Public Lighting	37,239	248,468	285,707	25.7%	1,109,653	70%	Projects in progress; refer Urban Services Activity Report, 13 Dec 2022 for an update.
		Bridges							
50,000	1,799,698	Bridge Ancillary Works (as per Bridge Audit)	3,520	0	3,520	0.2%	1,799,698	100%	BHKC Project in progress, scheduled to be completed late May 23.
		Footways & Cycle Tracks							
1,035,808	1,078,155	Footpath Renewal Program	168,248	878,057	1,046,305	97.0%	1,078,155	100%	Projects in progress; refer Urban Services Activity Report, 13 Dec 2022 for an update.
143,811	518,076	Footpath Construction Program	0	143,811	143,811	27.8%	518,076	100%	Projects in progress; refer Urban Services Activity Report, 13 Dec 2022 for an update.
406,578	406,578	Footpath Remediation Program	141,771	62,580	204,351	50.3%	406,578	100%	Projects in progress; refer Urban Services Activity Report, 13 Dec 2022 for an update.
0	4,000,000	Linear Park Shared Path Improvements	0	0	0	0.0%	4,000,000	0%	Scope of works are being developed.
15,006,172	31,153,483	Program Total	5,128,852	7,566,632	12,695,484	40.8%	31,153,483	69%	
		SUMMARY:							
5,659,705	9,752,095	Environment Program	4,600,956	754,360	5,355,316	54.9%	9,752,095	84%	
3,455,000	6,444,915	Recreation Program	2,499,716	2,353,715	4,853,431	75.3%	6,444,915	82%	
15,006,172	31,153,483	Transport Program	5,128,852	7,566,632	12,695,484	40.8%	31,153,483	69%	
24,120,877	47,350,493	TOTAL - ALL CAPITAL WORKS	12,229,524	10,674,707	22,904,231	48.4%	47,350,493	73%	

City of West Torrens
Budget 2022/23 - YTD 31 January 2023
(Interim Results - Selected Accounts)

2021/22 Actuals	Account	Annual		2022/23 Budget				YTD % Variance
		Original Budget	Revised Budget	Revised Budget	YTD Actuals	YTD \$ Variance	YTD % Variance	
120,507	131 Training & Conference Costs	210,800	212,800	121,241	95,121	26,120	21.5	
3,569	213 Catering & Entertainment	11,940	14,013	9,208	9,041	167	1.8	
11,737	215 Catering/Entertain-Elected Members/others	14,600	14,600	8,519	14,398	-5,879	-69.0	
315,118	225 Subscriptions & Associations	348,210	348,210	253,395	303,003	-49,608	-19.6	
20,610	229 Elected Member Travel & Training	20,000	20,000	10,000	2,475	7,525	75.3	
419,668	241 Professional Fees - Legal	365,000	398,863	242,194	243,871	-1,677	-0.7	
11,839	243 Professional Fees - Medical	12,000	12,000	7,000	6,571	429	6.1	
510,162	245 Professional Fees - Consultants	819,600	1,204,156	699,820	463,338	236,482	33.8	
22,140	247 Professional Fees - Recruitment	10,000	17,840	13,671	20,375	-6,704	-49.0	
349,253	249 Professional Fees - General	573,650	638,356	480,913	393,662	87,251	18.1	
1,784,603	Total	2,385,800	2,880,838	1,845,961	1,551,855	294,106	15.9	

16.14 Budget Review - December 2022

Brief

This report provides details of changes proposed to the 2022/23 budget, following completion of the budget review for December 2022.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended to Council that the budget review changes for December 2022 be adopted pursuant to Regulation 9 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011*.

Introduction

This report proposes changes to the 2022/23 budget and requires adoption by Council pursuant to Regulation 9 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011*.

Discussion

Key changes to the 2022/23 budget are highlighted below.

Operational Income

An operational income budget increase of \$298,340 is proposed, as itemised in **Attachment 1**, the key changes being:

- An increase in community centre hire fees of \$50,000 reflecting growing demand and more centres available for hire.
- An increase of \$31,162 in other revenue to recognise the larger than expected LGFA bonus.
- An increase in interest revenue on our LGFA deposits of \$139,943 resulting from higher interest rates.
- An increase in Development Act fees of \$40,000 due to strong construction growth and transition to the new planning system.
- A reduction of \$75,000 in parking expiations reflecting a reduction in airport activity.

Operational Expenditure

An operational expenditure budget decrease before depreciation of \$293,156 is proposed, as itemised in **Attachment 1**, the key changes being:

- A reduction of \$398,081 in staff costs due to vacancies in key positions across the organisation.
- A reduction of \$41,250 in the interest expense budget to manage the cash flow impact of our expansive capital works program, with the use of Council's cash advance debenture (overdraft) in 2022/23 yet to occur.
- An increase in professional fees of \$138,000 largely to cover staff vacancies.
- Community grants have increased by \$30,000 to part fund a new community food bus for the Camden Community Centre (50% co-contribution with the State Government).

Capital Expenditure and Income

Capital budget changes are itemised in **Attachment 1**, and include:

- A capital expenditure budget increase of \$88,962;
- A capital works expenditure budget decrease of \$4,377,354 (excluding overhead); and
- No changes to capital income.

Key changes include:

- \$46,000 has been added to the capital budget for a new compliance vehicle.
- A \$15,000 increase in capital expenditure for the purchase of laptops for the disadvantaged. This is 100% offset by the Digital Inclusion operational grant.
- An amount of \$4,476,605 (excluding overhead) has been removed from the capital works program and placed in reserves for projects associated with the Linear Park shared path improvements, Kurralta Park Kindergarten pedestrian crossing and footpath renewal on Sir Donald Bradman Drive.

Financial Statements and Ratios

A revised Comprehensive Income Statement has been included with the budget review as **Attachment 2**. It shows an operating surplus before capital revenues, capital grants and subsidies, gain/loss on disposal of assets and physical resources received free of charge of \$2.927 million, an increase of \$750,712 or 34.5 per cent compared to the original budget.

Revised budget statements, comprising Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Financial Position, Cash Flow Statement, Statement of Changes in Equity, Financial Indicators, and Uniform Presentation of Finances, are also included.

The operating surplus ratio of the Council, which expresses the operating surplus as percentage of total operating income, is now 4 per cent compared to the original budget of 3 per cent. Council is aiming to maintain an ongoing operating surplus ratio between zero and 15 per cent.

Council's asset sustainability ratio, which expresses net asset renewal expenditure as a percentage of the infrastructure and asset management plan required expenditure, has been budgeted to move from an estimated 93 per cent to 169 per cent, compared to the original budget. This ratio increase is due to a number of factors with the most prominent being the extensive capital carryovers from 2021/22. Council is aiming to maintain an ongoing asset sustainability ratio of greater than 100 per cent. This is budgeted to be achieved on a rolling 5-year period as level of capital expenditure fluctuates year on year.

A modest cash surplus is still being projected as at 30 June 2023.

Climate Impact Considerations

(Assessment of likely positive or negative implications of this decision will assist Council and the West Torrens Community to build resilience and adapt to the challenges created by a changing climate.)

There is no direct climate impact consideration in relation to this report.

Conclusion

The December 2022 budget review must be adopted by Council pursuant to Regulation 9 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011*.

Attachments

1. **2022/23 December Budget Review Proposed Changes**
2. **2022/23 December Budget Review Financial Statements and Ratios**

The following changes are in the form of financial information as presented in Model Statement format as required
by legislation

2022/23 December Budget Review Proposed Changes

(Model Statement format)

	Increase	Decrease
<u>INCOME</u>		
Rates Related		
Corporate & Regulatory	7,270	
Rates Related Total	7,270	
Statutory Charges		
Corporate & Regulatory		80,000
Urban Services	30,000	
Statutory Charges Total		50,000
User Charges		
Business & Community Services	49,000	
Corporate & Regulatory	10,500	
Urban Services	2,685	
User Charges Total	62,185	
Grants Subsidies & Contributions		
Business & Community Services	15,000	
Corporate & Regulatory	20,000	
Grants Subsidies & Contributions Total	35,000	
Investment Income		
Corporate & Regulatory	139,943	
Investment Income Total	139,943	
Reimbursements		
Corporate & Regulatory	5,322	
Urban Services	40,751	
Reimbursements Total	46,073	
Other Revenue		
Corporate & Regulatory	45,369	
Urban Services	12,500	
Other Revenue Total	57,869	
Total Operational Income	298,340	
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
Staff Costs		
Business & Community Services		51,294
City Management	77,000	
Corporate & Regulatory		90,537
Urban Services		333,250
Staff Costs Total		398,081

The following changes are in the form of financial information as presented in Model Statement format as required by legislation

2022/23 December Budget Review Proposed Changes

(Model Statement format)

	Increase	Decrease
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
Staff Related		
Business & Community Services		13,752
Corporate & Regulatory	24,000	
Urban Services	30,000	
Staff Related Total	40,248	
Buildings Furniture & Fittings		
Business & Community Services		5,000
Urban Services	5,000	
Buildings Furniture & Fittings Total		
Computer Expenditure		
Business & Community Services		11,000
Corporate & Regulatory	70,200	
Computer Expenditure Total	59,200	
General Expenditure		
Business & Community Services		160,000
City Management	57,000	
Corporate & Regulatory	13,600	
Urban Services	96,007	
General Expenditure Total	6,607	
Bank & Finance		
Corporate & Regulatory		41,250
Bank & Finance Total		41,250
Council Expenditure		
Business & Community Services	26,500	
City Management		8,000
Urban Services	71,500	
Council Expenditure Total	90,000	
Contract Expenditure Works		
Business & Community Services		13,880
Corporate & Regulatory	14,000	
Urban Services		50,000
Contract Expenditure Works Total		49,880
Total Operational Expenditure		293,156

The following changes are in the form of financial information as presented in Model Statement format as required
by legislation

2022/23 December Budget Review Proposed Changes

(Model Statement format)

	Increase	Decrease
<u>CAPITAL</u>		
Motor Vehicles		
Corporate & Regulatory	53,362	
Motor Vehicles Total	53,362	
Computer Equipment		
Business & Community Services	15,000	
Computer Equipment Total	15,000	
Other Plant & Equipment		
Urban Services	6,720	
Other Plant & Equipment Total	6,720	
Furniture & Fittings		
Business & Community Services	13,880	
Furniture & Fittings Total	13,880	
Total Capital Expenditure	88,962	
<u>CAPITAL WORKS EXPENDITURE</u>		
Capital Works Expenditure		
8171 Brown Hill and Keswick Creeks	1,047,257	
8201 Linear Park Shared Path Improvements		3,850,000
9201 Bus Shelters	4,450	
9241 Kurralta Park Kindergarten Pedestrian Crossing		700,000
9413 Bridge Ancillary Works (as per Bridge Audit)		1,047,257
9650 Sir Donald Bradman Dr& Cowandilla (Brooker Tce to Marion Rd)		374,265
Overhead	542,461	
Capital Works Expenditure Total		4,377,354
<u>OTHER ADJUSTMENTS</u>		
Committed Expenditure Reserve	4,476,605	
Reserve Movements Total	4,476,605	

City of West Torrens

Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the year ended 30 June 2023

\$ '000	Original Budget 2022/23	September Budget Review	December Budget Review
Income			
Rates Revenues	65,114	65,163	65,170
Statutory Charges	2,179	2,182	2,132
User Charges	1,939	2,029	2,091
Grants, Subsidies and Contributions	3,282	3,718	3,753
Investment Income	106	191	341
Reimbursements	205	231	272
Other Income	199	199	252
Net Gain - Equity Accounted Council Businesses	-	-	-
Total Income	73,022	73,713	74,011
Expenses			
Employee Costs	26,083	25,797	25,439
Materials, Contracts & Other Expenses	26,422	27,280	27,386
Depreciation, Amortisation & Impairment	17,281	17,281	17,281
Finance Costs	1,059	1,018	977
Net loss - Equity Accounted Council Businesses	-	-	-
Total Expenses	70,845	71,377	71,084
Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	2,177	2,336	2,927
Asset Disposal & Fair Value Adjustments	-	-	-
Amounts Received Specifically for New or Upgraded Assets	1,200	3,753	3,753
Physical Resources Received Free of Charge	-	-	-
Net Surplus / (Deficit) ¹	3,377	6,088	6,680
Other Comprehensive Income			
<i>Amounts which will not be reclassified subsequently to operating result</i>			
Changes in Revaluation Surplus - I,PP&E	-	-	-
<i>Amounts which will be reclassified subsequently to operating result</i>			
Total Other Comprehensive Income	-	-	-
Total Comprehensive Income	3,377	6,088	6,680

¹ Transferred to Equity Statement

City of West Torrens

Statement of Financial Position

as at 30 June 2023

\$ '000	Original Budget 2022/23	September Budget Review	December Budget Review
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	4,752	2,710	3,091
Trade & Other Receivables	2,439	5,382	5,382
Other Financial Assets	1,684	1,648	1,648
Inventories	18	28	28
Subtotal	8,894	9,768	10,149
Non-Current Assets Held for Sale	-	-	-
Total Current Assets	8,894	9,768	10,149
Non-Current Assets			
Financial Assets	-	250	250
Equity Accounted Investments in Council Businesses	12,693	17,232	17,232
Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment	854,907	872,516	868,250
Other Non-Current Assets	9,374	9,344	9,321
Total Non-Current Assets	876,974	899,342	895,053
TOTAL ASSETS	885,867	909,110	905,202
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Cash Advance Debenture	-	-	-
Trade & Other Payables	5,502	6,145	6,145
Borrowings	3,737	1,878	1,878
Provisions	5,638	5,332	5,332
Other Current Liabilities	6,372	11,861	11,861
Subtotal	21,249	25,216	25,216
Liabilities relating to Non-Current Assets Held for Sale	-	-	-
Total Current Liabilities	21,249	25,216	25,216
Non-Current Liabilities			
Borrowings	64,222	56,715	52,215
Provisions	291	252	252
Total Non-Current Liabilities	64,513	56,967	52,467
TOTAL LIABILITIES	85,762	82,184	77,684
Net Assets	800,105	826,926	827,518
EQUITY			
Accumulated Surplus	127,919	121,769	117,884
Asset Revaluation Reserves	648,878	661,650	661,650
Other Reserves	23,308	43,507	47,984
Total Council Equity	800,105	826,926	827,518

City of West Torrens

Statement of Cash Flows

for the year ended 30 June 2023

	Original Budget 2022/23	September Budget Review	December Budget Review
Cash Flows from Operating Activities			
<u>Receipts</u>			
Rates Receipts	65,066	65,115	65,122
Statutory Charges	2,177	2,181	2,131
User Charges	1,930	2,020	2,082
Grants, Subsidies and Contributions (operating purpose)	3,823	4,259	4,294
Investment Receipts	106	191	341
Reimbursements	211	237	278
Other Receipts	199	199	252
<u>Payments</u>			
Payments to Employees	(26,042)	(25,756)	(25,398)
Payments for Materials, Contracts & Other Expenses	(26,289)	(27,148)	(27,254)
Finance Payments	(1,059)	(1,018)	(976)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Operating Activities	20,121	20,280	20,872
Cash Flows from Investing Activities			
<u>Receipts</u>			
Amounts Received Specifically for New/Upgraded Assets	1,200	3,753	3,753
Sale of Replaced Assets	676	776	799
Sale of Surplus Assets	-	-	-
<u>Payments</u>			
Expenditure on Renewal/Replacement of Assets	(12,443)	(22,131)	(22,131)
Expenditure on New/Upgraded Assets	(24,321)	(46,396)	(42,129)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Investing Activities	(34,888)	(63,998)	(59,709)
Cash Flows from Financing Activities			
<u>Receipts</u>			
Proceeds from Borrowings	20,250	24,250	19,750
<u>Payments</u>			
Repayments of Borrowings	(1,531)	(1,531)	(1,531)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Financing Activities	18,719	22,719	18,219
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash Held	3,952	(20,998)	(20,617)
plus: Cash & Cash Equivalents at beginning of period	799	23,708	23,708
Cash & Cash Equivalents at end of period	4,752	2,710	3,091
Total Cash, Cash Equivalents & Investments	4,752	2,710	3,091

City of West Torrens

Statement of Changes in Equity

for the year ended 30 June 2023

\$ '000	Asset			Total Equity
	Accumulated Surplus	Revaluation Reserve	Other Reserves	
Original Budget 2022/23				
Balance at the end of previous reporting period	124,542	648,878	23,308	796,728
Restated Opening Balance	124,542	648,878	23,308	796,728
a. Net Surplus / (Deficit) for Year	3,377	-	-	3,377
b. Other Comprehensive Income				
- Gain (Loss) on Revaluation of I,PP&E	-	-	-	-
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-	-	-
Total Comprehensive Income	3,377	-	-	3,377
c. Transfers between Reserves	-	-	-	-
Balance at the end of period	127,919	648,878	23,308	800,105
September Budget Review 2022/23				
Balance at the end of previous reporting period	117,447	661,650	41,741	820,838
Restated Opening Balance	117,447	661,650	41,741	820,838
a. Net Surplus / (Deficit) for Year	6,088	-	-	6,088
b. Other Comprehensive Income				
- Gain (Loss) on Revaluation of I,PP&E	-	-	-	-
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-	-	-
Total Comprehensive Income	6,088	-	-	6,088
c. Transfers between Reserves	(1,766)		1,766	-
Balance at the end of period	121,769	661,650	43,507	826,926
December Budget Review 2022/23				
Balance at the end of previous reporting period	117,447	661,650	41,741	820,838
Restated Opening Balance	117,447	661,650	41,741	820,838
a. Net Surplus / (Deficit) for Year	6,680	-	-	6,680
b. Other Comprehensive Income				
- Gain (Loss) on Revaluation of I,PP&E	-	-	-	-
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-	-	-
Total Comprehensive Income	6,680	-	-	6,680
c. Transfers between Reserves	(6,243)		6,243	-
Balance at the end of period	117,884	661,650	47,984	827,518

