



Great Eastern Country Zone

Minutes

Kellerberrin Leisure Centre

**Commenced at 9:00am
Tuesday 27 August 2019**

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Great Eastern Country Zone

Meeting held at the Kellerberrin Leisure Centre
Commenced at 9.00am, Tuesday 27 August 2019

Minutes

1. OPENING AND WELCOME

2. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Shire of Bruce Rock	President Cr Stephen Strange Cr Ramesh Rajagopalan Mr Darren Mollenoyux Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate
Shire of Cunderdin	Mr Stuart Hobley Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate
Shire of Dowerin	President Cr Darrel Hudson Ms Rebecca McCall Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate
Shire of Kellerberrin	President Cr Rodney Forsyth Mr Raymond Griffiths Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate
Shire of Kondinin	Ms Mia Dohnt Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate
Shire of Merredin	President Cr Ken Hooper Cr Mal Willis Mr Greg Powell Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate
Shire of Mount Marshall	President Cr Tony Sachse Mr John Nuttall Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate
Shire of Mukinbudin	President Cr Gary Shadbolt Mr Dirk Sellenger Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate
Shire of Narembeen	President Cr Rhonda Cole - Chair Mr Chris Jackson Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate
Shire of Nungarin	President Cr Eileen O'Connell Cr Bev Palmer (Observer) Mr Adam Majid Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate
Shire of Tammin	Mr Neville Hale Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate
Shire of Trayning	President Cr Melanie Brown Cr Geoff Waters Mr Brian Jones Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate
Shire of Westonia	President Cr Karin Day

	Mr Jamie Criddle Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate
Shire of Wyalkatchem	President Cr Quentin Davies
	Ms Taryn Dayman Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate
Shire of Yilgarn	President Cr Onida Truran
	Cr Wayne Della Bosca
	Mr Peter Clarke Chief Executive Officer non-voting delegate
WALGA Representatives	Mr Nick Sloan, Chief Executive Officer
	Mr Tony Brown Executive Manager Governance & Organisational Development
	Rebecca Brown, Manager, Waste and Recycling

Guests

Mandy Walker, Director Regional Development, RDA Wheatbelt
 Karen Strange, RDA Wheatbelt
 Kathleen Brown, Electorate Officer, Mia Davies MLA Office
 Hon Laurie Graham MLC, Agricultural Region
 Rob Dickie, Government and Industry Relations Advisor, CBH
 Kirsty Martin, Principal Strategy Officer, DLGSC Representative
 Jenifer Collins, Regional Manager Wheatbelt, DLGSC Representative

Apologies

Shire of Cunderdin	President Cr Dennis Whisson
	Cr Alison Harris
Shire of Dowerin	Cr Brenton Walsh
Shire of Kellerberrin	Cr Scott O'Neill
Shire of Kondinin	President Cr Sue Meeking
	Cr Kent Mouritz
Shire of Koorda	President Cr Ricky Storer
	Cr Pamela WcWha
	Mr Darren Simmons, Chief Executive Officer
Shire of Merredin	Cr Julie Flockart
Shire of Mount Marshall	Cr Nick Gillett
Shire of Mukinbudin	Cr Sandie Ventris
Shire of Narambeen	Cr Kellie Mortimore
Shire of Nungarin	Cr Gary Coumbe
Shire of Tammin	Cr Glenice Batchelor
	Cr Tania Daniels
Shire of Westiona	Cr Bill Huxtable
Shire of Wyalkatchem	Cr Owen Garner
Water Corporation	Sharon Broad
Main Roads	Mr Craig Manton
Hon Martin Aldridge MLC, Member for the Agricultural Region	
Hon Mia Davies MLA, Member for Central Wheatbelt	
Ms Chantelle O'Brien, Governance Support Officer	

Attachments

The following were provided as attachments to the agenda:

1. Great Eastern Country Zone Minutes 27 June 2019.
2. Great Eastern Country Zone Executive Committee Minutes 8 August 2019.
3. Public Health of WA Info Overview Sheet
4. President's Report
5. RDA Wheatbelt Update

State Council Agenda – via link:

<https://walga.asn.au/getattachment/a846e7df-becb-4570-956e-cafec51afcb3/Agenda-State-Council-6-September-2019.pdf>

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nil

5. MINUTES

5.1 Confirmation of Minutes from the Great Eastern Country Zone meeting held Thursday 27 June 2019

The Minutes of the Great Eastern Country Zone meeting held on Thursday 27 June 2019 have previously been circulated to Member Councils.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Eileen O'Connell

Seconded: Cr Onida Truran

That the Minutes of the Great Eastern Country Zone meeting held Thursday 27 June 2019 are confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings with an amendment to the attendance as follows:

Add	Cr Mal Willis	Shire of Merredin
Apology	Cr Greg Powell	Shire of Merredin

Add	Cr Julie Chatfield	Shire of Dowerin
Apology	Cr Brenton Walsh	Shire of Dowerin

CARRIED

5.2 Business Arising from the Minutes of the Great Eastern Country Zone Meeting Thursday 27 June 2019

Nil

5.3 Minutes from the Great Eastern Country Zone Executive Committee Meeting held Thursday 8 August 2019

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

5.3.1 (Item 5.1) 2020 Wheatbelt Conference

Background:

At the last Great Eastern Country Zone, Executive Committee meeting, the following was resolved:

That the Great Eastern Country Zone position on the Wheatbelt Conference be;

- 1. There is value in holding Wheatbelt Conferences;*
- 2. Not hold a Wheatbelt Conference in 2020 and look to hold a conference in 2021;*
- 3. Request the three (3) Wheatbelt Zone Executive Committees to meet and discuss the future of Wheatbelt conferences during the 2019 Local Government convention.*

CARRIED

Comment:

A meeting of the three Wheatbelt Zone Executive Committees has been scheduled for 12.30pm on 8 August to discuss the future of Wheatbelt Conferences.

The Financial Statement from the 2018 Wheatbelt conference is considered in item 5.2.

For Discussion

Executive Committee Resolved

The Great Eastern Country Zone remain with the position endorsed at the June Zone meeting as per above.

Following the June Zone meeting, there was a meeting held of the three Zone Executive Committees to discuss the future of the Wheatbelt Conference. It was resolved that the Zone Executive Committee's go back and discuss with their Zones as to whether they want a Wheatbelt Conference and what focus should it have if so.

Zone discussed that this matter would be best considered after the 2019 Local Government Elections as there may be some turnover in Elected Members.

Resolved

That the Great Eastern Country Zone consider the future of the Wheatbelt Conference after the October 2019 Local Government Elections.

5.3.2 (Item 5.5) Appointment of New Auditors for the Next Three Years

Executive Officer Comment:

External auditors AMD Chartered Accountants have completed their agreed term.

At its June meeting the Committee resolved that the Executive Officer seek Expressions of Interest for the audit of the Great Eastern Country Zone of WALGA for the 30 June years ending 2019, 2020 and

2021 from the following three local firms; RSM Bird Cameron, Byfields and CRC for Tabling at the next meeting for a decision.

Only Byfields submitted an expression of Interest.

CRC (Community Resource Centre) provide a listing of local suppliers which only included Byfields and Bird Cameron. RSM Bird Cameron declined advising that audits are only done out of their Perth Office and that they are not in a position to do this one.

Byfields Expression of Interest

Byfields while only completing audits out of their Perth office have submitted an expression of interest.

As advised in their attached letter, Byfields have 30 years audit experience and the Engagement Director Leanne Oliver is a Registered Company Auditor and a public practice certificate.

The quoted fee for 2018/19 is as follows:

2018/19 \$2,000 & disbursements
2019/20 \$2,100 & disbursements
2020/21 \$2,200 & disbursements

Note GST is refundable so the net amounts will be the cost to the GECZ.

The proposed 2018/19 fee of \$2,000 plus disbursements is significantly higher than the 2017/18 audit cost of \$1,560.

Through my recent involvement on two selection panels for audit services, I have been surprised to see that audit firms are becoming more selective in which engagements they submit for. This is also reflected in the refusal to quote by RSM Bird Cameron and may be a shift away from engagements considered unprofitable. Byfields only submitted on the understanding that the GECZ audit can be completed in November to January period which is their quiet season.