City of West Torrens

Financial Indicators

for the year ended 30 June 2023

\$ '000	Original Budget 2022/23	September Budget Review	December Budget Review
<p>These Financial Indicators have been calculated in accordance with <i>Information paper 9 - Local Government Financial Indicators</i> prepared as part of the LGA Financial Sustainability Program for the Local Government Association of South Australia.</p>			
<p>1. Operating Surplus Ratio</p>			
Operating Surplus	3%	3%	4%
Total Operating Revenue			
<p><i>This ratio expresses the operating surplus as a percentage of total operating revenue.</i></p>			
<p>1a. Adjusted Operating Surplus Ratio</p>			
In recent years the Federal Government has made advance payments prior to 30th June from future year allocations of financial assistance grants, as explained in Note 1. The Adjusted Operating Surplus Ratio adjusts for the resulting distortion in the disclosed operating result for each year.	3%	3%	4%
<p>2. Net Financial Liabilities Ratio</p>			
Net Financial Liabilities	105%	98%	91%
Total Operating Revenue			
<p><i>Net Financial Liabilities are defined as total liabilities less financial assets (excluding equity accounted investments in Council businesses). These are expressed as a percentage of total operating revenue.</i></p>			
<p>3. Asset Renewal Funding Ratio</p>			
Net Asset Renewals	93%	170%	169%
Infrastructure & Asset Management Plan required expenditure			
<p><i>Net asset renewals expenditure is defined as net capital expenditure on the renewal and replacement of existing assets, and excludes new capital expenditure on the acquisition of additional assets.</i></p>			

City of West Torrens

Uniform Presentation of Finances

for the year ended 30 June 2023

\$ '000	Original Budget 2022/23	September Budget Review	December Budget Review
<p>The following is a high level summary of both operating and capital investment activities of the Council prepared on a simplified Uniform Presentation Framework basis.</p> <p>All Councils in South Australia have agreed to summarise annual budgets and long-term financial plans on the same basis.</p> <p>The arrangements ensure that all Councils provide a common 'core' of financial information, which enables meaningful comparisons of each Council's finances.</p>			
Income	73,022	73,713	74,011
<i>less</i> Expenses	(70,845)	(71,377)	(71,084)
Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	2,177	2,336	2,927
<i>less</i> Net Outlays on Existing Assets			
Capital Expenditure on Renewal and Replacement of Existing Assets	12,443	22,131	22,131
<i>less</i> Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	(17,281)	(17,281)	(17,281)
<i>less</i> Proceeds from Sale of Replaced Assets	(676)	(776)	(799)
Subtotal	(5,514)	4,073	4,050
<i>less</i> Net Outlays on New and Upgraded Assets			
Capital Expenditure on New and Upgraded Assets (including Investment Property & Real Estate Developments)	24,321	46,396	42,129
<i>less</i> Amounts Received Specifically for New and Upgraded Assets	(1,200)	(3,753)	(3,753)
<i>less</i> Proceeds from Sale of Surplus Assets (including Investment Property & and Real Estate Developments)	-	-	-
Subtotal	23,121	42,643	38,377
Net Lending / (Borrowing) for Financial Year	(15,430)	(44,381)	(39,500)

16.15 Weslo Holdings - Update - Confidential Order Review

Brief

This report presents the review of the confidential order applied to confidential report Item 21.1 - Weslo Holdings - Update, at the 18 February 2020 meeting of Council in accordance with the provisions of Section 91(9)(a) of the *Local Government Act 1999*.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended to Council that:

1. In accordance with Section 91(9)(a), having reviewed the confidentiality order made on 18 February 2020 and reviewed at Council's 16 February 2021 and 18 January 2022 meetings, in respect of confidential Item 21.1 - Weslo Holdings - Update, Council orders that confidential Agenda report, the Minutes arising, attachments and any associated documentation, continue to be retained in confidence in accordance with Section 90(3)(b)(i) and (b)(ii) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, and not be available for public inspection for a further 12 month period on the basis that it may prejudice the commercial position of the Council and lead to Council not obtaining or securing the best possible outcome to the lease dispute with Weslo Holdings Pty Ltd. In addition, the disclosure of Council's commercial position may severely prejudice Council's ability to satisfactorily resolve the lease dispute with Weslo Holdings Pty Ltd and consequently, Council considers the disclosure of the information would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.
2. Pursuant to Section 91(9)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, Council delegates the authority to the Chief Executive Officer to review the confidentiality order on a monthly basis and to revoke but not extend it.

Introduction

Section 91(9)(a) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, requires that any confidential order made by Council, pursuant to s91(7)(a) and s91(7)(b) of the Act, that operates for a period exceeding twelve months must be reviewed by Council at least once every twelve months.

While the CEO has reviewed the confidential order on a monthly basis in accordance with his delegated authority, the CEO has not revoked the Order. Given the CEO does not have the ability to extend the order, the Act requires that the Order to be reviewed by Council.

Discussion

At its 18 February 2020 meeting, Council ordered that that the agenda item relating to Weslo Holdings - Update, the Minutes arising, attachments and any associated documentation, having been considered in confidence under Section 90(3)(b)(i) and (b)(ii), be kept confidential and not available for public inspection for a period of 12 months from the date of this meeting, on the basis that it may prejudice the commercial position of the Council and lead to Council not obtaining or securing the best possible outcome to the lease dispute with Weslo Holdings Pty Ltd. In addition, Council is satisfied that the principle of the meeting being conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed in this circumstance because the disclosure of Council's commercial position may severely prejudice Council's ability to satisfactorily resolve the lease dispute with Weslo Holdings Pty Ltd and consequently, Council considers the disclosure of this information would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.

A subsequent confidential report in relation to Weslo Holdings was presented to Council at its meeting on 17 March 2020 and as these reports are linked, the confidentiality order made at the 18 January 2020 meeting should continue to remain in place for a further 12 months.

Climate Impact Considerations

(Assessment of likely positive or negative implications of this decision will assist Council and the West Torrens Community to build resilience and adapt to the challenges created by a changing climate.)

There is no direct climate impact in relation to this report.

Conclusion

As the confidential order applied by Council at its 18 February 2020 meeting of Council, in relation to Item 21.1 - Weslo Holdings - Update, has not been revoked and the CEO does not have the ability to extend the order, the Act requires the Order to be reviewed by Council.

Attachments

Nil

17 LOCAL GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Nil

18 MEMBER'S BOOKSHELF

Nil

19 CORRESPONDENCE**19.1 Heritage Places (Adelaide Park Lands) Amendment Bill 2022**

Correspondence has been received from Robert Simms MLC regarding the Heritage Places (Adelaide Park Lands) Amendment Bill 2022 (**Attachment 1**).

19.2 Mayors for Peace News Flash - January 2023

Correspondence has been received from the Mayors for Peace, providing the January 2023 No. 157 Newsletter (**Attachment 2**).

19.3 Mayors for Peace Joint Appeal on the invasion of Ukraine

Correspondence has been received from the Mayors for Peace, regarding the release of their Joint Appeal on the invasion of Ukraine (**Attachment 3**).

19.4 National Malaya and Borneo Veterans' Association Inc SA/NT Branch communications

Correspondence has been received from the National Malaya and Borneo Veterans' Association Inc SA/NT Branch providing copies of their recent communications (**Attachment 4**).

RECOMMENDATION

That the correspondence be received.

Attachments

19.1 Heritage Places (Adelaide Park Lands) Amendment Bill 2022

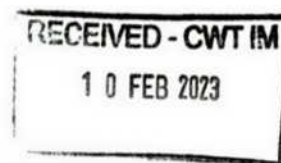
19.2 Mayors for Peace News Flash - January 2023

19.3 Mayors for Peace Joint Appeal on the invasion of Ukraine

19.4 National Malaya and Borneo Veterans' Association Inc SA/NT Branch communications



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
PARLIAMENT HOUSE
ADELAIDE, S.A. 5000



Mayor Michael Coxon
City of West Torrens
165 Sir Donald Bradman Drive
HILTON SA 5033

3 February 2023

Dear Mayor,

I write to congratulate you on your election to the City of West Torrens and to draw your attention to a Private Members Bill I introduced last year.

The Heritage Places (Adelaide Park Lands) Amendment Bill 2022 seeks to add the Adelaide Park Lands and the city plan to the State Heritage register protecting the city's green belt as a state heritage area. Given the ongoing value of the Park Lands to the city and broader South Australian community, state heritage protection is in my opinion long overdue. This listing would also be consistent with the campaign for World Heritage Listing which has broad support across all sides of politics.

The Bill passed the Upper House in October of last year – with the support of all parties in the parliament, except the Government.

I intend to continue to pursue this matter in the Parliament this year and would welcome you and your Council's advocacy for this important reform.

I have attached a copy of the Bill for your information. If you would like any additional information or like to discuss the Bill further, please do not hesitate to contact me at simms.office@parliament.sa.gov.au or 8237 8111.

Please accept my best wishes for your term on Council. It is a great honour to serve our community.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Robert Simms'.

Robert Simms MLC
Greens Member of the Legislative Council
Parliament of South Australia

Legislative Council—No 2A

As reported with amendments, report adopted, Standing Orders suspended and passed remaining stages, 20 October 2022

South Australia

**Heritage Places (Adelaide Park Lands)
Amendment Bill 2022**

A BILL FOR

An Act to amend the *Heritage Places Act 1993* and to make a related amendment to the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016*.

Heritage Places (Adelaide Park Lands) Amendment Bill 2022

Contents

Contents**Part 1—Preliminary**

- 1 Short title

Part 2—Amendment of *Heritage Places Act 1993*

- 2 Amendment of section 3—Interpretation
 3 Amendment of section 14—Content of Register
 4 Amendment of section 24—Alteration of Register if place to be designated as place of local heritage value
 5 Insertion of Part 4A
 Part 4A—Adelaide Park Lands State Heritage Area
 24A Adelaide Park Lands State Heritage Area

Schedule 1—Related amendment and transitional provision**Part 1—Related amendment to *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016***

- 1 Amendment of section 66—Key provisions about content of code

Part 2—Transitional provision

- 2 Transitional provision

The Parliament of South Australia enacts as follows:**Part 1—Preliminary****1—Short title**

- 5 This Act may be cited as the *Heritage Places (Adelaide Park Lands) Amendment Act 2022*.

Part 2—Amendment of *Heritage Places Act 1993***2—Amendment of section 3—Interpretation**

- (1) Section 3(1)—before the definition of *archaeological artefact* insert:

10 *Adelaide Park Lands* means the Adelaide Park Lands and City Layout described in the Schedule to the notice published in the Commonwealth of Australia Gazette under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* of the Commonwealth for the purposes of including the Adelaide Park Lands and City Layout in the National Heritage List (see Commonwealth of Australia Gazette No. S238, Friday 7 November 2008);

15 *Adelaide Park Lands State Heritage Area* means the Adelaide Park Lands State Heritage Area established under Part 4A;

Heritage Places (Adelaide Park Lands) Amendment Bill 2022
Amendment of *Heritage Places Act 1993*—Part 2

- (2) Section 3(1), definition of *State Heritage Area*—after "means" insert:
the Adelaide Park Lands State Heritage Area or

3—Amendment of section 14—Content of Register

- (1) Section 14(4)(a)—after "or (b)" insert:
or relating to the Adelaide Park Lands State Heritage Area
- (2) Section 14(4)(b)—after "or (c)" insert:
(other than in relation to the Adelaide Park Lands State Heritage Area)

4—Amendment of section 24—Alteration of Register if place to be designated as place of local heritage value

Section 24—after subsection (4) insert:

- (5) To avoid doubt, this section does not apply in relation to the Adelaide Park Lands State Heritage Area.

5—Insertion of Part 4A

After Part 4 insert:

Part 4A—Adelaide Park Lands State Heritage Area

24A—Adelaide Park Lands State Heritage Area

The Adelaide Park Lands is established as a State Heritage Area.

Schedule 1—Related amendment and transitional provision

Part 1—Related amendment to *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016*

1—Amendment of section 66—Key provisions about content of code

Section 66(2)—after paragraph (c) insert:

- (ca) be taken to include the Adelaide Park Lands State Heritage Area established under the *Heritage Places Act 1993* (and the State Heritage Area Overlay applying under the Code will be taken to apply to the Adelaide Park Lands State Heritage Area); and

Part 2—Transitional provision

2—Transitional provision

On the commencement of this Act, the South Australian Heritage Council must alter the State Heritage Register maintained under the *Heritage Places Act 1993* to reflect the establishment of the Adelaide Park Lands State Heritage Area under Part 4A of that Act (as inserted by section 5 of this Act) and include (as the Council sees fit) in the entry on the Register with respect to that Area any relevant description, notes or other content in accordance with section 14 of the *Heritage Places Act 1993*.



Mayors for Peace News Flash

January 2023 / No.157

Mayors for Peace Member Cities

8,234 cities

in **166** countries and regions

(as of January 1, 2023)

Help us achieve **10,000** member cities!

Check our website and follow us on social media:

Website 

<https://www.mayorsforpeace.org/en/>

Facebook 

<https://www.facebook.com/mayorsforpeace>

Twitter 

<https://twitter.com/Mayors4Peace>

“Like” and **share** our Facebook and Twitter posts to help spread awareness of our mission.

Table of Contents

- Congratulations to the Children’s Art Competition “Peaceful Towns” 2022 winners!
- Member city recruitment model cases
- Introducing Executive Cities on Mayors for Peace social media accounts
- Regional chapter activities
- Mayors for Peace member cities: 8,234 cities in 166 countries/regions
- Request to implement initiatives outlined in the Mayors for Peace Action Plan
- Call for input: examples of peace education initiatives
- A closer look at the “World’s Fissile Material Inventory” in 2022” Part 2
Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition, Nagasaki University (RECNA)
- Peace-related news from Hiroshima
(provided by the Chugoku Shimbun Hiroshima Peace Media Center)
- New audio-visual teaching materials for peace education available online

Congratulations to the Children’s Art Competition “Peaceful Towns” 2022 winners!



In order to expand peace education efforts in its member cities, Mayors for Peace holds an annual Children’s Art Competition “Peaceful Towns” for children from 6 to 15 years old in all member cities.

For the fifth competition in 2022, a total of 8,644 artworks were submitted to 86 member cities in 15 countries. They went through a screening process handled by their respective member cities, after which 489 artworks were sent to the Mayors for Peace Secretariat in Hiroshima. The final screening was conducted by the Secretariat, and 15 artworks were awarded prizes. Congratulations go to all the award winners!

The award-winning artworks are now displayed on the Mayors for Peace website with each artist’s message of peace that inspired their works. Please have a look at these excellent paintings. The Mayors for Peace President’s Award-winning artwork will be printed on plastic folders, which will be used in a variety of settings including conferences of the United Nations.



The Mayors for Peace President’s Award-winning artwork by Kuga Kanematsu (10 years old) from Obu, Japan

<https://www.mayorsforpeace.org/en/news/2022/post-221227-2/>

Member city recruitment model case

Mayors for Peace aims to expand its membership to foster international public support to realize a world without nuclear weapons. To encourage recruitment of new members, this January Issue showcases successful recruitment activities by the City of Puchheim, Germany. Puchheim's invitations have led three cities to join the Mayors for Peace network: Nagykanizsa, Hungary (on October 1, 2022), and Attnang-Puchheim, Austria, and Zalakaros, Hungary (both on January 1, 2023).

First Mayor Norbert Seidl of Puchheim invites partner cities to join Mayors for Peace

Report by Ms. Sonja Weinbuch, the City of Puchheim

The City of Puchheim has been a member of Mayors for Peace since April 2022. By introducing this opportunity to its partner cities, Puchheim convinced three more European cities to join the organization.

In a letter, Puchheim's First Mayor Norbert Seidl briefly presented the initiatives of Mayors for Peace to his colleagues in Puchheim's four partner cities, asking them to send a strong signal of solidarity by jointly becoming members. Handing out membership information of Mayors for Peace to Mayors Peter Groiß from Attnang-Puchheim, Austria, László Balogh of Nagykanizsa and Ferenc Novák of Zalakaros (both in Hungary) when they personally met in the summer 2022, Mayor Seidl reaffirmed his desire to promote the international understanding and the commitment to peace. He thinks that Mayors for Peace offers a great opportunity for cities to set a sign for peace and friendship in Europe on a municipal level, especially during this difficult time with war raging in Ukraine. "I am very pleased that our partners in Austria and Hungary have joined the organization," emphasized Mayor Seidl. For the next personal encounters with his colleagues, he plans to present them with the Mayors for Peace flag.




(From left to right): Mayor László Balogh of Nagykanizsa, Mayor Norbert Seidl of Puchheim, and Mayor Peter Groiß of Attnang-Puchheim at the celebration of the 30th anniversary of the town twinning between Puchheim and Attnang-Puchheim at the Puchheim Folk Festival in June 2022.



Mayor Ferenc Novák of Zalakaros (left) presents Mayor Norbert Seidl of Puchheim (right) with a medal for participating in Hungary's largest cycling competition in Zalakaros in October 2022.

Photos: courtesy of the City of Puchheim

We hope this model case inspires your city to invite non-member cities in your country/region, your sister cities, and any other cities you have relationship with to join Mayors for Peace. In your recruitment activities, you are always welcome to use document packs—sets of recruitment documents including the letter of request to join Mayors for Peace—available in ten languages on the Mayors for Peace website.

 Letters of request to join Mayors for Peace and document pack (Mayors for Peace website):

<https://www.mayorsforpeace.org/en/about-us/resources/>

Please share your city's successful recruiting activity

The Mayors for Peace Secretariat is looking for model cases of recruiting new members. We would like to share successful cases in the News Flash to further promote member cities' recruitment efforts. Please contact the Secretariat to share your experience!

Email: mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp

Introducing Executive Cities on Mayors for Peace social media accounts

At Mayors for Peace, whose member cities have reached a total of 8,234 in 166 countries and regions (as of January 1, 2023), [21 cities](#) from different parts of the world serve as Executive Cities.