Acknowledging that this fee is higher, seeking a new contract with AMD may result in a similar increase and will see the audit completed out of Bunbury.

Executive Committee Recommendation

Moved: Cr Stephen Strange

Seconded: Cr Tony Sachse

That the Executive Committee recommends that the Zone appoint Byfields as auditors for the Great Eastern Country Zone of WALGA for the 30 June years ending 2019, 2020 and 2021 for fees quoted above.

CARRIED

ZONE RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Stephen Strange

Seconded: Cr Wayne Della Bosca

That the Executive Committee recommends that the Zone appoint Byfields as auditors for the Great Eastern Country Zone of WALGA for the 30 June years ending 2019, 2020 and 2021 for fees quoted above.

CARRIED

5.3.2 (Item 5.6) Strategic Priorities for the 2019/20 Year

Background:

As the new financial year progresses, new Strategic Priorities are to be discussed by the Executive Committee to identify the key issues for the next 12 months.

At this corresponding meeting last year, the Executive committee had identified the following 13 issues to consider for prioritising;

1. Health
2. Telecommunication
3. Recycling opportunities
4. Roads/Rail
5. Wheatbelt education
6. Local Government viability
7. Economic Development
8. School Buses
9. Community Resource Centres
10. Volunteerism (Pressure on too few)
11. Ambulance transfer costs
12. Aged Care
13. CSRFF Program – Need to change the focus

The committee and then subsequently the Zone endorsed the following topics as priorities for the 2018/2019;

- i. Local Government Act Review
- ii. Economic Development
- iii. Telecommunication
- iv. Wheatbelt Education

At an Executive Committee meeting earlier this year a further subject was added being Transport – Heavy Vehicle issue.

The initial four (4) priority topics have all had guest speakers during the previous year.

Discussion required on setting strategic priorities for 2019/2020

For Discussion

The Executive Committee had considered discussion on the Zones priorities for the next 12 months.

Executive Committee Resolved

The following topics be listed as the priority issues for the 19/20 Zone year;

1. Transport – Heavy Vehicle issue – Permit system, CA07 permits, Agricultural Pilot vehicles, Lime Haulage.
2. Health – NDIS, Age care packages, Hospital doctor shortages.
3. Government Regional Officer Housing (GROH) – Affordable Housing for Government Officers.
4. Future Drought Fund - Information on what assistance is available.

ZONE RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Tony Sachse
Seconded: Cr Rodney Forsyth

The following topics be listed as the priority issues for the 19/20 Zone year;

1. Transport – Heavy Vehicle issue – Permit system, CA07 permits, Agricultural Pilot vehicles, Lime Haulage.
2. Health – NDIS, Age care packages, Hospital doctor shortages.
3. Government Regional Officer Housing (GROH) – Affordable Housing for Government Officers.
4. Future Drought Fund - Information on what assistance is available.
5. Training – Officer Level – Career Path for Local Government Officers (Work with LG Professionals)

CARRIED

5.3.2 (Item 5.7) Guest Speakers 2019/20
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Background

In 2018/19 the scheduled guest speakers followed the priority topics identified by the Zone.

The Committee had identified the need for relevant speakers to be sourced for Zone meetings and to ensure speakers come to the Zone with a purpose.

Following requests to the previous meeting, the following guest speakers have been scheduled for the August 2019 Zone meeting:

August 2019 Meeting

- Rob Dickie, Government and Industry Relations Advisor, CBH Group
- Rebecca Brown, Manager Waste and Recycling, WALGA, (Container Deposit Scheme)

WALGA CEO Nick Sloan will also be attending the August Zone meeting. In addition Laurie Graham MLC, has advised that he will be attending the meeting. This is timely as Laurie Graham is a member of the Select Committee into Local Government.

Other meetings

The only outstanding speaker topic from last year is on the issue of “Transport – Heavy Vehicles”

The Executive Committee may wish to consider potential guest speakers for 2019/2020.

Executive Committee Resolved

- 1) That the following speakers present at the August meeting;
 - Rob Dickie, Government and Industry Relations Advisor, CBH Group
 - Rebecca Brown, Manager Waste and Recycling, WALGA, (Container Deposit Scheme and on the 3 bin rubbish collection system)
- 2) Guest speakers for the remainder of the year be sourced against the priority topic issues; and
- 3) Politicians be continued to be invited to present at Zone meetings.

ZONE RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Karin Day
Seconded: Cr Onida Truran

- 1) That the following speakers present at the August meeting;
 - Rob Dickie, Government and Industry Relations Advisor, CBH Group
 - Rebecca Brown, Manager Waste and Recycling, WALGA, (Container Deposit Scheme and on the 3 bin rubbish collection system)
- 2) Guest speakers for the remainder of the year be sourced against the priority topic issues;
and
- 3) Politicians be continued to be invited to present at Zone meetings.

CARRIED

5.3.2 (Item 5.9) Zone Executive Officer – Key performance Indicators

Background:

The Zone resolved at its April meeting as follows;

That the Zone endorse WALGA to continue the executive support for the Great Eastern Country Zone for the next 2 years (19/20 and 20/21) and that suitable Key Performance Indicator's be put in place.

CARRIED

Executive Committee Resolved

The following Key Performance Indicators be adopted by the Zone of the Executive Officer;

- Attracting speakers in line with Zone priorities
- Advocating for the Zone on priority issues and implementing zone decisions in a timely manner;
- Agenda and minutes to be distributed 7 days prior and following Zone and Executive Committee Meetings;
- Finance – Clean and timely audit received

ZONE RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Eileen O'Connell
Seconded: Cr Geoff Waters

The following Key Performance Indicators be adopted by the Zone of the Executive Officer;

- Attracting speakers in line with Zone priorities
- Advocating for the Zone on priority issues and implementing zone decisions in a timely manner;
- Agenda and minutes to be distributed 7 days prior and following Zone and Executive Committee Meetings;
- Finance – Clean and timely audit received

CARRIED

5.3.3 Minutes of the Executive Committee 8 August 2019

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Onida Truran

Seconded: Cr Geoff Waters

That the remaining items contained in the Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of the Great Eastern Country Zone held Thursday 8 August 2019 be endorsed.

CARRIED

6. ZONE BUSINESS

6.1 Office of Auditor General – Auditing of WA Local Governments – Survey Results

By Executive Officer, Tony Brown

Background

WALGA had received a request from WEROC to review the impact of the recent compliance changes on the sector.

The Office of the Auditor General assumed responsibility for Local Government financial audits and performance audits in 2017.

To understand the impact that these changes have had on the sector, WALGA conducted a survey of its members during May and June 2019.

Tony Brown provided a presentation on the Auditor General survey to the Zone. Please refer to attached summary sheet within these minutes for information. (*Attachment A*)

Noted

6.2 Request to Present - Office of the Auditor General

By Executive Officer, Tony Brown

A request has been received from the Office of the Auditor General to attend the next Great Eastern Country Zone meeting on 28 November 2019.

A representative from the Officer of the Auditor General, would like to provide an update on Local Government auditing so far including a look at some of their latest financial and performance audits.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Eileen O'Connell

Seconded: Cr Geoff Waters

That a representative from the Office of the Auditor General attend the 28 November 2019 Great Eastern Country Zone meeting to provide an update on Local Government auditing so far including a look at some of their latest financial and performance audits.

CARRIED

6.3 Select Committee into Local Government Submission

By Executive Officer, Tony Brown

Background

The Zone is aware that the Legislative Council in WA has established a Select Committee into Local Government with the following terms of reference:

- (1) That a Select Committee into Local Government is established.
- (2) The Select Committee is to inquire into how well the system of Local Government is functioning in Western Australia, with particular reference to —

Whether the *Local Government Act 1995* and related legislation is generally suitable in its scope, construction and application;

the scope of activities of Local Governments;

the role of the Department of State administering the *Local Government Act 1995* and related legislation;

the role of Elected Members and Chief Executive Officers/employees and whether these are clearly defined, delineated, understood and accepted;

the funding and financial management of Local Governments; and

any other related matters the Select Committee identifies as worthy of examination and Report.

- (3) The Select Committee shall comprise five Members.
- (4) The Select Committee shall report by no later than 12 months after the motion for its establishment is agreed to and may, if it sees fit, provide interim reports to the House.

The Select Committee, which has a 12 month timeframe to finalise its Inquiry, was originally seeking submissions to be provided to the committee with a closing date of 23 August 2019. WALGA successfully requested the submission date be extended to 13 September 2019 to allow all Local Governments to consider a submission in their monthly meeting cycle.

WALGA has prepared a submission on behalf of the sector.

In addition WALGA will be attending a private hearing with the committee on 2 September 2019 where the committee has requested information on WALGA and what activities it carries out.

It is appropriate for the Zone to prepare a submission to the Select Committee with a focus on issues for the 16 member Local Governments.

A draft submission was circulated prior to the meeting.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Tony Sachse

Seconded: Cr Stephen Strange

The Draft Great Eastern Country Zone submission to the Select Committee into Local Government be endorsed with the following additions:

- **Secondary Freight Group project**
- **Audit cost increases**

CARRIED

6.4 Public Health Advocacy Institute of Western Australia

By Executive Officer, Tony Brown

Background

Jo Malcom, Senior Research Officer from Curtin University has requested to provide an information sheet to Local Governments in regards to some funding that has been made available to Public Health Advocacy Institute of WA to assist and mentor Local Governments in developing their Public Health Plans.

Attached with the Agenda was some further information on this matter.

Noted

7. ZONE REPORTS

7.1 Zone President Report

By Cr Rhonda Cole

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Gary Shadbolt
Seconded: Cr Geoff Waters

1. Highlighted the need to encourage nominations for candidates at the 2019 Election.
2. Integrity of the Sector is important – Mentoring of neighbours is important
3. Rural Water Council - input from all Zone members required.

That the Zone President's Report be received.

CARRIED

7.2 Local Government Agricultural Freight Group

By Cr Rod Forsyth

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Stephen Strange
Seconded: Cr Rodney Forsyth

That the Local Government Agricultural Freight Group Report be received.

CARRIED

Minutes from the 4 July 2019 Agricultural Freight Group are attached. (Attachment 1).

7.3 Wheatbelt District Emergency Management Committee

By Cr Tony Sachse

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Tony Sachse

Seconded: Cr Onida Truran

That the Wheatbelt District Emergency Management Committee Report be received.

CARRIED

Unconfirmed Minutes from the 20 June 2019 District Emergency management Committee meeting are attached. (Attachment 2)

8. WESTERN AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION (WALGA) BUSINESS

8.1 State Councillor Report

Cr Stephen Strange

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Stephen Strange

Seconded: Cr Wayne Della Bosca

July 2019 State Council Meeting – Key Issues

Emerging Issue – Regional Road Group Projects: Finalisation Payments

An emerging issue was discussed at the July meeting relating to the process for Local Governments to finalise their claims for Regional Road Group projects. Local Governments cannot make final claims until all costs are finalised, but there can be delays in finishing and invoicing the line-marking work.

State Council resolved that WALGA would write to Main Roads seeking an urgent meeting to change the procedures for finalisation of claims. Further, State Council resolved that projects that are delayed in finalisation due to line marking should be considered complete in the 2018-19 year.

National Redress Scheme

State Council endorsed in principle support for the Local Government sector to participate in the National Redress Scheme. It should be noted that there will be further consultation in relation to the redress scheme in the coming months.

September 2019 State Council Meeting

The upcoming meeting of State Council will be held as a regional meeting in Shark Bay, hosted by the Gascoyne Country Zone.

This will be the final State Council meeting before the October Local Government elections. At the November Zone meetings elections for State Council positions will be held.

State Council/Zone Structure and Process Review

I have attended all 3 of the State Council and Zone Structure and Process Working Group meetings. A report is being prepared for the State Council meeting on September 6 in Shark Bay after which it will go out to the sector for consultation.

WALGA Annual Convention

WALGA appreciates any feedback or suggestions from members on the convention that can assist in our preparation for next year.

That the State Councillor Report be received

CARRIED

8.2 WALGA Status Report to be updated

By Tony Brown, Executive Officer

BACKGROUND

Presenting the Status Report for August 2019 which contains WALGA's responses to the resolutions of previous Zone Meetings.

Zone	Agenda Item	Zone Resolution	WALGA Response	Update	WALGA Contact
Grt Eastern C	2019 June 27 Zone Agenda Item 12.1 Government Regional Officer Housing	That the Zone request WALGA to advocate on the impact of Government Regional Officer Housing on retaining public sector professionals (Doctors, nurses, teachers) in the Great Eastern Country Zone.	In May 2019, the McGowan Government deferred a planned increase to GROH rents in 2019-20. The next increase of \$30pw was due to come into effect 1 July 2019. https://www.mediastatements.wa.gov.au/Pages/McGowan/2019/05/McGowan-Government-temporarily-defers-increase-to-GROH-rents.aspx WALGA notes and includes the Zones Recommendation in its advocacy for GROH and greater service support for regional and remote Western Australian Local Governments, acknowledging the importance of this topic in the coming months.	Ongoing	Joanne Burges Executive Manager, People and Place jburges@walga.asn.au 9213 2018
Grt Eastern C	2019 June 27 Zone Agenda Item 7.1 WALGA Advocacy Regarding Greenfinch Mine Expansion	That the Great Eastern Country Zone 1. Supports the Shire of Westonia's position to seek clearing and mining approval for the proposed Greenfinch mining operation. 2. Requests WALGA to raise the issue with relevant authorities to ensure that the Greenfinch Project has every chance of success.	WALGA has liaised with the Shire and also raised it with the Shadow Minister for the Environment. It is understood that a revised clearing application is currently being assessed by the DWER. Ongoing.	August 2019	Mark Batty Executive Manager Environment and Waste Mbatty@walga.asn.au 9213 2078
Grt Eastern C	2018 November 29 Zone Agenda Item 7.4 Water Corporation - New management and billing structure for standpipes	That the Great Eastern Country Zone request WALGA to advocate opposing the WA Water Corporation proposed fee structure in remote parts of the eastern Wheatbelt and; 1. Request the Water Corporation look to possible subsidised billing to remote user standpipes for users without any other possible means of potable water; Write to the Department of Water suggesting that as a result of the increased Standpipe water costs that they re-introduce the Farm Water Grants to allow effected landholders the ability to create on-farm water storage and water connections	Considered by the Infrastructure Policy Team at its March meeting and further follow-up with Councils requested with feedback to the next meeting.	September 2019	Ian Duncan Executive Manager Infrastructure iduncan@walga.asn.au 9213 2031

Grt Eastern C	2019 March Zone Agenda Item 12.3 Telstra – Power Outages Effecting Communications	1. Requests WALGA to advocate through the State Emergency Management Committee for action in respect to power outages effecting telecommunications and the eligibility for Local Governments to turn generators on.	<p>WALGA have written to the SEMC to request action in respect to power outages effecting telecommunications.</p> <p>WALGA have advocated to the SEMC and the SEMC have included this item on their agenda at the meeting to be held 2 August 2019.</p> <p>WALGA tabled this issue at the August SEMC meeting requesting SEMC to formally write to the District Emergency management Committees and to provide WALGA with advice on this matter. SEMC have taken this as an action.</p> <p>The Zone will be provided with a copy of SEMC's response when received.</p>	August 2019	Joanne Burges Executive Manager, People and Place jborges@walga.asn.au 9213 2018
Grt Eastern C	2018 November 29 Zone Agenda Item 7.3 Container Deposit Scheme Locations	<p>That the Great Eastern Country Zone requests that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> All Local Governments be guaranteed, as a minimum, one flexible refund point in their area. A flexible access point should be defined as a refund point which, as a minimum, is open 16 hours each two week period, including at least 8 hours at weekends <p>The State Government provide appropriate funding for the refund points.</p>	<p>The Scheme commencement date has now been announced – 2 June 2020, and the procurement process for refund points has commenced.</p> <p>The Scheme Coordinator, WA Return Recycle Renew (WARRR) has actively engaged with WALGA and will be hosting workshops around the state for Local Governments and other organisations interested in setting up refund points as part of the Scheme. WALGA hosted a workshop on 14 August to assist Local Governments with their applications to become refund points.</p>	August 2019 Ongoing	Mark Batty Executive Manager Environment and Waste Mbatty@walga.asn.au 9213 2078
Grt Eastern C	2019 March Zone Agenda Item 12.2 Office of the Auditor General (OAG) Audit Fee Increase	The Zone request WALGA to undertake research into the audit costs including why the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) fees have increased significantly and what is the criteria for the fee increases.	<p>WALGA carried out a survey of Local Governments on their experiences with the Office of the Auditor General carrying out financial and performance audits on WA Local Governments.</p> <p>A summary of the survey results will be provided at the August Zone meeting</p>	September 2019	Tony Brown Executive Manager Governance and Organisational Services 9213 2051 tbrown@walga.asn.au

ZONE COMMENT

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

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Karin Day

Seconded: Cr Rodney Forsyth

That the Great Eastern Country Zone WALGA August 2019 Status Report be noted.