To let more people know about the Executive Cities, [the Mayors for Peace official Twitter account \(@Mayors4Peace\)](#) and [Facebook account \(@mayorsforpeace\)](#) present the following three kinds of information from eight Executive Cities: (1) messages from the Mayors, (2) what the Cities are famous for, and (3) peace events.

The Mayors for Peace News Flash also introduces these Executive Cities in series.

Following the December Issue, this January Issue introduces Hannover, Germany, and Malakoff, France.

● Hannover, Germany



(1) Message from Mayor Belit Onay

“Our future is still threatened by around 13,000 nuclear weapons.

We advocate the abolition of these weapons and Germany’s ratification to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.”



(2) What Is the City Famous for?

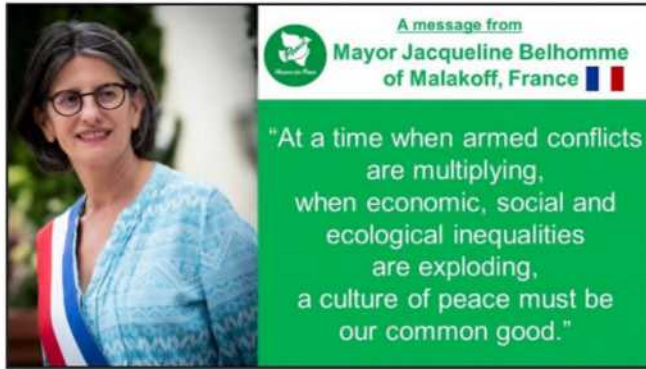
- Hannover has:
- New Town Hall,
 - Royal Gardens of Herrenhausen, and
 - Lüttje Lage!



(3) Peace Events

- On Aug 6 every year, Hannover commemorates the Hiroshima Memorial Day.
- On July 8, the city hoists the Mayors for Peace flag together with other German member cities in front of their town halls.

● **Malakoff, France**



(1) Message from Mayor Jacqueline Belhomme

“At a time when armed conflicts are multiplying, when economic, social and ecological inequalities are exploding, a culture of peace must be our common good.”



(2) What Is the City Famous for?

Malakoff has:
 - Malakoff Tower,
 - Théâtre 71, and
 - Usine Clacquesin (a former distillery which is an archeological heritage)!



(3) Peace Events

Every year around Sep 21, public events are organized by local peace associations, supported by the municipality, to commemorate the International Day of Peace.

The Mayors for Peace official social media accounts not only introduce Executive Cities but also present a variety of news stories with photos and images. Please follow us!

🐦 Mayors for Peace official Twitter account (@Mayors4Peace)
<https://twitter.com/Mayors4Peace>

📘 Mayors for Peace official Facebook account (@mayorsforpeace)
<https://www.facebook.com/mayorsforpeace>

Regional chapter activities

● French Chapter

Sport and Peace: The Mayor of Grigny meets the Mayor of Granollers in the framework of Sport!OP!

Report by Ms. Loréna Schlicht, AFCD RP–Mayors for Peace France

On December 15, 2022, Mr. Philippe Rio, Mayor of Grigny and President of Mayors for Peace French Chapter (AFCD RP), visited Granollers, Spain, a Mayors for Peace Vice President City. This visit was arranged as part of “Sport!OP!” (Opportunities for the Inclusion of Vulnerable Youth through Sport)—a Europe-wide exchange project on sports practices within the Erasmus+ program, EU’s program to support education, training, youth and sport in Europe. Implemented specifically in six different regions in Europe (Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, France, Spain and Sweden), Sport!OP! aims to improve the well-being of vulnerable youth by building resilience and developing social skills by formulating local strategies to utilize sport participation as a vehicle for social inclusion.



Photos: courtesy of AFCD RP–Mayors for Peace France

Mayor Rio, who in 2020 had welcomed the then Mayor of Granollers, Mr. Josep Mayoral, and a Sport!OP! delegation in Grigny, visited Granollers this time and met the current mayor, Mayor Alba Barnusell, as well as Former Mayor Mayoral. Philippe Louison, Deputy Head for Sport at the City of Grigny, represented Mayor Rio at final conferences during the visit.

European cooperation is woven through these initiatives for peace, and we will continue forging peaceful links with representatives of foreign cities.

Please send us a report on your city’s peace activities

Help us tell other members what you are doing! Please send the Secretariat a short report on a peace activity or initiative by your city based on the Action Plan so that we can share it on our [website](#) or the News Flash. Reports on your city’s activity or initiative that stimulate youth to be engaged in peace activities or promote ‘the culture of peace’ are especially welcome! We look forward to receiving ones!

Email: mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp

*Please write a **SHORT** (up to 200 words long) report in English, and send it to the above email address with photos (if any). Please include key information such as the date, venue, description, and result.

Mayors for Peace member cities: 8,234 cities in 166 countries/regions

On January 1, we gained 6 new member cities, bringing our total membership to 8,234. We thank all involved in promoting expanded membership for their invaluable support. Below is the breakdown of the new members.

Country/Region	New Members	Total No.	Remarks
Austria	Attnang-Puchheim	121	Thanks to efforts by Puchheim, a member city in Germany (see page 2).
Canada	Terrebonne	112	
Germany	Glienicke/Nordbahn and Niefem-Öschelbronn	845	Thanks to efforts by Hannover, a Vice President and Lead City.
Hungary	Zalakaros	7	Thanks to efforts by Puchheim, a member city in Germany (see page 2).
UK	Skipton	87	Thanks to efforts by Bike for Peace, a peace organization in Norway.

6 new cities from 5 countries

- Austria** 1 city
- Canada** 1 city
- Germany** 2 cities
- Hungary** 1 city
- UK** 1 city

Member Cities
8,234 member cities
166 countries & regions
 As of January 1, 2023

Help us achieve 10,000 member cities!

List of new members (PDF): https://www.mayorsforpeace.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/file-2212-newmembers2301_en.pdf

Membership by country (PDF): https://www.mayorsforpeace.org/wp-content/uploads/monthly/file-07_membership_by_country_en.pdf

Help us achieve 10,000 member cities!

Mayors for Peace aims to achieve **10,000 member cities** to foster international public support for the realization of a world without nuclear weapons. Invite other cities in your country, as well as your sister cities and any other cities with which you have relations to join Mayors for Peace. You can download a letter of request and document pack below.

The document pack is available in 10 different languages: Chinese, English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish.

Letters of request to join Mayors for Peace and document pack <https://www.mayorsforpeace.org/en/about-us/resources/#recruit>

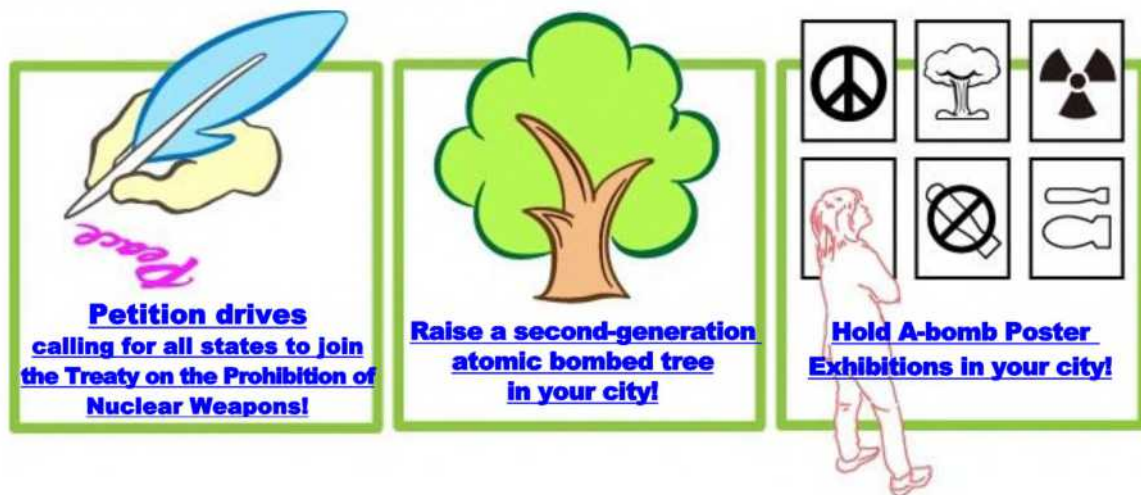
Your continued cooperation is highly appreciated!

Request to implement initiatives outlined in the Mayors for Peace Action Plan

At the 12th Executive Conference of Mayors for Peace held online in July 2021, we adopted the latest Action Plan (2021–2025). Together, let us continue our utmost efforts toward our ultimate goal of realizing lasting world peace. Please implement initiatives outlined in the Action Plan within your own municipality or regional group.

🔗 Mayors for Peace Action Plan (PDF):
https://www.mayorsforpeace.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/file-PX_Vision_Action_Plan_en.pdf

🔗 Initiatives implemented under the Action Plan:
<https://www.mayorsforpeace.org/en/visions/initiatives/>



Call for input: examples of peace education initiatives

The Mayors for Peace Secretariat has been seeking examples of peace education initiatives conducted by any organization (city government/school/NGO, etc.) in Mayors for Peace member cities. The Mayors for Peace Secretariat accepts reports on a rolling basis, so please send your report whenever your project is completed. The submitted reports will be posted on our website and in the Mayors for Peace News Flash as a source of information for other member cities that are planning to launch their own peace education programs.

🔗 Call for Input on the Mayors for Peace website:
<https://www.mayorsforpeace.org/en/visions/initiatives/edu-examples/>

**A closer look at the “World’s Fissile Material Inventory in 2022” Part 2
Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition, Nagasaki University (RECNA)**

Global Inventory of Separated Plutonium and Highly Enriched Uranium

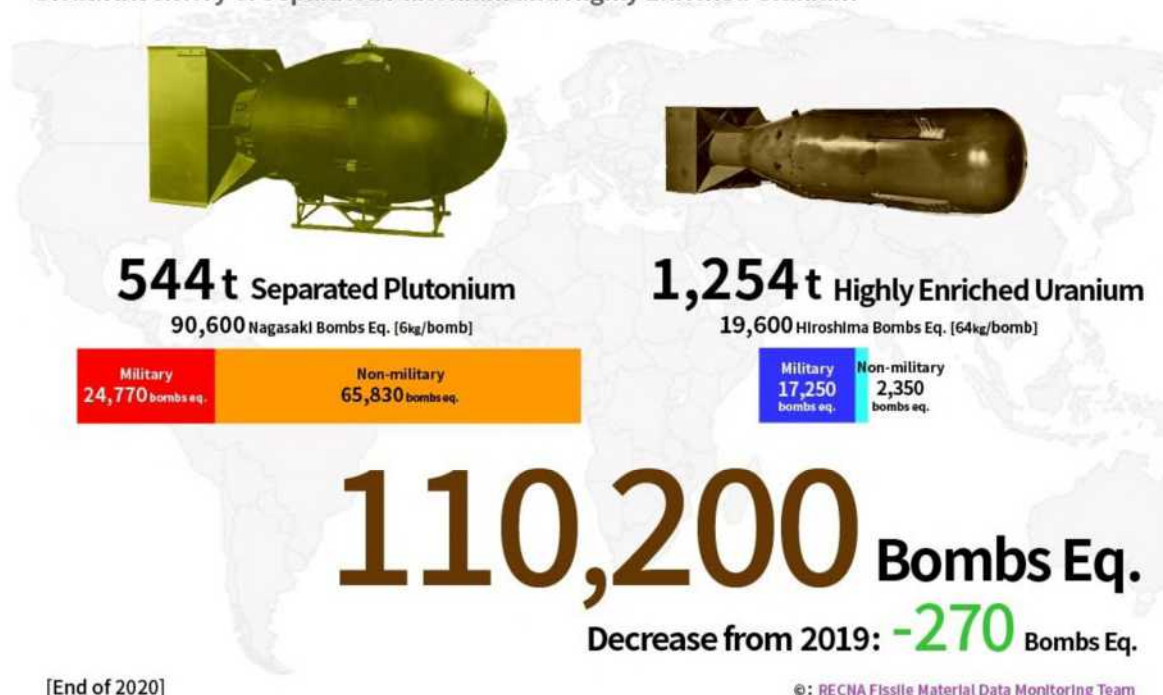


Image: courtesy of RECNA

Some special materials are indispensable for producing nuclear weapons: highly enriched uranium (HEU) and plutonium. As shown below, as of the end of 2020, there are 1,254 tons of HEU and 544 tons of separated plutonium in the world, from which we can produce more than 110,000 Hiroshima- and Nagasaki-type bombs. In this article, we will explain in detail what HEU and plutonium are.

Uranium is an element that exists in nature with a number of isotopes. Most of uranium (99.3%) that exists in nature is less fissionable uranium-238, while only 0.7% of uranium is fissile: uranium-235. Natural uranium cannot be used as materials for producing nuclear weapons or fueling power reactors as it is. The ratio of uranium-235 therefore needs to be increased in a process known as uranium enrichment. Uranium enriched to 90% or more is weapons-grade material, but uranium enriched to 20% or more is considered to be usable for nuclear weapons as well. This is called highly enriched uranium (HEU). On the other hand, the nuclear fuel installed in ordinary nuclear power plants contains uranium enriched to about 3 to 5%, and is called low-enriched uranium (LEU).

Plutonium, in contrast, does not exist in nature, and is automatically produced when nuclear reactors are operated. The method of extracting plutonium from spent fuel is called reprocessing. The plutonium extracted from ordinary nuclear power plants is called reactor-grade plutonium, which some of you might consider as unsuitable for nuclear weapons production unlike purer weapon-grade plutonium. But this is not accurate. We could produce nuclear weapons even with reactor-grade plutonium.

For more detailed information, please visit RECNA’s website:
<https://www.recna.nagasaki-u.ac.jp/recna/en-topics/41356>

Peace-related news from Hiroshima

(Provided by the Chugoku Shimbun Hiroshima Peace Media Center)

We all have welcomed in 2023 even as the Ukraine crisis remains unresolved and the danger of nuclear weapons' use somewhere in the world continues to rise. In this new year, marking the 78th anniversary of the atomic bombings, the end of the coronavirus pandemic is still nowhere in sight.

This coming May, the summit meeting of the G7 (Group of Seven industrialized nations) will be held in Hiroshima. The seven nations scheduled to gather in the A-bombed city comprise nuclear weapons states and nations that have made the decision to rely on nuclear deterrence provided by their allies. All of the members maintain a passive approach with respect to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). To the leaders of those countries, Hiroshima and Nagasaki are called upon to communicate the message that nuclear weapons are unacceptable regardless of the country possessing them. Against that backdrop, the second meeting of States Parties to the TPNW is scheduled to be held in New York City later this year. That gathering represents the next step in further strengthening the prohibition of nuclear weapons.

Any use of nuclear weapons ever again would bring about tragic and devastating consequences. So long as even a single nuclear weapon exists, there is a possibility it will be used. We must all face up to that reality. This year will put Hiroshima's words and actions to the test. January 1, 2023, marked the 15th year since the establishment of the Chugoku Shimbun Hiroshima Peace Media Center. The aim of the center's founding was wide-ranging communication of the newspaper's reporting on the atomic bombings and peace through the internet, not only in Hiroshima Prefecture and its surrounding areas but throughout Japan and the rest of the world. We hope to further our efforts as a source of information that endeavors to support members of the public in conveying their message of peace from Hiroshima.

Please access the following websites and read our peace-related news.

Tsunehiro Tomoda from Osaka, who became an A-bomb orphan at age of 9, tries to find his grandmother's grave in Hiroshima again to show his appreciation to her, after telling of his bombing experience at his old school
<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=126826>

Participants of international conference in New Zealand entrust 1,000 paper cranes to Ms. Tanaka, A-bomb survivor, pledging to abolish nuclear weapons
<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=126837>

Shedding light on Chinese A-bomb survivors — Volunteer guides form group with plan to establish memorial monument
<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=126834>

Junior Writers Reporting: Five months to the Hiroshima Summit—Conveying the memories of the atomic bombing in foreign language
<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?junior=2023>

Striving to fill voids in Hiroshima—In a first, photo of Chinese student exposed to A-bombing at women's dormitory registered with Hiroshima Peace Memorial Hall
<https://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=127294>

New audio-visual teaching materials for peace education available online

“Widely convey the realities of the atomic bombings and war” is one of the initiatives Mayors for Peace advocates in the “Mayors for Peace Action Plan (2021–2025).” We hope you could use the below audio-visual teaching materials for peace education as a tool for passing down the *hibakusha*’s experiences of the atomic bombings to as many people as possible and having them share in the *hibakusha*’s sincere desire for the abolition of nuclear weapons

Hiroshima Television Corporation (HTV), television station headquartered in Hiroshima City, has created new audio-visual teaching materials for peace education, utilizing the past documentaries on what happened on August 6th, 1945.

As a broadcast station in the city where the first atomic bomb was dropped over humanity, HTV has been reporting on the horrors of what nuclear weapons bring to humankind since its establishment about 60 years ago. In cooperation with the Hiroshima Municipal Board of Education, HTV has remade some of these programs as teaching materials to share how people have suffered from the atomic bombing with educational institutions around the world.

We hope many people will make use of these audio-visual teaching materials for peace education.

The teaching materials can be accessed from the following website.

🔗 “What we can learn from Hiroshima: HTV teaching materials for peace” (HTV website): <https://www.htv.jp/hiroshimalearn/en/>



Website Homepage
Image: courtesy of Hiroshima Television Corporation

Mayors for Peace Official Social Media Accounts

<Twitter>  @Mayors4Peace
<https://twitter.com/Mayors4Peace>



<Facebook>  @mayorsforpeace
<https://www.facebook.com/mayorsforpeace>



🔗 The latest and archived issues of Mayors for Peace News Flash are available at: <https://www.mayorsforpeace.org/en/news/newsflashes/>

If you have any comments or questions, please contact us at:

Mayors for Peace Secretariat
1-5 Nakajima-cho, Naka-ku, Hiroshima 730-0811 Japan
Tel: +81-82-242-7821 Fax: +81-82-242-7452
Email: mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp

Mayors for Peace Joint Appeal **on the invasion of Ukraine as it approaches the one-year mark:** *What must be done to prevent a third nuclear attack*

February 14, 2023

It has been almost one year since the Russian invasion of Ukraine began. As representatives of Mayors for Peace, we express our grave concern for the immeasurable suffering that this protracted war continues to bring to innocent citizens, and offer our sincerest condolences to all the victims of this war.

Russia's repeated threats to use nuclear weapons, which began immediately following the invasion, sent shivers throughout the globe and people were left to face a harsh truth: the imminent likelihood of nuclear war. Yet in response, the dangerous theory of nuclear deterrence, which attempts to justify the existence of such weapons, has only gained further momentum. This year, the Doomsday Clock was reset to 90 seconds to midnight. It is the closest the clock has ever come to potential human annihilation, highlighting the unprecedented global danger we now face.

78 years ago, nuclear weapons were used to attack Hiroshima and Nagasaki in warfare, ruthlessly taking more than 210,000 precious lives by the end of that year. Those who barely managed to survive were left with deep psychological and physical wounds that still have yet to heal. The *hibakusha* continue to suffer to this day, especially from the harmful effects of radiation. Should another nuclear weapon be used even once, cities and their citizens will be subject to indiscriminate destruction, and all living things on Earth will suffer from its catastrophic consequences.

This absolute evil and unacceptable violation of human dignity must never, ever be repeated. The risk of creating another Hiroshima and Nagasaki is looming now. We, representatives of Mayors for Peace, a network composed of mayors of local governments, the most immediate presence to citizens, and of the atomic-bombed cities, strongly raise our voices in protest to state:

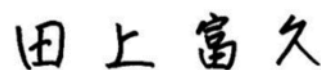
Nuclear weapons must never be used.

The only guarantee to protect humanity and the planet from the threat of nuclear weapons is their total elimination.

We stand in solidarity to prevent the current situation from escalating into nuclear war and demand a swift end to this agonizing war by building mutual trust through dialogue. Mayors for Peace will spare no efforts to work with our over 8,200 member cities and their citizens in 166 countries and regions all around the world to support the courageous actions of policymakers everywhere toward the realization of a peaceful, nuclear-weapon-free world.



MATSUI Kazumi
President of Mayors for Peace
Mayor of Hiroshima



TAUE Tomihisa
Vice President of Mayors for Peace
Mayor of Nagasaki



National Malaya & Borneo Veterans Association Australia Inc South Australia & Northern Territory Branch

National Patron: General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK AC(Mil) CVO MC (ret'd)
SA/NT Patron: Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC, Governor of South Australia

SA/NT-005/23
30 January 2023

His Worship Mr Michael Coxon
Mayor of West Torrens
165 Sir Donald Bradman Drive
HILTON SA 5033

Your Worship

PUBLICATION IN THE SARAWAK MUSEUM JOURNAL

Firstly, on behalf of our Branch members, we wish you and all members of Council a happy new year, and wish to let you know how much we appreciate your ongoing support for our commemorative service each August.

The South Australia & Northern Territory Branch, NMBVAA has established a strong connection with Sarawak, Malaysia through our reunion visits, tree-planting ceremonies and various services of commemoration.

We have established a strong affiliation with such bodies as the Sarawak Tourism Federation, the Sarawak Heritage Development Committee and the Sarawak Veterans' Association, and our activities are generously supported by our good friend Datuk Dr Philip Ting AM PGBK, the Australian Honorary Consul to Sarawak.

We provide financial support to three schools in the Bau District – SK Suba Buan, SK Stass and SK Serabak – which are located on sites near the Sarawak-Kalimantan border where Australian force elements established defensive positions during Confrontation. And we are currently supporting the creation of a proposed Sarawak Defenders Heritage Trail, marking the sites of Australian defensive positions during Confrontation.

National Malaya & Borneo Veterans Association Australia Inc || South Australia & Northern Territory Branch
PO Box 5 SMITHFIELD SA 5114 || 0422 018 276 || paul.rosenzweig@hotmail.com
https://www.nmbvaa.org.au/sa_nt.php

National Malaya & Borneo Veterans Association Australia Inc
South Australia & Northern Territory Branch

This relationship honours the service of Australian military forces in Sarawak in 1965 and 1966 during the period of the Indonesian Confrontation with Malaysia and, in particular, the eleven Australians who died as a result of operational service in defence of Sarawak.

I am pleased to advise that the Sarawak Museum Department has just published my research paper in the *Sarawak Museum Journal*. The citation details are as follows:

Rosenzweig, PA (2022) 'In our Neighbours' Soil our Anzacs Sleep'.
The Sarawak Museum Journal, LXXXV (106) (December 2022): 47-75.
Sarawak Museum Department, State of Sarawak, Malaysia.

I have attached a copy of this paper for yourself and Council members, together with the February edition of our newsletter 'The Observation Post'.

Through our various activities, the SA & NT Branch remains committed to honouring Australian service and sacrifice during the post-WW2 Malayan wars.

Yours sincerely

Paul Rosenzweig

Paul A Rosenzweig OAM

Major, Australian Regular Army (ret'd)

President

National Malaya & Borneo Veterans Association Australia Inc

South Australia & Northern Territory Branch

<https://www.facebook.com/NMBVAAadelaide/>

The Sarawak Museum Journal, LXXXV (106) (2022): 47-75

IN OUR NEIGHBOURS' SOIL OUR ANZACS SLEEP

Paul A Rosenzweig OAM FMHSA

PO Box 5, Smithfield,
South Australia 5114,
Australia.

paul.rosenzweig@hotmail.com

ABSTRACT

The Sarawak Heroes Memorial Park in Kuching contains a black marble plaque, installed on 29 August 2016, honouring the Australian military personnel who died during the Indonesian Confrontation with Malaysia. Incomplete records however, led to this plaque containing minor errors and omissions. Three years later, as a member of the South Australia and Northern Territory Branch of the National Malaya and Borneo Veterans Association of Australia Inc, I was invited to deliver a commemorative address for Malaya-Borneo Veterans Day in Kuching on 29 August 2019. This presented the opportunity to extensively research the fallen, and a new plaque was installed prior to this ceremony. My address, included here, drew attention to the 50 Australian fallen from the Malayan wars who remain buried overseas, acknowledging Malaysia and Singapore for looking after our 'Anzacs'. In particular, of the Australians who died during Confrontation, I noted that eight died in Sarawak (while a further three died after being evacuated from Sarawak). This paper includes this commemorative address, followed by an analysis of the circumstances of each of the eleven Australian defenders of Sarawak in 1965-66 who lost their lives. Concluding this research, the graves of the Australian fallen in Kranji Military Cemetery in Singapore were visited and photographed in December 2019, including the four Australian soldiers who died in Sarawak and remain buried overseas. The significance of the 2019 ceremony in Kuching has been heightened by the inability of veterans to schedule any further reunion visits because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Keywords: Confrontation, Veterans, Commemoration, Australia, Sarawak, Sacrifice

Rosenzweig P. A.

INTRODUCTION

At the Sarawak Heroes Memorial Park in Kuching on 29 August 2019, I had the privilege of delivering a commemorative address for Malaya-Borneo Veterans Day. This address was significant as it honoured the Australians who died on operational service in Sarawak, or after being evacuated from Sarawak, during the Indonesian Confrontation with Malaysia, and for the first time drew attention to the 50 Australian fallen from the Malayan wars who remain buried overseas.

In 2011, the Australian Department of Veterans' Affairs had designated 31 August (the date of Malayan Independence in 1957) as the official date of commemoration for the Malayan Emergency and the Indonesian Confrontation with Malaysia. Since that time, the South Australia and Northern Territory Branch of the National Malaya and Borneo Veterans Association Australia Inc (NMBVAA) has held a Malaya-Borneo Veterans Day commemoration in Adelaide, South Australia each year towards the end of August. They have also held ceremonies in Kuching in August 2016 and August 2019 to mark the anniversaries of the end of the Malayan Emergency in 1960 and Confrontation in 1966.

The 2019 ceremony was conducted jointly by Australian and New Zealand veteran groups in the presence of the Australian High Commissioner to Malaysia Mr Andrew Goledzinowski AM and the New Zealand High Commissioner Mr Hunter Nottage. The Borneo Post reported:

Army veterans from Australia and New Zealand gathered at the Heroes' Cemetery, Jalan Taman Budaya here yesterday to remember their comrades who laid down their lives during the Confrontation with Indonesia.¹

The NMBVAA and its New Zealand equivalent, the Malayan Veterans Association, have played a most important role in maintaining and raising public awareness of the two-post war campaigns on the Malay Peninsula and in Borneo, while at the same time supporting the families and veterans of these undeclared wars. The close relationship stems from a time when New Zealand almost joined the Australian federation in 1901, and extends to the present day where we continue to enjoy a comprehensive bilateral relationship and security partnership. Australia and New Zealand have a proud tradition of joint military deployments, beginning with the combined Australasian force which landed on the Gallipoli Peninsula in 1915 which had the title 'Australian and New Zealand Army Corps', and was designated by the acronym 'ANZAC'. This established the spirit of ANZAC,

¹ Borneo Post, 30 August 2019.

and this partnership has stood the two nations in good stead for over a century. Wherever our respective Service personnel have gathered, on operations or socially, there has been an ANZAC Club or spirited competition of some sort. It is a source of pride that Australian and New Zealand military personnel have become known by the colloquial name 'Anzacs'. The ceremony was described as follows:

Australian and New Zealand army veterans observed a minute of silence, recited an ode to their fallen comrades and sounded the last post. They also sang the national anthems of Malaysia, Australia and New Zealand and recited prayers before dispersing by Marching [off] the Colours.²

A significant aspect of this commemoration was the unveiling of an updated NMBVAA plaque in the Heroes Memorial Park honouring the Australian Service personnel who died during the period of Confrontation (Figure 1).



Figure 1: This plaque was installed in the Sarawak Heroes Memorial Park in Kuching by the SA and NT Branch of the National Malaya Borneo Veterans Association of Australia (in 2016, updated 2019) to honour the Australians who lost their lives on operational service during the period of the Indonesian Confrontation with Malaysia.

² Borneo Post, 30 August 2019.

Rosenzweig P. A.

My commemorative address drew attention to the 50 Australian fallen from these Malayan wars who remain buried overseas – 37 in Malaysia and 13 in Singapore. In particular, of the Australians who lost their lives on operational service during Confrontation, eight died in Sarawak and a further three died after being medically evacuated from Sarawak.

Dato' Lim Kian Hock (Heritage Adviser, Sarawak Tourism Federation), Dr Datuk Philip Ting AM (Honorary Australian Consul to Sarawak) and Fiona Marcus Raja (Deputy President, Sarawak Tourism Federation and Chairman, STF Heritage Development Committee) played key roles in arranging and coordinating the ceremony. The Honourable Datuk Lee Kim Shin BBS PJK MN MLA, Member of the Sarawak State Legislative Assembly and Assistant Minister for Tourism, Art and Culture (Sarawak) gave a keynote address and placed a Commonwealth wreath (Figure 2).



Figure 2: The Honourable Datuk Lee Kim Shin BBS PJK MN MLA, Member of the Sarawak State Legislative Assembly and Assistant Minister for Tourism, Art and Culture (Sarawak), a keynote speaker and wreath-layer in the Malaya-Borneo Veterans Day commemorative service at the Sarawak Heroes Memorial Park in Kuching on 29 August 2019.

In retrospect, the significance of this 2019 ceremony in Kuching has been heightened by the inability of Australian veterans to schedule any further reunion visits because of the coronavirus pandemic.

METHODS

Assessing the Casualties

In Australia, the post-war Malayan campaigns have long been overshadowed by Australia's greater and costlier commitment to the Vietnam War. After a National Malaya and Borneo Veterans Association was established in the United Kingdom, a branch was established in Australia in June 1995, subsequently becoming an incorporated association in its own right. The Association offers membership to Australian and Allied ex-Armed Forces personnel (and widows, widowers, family and friends) who served in the prescribed areas of Malaya, Singapore and Borneo during World War 2, during the Malayan Emergency and the Indonesian Confrontation with Malaysia, on Singapore, on the Malay Peninsula post-1966, with Rifle Company Butterworth, and in broader regional deployments including East Timor/Timor Leste. Like equivalent ex-Service organisations, the NMBVAA has pledged to remember the fallen, and honour the living through welfare and advocacy services.

Over the past decade, the South Australia and Northern Territory Branch of the NMBVAA has held regular commemorative services in Adelaide and in Kuching, where the promise to remember the fallen is solemnly repeated. The Branch has established two Malaya-Borneo memorials in Adelaide in South Australia: one on the Adelaide Rifles Walkway, unveiled on 10 August 2003, and a second in the West Torrens War Memorial Gardens, unveiled on 22 April 2017.

In August 2016, the Branch conducted a reunion visit to Kuching. The primary purpose of the trip was to conduct a service of commemoration to mark the 50th Anniversary of the end of the Indonesian Confrontation with Malaysia in 1966. This service was held at the Sarawak Heroes Memorial Park in Jalan Taman Budaya on Friday 29 August. In this ceremony, a large black granite Confrontation memorial plaque was unveiled. A Catafalque Party for the ceremony comprised Air Force Cadets from No 604 Squadron AAFC in Adelaide. This plaque, only the second to have been installed there, was intended to honour all Australians who died during Confrontation – in northern Borneo from 24 December 1962, on the Malay Peninsula from 17 August 1964, and in contiguous waters including the Strait of Malacca, until the signing of the Malaysia-Indonesia Peace Agreement or 'Jakarta Accord' at Istana Merdeka in Jakarta on 11 August 1966.³

The Branch has gone to great lengths to ensure the names of the Australian fallen from the Malayan Emergency and Confrontation have been recorded as accurately as possible, including some who died outside the prescribed dates of these campaigns. It was subsequently discovered that the plaque originally installed in the Heroes Memorial Park in

³ The document was signed by Deputy Prime Minister Tun Abdul Razak (Malaysia) and Foreign Minister Adam Malik (Indonesia). This agreement also revived the Treaty of Friendship dating from 1959.

Rosenzweig P. A.

2016 had several minor errors and omissions. The first aspect of the methodology was to conduct extensive research to be able to propose a series of amendments, in order to have an updated plaque installed in time for the 2019 reunion visit.

Honouring the Fallen

At the Sarawak Heroes Memorial Park in Kuching on 29 August 2019, I delivered an address at the combined Malaya-Borneo Veterans Day service of commemoration. This was given in response to the addresses of the Australian and New Zealand High Commissioners to Malaysia. Addresses of this nature typically reflect on the historiography of the campaigns, or the socio-political consequences of victories and defeats. Instead, I chose to highlight the fact that 50 Australian fallen from the Malayan wars still remain buried overseas.

To the families of the fallen, and to their mates who live still, there is solace to be found in visiting a gravesite to pay respects. The post-war Malayan campaigns are not well known in Australia, and this lack of recognition plus the relative inability to visit a grave, has been traumatic for families. A degree of recognition came in 2011 with the formal creation of 'Malaya-Borneo Veterans Day', and various branches of the NMBVAA have used this as a focus for commemoration. The next event of significance came on 2 June 2016, when two RAAF C-17A Globemaster aircraft brought home the remains of 33 Australian Service personnel and dependents from cemeteries at Terendak in Malaysia and Kranji in Singapore in Operation 'Reunite'. The majority were fallen from the Vietnam War, but among them were three soldiers originally buried in Terendak Military Cemetery in Malacca who had died during Confrontation.

Nevertheless, many families still had loved ones from the Malayan campaigns buried overseas and had actively campaigned to have their remains repatriated, however this was not supported by policy. This was tragic enough, but the wound was somewhat deepened by the fact that these casualties of the undeclared Malayan wars are not buried in an actual war cemetery.

This address is published below, followed by an analysis of the circumstances of each of the eleven Australian soldiers serving in Sarawak in 1965-66 who lost their lives.

Visiting the Graves

To complete the research on the fallen, the graves of the Australian fallen in Kranji Military Cemetery in Singapore were visited and photographed in December 2019, including the

four Australian soldiers who died in Sarawak and remain buried overseas. The fallen from the Malayan wars are not listed online by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, so a personal visit allowed for confirmation of personal details recorded on the headstones and photography, for the benefit of the NMBVAA historical record and families who are unable to make such a visit.

COMMEMORATIVE ADDRESS – 29 AUGUST 2019

*Your Excellencies, distinguished guests, veterans, ladies and gentlemen
On behalf of our respective Presidents and members of the National Malaya and Borneo Veterans Association of Australia and the New Zealand Malaya Veterans Association, I wish to record our thanks to our ANZAC High Commissioners Andrew Goledzinowski AM and Hunter Nottage for their kind words.*

Today as we gather to commemorate these two post-war military campaigns, I'd like to focus briefly on our fallen.

During the prescribed period of the Emergency up to 31 July 1960, 39 Australian servicemen lost their lives. A further six died on operational service in Malaya and Singapore in the period immediately following the closing date for this campaign.

During the general period of the Indonesian Confrontation with Malaysia, 26 Australians lost their lives on operational service.

Of the total of 71 fallen from the era, four were members of the RAN, thirteen were members of the RAAF, and 54 were Army.

And Confrontation wasn't just confined to the Malay Peninsula: of those who died, five died in Sabah and eight died in Sarawak.⁴

Burials

Of the 45 Australian fallen from the Malayan Emergency and immediately following: one was buried at sea in Malayan waters; one was lost in an aircraft crash in the South China Sea; and one has no grave identified.

The remainder were buried in a variety of places, and it might surprise most people that none of these 42 are at rest in Australia.

⁴ A further two died in Australia, and one died in Singapore, after being medically evacuated from Sarawak.

Rosenzweig P. A.

Of the Australian fallen from the period of Confrontation: two were lost at sea and have no known grave.

Five were returned to Australia for burial, and four were cremated in Singapore and repatriated. Two died in Australia and were buried locally.

Three were buried in Terendak Military Cemetery in Malacca, but have since been repatriated.