CARRIED

8.3 Review of WALGA State Council Agenda – Matters for Decision

BACKGROUND

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

The full State Council Agenda can be found via link: <https://walga.asn.au/getattachment/a846e7df-becb-4570-956e-cafec51afcb3/Agenda-State-Council-6-September-2019.pdf>

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

5.1 Interim Submission - Draft Position Statement: Fibre Ready Telecommunications Infrastructure

WALGA Recommendation

That the interim submission to the WA Planning Commission on the draft Position Statement: Fibre Ready Telecommunications Infrastructure, be endorsed.

5.2 Interim Submission on the WA Motorsport Strategy

WALGA Recommendation

That the interim submission on the WA Motorsport Strategy be endorsed.

5.3 Interim Submission on the State Strategy to Respond to the Abuse of Older People (Elder Abuse)

WALGA Recommendation

That the interim submission on the State Strategy to Respond to the Abuse of Older People (Elder Abuse) is endorsed.

5.4 WA Public Libraries Strategy Forum

WALGA Recommendation

That WALGA:

1. Supports the proposed repurposing of the accounting treatment of existing capital funds to recurrent funding.
2. Supports the proposed transfer of ownership of stock from State to Local Governments for Tier 1 Local Governments.
3. Requests State Library WA to advise the Local Government sector of the State Government corporate budget schedule and expedite annual funding allocation notifications to Local Government as soon as possible in the new financial year.

5.5 Submission on the Draft Compliance and Enforcement Policy

WALGA Recommendation

That the submission to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation relating to the draft Compliance and Enforcement Policy be endorsed.

5.6 Submission on the Environmental Protection Authority's Greenhouse Gas Emissions Guidance

WALGA Recommendation

That the WALGA submission on the Environmental Protection Authority's proposed Greenhouse Gas Emissions Guidance be endorsed.

5.7 Road Safety Strategy for WA Beyond 2020

WALGA Recommendation

That the submission to the Road Safety Council, for consideration in developing the next road safety strategy for Western Australia, be endorsed.

5.8 Interim Submission - Revitalising Agricultural Region Freight Strategy

WALGA Recommendation

That the interim submission to the Department of Transport on the draft Revitalising Agricultural Region Freight Strategy be endorsed.

5.9 Policy Templates: (1) Works in the Local Government Road Reserve; and (2) Events in the Local Government Road Reserve

WALGA Recommendation

That the following Policy Templates be endorsed:

1. Works in the Local Government Road Reserve; and
2. Events in the Local Government Road Reserve

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Onida Truran

Seconded: Cr Eileen O'Connell

That the Great Eastern Country Zone supports all Matters for Decision as listed above in the State Council Agenda.

CARRIED

8.4 Review of WALGA State Council Agenda – Matters for Noting / Information

- 6.1 Submission to the Select Committee into Local Government**
- 6.2 Cooperation and Shared Services**
- 6.3 Draft Terms of Reference for an Inquiry into Local Government Fees and Charges**
- 6.4 Public Health Advocacy Plan**
- 6.5 Completion of the Managing Alcohol in Our Communities Guide**
- 6.6 Local Government Coastal Hazard Planning – Issues Paper**
- 6.7 Climate Resilient Councils – Preparing for the Impacts of Climate Change**
- 6.8 Report Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC)**

8.5 Review of WALGA State Council Agenda – Organisational Reports

- 7.1 Key Activity Reports**
 - 7.1.1 Report on Key Activities, Environment and Waste Unit**
 - 7.1.2 Report on Key Activities, Governance and Organisational Services**
 - 7.1.3 Report on Key Activities, Infrastructure**
 - 7.1.4 Report on Key Activities, People and Place**

8.6 Review of WALGA State Council Agenda – Policy Forum Reports

- 7.2 Policy Forum Reports**
 - 7.2.1 Mayors/Presidents Policy Forum**
 - 7.2.2 Mining Community Policy Forum**
 - 7.2.3 Container Deposit Legislation Policy Forum**
 - 7.2.4 Economic Development Forum**

8.7 WALGA President’s Report

The WALGA President’s Report was attached with the Agenda.

Nick Sloan introduced himself and advised on his background and career highlights together with the WALGA President’s Report.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Gary Shadbolt
Seconded: Cr Onida Truran

That the Great Eastern Country Zone notes the following reports contained in the WALGA State Council Agenda.

- Matters for Noting/Information
- Organisational Reports
- Policy Forum Reports; and
- WALGA President's Report

CARRIED

9. GUEST SPEAKERS / DEPUTATIONS

9.1 CBH Group Update

Rob Dickie, Government and Industry Relations Advisor, presented to the Zone on the progress of the Network Strategy. Presentation is attached. (*Attachment 3*)

9.2 Container Deposit Scheme and 3 Bin Collection System

Rebecca Brown, Manager Waste and Recycling from WALGA presented to the Zone on the Container Deposit Scheme and the 3 bin rubbish collection system. Presentation is attached. (*Attachment 4*).

10. AGENCY REPORTS

10.1 Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries

Kirsty Martin from the Department of Local Government, Sport & Cultural Industries provided an update to the Zone.

10.2 Main Roads Western Australia

Mr Craig Manton was an apology for this meeting and will provide an update to the next Zone meeting.

10.3 Wheatbelt RDA

Mandy Walker, Wheatbelt RDA presented to the Zone.

11. MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

Hon. Laurie Graham MLC, Member for the Agricultural Region, presented to the Zone on the following:

- Select Committee into Local Government
- Legislation – Voluntary Assisted Living and Residential Tenancies Act

12. GENERAL BUSINESS

12.1 Rail Retention Group – Money Retained

Shire of Narembeen suggested winding up their allocated funds to the Secondary Fright Group project.

12.2 Mr Bill Price – Shire of Westonia

The Zone noted that Bill Price was found not guilty of the alleged charges pertaining to his employment at the Shire of Exmouth.

The Zone offers its full support to Bill.

12.3 Retiring Councillors

The Chair, Rhonda Cole, on behalf of the Zone wanted to say thank you to all Elected Members and extended to those re-standing for Council or retiring the Zones best wishes.

12.4 Wheatbelt Regional Health Forum

NEWROC are holding a Wheatbelt Regional Health forum in Training on 20 September 2019. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

13. URGENT BUSINESS

Nil

14. DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETINGS

The next meeting of the Great Eastern Country Zone will be held in Merredin on Thursday 28 November, commencing at 9.30am.

15. CLOSURE

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 11.45am.

ATTACHMENT A

Local Government Auditor General Survey

On 28 October 2017, the Local Government Amendment (Auditing) Act 2017 was proclaimed, giving the Auditor General the mandate to audit Western Australia's Local Government and Regional Councils. The Act allows the Auditor General to conduct performance audits of Local Governments, as well as assuming responsibility for the annual financial audits of Local Governments as their existing audit contracts expire.

To understand the impact these changes have had on the sector to date, WALGA conducted a survey of its members during May and June 2019.

Some 77 Local Governments responded to the survey, representing Local Governments of all sizes and from across both metropolitan and regional WA. The composition of respondents by the size of their rates base is shown in Table 1 below.

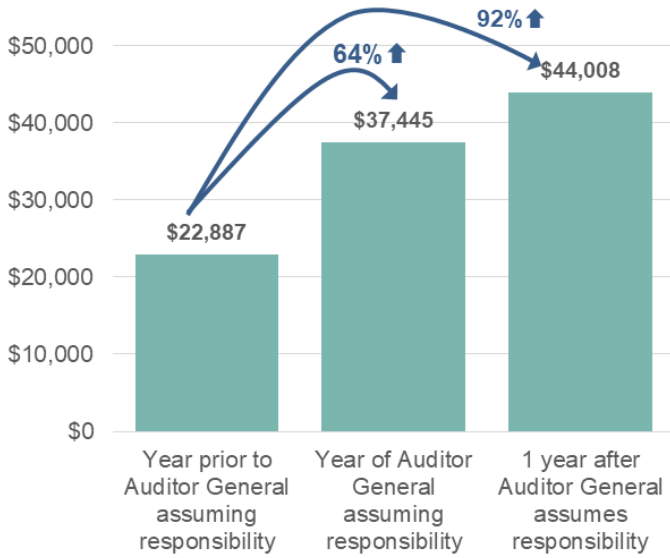
Table 1

Rates base	Survey respondents	All Local Governments in WA
\$0 - \$2.5m	28%	35%
\$2.5m - \$5m	26%	22%
\$5m - \$15m	21%	16%
Above \$15m	25%	27%

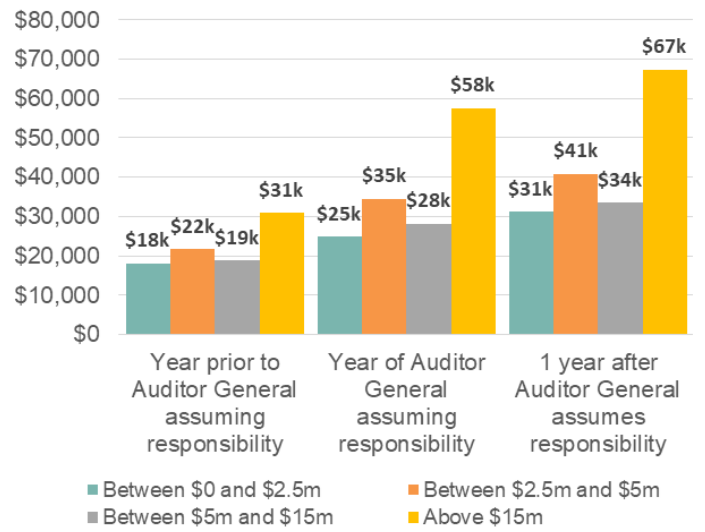
A summary of the survey results is provided below.

- The average financial audit costs of respondents was just under \$23,000 in the year prior to the Auditor General assuming responsibility for financial audits. In the year that the Auditor General assumed responsibility, the average financial audit costs across respondents increased by 64% to \$37,445. In the second year of the Auditor General assuming responsibility, the average financial audit costs across respondents was even higher at \$44,008. This represents an increase of 92% across the two year period.
 - Local Governments with rate bases above \$15 million experienced the greatest increase in financial audit costs (in total dollar and percentage terms) – from an average of \$31,000 in the year prior to the Auditor General assuming responsibility to \$58,000 in the year that the Auditor General assumed responsibility, and then \$67,000 in the second year of the Auditor General assuming responsibility. This represents an increase of 118% over the two year period.
 - Local Governments with rate bases less than \$2.5 million experienced the lowest increase in financial audit costs (in total dollar and percentage terms) – from an average of \$18,000 in the year prior to the Auditor General assuming responsibility to \$25,000 in the year that the Auditor General assumed responsibility, and then \$31,000 in the second year of the Auditor General assuming responsibility. This represents an increase of 72% over the two year period.

Average financial audit costs of respondents

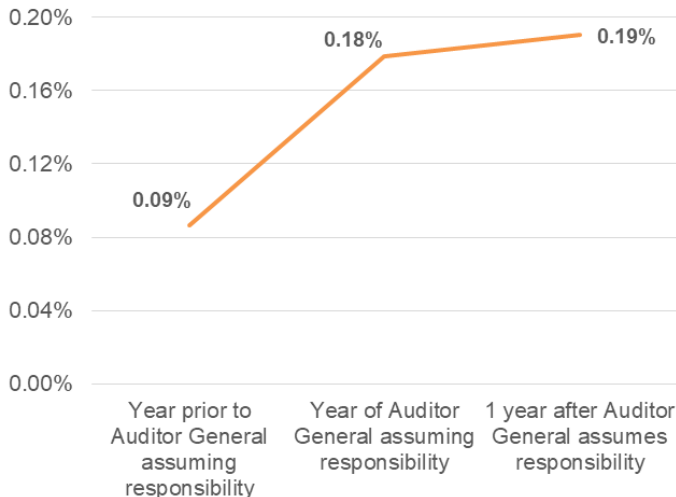


Average financial audit costs of respondents, by size of respondent rates base

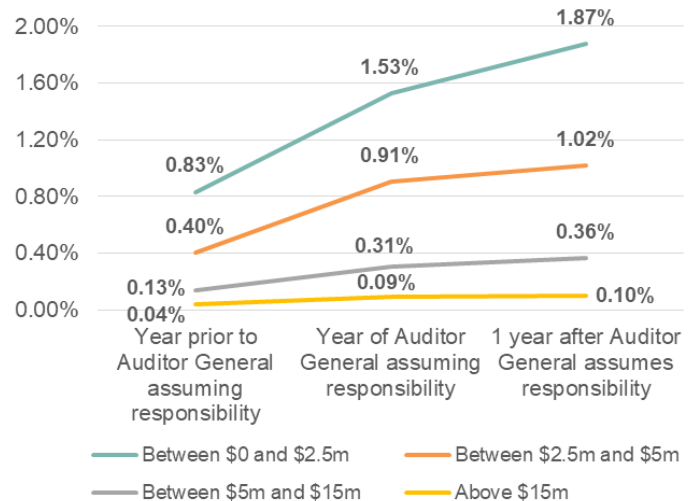


- Financial audit costs represented 0.09% of the respondent rates base (on average) in the year prior to the Auditor General assuming responsibility for financial audits. This increased to 0.18% in the year that the Auditor General assumed responsibility for financial audits, and then 0.19% in the second year of the Auditor General assuming responsibility.
 - Respondents with rates bases below \$2.5 million have seen financial audit costs as a proportion of their rates base increase from 0.83% in the year prior to the Auditor General assuming responsibility, to 1.53% in the year that the Auditor General assumed responsibility and then 1.87% in the second year of the Auditor General assuming responsibility. This compares unfavourably to larger Local Governments, with financial audit costs representing just 0.1% of their rates base in the second year of the Auditor General assuming responsibility.
- The majority of respondents (61% or 47) indicated that the Auditor General assuming responsibility for financial audits has required them to supply more evidence and information in order to substantiate their financial audit. There were, however, 21% of respondents (or 16) who thought the level of evidence and information required has been the same since the Auditor General assumed responsibility, while 18% (or 14) were unsure.

Average financial audit costs of respondents as a proportion of their rates base, by year



Average financial audit costs of respondents as a proportion of their rates base, by year



- Some 88% of respondents indicated that the Auditor General had contracted out the responsibility for their financial audit to a private sector organisation. The majority of these contracted out audits (62%) were performed by the same company that previously conducted their financial audits.
- Some respondents believed there were benefits associated with the Auditor General assuming responsibility for their financial audits, including:
 - staff development (12% of respondents selecting this option);
 - a better perception from rate payers (14% of respondents selecting this option)
 - systems improvement (26% of respondents selecting this option); and
 - other types of procedural improvements.

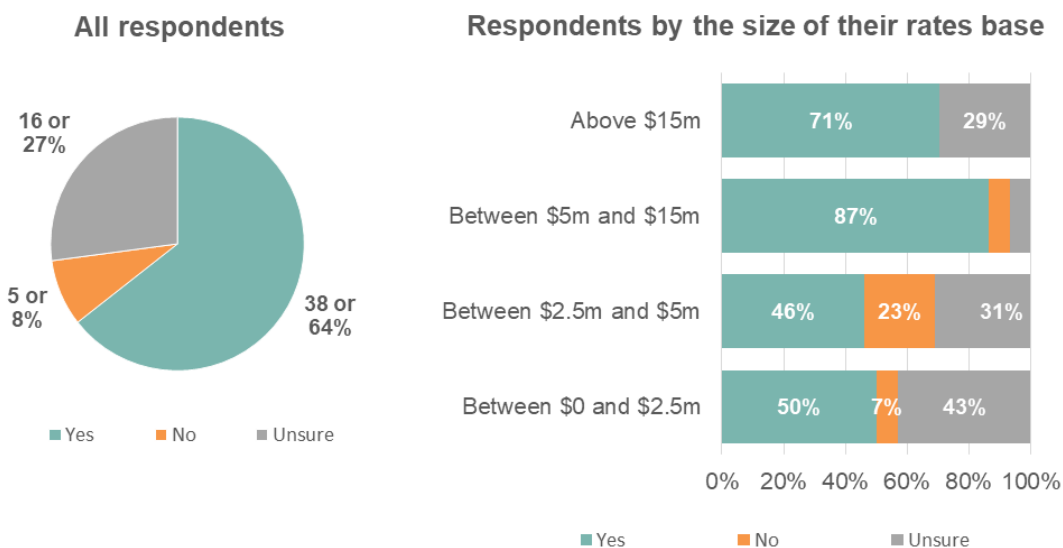
There were 29% of respondents, however, who did not think that the Auditor General assuming responsibility for their financial audits had led to any benefits. These respondents were typically those with a rates base less than \$2.5 million.