For four decades, two had no known grave, but their remains were subsequently recovered and repatriated in April 2010.

Seven were buried in Ulu Pandan Cemetery in Singapore, and in 1975 were exhumed and re-interred in Kranji Military Cemetery. One remains buried in Kuala Lumpur.

Kranji Military Cemetery

One of the more tragic of the deaths – the first member of Australia's Special Air Service Regiment to die on active service – resulted not from enemy action, but through being gored by a rogue elephant.

Paul Denehey was a Signaller from 1 Squadron SAS, deployed with patrol 12 on Operation 'Sharp Look' in the mountainous hinterland of Sabah, on the border with Indonesian Kalimantan.⁵

Lance-Corporal Denehey was buried with full military honours in the Ulu Pandan Military Cemetery in Singapore on 12 June 1965.

By the early 1970s, the Singapore Government was finding it necessary to close down Ulu Pandan Cemetery to make way for urban development. Accordingly, around September 1975 families were notified of a choice of alternative options to be carried out at public expense, which could have led to Paul's remains being repatriated.

However, the letter of offer was received by the family one month after the closing date for responses. As a result, Lance-Corporal Denehey was one of the many Servicemen and their families who were exhumed and re-interred in Kranji Military Cemetery in Singapore.

Paul's slow, lingering death over five days in the jungle may have been tragic enough, but his mother Kathleen died in 1994 and it was her dying wish that her son's remains would one day come home.

⁵ 37562 Lance-Corporal Paul Harold Denehey, Signaller (Royal Australian Corps of Signals), 1 Squadron, Special Air Service Regiment, died in Sabah on 6 June 1965.

Lance-Corporal Denehey still remains at rest in Kranji Military Cemetery today. He is one of 50 Australian fallen from the Malayan wars – 42 from the Emergency and 8 from Confrontation – who remain buried overseas:

In Malaysia:

28 have graves in the Taiping (Kamunting Road) Christian Cemetery in Perak

6 are buried in the Penang (Western Road) Cemetery

3 are buried in the Kuala Lumpur (Cheras Road) Civil Cemetery

In Singapore:

13 are buried in Kranji Military Cemetery: 6 from the Emergency and 7 from Confrontation

Commemoration

While we honour the sacrifice of our 71 Australians who died on operational service, we also recall the five who have no known grave. We also particularly recall the 50 who remain at rest overseas in the soil of our neighbours – including 37 in Malaysia – and we thank you for looking after our Anzacs. Lest we Forget (Figure 3)



Figure 3: During the Malaya-Borneo Veterans Day commemorative service at the Sarawak Heroes Memorial Park in Kuching on 29 August 2019, the Australian High Commissioner to Malaysia Mr Andrew Golezdzinowski AM placed a wreath at the SA and NT Branch NMBVAA plaque, which lists the names of the Australians who died during the period of the Indonesian Confrontation with Malaysia.

Rosenzweig P. A.

DISCUSSION

Defence of Sarawak, 1965-66

During Confrontation, Australia's commitment to operations on the Malay Peninsula, in northern Borneo and in the contiguous waters of Malaysia and Singapore including the Strait of Malacca, fell within the context of its membership of the British Commonwealth Far East Strategic Reserve (BCFESR): see Horner (1990) Chapter 7 and Dennis and Grey (1996) for further information.

In particular, throughout 1965 and 1966 Australian ground troops were assigned to West Brigade which was based in the First Division of Sarawak. Australian soldiers occupied a series of defensive positions, responsible for defending their allocated areas of responsibility within Sarawak and on the Sarawak-Kalimantan border. The mission of the Commonwealth military forces was to deny any intrusion into Sarawak. In particular, the Australian infantry battalions established and occupied fortified company and platoon patrol bases astride some of the traditional trading routes between Indonesian Kalimantan and Bau/Kuching. Their task was to protect the Sarawak capital by defending the approaches to Bau – which was recognised as 'the key to the door of Kuching'.

Each of the two successive Australian infantry battalions defended the line of approach from Indonesian territory to Kuching by taking responsibility for a sector of the Sarawak-Indonesian border, at least 20 km in length.

Defence in Depth – Bau

The 3rd and 4th Battalions of the Royal Australian Regiment were successively based at 'Cambrai Camp' in Bau in 1965 and 1966 respectively – this formed the 'depth zone' in the Australian concept of defence.

The 3rd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment (3RAR) had begun its second tour of Malaya in July 1963, joining the 28th Commonwealth Independent Infantry Brigade at Terendak on the Malay Peninsula. This Brigade was a Commonwealth formation of the Far East Strategic Reserve, formed in Malaya on 16 September 1955 comprising forces from Australia, New Zealand and the UK – primarily three infantry battalions and a British field artillery regiment with an Australian battery.⁶ In February 1964, the battalion was deployed on searches and anti-terrorist operations on the Thai-Malay

⁶ On 31 October 1971 the Brigade ceased to exist when it relocated to Singapore and was renamed '28 ANZUK Infantry Brigade Group' on 1 November 1971.

border. On 13 February 1965, 3RAR was warned for deployment to Borneo as part of a commitment of Australian troops from the 28th Commonwealth Brigade. The main body of the battalion embarked in Singapore and arrived in Kuching on 22 March. 3RAR assumed command from the 1st Battalion, 7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles on 23 March 1965, assuming responsibility for the Bau sector and 23 kilometres of the Sarawak- Kalimantan border.⁷

Headquarters 3RAR was based at Bau from March to July 1965, with Support Company; 2 Field Troop, Royal Australian Engineers, and a troop of the Royal Australian Signals Corps. 'D' Company (the battalion reserve) was based at Old Bau Camp; 'A' Company was based here during June and July 1965 when 'D' Company deployed to Kampung Stass.

The 4th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment (4 RAR) replaced 3RAR in the 28th Commonwealth Infantry Brigade in September 1965. The 4RAR main body departed Port Dickson on 20 April 1966, arriving in Sarawak on 26 April. On the morning of 26 April 1966, 4RAR assumed command from the 1st Battalion, 10th Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles and assumed responsibility for the Bau sector and 33 kilometres of border (the same sector 3RAR had been responsible for plus another 10 km to the north). The remainder of the battalion departed Port Dickson on 27 April and arrived in Sarawak on 28 April, and three rifle company groups were lifted by helicopter direct to their forward positions.⁸

Operating from fortified bases forward of Bau, the battalion carried out patrols on both sides of the border between April and August 1966. Headquarters 4RAR was based at Bau from April to September 1966, with Administration Company and Support Company elements, and 'D' Company (battalion reserve) and other support elements. 'A' Company was based here during June and July 1966 when 'D' Company deployed to Kampung Stass.

Forward Defence – Stass

Immediately upon arrival in Kuching, the three rifle companies of 3RAR were lifted by helicopter direct to their forward positions. These fortified company patrol bases formed the 'middle zone' in the Australian concept of defence. 'A' Company (company headquarters plus 1, 2 and 3 Platoons) established a patrol base near Kampung Stass from March to June 1965. This was the northernmost of 3RAR's three forward company positions, located close to the Sarawak-Kalimantan border and covering a

⁷ AWM: AWM95 Subclass 7/3 – Australian Army commanders diaries, "3 Battalion Royal Australian Regiment". • ⁸ AWM: AWM95 Subclass 7/4 – Australian Army commanders diaries, "4 Battalion Royal Australian Regiment".

Rosenzweig P. A.

major infiltration route, the Jagoi Ridge running between Stass and Serikin. The platoons established smaller patrol bases forward of the company base, forming the 'forward zone' in the Australian concept of defence.

'A' Company was relieved by 'D' Company (company headquarters plus 10, 11 and 12 Platoons) during June and July 1965. They were supported by an artillery Fire Support Base (one L5 105 mm Howitzer) established by 102 Field Battery, Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery. The following year, 'B' Company of 4RAR was based at this same site from April to August 1966.

Fatalities - Four Australian soldiers died in this general location.

† 5976 Sergeant Reginald John Weiland of 3 Platoon, 'A' Company, 3RAR was killed-in-action on 23 March 1965, the battalion's first day of operations in Sarawak, whilst leading a reconnaissance patrol from the Stass company base.⁹ *The Canberra Times* recorded: "In the brief period they have been in Borneo, the Australians have been fired on with mortars and small arms. A sergeant has been killed and two men wounded by booby traps".¹⁰

Corporal John Hyland was seriously wounded in the right leg, and Private Bill Lee was struck in the right arm by a fragment; Private Shaw received a fragment in his foot but was able to walk back to camp. The three were evacuated to Kuching General Hospital, for onward evacuation to Singapore.¹¹ Iban tracker Mudah Anak Jali, aged 19, received severe wounds and died while being carried back to the 3RAR base camp; the second Iban tracker Enggil anak Japing was not wounded.

Sergeant Weiland was a veteran of earlier service during World War 2 (army number 'WX23099') and with the British Commonwealth Occupation Force in Japan ('5976').¹² He transferred to the Australian Regular Army (ARA) upon its formation on 30 September 1947. Weiland received the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal in 1963.¹³ Before deploying to Borneo, he served on the Malay Peninsula with 3RAR based at Terendak Army Camp in Malacca, and participated in counter-terrorist patrols on the Thai-Malay border.¹⁴

Sergeant Weiland emplaned in Singapore on 9 March 1965 and arrived in Kuching the same day.¹⁵ Weiland was the first Australian casualty in operations on Borneo during Confrontation, killed instantly by a concealed M2A3 anti-personnel landmine whilst leading a reconnaissance patrol from the Stass base forward of Serikin, on

⁹ Horner (1990) pp 163-164; *Roll of Honour in Kirkland* (1990) p 110; Dennis and Grey (1996) pp 266, 268, *Roll of Honour* p 338; Smith (1999) pp 34-35, 43, 178; Smith (2004) p 47; AWM photograph P01499.008, <https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/C216967> • ¹⁰ *The Canberra Times* 25 March 1965, p 1. • ¹¹ AWM: AWM95 Subclass 7/3/46 (3RAR Commander's Diary for March 1965). • ¹² NAA: B2458, 5976 'Weiland, Reginald John [59020, WX23099, WP80129]', item ID 5896957; Nominal roll in Smith, NC (2012) *Disarming the Menace – Australian soldiers with the British Commonwealth Occupation Forces Japan 1946-1952. Mostly Unsung, Victoria*, p 224. • ¹³ Commonwealth of Australia Gazette No 59 of 4 July 1963, p 2321. • ¹⁴ Nominal roll in Smith (2004) p 47. • ¹⁵ AWM: <https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/R2707588>

the Gunung Jagoi ridge close to the Sarawak-Kalimantan border. The media reported the incident: "In Kuching, unofficial reports said the booby trap had been a substantial blast coming through jungle from about waist height".¹⁶ The Canberra Times recorded the follow-up action that took place the next day:

*Australian troops have clashed with Indonesian guerrillas for the first time. The clash took place yesterday in the Bau district in the First Division of Sarawak, south-west of Kuching. The Australian party came under small arms fire from about 300 yards and immediately returned the fire. Artillery support was called for and the Indonesian guerrillas withdrew. The party, from the Third Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment was investigating the cause of Tuesday's explosion which killed an Australian sergeant, Reginald John Weiland and an Iban tracker and wounded two Australian soldiers.*¹⁷

† 1200029 Private Larry Richard Downes, a Rifleman in 3 Platoon, 'A' Company, 3RAR, was killed-in-action on 17 May 1965 during a reconnaissance patrol from the Stass company base near the Sarawak-Kalimantan border.¹⁸ The Canberra Times recorded:

*Two Australian soldiers were killed when they stepped on an Indonesian mine while on patrol here yesterday . . . a patrol of security forces operating against the Indonesians along the Sarawak border set off a concealed enemy mine which killed two of their number instantly.*¹⁹

Downes had enlisted in the Australian Regular Army in Queensland on 10 February 1964. He was posted to 3RAR on 24 September 1964, and served on the Malay Peninsula, including counter-terrorist patrols on the Thai-Malay border.²⁰ He emplaned in Singapore on 9 March 1965, and arrived in Kuching the same day.²¹ Downes was killed instantly when he stepped on a concealed land-mine:

As they approached a well known border crossing between Indonesia and Malaysia, used to infiltrate into the area, Larry stood on a

¹⁶ The Canberra Times 25 March 1965, p 1. • ¹⁷ The Canberra Times 26 March 1965, p 1. • ¹⁸ AWM: AWM95 Subclass 7/3/48 (3RAR Commander's Diary for May 1965); Horner (1990) p 164; Roll of Honour in Kirkland (1990) p 107; Dennis and Grey (1996) p 268, Roll of Honour p 338; Smith (1999) pp 43, 126; AWM photograph P01395.006, <https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/P11051861>. • ¹⁹ The Canberra Times 19 May 1965, p 1. • ²⁰ NAA: B2458, 1200029 'DOWNES, Larry Richard', item ID 3068900; Nominal roll in Smith (2004) p 21. • ²¹ AWM: <https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/R2706711>

Rosenzweig P. A.

*'jumping jack' land mine (an American WW2 M2A3 anti-personnel land mine) when he stepped off the track into the jungle.*²²

† 61207 Sergeant Vincent Phillip Vella of 3 Platoon, 'A' Company, 3RAR was killed-in-action whilst leading a reconnaissance patrol from the Stass company base to investigate a border-crossing point.²³ Vella had enlisted in Western Australia, and he too served on the Malay Peninsula and on the Thai-Malay border.²⁴ Sergeant Vella emplaned in Singapore on 9 March 1965 and arrived in Kuching the same day.²⁵

The Canberra Times recorded: "Two Australian soldiers were killed when they stepped on an Indonesian mine while on patrol here yesterday". The explosion of the American World War 2 surplus landmine killed Private Larry Downes instantly and fatally wounded Vella who was standing behind him. The report further noted: "The double fatality brought the Australian death toll to three since the battalion arrived in the Bau district on the western side of Sarawak last month".²⁶

† 342550 Corporal Peter Joseph John West of the Assault Pioneer Platoon, Support Company, 4RAR died near Stass the following year. West had enlisted in Victoria, and was a graduate of the Australian Army Apprentices School, Intake 6. He saw active service in 1955-57 during the Malayan Emergency with 7 Platoon, 'C' Company, 2RAR (army number '3/42550').²⁷ He then served on the Malay Peninsula with 4RAR in 1965-66.²⁸ Corporal West embarked for Sarawak on 23 April 1966, and arrived in Kuching on 26 April.²⁹

On 1 July 1966, the Assault Pioneers were conducting explosive blasting of trees to prepare a helicopter landing pad at the 'B' Company, 4RAR patrol base at Kampung Stass. Corporal West was very seriously injured in the head by a large falling branch.³⁰ He was evacuated by Sioux helicopter direct to Kuching General Hospital, but died of his wounds the following day.³¹

Forward Defence – Serikin

'C' Company of 3RAR (company headquarters plus 7, 8 and 9 Platoons) established a fortified patrol base near Kampung Serikin from March to July 1965 as the central of the three forward company positions. Platoon patrol bases with artillery Fire Support Bases

²² Simpson, R, 'ANZAC Biographies' – DOWNES, Private Larry Richard. • ²³ AWM: AWM95 Subclass 7/3/48 (3RAR Commander's Diary for May 1965); *The Canberra Times* 19 May 1965, p 1; 22 May 1965, p 27; Horner (1990) p 164; *Roll of Honour in Kirkland* (1990) p 110; Dennis and Grey (1996) p 268, *Roll of Honour* p 338; Smith (1999) pp 43-44, 176. • ²⁴ NAA: B2458, 61207 'VELLA, Vincent Phillip', item ID 3903280; *Nominal roll in Smith* (2004) p 46. • ²⁵ AWM: <https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/R2708444>. • ²⁶ *The Canberra Times* 19 May 1965, p 1. • ²⁷ AWM: A14477 *Malaya British General Service Medal Register – U to Z*; *Nominal roll in Smith, NC* (1989) *Mostly Unsung. Australia and The Commonwealth in the Malayan Emergency 1948-60. Mostly Unsung Military History Research and Publications*, Gardenvale, Victoria, p 120. • ²⁸ NAA: B2458, 342550 'West, Peter Joseph John', item ID 9547786; *Nominal roll in Smith* (2004) p 47. • ²⁹ AWM: <https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/R2708414>. • ³⁰ AWM: AWM95 Subclass 7/4/11 (4RAR Duty Officer's Log for July 1966). • ³¹ *The Canberra Times* 4 July 1966, p 1; *Roll of Honour in Kirkland* (1990) p 110; Dennis and Grey (1996) p 338; Smith (1999) pp 64, 178; Avery (2001) pp 105, 108, 207.

were established in sites such as Kampung Suba Buan and Kampung Krokong. The company was supported by an artillery Fire Support Base (two L5 105 mm Howitzers) established by 29 (Corunna) Light Battery, Royal Artillery. The Battery also established Fire Support Bases (one L5 105 mm Howitzer each) in direct support of 3RAR at Kampung Serabak, Kampung Suba Buan and Kampung Bokah.

Fatalities - One Australian soldier medically evacuated from this location died in Australia.

† 37746 Private Dennis Michael Millane, a Rifleman in 9 Platoon, 'C' Company, 3RAR had deplaned in Kuching on 14 April 1965, but was medically evacuated on 23 April with encephalitis, first to Singapore and then to Australia where he died on 27 August.³² Private Millane had enlisted in Victoria, and served with 3RAR on the Malay Peninsula and on the Thai-Malay border.³³ *The Straits Times* of 31 August 1965 carried the article, 'Aussie soldier dies':

*A soldier who contracted encephalitis in Sarawak in May has died in a Melbourne hospital. Private Dennis Michael Millane, 22, contracted the disease while serving with the 3rd. Bn., Royal Australian Regiment, in Sarawak.*³⁴

Forward Defence – Gumbang

'B' Company of 3RAR (company headquarters plus 4, 5 and 6 Platoons) established a fortified patrol base at 'Bukit Knuckle' near Kampung Gumbang from March to July 1965, the southern most company position. The company was supported by an artillery Fire Support Base (two L5 105 mm Howitzers) established by 29 (Corunna) Light Battery, Royal Artillery.