A number of respondents also commented that it was too early to tell whether the changes made will lead to any benefits.

- Just 30% of respondents (or 23) had been subject to a performance audit from the Auditor General. In terms of the type of performance audits undertaken, most were in relation to the timely payment of suppliers. The majority of respondents (64% or 38) who had been subject to a performance audit saw them as beneficial for their Local Government, with the type of benefits identified including the development of best practice go-to-guides and the development of appropriate benchmarks that Local Governments can refer to in the future.

A comment made by numerous respondents, however, was that while the performance audits were potentially beneficial, the auditors didn't seem to have knowledge of the diversity of the Local Government sector, and the challenges that regional and smaller Local Governments faced.

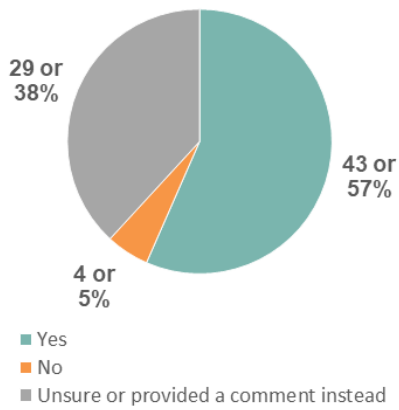
Respondents who believe performance audits are beneficial for their Local Government



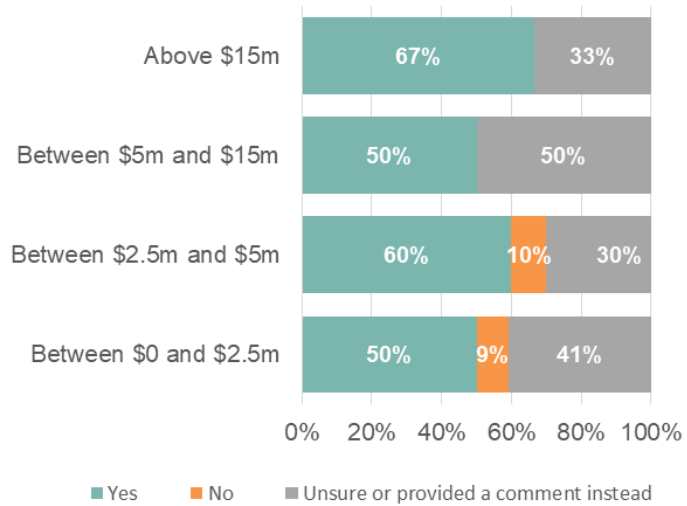
- In addition to being beneficial for their own individual Local Governments, the majority of respondents (57% or 43) also believed that performance audits were beneficial for the broader sector as well. Nevertheless, a common theme reported across respondents was that while performance audits could provide benefits, there needs to be more understanding and support in terms of:

- there being acceptable and realistic timeframes for the implementation of any recommended changes; and
- support being provided to implement any recommended changes, which includes financial assistance.

All respondents



Respondents by the size of their rates base



Local Government Agricultural Freight Group

MINUTES OF MEETING

held in Wattle Room, WA Local Government Association, 170 Railway Parade, West Leederville
Thursday 4 July 2019 commencing at 1:35 pm

1 OPENING & WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed delegates and observers.

2 ATTENDANCE & APOLOGIES

2.1 Attendance

Chair

Cr Ken Seymour Avon-Midland Country Zone

Delegates –

Cr Denese Smythe Avon-Midland Country Zone (by telephone)
Cr Katrina Crute Central Country Zone (by telephone)
Cr Rod Forsythe Great Eastern Country Zone
Cr Keith House Great Southern Country Zone
Cr Tim Barling South Metropolitan Zone

Observers -

Mr Bruce Wittber Central Country Zone
Mr Doug Hall Pastoralists & Graziers Association of WA
Ms Kate Nicol WA Farmers Federation
Mr Mark Adams WA Farmers Federation
Mr Ian Duncan WA Local Government Association
Robert Dew Avon-Midland Country Zone

Apologies -

Cr Brian Rayner Avon-Midland Country Zone
Cr Steven Strange Great Eastern Country Zone
Ms Helen Westcott Central Country Zone
Mr Ian Randles Pastoralists & Graziers Association of WA

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4 ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

5 MINUTES

5.1 Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes of the Meeting held 2 May 2019 at Main Roads WA Heavy Vehicle Services. Copies of these Minutes have been circulated to all member Zones & delegates.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Group's Meeting held 2 May 2019, as printed and circulated, be confirmed.

RESOLUTION

Cr T Barling moved and Cr K House seconded –

That the Minutes of the Group's Meeting held 2 May 2019, as printed and circulated, be confirmed.

CARRIED

5.2 Matters Arising from the Minutes

(a) Harvest Mass Management Scheme (Item 5.1)

The last meeting suggested that Main Roads WA circulate a draft of the Harvest Mass Management Scheme to the Group for feedback prior to its distribution. Heavy Vehicle Services provided a copy which was circulated to members and delegates.

Heavy Vehicle Services advised that in order to maximise time in getting their communication out, they have published the changes for the 2019-20 harvest period on their website (see HVS 12-2019 Update). They requested that should the Group's members see a critical need for further information being included, they would consider amending/including their communications accordingly.

Heavy Vehicle Services also advised that with onsite assessments now well underway for the 1,053 roads endorsed for the 2018/2019 harvest period via the HMMS Road Lists, they are on track to finalising the assessments and adding the roads to the relevant RAV Networks, prior to the upcoming harvest period. As such they point out that the need for the 'first and last mile' special RAV access arrangements previously provided under the scheme are no longer required and have been removed from the scheme.

HMMS will revert to being a mass management scheme only, which was its original purpose. There will be no changes to the mass provisions previously provided under HMMS. The HMMS Business Rules have been updated accordingly and the HMMS Order 2019 is currently going through the approval process in preparation for publishing prior to 1 October 2019.

RECOMMENDATION

For noting

NOTED

(b) Managing Heavy Vehicles Access on Local Roads (Item 6.2(a))

Last meeting noted the offer by Mr Stephen Gash, Shire of Woodanilling, to work with Mr Ian Duncan 'to translate' the gaps in understanding of the gaps in permit conditions at officer level.

RECOMMENDATION

For noting

Cr K Seymour commented that he was aware of two air-seeders in the Dalwallinu district which were 8.5m wide when being transported.

Cr R Forsyth commented that he had raised the issue of the width of agricultural machinery at a recent Men's Shed 'Cops and Coffee' meeting in Kellerberrin. The Police had indicated that the requirements of the regulations were clearly defined.

Cr K House commented that the communication to the community on the requirements relating to the movement of agricultural machinery had been good.

RESOLUTION

Cr T Barling moved and Cr R Forsyth seconded –

That the Department of Transport be urged to engage with the manufacturers of agricultural machinery to ensure that agricultural machinery designs comply with the width and height requirements of the Regulations and to highlight the cost to local government and industry when agricultural machinery exceeds these requirements.

CARRIED

(c) Westport: Port and Environs Strategy (Item 7.1)

Last meeting resolved to invite Ms Nicolle Lockwood, Independent Chair of the Westport Taskforce to attend the July meeting of the Group to give an update on the Taskforce's work. Cr Crute advised that she would be meeting with Ms Lockwood on another matter and offered to speak to her about giving an update to the Group. Cr Crute advised that Ms Lockwood had indicated that she was extremely keen to meet with us, however she was not available on the scheduled date for our July meeting. With the change of meeting date an updated invitation was made, however Ms Lockwood has advised that she is also unable to make this date. Arrangements are in hand for Ms Lockwood to attend our October meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

For noting

The meeting noted that since the circulation of the Agenda, Ms Nicole Lockwood's office had advised that there was now an opportunity for her to attend this meeting. Ms Lockwood would be attending at 3:00 pm.

(d) Other

There were no other matters brought forward.

6 BUSINESS

6.1 Revitalising Agricultural Region Freight Strategy

The draft Revitalising Agricultural Region Freight Strategy was released on 5 June 2019. The Strategy identifies freight priorities in the Mid-West, Wheatbelt, Great Southern and Goldfields-Esperance agricultural regions. The Strategy is now open for public comment. Submissions close 12 July 2019.

The draft Strategy provides a framework to prioritise decision-making to address the key challenges faced when transporting grain, livestock, agricultural lime, fertiliser and hay. It identifies more than 20 multi-model regional transport infrastructure project packages to assist in improving agricultural freight efficiencies and productivity. These include upgrading of rail lines and improving access for longer trains, building new regional intermodal terminals and upgrading roads to allow for heavy vehicle access. Roads included in the Wheatbelt Secondary Road Freight Network appear to be included in the project packages.

All the documents relating to the Strategy are available at:

<https://www.transport.wa.gov.au/Freight-Ports/revitalising-agricultural-region-freight-strategy.asp>

RECOMMENDATION

For discussion

RESOLUTION

Cr R Forsyth moved and Cr T Barling seconded –

That the meeting workshop the draft Revitalising Agricultural Region Freight Strategy.

CARRIED

The meeting reviewed the draft Strategy and made the following comments:

) Introduction

- o The 6 key objectives of the Strategy were supported.
- o Figure 1 should be amended to show rail corridors that no longer support services in a different colour. The current representation may mislead a reader into understanding that there are significant rail services east of the Great Southern rail line (and south of Bunbury although it is recognised that this is outside of the study area).

) Part 1: Current Situation and Future Trends

o Introduction

- Believe this part could use stronger wording.
- The Strategy should be more transparent as to who costs fall on.
- The supply chains for each of the five key commodities should be represented using maps of the same scale and units of measure allowing them to be overlaid to give a better picture of the freight task.

- Livestock
 - The draft Strategy only deals with one element of the livestock industry. The sale yards at both Katanning and Muchea and all the abattoirs need to be included.
 - Livestock supply chain volumes should be mapped in a similar way to the grain transport routes.
 - Noted that changes to RAV access to the north of Perth on Great Northern Highway and Brand Highway were highlighted but only in relation to livestock supply chains. These changes will impact on other agricultural supply chains, including grain, agricultural lime and fertiliser and should all be assessed within the Strategy as well as the effect the changes will have on rail.
 - Agricultural Lime
 - Agricultural lime movements should be mapped in a similar way to grain transport routes.
 - Data on agricultural lime use should be updated (1.66 million tonnes in 2016/2017).
 - Fertiliser
 - Tonnes of fertiliser used (600,000t) does not align with ABS data (1.1m t solid fertiliser and 200,000t liquid fertiliser).
 - Movement of fertiliser into the agricultural areas should be mapped.
 - Hay
 - Hay lime movements should be mapped in a similar way to grain transport routes.
 - Map showing hay production levels shows two export hay processing facilities to the south of Brookton. One of these facilities is located south of Brookton and the other north of Brookton.
 - It should be noted that hay does not all go to the plant located in the area where the hay is grown.
 - Rail and Road Networks
 - Figure 5 would give a better representation of the alternate transport options if there were 128 of the 27.5m road train images in the first block and 86 42m PBS triple road trains in the second.
-) Part 2: Challenges and Responses
- Key Challenges
 - The 10 key challenges were generally supported, but with priority to deficiencies in road and rail infrastructure and deficiencies in infrastructure funding systems.
 - Suggested that Community Impacts should also include environmental impacts.
 - Road Safety
 - Regional Areas Have a Long History of Safety Issues – No evidence to support the view that a continuation of existing programs to improve road safety will materially reduce the risk of road crashes in the agricultural region. To address the challenges, road upgrades should include appropriate treatments to create a safer road environment.
 - Funding System Deficiencies
 - Deficiencies Exist in Infrastructure Funding Systems – Suggest that the State Government further extending its advocacy efforts to achieve a return of revenue from fuel excise to Western Australia that is at least consistent with other jurisdictions.
 - Data Availability
 - Limited Data Availability – Response not going to address the issue. Significant data available that is not fully utilised. Traffic count data is a critical.

Mr Mark Adams left the meeting at 3:01 pm.

Ms Nicole Lockwood entered the meeting at 3:03 pm

-) Infrastructure Project Lists
 - o Secondary Road Freight Network List
 - Noted that this list is not the Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Routes project.
 - Noted that the list does not reflect movement of all commodities; appear to be grain dominated routes.
 - Roads identified may not have local government support as they direct heavy vehicle traffic off of State routes on to local roads.

The meeting requested that draft submission on the Revitalising Agriculture Region Freight Strategy be circulated to members for comment.

6.2 Other

No other matters were brought forward.

7 GUEST SPEAKER

7.1 Westport - Progress Update

Ms Nicolle Lockwood, Independent Chair Westport Taskforce, gave a progress update on the Westport project. She commented on –

-) What is Westport
-) Aboriginal engagement
-) Who is providing input
-) Community engagement
-) Future proofing the Strategy
-) Long term container forecasts
-) 8 strategic options
-) Specialise expertise
-) Multi criteria analysis of strategic options
-) 25 potential infrastructure options identified – 4 Fremantle, 4 Bunbury, 17 Kwinana
-) Communicating findings

In response to questions, Ms Lockwood advised that the short list of options should be out by the end of July and that bulk commodities will be looked at next year following completion of the container component of the Strategy.

The meeting noted that a representative from Westport would be available to give a further update to the October meeting of the Group.

Ms N Lockwood and Cr R Forsythe left the meeting at 3:42 pm.

8 DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

Future Meetings of the Group are scheduled for –

- Friday 11 October 2019
- Friday 10 February 2020
- Friday 3 April 2020
- Friday 10 July 2020

RECOMMENDATION

That the next meeting of the Group be held Friday 11 October 2019 at the WA Local Government Association, commencing at 1:00 pm.

CONSENSUS RESOLUTION

That the next meeting of the Group be held Friday 11 October 2019 at the WA Local Government Association, commencing at 1:00 pm. CARRIED

The meeting requested that representatives from Westport and the Farm Machinery and Industry Association of WA be followed up regarding attendance at the October meeting.

9 CLOSURE

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 3:43 pm.

<p>CERTIFICATION</p> <p>These Minutes were confirmed by the meeting held on</p> <p>Signed: <i>(Chairman of meeting at which the Minutes were confirmed)</i></p>
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MINUTES

FOR THE MEETING COMMENCED AT 10.30 AM
ON THURSDAY 20 JUNE 2019 AT THE
TIVOLI ROOM, CUMMINS THEATRE, MERREDIN

1 Meeting opening and apologies.
Introduction of Visitors/ New members / proxies.

The Chair opened the meeting at 10:31am and welcomed all to the meeting.