In 1966, between April and July, 'A' Company of 4RAR (company headquarters plus 1, 2 and 3 Platoons) moved to the same area but occupied a company patrol base in a different location, southeast of Kampung Gumbang, on a knife-edge ridge close to the border. This was the southernmost of the three 4RAR forward company positions, covering a major infiltration route. They were supported by elements from Mortar Platoon and the Assault Pioneer Platoon.

Then 'D' Company, 4RAR (company headquarters plus 10, 11 and 12 Platoons) was based here in July-August. The companies were supported by an artillery Fire

³² Smith (1999) pp 42-43, 154; Smith (2004) page 36. Not listed by Dennis and Grey (1996) p 338. AWM: <https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/R2707559> • ³³ NAA: B2458, 37746 'Millane, Dennis Michael', item ID 9547458; Nominal roll in Smith (2004) p 36. • ³⁴ *The Straits Times* (Singapore) 31 August 1965, p 12.

Rosenzweig P. A.

Support Base (one L5 105 mm Howitzer) established by 'V' Battery, 6 Light Regiment Battery, Royal Artillery.

Fatalities - One Australian soldier died in this location, and another medically evacuated died in Australia.

† 14840 Corporal Ronald Charles Patch, a Rifleman in 1 Platoon, 'A' Company, 4RAR was evacuated by air to Kuching Hospital following a heart attack, then two days later was transferred to the British Military Hospital in Singapore on 11 May 1966 where he was noted as 'very seriously ill'.³⁵ Patch had enlisted in Queensland and emplaned in Sydney on 25 May 1961 for service on the Malay Peninsula at the end of the Malayan Emergency.³⁶ He embarked in Singapore for Sarawak on 23 April 1966, and disembarked in Kuching on 26 April.³⁷

The Canberra Times reported: "Tragic circumstances have brought together two Australian Army soldier brothers serving on separate fronts in South-east Asia".³⁸ In Singapore, an Australian Army doctor implemented the Australian 'dangerously ill list' scheme under which the next of kin could be flown to the wounded soldier's bedside. Corporal Patch's father was too ill to leave his home in New South Wales:

A call then was made to Vietnam where Corporal Patch's brother, Warrant Officer Harry Patch, is serving with the 1st Battalion, R.A.R. From the dusty encampment at Bien Hoa, Warrant Officer Patch was flown to his brother's bedside within four hours of receiving the message.³⁹ Corporal Patch was evacuated to Sydney on 18 May, but died two days later.⁴⁰

† 14982 Private John Wynne Jones, a Rifleman in 'A' Company, 4RAR died in a border position near Gunung Jagoi on 28 May 1966 (gunshot wound, non-battle casualty).⁴¹ Jones originated from Ty-Clyd Criceieth in North Wales, UK and had worked as a seaman out of Liverpool before gaining permanent residence status in Australia on 25 August 1953.⁴² He enlisted in the Australian Regular Army in Queensland, and arrived in Kuching on 29 April.⁴³ Jones was accidentally shot by another soldier in his section during a night sentry change at the unit perimeter.⁴⁴

³⁵ Roll of Honour in Kirkland (1990) p 109; Dennis and Grey (1996) Roll of Honour p 338; Smith (1999) pp 62, 161; Avery (2001) pp 107, 174, 205. Not listed by Smith (2004) – did not serve on the Malay Peninsula. • ³⁶ NAA: B2458, 14840 'PATCH, Ronald Charles', item ID 4341656; AWM: A14477 Malaya British General Service Medal Register - N to R: served after the prescribed period and did not qualify for the campaign medal with clasp 'Malaya'. • ³⁷ AWM: <https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/R2708986> • ³⁸ The Canberra Times 20 May 1966, p 12. • ³⁹ The Canberra Times 20 May 1966, p 12. • ⁴⁰ AWM: AWM95 Subclass 7/4/8 (4RAR Duty Officer's Log for May 1966); Dennis and Grey (1996) p 338. • ⁴¹ Roll of Honour in Kirkland (1990) p 108; Dennis and Grey (1996) p 286. Roll of Honour p 338; Smith (1999) pp 62, 143; Avery (2001) pp 107, 174, 204; not listed by Smith (2004) – did not serve on the Malay Peninsula. • ⁴² NAA: J25, 1952/2882 'JONES, John Wynne', item ID 1626414. • ⁴³ NAA: B2458, 14982 'JONES, John Wynne', item ID 4341657; AWM: <https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/R2707788> • ⁴⁴ AWM: AWM95 Subclass 7/4/8 (4RAR Duty Officer's Log for May 1966).

Forward Defence – Bokah

'B' Company of 3RAR established a fortified patrol base near Kampung Bokah from April to August 1966, close to the border. The company was supported by an artillery Fire Support Base (one L5 105 mm Howitzer) established by 102 Field Battery, RAA. The following year, 'D' Company of 4RAR established a patrol base near Kampung Bokah in April and May 1966, and then 'C' Company occupied the position from May to September (the company had initially served as the battalion reserve at Old Bau Camp in April-May 1966).

Fatalities - One Australian soldier died in this location, and another medically evacuated died in Singapore.

† 215881 Private Liam Mellows O'Carroll, a Rifleman in 'C' Company, 4RAR died in the company patrol base near Bokah on 27 May 1966 (gunshot wound, non-battle casualty).⁴⁵ O'Carroll had enlisted in New South Wales, and was also a member of the battalion band.⁴⁶ A photograph published in *The Advertiser* on 13 September 1965 shows Private O'Carroll talking to octogenarian veterans of the Boer War (1899-1901). Seventeen veterans had attended a commemorative service in Adelaide and Private O'Carroll sounded the 'Last Post' and 'Reveille'.⁴⁷ Private O'Carroll embarked in Singapore on 23 April 1966, and disembarked in Kuching on 26 April.⁴⁸ He died in the platoon position from gunshot wounds (suicide by gunshot); the battalion war diary recorded, "Life Ended".⁴⁹

† 311512 Private Victor Herbert Richards, a Rifleman in 9 Platoon, 'C' Company, 4RAR received gunshot wounds to the stomach during a firefight with Indonesian troops near Bokah on 15 June 1966.⁵⁰ Richards was born in the UK on 24 January 1942; after serving in the Royal Marines, on 13 October 1964 he travelled by aircraft to Australia under the Assisted Passage Migration Scheme.⁵¹ He enlisted in the Australian Regular Army in Victoria: he embarked in Singapore on 25 April 1965, and disembarked in Kuching on 28 April.⁵²

Private Eddie Lang was shot in the chest in the same action. *The Canberra Times* recorded that they, "were in a serious condition when they were picked up after the clash. They were wounded when security forces clashed with a small armed party,

⁴⁵ AWM: <https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/R1715265> • ⁴⁶ NAA: B2458, 215881 'O'Carroll, Liam Mellows', item ID 9547783; B2458, 2748737 'O'Carroll, Liam Mellows', item ID 30122040; Horner (1990) p 174; Roll of Honour in Kirkland (1990) p 109; Dennis and Grey (1996) Roll of Honour p 338; Smith (1999) pp 62, 159; Avery (2001) pp 107, 174, 205 ('while cleaning rifle'); not listed by Smith (2004) – did not serve on the Malay Peninsula. • ⁴⁷ *The Advertiser* (Adelaide, SA) 13 September 1965, p 1. • ⁴⁸ AWM: <https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/R2707357> • ⁴⁹ AWM: AWM95 Subclass 7/4/8 (4RAR Duty Officer's Log for May 1966). • ⁵⁰ AWM: AWM95 Subclass 7/4/9 (4RAR Duty Officer's Log for June 1966). • ⁵¹ NAA: A1877, '13 OCTOBER 1964 RICHARDS V H', item ID 7406762. • ⁵² NAA: B2458, 311512 'RICHARDS, Victor Herbert', item ID 9547785; Horner (1990) p 175; Roll of Honour in Kirkland (1990) p 109; Dennis and Grey (1996) Roll of Honour p 338; Smith (1999) pp 62, 64, 165; Avery (2001) pp 107, 174, 206; not listed by Smith (2004) – did not serve on the Malay Peninsula; AWM: <https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/R2708700>

Rosenzweig P. A.

believed to be Communist terrorists, in thick jungle in the Bau district".⁵³ Richards and Lang were carried through the jungle for five hours, by stretcher at night, to a small jungle helipad, and were evacuated at night by an RAF Whirlwind helicopter on the morning of 16 June to Kuching General Hospital.

The Canberra Times further recorded: "Two Australian soldiers who were wounded in a gun fight in Sarawak two days ago were today reported to be still on the dangerously ill list in the General Hospital here". Lang remained in Kuching General Hospital but, on 19 June, Richards was transferred to Singapore General Hospital where he died of his wounds on 20 June.

Border Patrols – Entabang

The 2nd Special Air Service Squadron (comprising 'E', 'G' and 'H' Troops) of the Australian Special Air Service Regiment (SASR) operated at various sites throughout Sarawak from January to July 1966, with its headquarters at the 'Pea Green House' in Kuching.

Fatalities - During a reconnaissance patrol conducted by 'E' Troop in the vicinity of Kampung Entabang, two Australians lost their lives⁵⁴.

† 14172 Lieutenant Kenneth Ambrose Hudson, aged 30, was Troop Commander of 'E' Troop. He had been a National Serviceman in the 1951-59 scheme, called up in 1955 (number '1/717374'), and he subsequently enlisted in the Australian Regular Army in Queensland (number '1/4172'). Hudson was a Sergeant before being commissioned on 9 September 1964; he joined the SASR on 24 February 1965.⁵⁵ Lieutenant Hudson emplaned in Singapore for Brunei with 'E' Troop on 25 January 1966, and deplaned in Kuching on 28 January.⁵⁶

† 2412209 Private Robert Charles Moncrieff had enlisted in New South Wales; he also emplaned in Singapore for Brunei with 'E' Troop on 25 January 1966, and deplaned in Kuching on 28 January.⁵⁷

In March 1966, Lieutenant Hudson led a 4-man Operation 'Claret' cross-border patrol – on 21 March, the patrol was approaching a suspected enemy base on the far side of the rapidly flowing Sekayan River. While crossing, before dawn in heavy

⁵³ *The Canberra Times* 18 June 1966, p 1. • ⁵⁴ *The Canberra Times* 4 April 1966, p 3; Horner (1989) pp 158-159. • ⁵⁵ NAA: B2458, 14172 'Hudson, Kenneth Ambrose', item ID 30125593; Horner (1989) pp 145, 155, 158-159, 161, 165; Roll of Honour in Kirkland (1990) p 108; Dennis and Grey (1996) p 307, Roll of Honour p 338; Smith (1999) pp 66, 139; not listed by Smith (2004) – did not serve on the Malay Peninsula. • ⁵⁶ AWM: <https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/R2707140> • ⁵⁷ NAA: B2458, 2412209 'Moncrieff, Robert Charles', item ID 30125594; Horner (1989) pp 158-159; Roll of Honour in Kirkland (1990) p 109; Dennis and Grey (1996) p 307, Roll of Honour p 338; Smith (1999) pp 66, 155; not listed by Smith (2004) – did not serve on the Malay Peninsula. AWM: <https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/R2707388>

rain, Hudson and Moncrieff were swept away by the strong current and were reported missing-in-action, presumed drowned.

A death certificate was issued by Army on 1 April 1966. On 4 April, under the heading 'Two SAS men missing in Borneo', *The Canberra Times* reported: "Two members of the Australian Army Special Air Services Squadron now on operational duty in Borneo, are missing, believed dead".⁵⁸

In October 2009, the remains of Lieutenant Hudson and Private Moncrieff were identified in two separate burial sites in West Kalimantan. Their bodies had washed ashore downriver, and were found and buried by local civilians. With the help of locals, members of the Australian and Indonesian militaries located these graves in March 2010, and the remains were formally handed over to Australia in Jakarta on 12 April 2010 (McPhedran, 2019, pp 104-112).

Fates of the deceased Australians

Died after evacuation

Three Australians died after being medically evacuated from Sarawak:

Private Dennis Millane (1943-1965) of 'B' Company, 3RAR: died of illness in Fairfield Infectious Diseases Hospital in Melbourne on 27 August 1965, aged 21, and was buried in Springvale Botanical Cemetery in Melbourne, Victoria.⁵⁹

Corporal 'Danny' Patch (1941-1966) of 'A' Company, 4RAR: died in St Vincent's Hospital in Sydney on 20 May 1966 following emergency surgery to replace a faulty heart valve, aged 25. *The Canberra Times* recorded: "Australian Army Corporal Ronald Charles Patch, 25, of Casino, NSW--flown to Sydney from Singapore yesterday with a serious heart ailment died in St Vincent's Hospital this morning".⁶⁰ He was buried in Coraki Cemetery in Lismore, New South Wales.⁶¹

Private Victor Richards (1942-1966) of 'C' Company, 4RAR: died of wounds in Singapore General Hospital on 20 June 1966, aged 24, while his mother was flying in to be by his bedside. *The Canberra Times* recorded: "Private Richards mother had flown from Brisbane to Sydney with Army assistance and was waiting for a connection to Singapore when news of his death reached her".⁶² He was buried in Mount Gravatt Cemetery in Brisbane, Queensland.⁶³

⁵⁸ *The Canberra Times* 4 April 1966, p 3. • ⁵⁹ HN Featonby Lawn: Row C, Grave 37. • ⁶⁰ *The Canberra Times* 21 May 1966, p 24. • ⁶¹ Coraki Cemetery, Plot 'ANG'. • ⁶² *The Canberra Times* 22 June 1966, p 3. • ⁶³ Plot ANZAC-1, grave E-310.

Rosenzweig P. A.

Repatriated

Four of the Australians who died in Sarawak had their remains repatriated.

Sergeant Reg 'Reno' Weiland (1927-1965) of 'A' Company, 3RAR: killed-in-action on 23 March 1965, aged 38. *The Canberra Times* recorded: "*Sergeant Reginald John Weiland is the first Australian to die in the undeclared jungle war in North Borneo*". The report said he was, "*killed when he walked into a booby trap in Sarawak*".⁶⁴ Another report said: Weiland was described as, "*one of the best men in the battalion*".⁶⁵

Military memorial services were held at Terendak Army Camp in Malacca, where 3RAR had been based before deploying to Borneo, and at Mount Vernon crematorium in Singapore. Both services were attended by his Japanese-born widow, Mrs Eiko Weiland (née Fukuoka) from Terendak Camp.⁶⁶ She returned to Perth on 27 March with her husband's ashes for interment. Sergeant Weiland is memorialised by a Family Shrub in Karrakatta Cemetery in Nedlands, Western Australia.⁶⁷

Sergeant 'Vince' Vella (1934-1965) of 'A' Company, 3RAR: killed-in-action on 17 May 1965, aged 32. Military memorial services were held at Terendak Camp, and in Singapore where he was cremated on 21 May; his wife came from Terendak Camp and attended both services, and returned to Australia with her husband's ashes for interment. Sergeant Vella is commemorated in the Victorian Garden of Remembrance within Springvale Botanical Cemetery in Melbourne, Victoria.⁶⁸

Lieutenant Ken 'Rock' Hudson (1936-1966) of 'E' Troop, 2 SAS Squadron: died on 21 March 1966 (drowned), aged 30. *The Canberra Times* reported:

*The two soldiers were reported missing earlier this week while on patrol operations in a remote area of the Bungo Range in Sarawak . . . They are the first casualties suffered by the SAS Squadron since it went to Borneo recently . . . It is the second SAS Squadron to serve in Sarawak.*⁶⁹

Lieutenant Hudson was originally commemorated in the Queensland Garden of Remembrance at Pinnaroo Cemetery and Crematorium, Bridgeman Downs in Brisbane, Queensland. After his remains were recovered in 2010, he was interred in Lutwyche Cemetery in Brisbane.⁷⁰

Private 'Bob' Moncrieff (1944-1966) of 'E' Troop, 2 SAS Squadron: died on 21 March 1966 (drowned), aged 21. Private Moncrieff was first commemorated in the NSW Garden of Remembrance. In 2010, his remains were cremated at Karrakatta Cemetery and Crematorium in Nedlands, Western Australia (the ashes were collected by the family).

• ⁶⁴ *The Canberra Times* 25 March 1965, p 1. • ⁶⁵ *The Canberra Times* 29 March 1965, p 4. • ⁶⁶ NAA: A446, 1958/61734 'WEILAND Eiko (nee Fukuoka)'; item ID 7773753. • ⁶⁷ Lawn 5C in Sir Thomas Meagher Gardens, position 0037 (registration K000176403 – Karrakatta: ashes registered from outside crematorium). • ⁶⁸ *The Canberra Times* 22 May 1965, p 27. Lawn 5C in Sir Thomas Meagher Gardens, position 0037 (registration K000176403 – Karrakatta: ashes registered from outside crematorium). • ⁶⁹ *The Canberra Times* 4 April 1966, p 3. • ⁷⁰ Grave ANZAC-7-79-21.

Overseas graves

Four of those who died in Sarawak remain buried overseas. They were all originally buried with military honours in Ulu Pandan Military Cemetery. Ulu Pandan Road had originally traversed a quiet, remote part of Singapore where military bases were the only landmarks; Ulu Pandan Cemetery was established south of the road and began operating in September 1955, for British Servicemen and their families, and military civilians, who died while serving in Singapore. Others were buried in Pasir Panjang Cemetery. Headquarters ANZUK Force (Australia, New Zealand, United Kingdom) managed the contracts for grass-cutting and maintenance at Pasir Panjang and Ulu Pandan Cemeteries.⁷¹

As Singaporeans became more affluent by the late-1960s, a new form of public housing was created and there was an increased need for land for development. It was subsequently found necessary to remove the graves of Servicemen and their families from Pasir Panjang and Ulu Pandan cemeteries. Pasir Panjang military cemetery was the first to be evacuated and remains were progressively transferred to Kranji War Cemetery. With the withdrawal of British forces in 1971, arrangements were made for Ulu Pandan Cemetery's 1,884 graves of British servicemen and women, and civilians and Gurkhas to be relocated to make way for further urban redevelopment. By 1975, these remains had been exhumed and re-interred in Kranji Military Cemetery (Figure 4), a substantial non-world war site established adjacent to Kranji War Cemetery.⁷²



Figure 4: Fifty Australian fallen from the Malayan wars – 42 from the Emergency and 8 from Confrontation – today remain buried in the soil of Australia's neighbours. In Kranji Military Cemetery in Singapore are interred four defenders of Sarawak, 1965-66. The headstone of Corporal Peter West (1934-1966) is marked with a poppy of remembrance.

⁷¹ AWM: AWM207, 681-F2-14, item ID 804974. Headquarters Far East Land Forces (FARELF) had been established at the end of World War 2, and was based in Singapore, exercising overall command of all British and Commonwealth land forces in the Asia and Pacific regions. FARELF was disbanded at Singapore on 11 January 1971 and succeeded by 'ANZUK Force' (Australia, New Zealand and United Kingdom, with Malaysian and Singaporean forces). • ⁷² The National Archives, United Kingdom, DEFE 24/761: Ministry of Defence. Defence Secretariat. Branches. Registered Files: 'Evacuation of Ulu Pandan Cemetery. Singapore'. Part A; DEFE 24/762: Part B.

Rosenzweig P. A.

Private Larry Downes (1945-1965) of 'A' Company, 3RAR: killed-in-action on 17 May 1965, aged 20. *The Canberra Times* recorded: "The double fatality brought the Australian death toll to three since the battalion arrived in the Bau district on the western side of Sarawak last month".⁷³ Private Downes was originally buried at Ulu Pandan Military Cemetery on 21 May 1965, and was later relocated to Kranji Military Cemetery (Figure 5).⁷⁴



Figure 5: The headstone of an Australian defender of Sarawak in Kranji Military Cemetery, Singapore (December 2019): Private Larry Downes (1945-1965) of the 3rd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment, killed on 17 May 1965, aged 20.

The L1A1 Self-Loading Rifle carried by Downes, damaged in the blast, is on display at the Australian War Memorial in Canberra. The Maryborough Military and Colonial Museum in Maryborough, Queensland has an extensive display of memorabilia relating to Private Downes, including the actual mine casing, with the tripping mechanism, and also a shrapnel fragment which was embedded in a nearby tree. These were recovered by a member of the 3RAR Assault Pioneer Platoon after the incident and brought back to Australia.⁷⁵

⁷³ *The Canberra Times* 19 May 1965, p 1. • ⁷⁴ *The Canberra Times* 22 May 1965, p 27. Ulu Pandan Military Cemetery, plot 5, row B, grave 7; Kranji Military Cemetery, plot 14, row B, grave 13. • ⁷⁵ <https://www.maryboroughmuseum.org/>

Private 'Len' O'Carroll (1937-1966) of 'C' Company, 4RAR: died on 27 May 1966, aged 29. He was buried at Ulu Pandan on 1 June 1966 and was later relocated to Kranji (Figure 6).⁷⁶



Figure 6: The headstone of an Australian defender of Sarawak in Kranji Military Cemetery, Singapore (December 2019): Private Len O'Carroll (1937-1966) of the 4th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment, died on 27 May 1966, aged 29.

Private 'Taffy' Jones (1928-1966) of 'A' Company, 4RAR: killed on 28 May 1966, aged 38. His body was evacuated on the morning of 29 May and taken to Singapore for burial in Ulu Pandan Military Cemetery.⁷⁷ He was later relocated to Kranji Military Cemetery (Figure 7).⁷⁸



Figure 7: The headstone of an Australian defender of Sarawak in Kranji Military Cemetery, Singapore (December 2019): Private Taffy Jones (1928-1966) of the 4th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment, killed on 28 May 1966, aged 38.

⁷⁶ *The Canberra Times* 2 June 1966, p 4; Kranji Military Cemetery, plot 14, row D, grave 2. • ⁷⁷ *The Canberra Times* 4 June 1966, p 3. • ⁷⁸ Kranji Military Cemetery, plot 11, row B, grave 9.

Rosenzweig P. A.

Corporal Peter West (1934-1966) of Support Company, 4RAR: died of wounds in Kuching General Hospital on 2 July 1966, aged 32. *The Canberra Times* recorded:

An Australian Army corporal seriously injured on operations in the Bau district of Borneo, has since died at Kuching General Hospital. He was Corporal Peter John West, 32, single, of East Ballarat. Corporal West was injured when a part of a tree fell upon him during preparation of a helicopter landing zone by a Pioneer platoon.⁷⁹

He was evacuated to Singapore and buried at Ulu Pandan, and was later reinterred in Kranji Military Cemetery (Figure 8).⁸⁰



Figure 8: The headstone of an Australian defender of Sarawak in Kranji Military Cemetery, Singapore (December 2019): Corporal Peter West (1934-1966) of the 4th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment, died of wounds on 2 July 1966, aged 32.

Commemoration and Remembrance

Singapore

The four who died in Sarawak in 1965-66 and remain buried overseas are among thirteen Australians interred in Kranji Military Cemetery. While the grounds are immaculate, in a lush tropical setting far removed from the bustle of the city, Kranji Military Cemetery sits

⁷⁹ *The Canberra Times* 4 July 1966, p 1. • ⁸⁰ Kranji Military Cemetery, plot 14, row D, grave 3.

as an annex beside Kranji War Cemetery. It is still a point of contention for the families and Malaya-Borneo veterans that these casualties of the undeclared Malayan wars are not buried in a war cemetery.

Sarawak

The names of three Special Air Service Regiment members who died in Borneo are listed on a plaque which was unveiled in the Sarawak Heroes Memorial Park in Kuching by the Special Air Service Regiment Association on 4 August 2015. This includes Lieutenant Hudson and Private Moncrieff, and also Lance-Corporal Paul Denehey who died in Sabah on 6 June 1965.

The 4th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment departed Sarawak in phases in August 1966 and, once the battalion was complete at Terendak Camp, one of the first activities was to conduct a memorial service on 27 September for the five soldiers who lost their lives in Sarawak (Avery, 2001, p 174). During an Anzac Day reunion visit to Kuching by battalion veterans on 25 April 2016, a 4RAR Memorial Tree was planted beside the walkway into the Heroes Memorial Park, with a plaque bearing the names of the 4RAR members who died in Sarawak or after being evacuated.⁸¹

On 29 August 2016, the SA and NT Branch NMBVAA unveiled a plaque in the Heroes Memorial Park, only the second to have been installed there. This plaque was intended to honour all Australians who died during the period of Confrontation, including some who died outside the prescribed dates of the campaign. Unfortunately, the incomplete records available at that time had caused several errors and omissions. I was proud to be able to provide the research to have these corrected, and the Branch President arranged for an updated plaque to be installed in time for the 2019 reunion visit. This plaque was unveiled during the commemorative service on 29 August 2019 – giving this visit additional significance.

Australia

Australia has honoured its personnel who died on operational service during Confrontation, with the names of the fallen honoured in the Commemorative Area (Panel 3) at the Australian War Memorial in Canberra, Australia's national memorial for all wars and conflicts.

Throughout the country, there are many memorials to the service of Australians in Malaysia and Borneo, often appended to an existing monument for World War 1 or 2. In Darwin for example, a bronze plaque was installed on the Darwin Cenotaph and dedicated during a commemorative service on 23 April 1995 specifically honouring the service of Australians in Borneo during Confrontation. In Holsworthy Barracks in New South Wales, a large black marble plaque mounted on a rock lists the names of the 4RAR

⁸¹ *New Sarawak Tribune*, 28 April 2016, pT3. The plaque also lists 38094 Private Peter John Robinson, a Rifleman in 'B' Company, 4RAR, who died on peninsular Malaysia on 25 February 1966 (accidental death, drowned during flotation training in Sungei Linggi).

Rosenzweig P. A.

fallen from Sarawak, Malaysia, Vietnam and Afghanistan. A similar 4RAR memorial plinth and plaque on the Adelaide Rifles Walkway in Adelaide, South Australia was unveiled on 1 February 2009.

For many years the SA and NT Branch of the NMBVAA has held an annual Malaya-Borneo Veterans Day service of commemoration at the Cross of Sacrifice in the West Torrens War Memorial Gardens. Australian Air Force Cadets have supported the ceremony, by providing a Catafalque Party and an Honour Guard. This ceremony is one of the few times the Sarawak flag could be seen in Adelaide (Figure 9).



Figure 9: An Australian Air Force Cadet in the 'Present Arms' position during the 2019 Malaya-Borneo Veterans Day service in Adelaide conducted by the SA and NT Branch of the NMBVAA.

On Saturday 22 April 2017, the SA and NT Branch NMBVAA held a special plaque unveiling and dedication ceremony in the West Torrens War Memorial Gardens. A special memorial was dedicated, honouring those who served and lost their lives during the undeclared wars we know as the 'Malayan Emergency' and 'Confrontation'. An Honour Guard was provided by the Australian Air Force Cadets. In giving the main address, I said:

This ceremony today provides an opportunity to reaffirm the common values and deep friendship that we Australians share with our Malaysian counterparts and the other allied countries we served beside, not just in Malaysia but during all other wars and peacekeeping operations. Let us never forget these strong bonds.⁸²

⁸² Major Paul Rosenzweig (ret'd) "Honour the fallen, Look to the future". Address given to a Plaque Unveiling and Dedication Ceremony hosted by the SA/NT Branch, National Malaya-Borneo Veterans Association of Australia Inc, City of West Torrens War Memorial Gardens, 22 April 2017.

The names of Lieutenant Hudson and Private Moncrieff are also commemorated on the SASR Memorial known simply as 'The Rock' in Campbell Barracks in Swanbourne, Western Australia. Their names immediately follow Lance-Corporal Paul Denehey, who was the first death from the regiment. Every Anzac Day, the names of the fallen are read aloud at the SASR Dawn Service.

Kuala Lumpur

The most recent memorial to be dedicated to the fallen from the post-war Malayan conflicts is a large bronze panel installed at the Australian High Commission and unveiled on 24 April 2019.

Pilgrimages

Following on from the successful reunion visit and commemoration in Kuching in 2016, another pilgrimage was conducted in 2019, during which members of the NMBVAA and the Malayan Veterans Association of New Zealand planned to visit sites in the Bau district. The Borneo Post reported:

According to NMBVA Australia's Southern Australia and Northern Territory branch president Brian Selby, the sites they plan to visit are where most of the members of the two associations were stationed during the years of confrontation between Malaysia and Indonesia in the 1960s.

Selby said:

There are a few sites in Bau which members of the two associations want to visit during our stay here. Among the places which we intend to visit are Gumbang, Stass, Serikin, Suba Buan and a few other places in the district where we were stationed in Bau during the time.⁸³

The Australian party also visited Kampung Gumbang, where the Branch Vice-President Don Cameron was stationed with 'B' Company of 3RAR from March to July 1965, in a fortified patrol base at 'Bukit Knuckle'.

Apart from visiting these sites, the Australian veterans also visited three schools which their branch has adopted, in Stass, Serikin and Suba Buan, and the association donated funds to assist the schools in their educational programs. The *Borneo Post* quoted Selby as saying:

⁸³ *Borneo Post*, 29 August 2019, p 11.

Rosenzweig P. A.

As members of the 1960s Commonwealth forces to protect Sarawak and Sabah during the confrontation, we are proud that we played a vital role in defending every inch of Sarawak and Sabah. We are glad to be able to come back here to see these places after all these years. These places bring back a lot of memories for us when [we] were serving in the army.⁸⁴

Following such a reunion visit by Australian military veterans on 30 August 2019, one resident of Kampong Serabak gave the following feedback online: 'Welcome back our defender'. Disappointingly, surviving Australian veterans have been unable to schedule any further reunion visits because of the coronavirus pandemic.

CONCLUSION

This brief commemorative address for the 2019 Malaya-Borneo Veterans Day service in Kuching serves to remind us of the 50 Australian fallen from the Malayan wars who still remain buried overseas, not in Australian soil. The establishment of the Sarawak Heroes Memorial Park was a visionary project, and today supports a broad range of commemorations. The timeliness of its creation can be seen in the continuum running from the founding of the National Malaya and Borneo Veterans Association in the United Kingdom and then in Australia, the unveiling of a Malaya-Borneo memorial in South Australia, the establishment of Malaya-Borneo Veterans Day in Australia, and the installation of the Confrontation plaque in Kuching.

Concurrent with these events have been the repatriation of the remains of the two Special Air Service Regiment members, the return to Australia of the remains of military personnel and dependents from the Confrontation and Vietnam War era, and the inability of other families to have their sons and brothers repatriated.

It was within this framework that the South Australia and Northern Territory Branch NMBVAA co-hosted a commemorative event in Kuching on 29 August 2019. This involved extensively researching the fallen to permit the installation of an updated plaque, and later visiting the graves in Singapore.

It is vitally important to maintain the memory of the Australian fallen from the Malayan wars, notably the Australian defenders of Sarawak in 1965-66 who lost their lives. This has been accomplished by verdant graves in Kranji Military Cemetery in Singapore, the emotive Sarawak Heroes Memorial Park in Kuching, and various memorials around

⁸⁴ Borneo Post, 29 August 2019, p 11.

Australia where commemorative services are held. The sacrifice of these Australian soldiers serving in the defence of Sarawak was not in vain, and we will remember them.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I acknowledge the support and assistance provided by the late President of the South Australia and Northern Territory Branch of the National Malaya and Borneo Veterans Association Australia Inc, Mr Brian Selby, and Vice-President Mr Don Cameron. The ongoing assistance of Dato' Lim Kian Hock (Heritage Adviser, Sarawak Tourism Federation), Dr Datuk Philip Ting AM (Honorary Australian Consul to Sarawak) and Fiona Marcus Raja (Deputy President, Sarawak Tourism Federation and Chairman, STF Heritage Development Committee) has been invaluable and is greatly appreciated.

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AWM = Australian War Memorial
 NAA = National Australian Archives

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National Patron: General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK AC(Mil) CVO MC (ret'd)
 SA/NT Branch Patron: Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC, Governor of South Australia



CHRISTMAS LUNCH

What a great Christmas Lunch we had at Club Marion on Saturday 10 December last year, with great food and even better company.

We are extremely grateful for the attendance of the Australian High Commissioner to Malaysia, His Excellency Dr Justin Lee, and his wife Jeane.

Our other special guests were Mrs Janice Silby, Deputy Commissioner SA for the Department of Veterans' Affairs, and her husband Gary.

His Excellency kindly agreed to present seven certificates in recognition of 10 years' membership of the SA & NT Branch of the National Malaya & Borneo Veterans Association Australia Inc since its reformation in 2010.





February 2023, Page 2



NOTICES

RAP

Captain Aileen Ryan
(ret'd), RAANC

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THANK YOU

We thank Tony Zappia MP and the staff of his Makin Electorate Office for their generous assistance with our printing needs.

BRANCH UPDATES

The year has started off relatively quietly, so we are taking this opportunity to catch up with some images from various events from the end of last year.

Our Vision statement reminds us of our identity and our purpose. We have adopted a four-pronged approach to commemoration, and one of these components is "Honour the living". We acknowledge the service of our surviving veterans through formal ceremonial events, social gatherings, an active advocacy and welfare program (including home and hospital visits), and recognition of service and achievements. To support this, the Branch Committee has instituted a Certificate of Membership.

Association records are incomplete, and there have been organisational and structural changes since 1995. The Branch Committee has taken this initial opportunity to acknowledge those who have been members of the SA/NT Branch since its reformation in 2010.

At various events and occasions in December, certificates were presented in recognition of 10 years' membership of the SA/NT Branch since 2010.

The next step is to determine those who have been members of the NMBVAA since its formation in Australia, and appropriate recognition will be forthcoming in due course.

Our regular meetings will resume this month – to allow time for setting up the room please note the meeting start time is now **11.15 am**.

We had a few interviews broadcast on the 'Service Voices' program last year (on Radio Adelaide, and available from the website). Just a reminder that Helen invites all veterans and family members to join her for a pre-recorded interview about their experiences at Terendak Camp and during the Emergency and/or Confrontation, or military life in general.

If you haven't already done so, I invite you to renew your membership of the SA/NT Branch for another year. We have come through the pandemic, and have a strong Branch Committee leading us forward.

Please contact Jenny Cameron to make payment – and use the Membership Renewal Form if any of your personal details have changed. We look forward to your continuing membership and engagement.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February meeting: 1115h Friday 17 February 2023
Avoca Hotel, followed by lunch

Date of interest: Monday 6 February: 71st anniversary of the day in 1952 when Princess Elizabeth, as heir presumptive, acceded to the throne as Queen Elizabeth II, the fourth monarch of the House of Windsor

March meeting: 1115h Friday 17 March 2023
Venue tbc, followed by lunch



Visit our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/NMBVAAadelaide/>



Christmas Lunch
Saturday 10 December 2022

Here are some more images from our annual Christmas Lunch held at Club Marion last December. Congratulations to all raffle prize winners – your contributions, and the generous donations we received, will go towards this year’s contribution to the three schools in the Bau District of Sarawak which we sponsor – these schools are located in areas where Australian forces were deployed during Confrontation. The photos from the lunch may be found here:

[Christmas Lunch 2022](#)



On display at the lunch were various mementos received during 2022 from the Sarawak Tourism Federation, the Bau District Office and the schools in the Bau District which we support.



Seated, clockwise from front: Barbara Taylor, Rosina Parsons, Beverley Dubois, Helen Adamson, Helen Meyer, Barbara Boxer. Standing: Peter Taylor, Bernie Boxer, Bill Parsons.



Clockwise from front: Sharon Mathews, Natalie Beattie, Jim Litchfield, Mal White, Dave McCarthy, Bill Voyce, Jim Deering, Ansel Mathews.



Left to right: Jeff and Louisa Hiscock; Chris Selby; Ian and Vicki Crannaford; Di Davies.



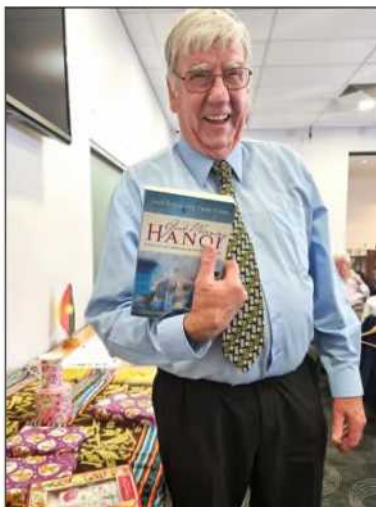
February 2023, Page 5

Christmas Lunch Saturday 10 December 2022

Congratulations to all raffle prize winners, and a special thank you to the many people who donated prizes.

Your contributions, as well as the generous donations we received, will go towards this year's contribution to the three schools in the Bau District of Sarawak which our Branch sponsors – SK Serabak, SK Stass and SK Suba Buan.

These schools are located in areas where Australian forces were deployed in 1965 and 1966 during Confrontation.





Iban Princess Beer

In July last year, Branch President Paul Rosenzweig attended a Malaysian Night in Tawa, north of Wellington, hosted by the Malayan Veterans Association of New Zealand and the New Zealand Malaysian Society.

One of the highlights of the night was the chance to sample the locally-made 'Iban Princess' beer, produced by a local craft brewery 'Fortune Favours'. This was the initiative of Sarawakian Laura Munan, who is of New Zealand origin but has lived in Kuching for a number of years.

Laura grew up in Kuching but returned to NZ to complete her tertiary studies at the school of music at Victoria University in Wellington. During this time, while working as a bartender, she created a unique beer that would pay homage to her Iban roots. "That is how 'The Iban Princess' was born!" she said.

The Iban Princess beer incorporates tropical flavours such as pandan and lemongrass, giving the beer a fresh and tangy taste.

At our annual Christmas Lunch held at Club Marion last December, many stories were told and a number of raffle prizes were won.

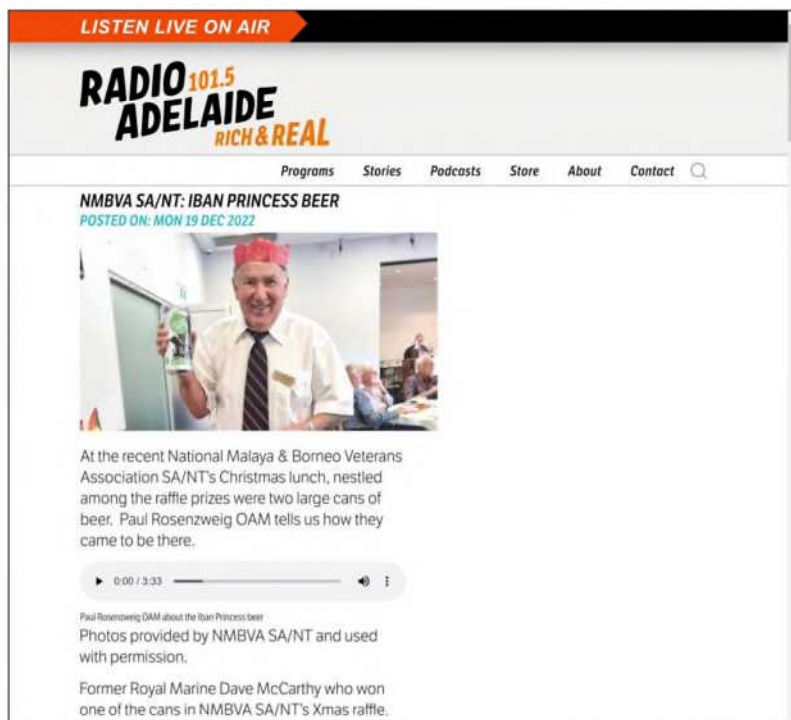
Nestled among the raffle prizes were two unique cans of beer.

They were two bespoke cans of Iban Princess Beer, produced by Fortune Favours in Wellington, New Zealand.

They have the motto – "Fortune Favours the bold, Fortune Favours the brave".

The 946 mL cans of 'Iban Princess' beer were won by Dave McCarthy and Bill Parsons.

Helen Meyer spoke with Paul Rosenzweig about how these cans came to be available as raffle prizes – for broadcast on the 'Service Voices' program on Radio Adelaide.



Service Voices offers news, perspectives and memories from the veteran, volunteer and Defence communities through oral history, giving a voice to a large sector of our community which is not available elsewhere on air.

Listen to Paul talk about the Iban Princess Beer on 'Service Voices' on Radio Adelaide, 101.5 FM:

<https://radioadelaide.org.au/2022/12/19/nmbva-sa-nt-iban-princess-beer/>



February 2023, Page 7



Certificates of Membership Saturday 10 December 2022

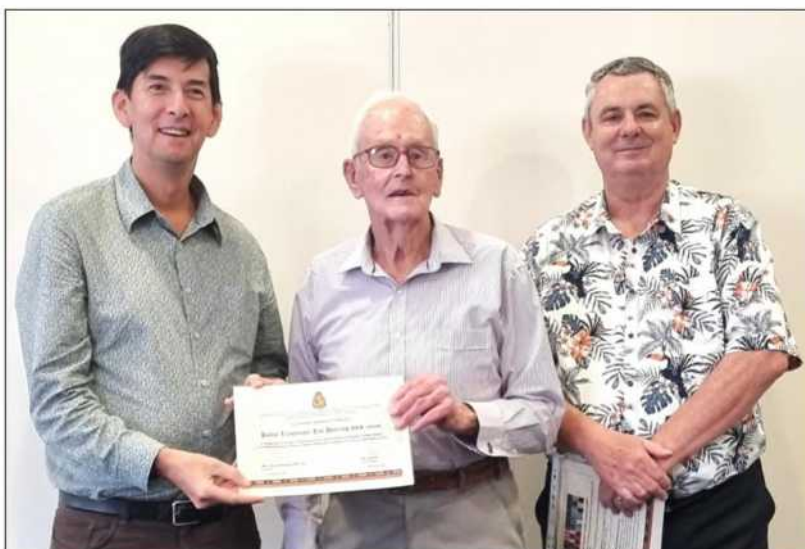
At our Christmas Lunch, we were very privileged to have the Australian High Commissioner to Malaysia, His Excellency Dr Justin Lee, present Certificates of Membership to some of our members.

His Excellency presented seven certificates in recognition of 10 years' membership of the SA & NT Branch of the National Malaya & Borneo Veterans Association Australia Inc – counted from the reformation of the Branch in 2010.

A further four certificates, for those who could not be present, were presented on Friday 16 December. Arrangements were made for an additional five certificates to be presented individually.

These Certificates celebrate 10 years' membership of the SA/NT Branch since its reformation in 2010.

Dianne Davies,
and also
Allan Davies



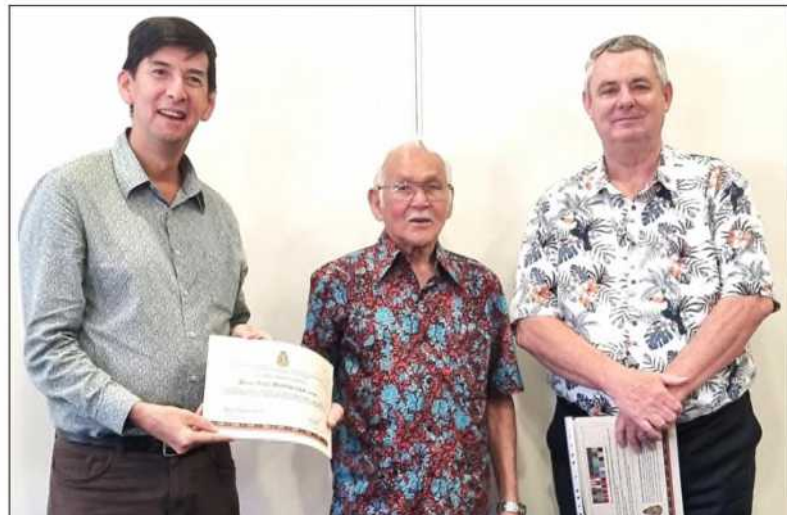
Jim Deering



February 2023, Page 8



Beverley Dubois



Ansel Mathews



Sharon Mathews



February 2023, Page 9



Chris Selby,
and also
Mathew Tee,
Benjamin Tee
and
Nicholas Tee



Peter Taylor



Boyce and Helen Moffatt received their 10 Year Membership Certificates on Friday 16 December 2022.

We also congratulate the following members who have received their 10 Year Membership Certificates, presented by Vice-President Don Cameron and Treasurer Jenny Cameron:

Malcolm 'Digger' Digance

Oscar Johnsson

Joe Kelly

Marian Kelly

Captain Aileen Ryan (retired), RAANC

We look forward to presenting certificates this year to members who have had continuous membership since 2013, or a total of 10 years' aggregate membership.



**No 601 Squadron, AAFC
End of Year Parade, 17 December 2022**

No 601 Squadron AAFC (Keswick Barracks) held its 2022 End of Year Parade on Saturday 17 December.

On our behalf, Sergeant (AAFC) Kim Edgar presented Certificates of Appreciation to four Cadets who had supported our 2022 Malaya & Borneo Veterans Day service of commemoration on 26 August last year.

Two of these Cadets then attended the 604 Squadron AAFC End of Year Parade at Hampstead Barracks on 18 December, to be officially presented with their Certificates of Appreciation by our President and Vice-President.



Leading Cadet Charlene Bhasme Bhasme, a member of the Catafalque Party



Leading Cadet Jonas Dixon Honour Guard member



Leading Cadet Zane Settimio, Door Opener for the Vice-Regal vehicle



Leading Cadet Nikolas Fountas, Honour Guard member



Leading Cadets Jonas Dixon (left) and Nikolas Fountas on duty with the Honour Guard on 26 August 2022.



Leading Cadet Charlene Bhasme Bhasme on duty with the Catafalque Party on 26 August 2022.



Left to right: Flying Officer (AAFC) Kieran Wandel, Wing-Commander (AAFC) Siobhan Forrester, CUO Kshitij Sapdhare, Mr Mark Lawson-Kent, RSL Payneham Sub-Branch President.

**No 604 Squadron, AAFC
Dining-in Night, 10 December 2022**

No 604 Squadron held its annual Dining-in Night at Payneham RSL, hosted by the Commanding Officer Flying Officer (AAFC) Kieran Wandel.

The Dining President was Cadet Under Officer Kshitij Sapdhare, Cadet Executive Officer of No 604 Squadron – who was the Catafalque Party Commander for our 2022 Malaya-Borneo Veterans Day service.

The guest of honour was Wing-Commander (AAFC) Siobhan Forrester, who was appointed Officer Commanding No 6 Wing in December 2022.

Siobhan is a former Commanding Officer of 604 Squadron, and members may recall her supporting earlier Malaya-Borneo Veterans Day services in the West Torrens Memorial Gardens.



End of Year Parade, 18 December 2022

For the 604 Squadron End of Year Parade at Hampstead Barracks on Sunday 18 December, the Banner Party (left) comprised Cadet Under Officer Kshitij Sapdhare (Banner Bearer) and Cadet Flight Sergeant Athanasios Bolimos (Banner Warrant Officer).

The Banner Escorts, carrying innocuous F-88 Austeyr rifles, were Cadet Corporal Ryan Truong and Cadet Corporal Juliana Buerano.

CUO Sapdhare had the privilege of being the Catafalque Party Commander for our 2022 Malaya & Borneo Veterans Day service in the West Torrens War Memorial Gardens last year.

CFSGT Bolimos has gained both the Bronze and Silver Awards in the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award. CUO Sapdhare and CCPL Buerano have each gained the Bronze and Silver Awards, and are current Gold Award participants.



Branch member Lieutenant-Colonel Bill Denny AM BM (ret'd) was Reviewing Officer for the parade.



Proud to support



The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award

The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award is a global framework for non-formal education, which challenges young people to discover their potential and find their purpose, passion, and place to become #WORLDREADY

We have adopted a four-pronged approach to commemoration, and one of these four components is "Look to the future". In accordance with our philosophy, the SA/NT Branch is now a *Friend of the Award*.

We are making a small annual donation which will help at least two disadvantaged young South Australians to participate in the Award where they might not otherwise have the opportunity.

The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award is an enriching program in which young people aged 14 to 24 years participate in activities and non-formal education over a minimum length of time to qualify for the Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards. Each level of the Award is progressively more challenging. Through this contribution, we are pleased to be playing a small part in the development of emerging South Australian leaders and community members.



MERCHANDISE

Our Malaya-Borneo scarf has proved to be very popular and sold out very quickly . . . but don't worry, we have more on order.

They are very high quality, and good value at \$33 each, plus postage if you need it mailed to you.

We now also have stubby coolers available (see the new design above), in the colours of the *Pingat Jasa Malaysia*, available for just \$10 each.

We also have lapel badges, bullion blazer badges and other memorabilia.

Proceeds from the sale of our merchandise go towards our donations to the three schools in the Bau district and the 'Sarawak Defenders Historical Trail'.

Please contact Mal White: malwhite@mail.com



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Greenock Aviation Museum visit

The Elizabeth/Salisbury Branch of the Air Force Association is planning a visit to the Greenock Aviation Museum in the Barossa Valley on Sunday 26 March.

They are booking a 27-seater bus, so there may be a couple of seats available if you are interested. The bus will depart from the Salisbury RSL.

If you would like more information, or details on how to RSVP and pay, please contact Paul:

paul.rosenzweig@hotmail.com

Post-WW2 Memorial – Unveiling

Ian Smith, Chair of the RSL (SA) Anzac Day Committee, has advised that a grant from the South Australian Anzac Day Commemoration Fund has been received to update Adelaide’s Post-WW2 Memorial at the corner of North Terrace and Kintore Avenue.

This memorial commemorates Service personnel with close links to South Australia who lost their lives as a result of their service in an overseas conflict or operation since the end of World War 2.

Our Branch has long been keen to fix one key error on this plaque and two omissions – notably to include Signalman John Tassell of the Royal Australian Corps of Signals, who served on the Malay Peninsula attached to the 208th (Commonwealth) Signals Squadron, of the 28th Commonwealth Infantry Brigade Group.

The intention is to unveil the refurbished memorial at the Dawn Service on Anzac Day. All members are encouraged to attend and witness this significant occasion.



PUBLICATIONS

Sarawak Museum Journal

It is with great pleasure that we announce that the Sarawak Museum Department has published the following research paper in the *Sarawak Museum Journal*:

Rosenzweig, PA (2022) ‘In our Neighbours’ Soil our Anzacs Sleep’. *The Sarawak Museum Journal*, LXXXV (106): 47-75.

The SA&NT Branch, NMBVAA has a strong connection with Sarawak through our reunion visits, tree-planting ceremonies, support to three schools in the Bau District, and our various services of commemoration. This relationship honours the service of Australian military forces in Sarawak in 1965 and 1966 during the period of the Indonesian Confrontation with Malaysia and, in particular, the eleven Australians who died as a result of operational service in defence of Sarawak.

Through our various activities, the SA & NT Branch remains committed to honouring Australian service and sacrifice during the post-WW2 Malayan wars.

The document can be downloaded here: [Sarawak Museum Journal](#)



He Toa Taumata Rau

The 'Place of Many Brave Deeds' can be found in the lower grounds of the Royal New Zealand Police College, below the New Zealand Police Museum, in Porirua north of Wellington.

This permanent outdoor tribute was opened on 18 October 2022. This memorial precinct commemorates Police and civilians who have been awarded New Zealand's highest awards for bravery – from the George Cross and George Medal, to the New Zealand Cross and New Zealand Bravery Medal – in 27 events since 1950.



**MALAYAN EMERGENCY
Roll of Honour – February**

Honouring the sacrifice of the 45 Australians who died on operational service during the general period of the Malayan Emergency, 16 June 1948 to 31 July 1960.

1/3822 Corporal David Arthur Seesink,
3rd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment:
28 February 1958

O3606 Wing Commander Norman Henry
Nixon DFC, Royal Australian Air Force:
9 February 1961

2/7789 Sergeant Lionel Aubrey Tucker,
101 Field Battery, Royal Australian Artillery:
26 February 1961

Lest we Forget

**CONFRONTATION
Roll of Honour – February**

Honouring the sacrifice of the 26 Australians who died during the general period of the Indonesian Confrontation with Malaysia, 24 December 1962 to 11 August 1966.

38094 Private Peter John Robinson,
'B' Company, 4th Battalion,
Royal Australian Regiment:
25 February 1966

Lest we Forget



20 CONFIDENTIAL

20.1 Possible Acquisition of Land and Staged Upgrade - Update

Reason for Confidentiality

The Council is satisfied that, pursuant to Section 90(3)(b)(i) and (b)(ii) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, the information to be received, discussed or considered in relation to this agenda item is:

- (b)(i) information the disclosure of which - could reasonably be expected to confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting, or proposing to conduct, business, or to prejudice the commercial position of the council.
- (b)(ii) information the disclosure of which - would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended to Council that:

1. Pursuant to Section 90(2) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, Council orders, that the public, with the exception of the Chief Executive Officer, members of the Executive and Management Teams in attendance at the meeting, and meeting secretariat staff, be excluded from attendance at so much of the meeting as is necessary to receive, discuss and consider in confidence, information contained within the confidential report Item 20.1 - Possible Acquisition of Land and Staged Upgrade - Update, attachments and any associated documentation submitted by the Chief Executive Officer, specifically on the basis of the provisions of Section 90(3)(b)(i) and (b)(ii) because the information received, discussed and considered in relation to this agenda item is information, the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to severely prejudice Council's ability to achieve the best possible outcome relating to the acquisition of the property under consideration and would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.
2. At the completion of the confidential session the meeting be re-opened to the public.

21 MEETING CLOSE