Record of Attendance

Executive

Superintendent Antony Sadler (D/Chair) Dept of Fire & Emergency Services
Yvette Grigg (Executive Officer) Dept of Fire & Emergency Services

Members

Tony Sachse	Local Govt Great Eastern Country Zone
Graeme Keals	DBCA Parks and Wildlife
Josh Smith	Dept Primary Industry & Regional Devt
Shannon Wasmann	Wheatbelt Education Office Northam
Gren Putland	Main Roads WA
Matthew Guile	St John Ambulance
Phillip Hay	Dept of Fire & Emergency Services
Ashley Smith	Dept of Fire & Emergency Services
Kellie Bartley	Shire of Merredin
Romolo Patroni	Merredin LEMC
Jo Spadaccini	Dept of Communities
Natasha Harradine	ABC
Greg Treasure	Water Corp
Renee Manning	Dept Primary Industry & Regional Devt
Gordon Fairman	WA Police
Joe Cuthbertson (Late)	WA Country Health Service

Member Apologies

Derek Host	Water Corp
Simon Burke	St John Ambulance
Jack Walker	Local Govt Great Eastern Country Zone

Martin Cope
Darrell Krammer

WA Police
Dept Fire & Emergency Services

Visitors

Dr Rod Thompson

Vet- Dept Primary Industry & Regional Devt

2. Confirmation of Minutes

2.1 Spelling error in Tony Sachse's surname in item 2

2.2 It was agreed that the minutes of the Wheatbelt District Emergency Management committee held on the 1 November 2018 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Tony Sachse

Seconded: Josh Smith

3. Guest Presentations – Dr Rod Thompson from the Dept of Primary Industry and Regional Development

Dr Thompson gave a short presentation on African Swine Fever, how to recognise it, how it is spreading around the world and the likelihood of it entering Australia in the near future.

4. Business arising from previous minutes

4.1 Review of Action List – (*Appendix1*)

5 Correspondence

5.1 Correspondence In;

5.1.1 Mr Mal Cronstedt - Executive Officer of the State EM Committee – copies of letters sent to the Shires of Wongan Ballidu, Chittering and Mukinbudin congratulating them on reviewing their LEMA and advising it had been noted at the March SEMC meeting, (SEMC Resolution # 11/2019.)

5.2 Correspondence Out:

5.2.1 Correspondence Out: Invitations to June DEMC in Merredin sent to the Shires of Merredin, Westonia, Yilgarn, Mukinbudin, Mt Marshall, Koorda, Wyalkatchem, Trayning, Nungarin, Tammin, Kellerberrin and Bruce Rock.

5.3 Information Tabled:

5.3.1 CONFIDENTIAL :

AWARE Fund applications received from the

- Shire of Toodyay (AWARE1920-05 and -06)
- Goomalling (AWARE 1920-07)
- Moora (AWARE 1920-13).

And *distributed by email* to members for endorsement on 27/5/2019.

Recommendation: That the committee make a formal Resolution to endorse the four applications and forward to the state panel for further consideration.

Resolution Number 02/2019

That the Wheatbelt DEMC endorse the four AWARE applications received for the 2019-2020 round of funding.

Moved: Matthew Guile

Seconded: Graeme Keals

6 Standing items

6.1 DEMC membership

New Member – Natasha Harradine from ABC

6.2 District Contact List – circulated an updated.

6.3 Local Emergency Management

6.3.1 Local Emergency Management Arrangements (LEMA)

The following LEMA were checked for compliancy by the Wheatbelt District Advisor and sent to members via email for comment.

1. Shire of Wyalkatchem.

There being no further comments for major changes the LEMA documents are considered compliant by exception and forwarded to SEMC for noting.

They will be tabled for noting at the SEMC meeting to be held on 2 August 2019

Recommendation: That the committee make a formal Resolution to note that the Shire of Wyalkatchem LEMA are compliant.

Resolution Number 03/2019

That the Wheatbelt DEMC formally endorse the Local Emergency Management Arrangements for the Shire of Wyalkatchem.,

Moved: Phillip Hay

Seconded: Jo Spadaccini

6.3.2 Review of EM status across the district (*Appendix 2*)

LEMA currency, LEMC functionality LEMC and exercise schedules (*refer to appendix 2*)

6.3.3 Emergency Risk Management Local (*Appendix 3*)

6.3.4 OASG Activations - Nil

6.3.5 Exercise Reports– Nil.

7. **Agenda Items**

Nil. No agenda items were received from members. The general meeting has been deliberately kept brief to allow for the horizon scanning workshop.

8. **General Business**

8.1 Agency Updates

Dept of Communities – Jo Spadaccini

- Jo is now back in the wheatbelt
- Catching up on work and training

Parks and Wildlife (DBCA) – Graeme Keals

- Tidying up from the fire season
- Have been relatively quiet locally but have been assisting with out of region events
- Western side burning I the past month or 2
- Are beginning to plan for next fire season.

Main Roads WA – Gren Putland

- Projects- Closing construction in Pithara and Muchea North
- 2 additional constructions have begun – Walebing - Wubin Bypass.
- Great Eastern Hwy works east of Merredin and West of Northam to begin next year – expected to take 2 years
- Contractors will now be badged with Main Roads Incident Management at incidents

Department of Fire and Emergency Services – Ashley Smith

- The Goldfields Midlands region has been quite busy. Have had multiple Road Crashes on the Great Eastern Hwy recently.
- Seen an increase in residential fires
- Large fires included Burra Rocks and Horton Road Fire
- Held a Bushfire Review on 14th May.
 - this involved interagency forward planning.
 - ISGs felt well supported and set up quickly
 - Heavy Vehicle Availability – LEMCs need to look at availability to assist
 - Conducted Risk assessment for the next 5 – 10 years

St. Johns – Matthew Guiles

- Have had staffing changes
- Region has been broken in North, South and Eastern Wheatbelt- They will be getting involved more with the LEMCs
- Investigating road transport methods – using community transfers more for non-emergencies

WA Country Health Service – Joe Cuthbertson

- Horton Road Fire – Communications needs to be improved as a warning for possible health concerns from it weren't relayed to Northam hospital as it was run by Metro area.

Water Corporation – Greg Treasure

- Derek Host is back after 3 months in Perth

WA Police Force – Gordon Fairman

- Have been busy with Bushfire and Road Crash incidents
- Have had many LAND SAR activations
- Been watching for activism at the local Abattoirs
- New Officers appointed at the Koorda, Mukinbudin and Wundowie Stations

8.2 Other General Business – Nil

9. Confirmation of next meeting

Proposed meeting dates for 2019 (3 per year)

- 17 October 2019

(Venue to be discussed, and change from Thursdays to Wednesdays to accommodate conflicting regional commitments for the WA Police Superintendent) – no Objections to change

10. Meeting Closed at 11.39 am.

Appendix 1

Action List



Wheatbelt District Emergency Management Committee Action list as at 20 June 2019

Date	Reference	Item	Responsible person	Due date	Update
16/02/17	1.	<p>Issue with the backup batteries at Telstra Exchanges failing during power outages. The Shire of Bruce Rock had a power outage before Christmas, and Telstra advised batteries would be replaced. XO to follow up with Telstra and/or the Shire of Bruce Rock to ensure the batteries have been replaced.</p> <p>Boyd Brown, regional manager for Telstra is attending the Great Eastern Country Zone meeting next month, Tony Sachse to report back to committee on any outcomes.</p>	<p>Executive Officer</p> <p>Tony Sachse</p>	As soon as practical	<p>Executive Officer had conversation with Telstra A/Regional Manager, Naomi Evans. Issue in Bruce Rock was fixed on 29 March 2019- Shire were not aware of this.</p> <p>Action: Executive Officer will encourage LEMCs to note that this is a real issue and to investigate local contingencies.</p> <p>Action Item to be removed.</p>

01/11/2018 2.		<p>WA contingency plan for rail crash in the Avon Valley (February 2012)</p> <p>A passenger train crash in the Avon Valley was considered to be a state level risk, and the development of the plan was originally initiated by the Emergency Services Sub Committee and developed by the Emergency Management and Counter Terrorism unit of the WA Police (in conjunction with the East Metro and Wheatbelt DEMCs). It is now overdue for review, and exercising.</p> <p>Members to read the plan and send any comments for updates or enhancements to the executive officer.</p>	Members	Ongoing	<p>The executive officer of the RCSC (DFES senior policy officer Matt Verney) has been tasked with undertaking some research and reporting back to the subcommittee on the best way forward.</p> <p>Matt will keep the DEMC Executive officer informed.</p>
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21/2/2019	3.	<p>State Emergency Management Exercise Framework – out for consultation.</p> <p>The complete set of documents was sent out to members for feedback. The issue of should DEMCs exercise and why, was discussed. All members agreed they should and the objectives are outlined in the minutes.</p> <p>The executive officer to provide this feedback to the State EM Exercise team.</p>	Executive officer	By consultation deadline of 22 nd March 2019.	Complete
21/2/2019	4.	<p>Risk Treatment Framework</p> <p>Members discussed the DEMC requirements outlined in the document but found them too vague and asked that once the data is collated and analysed they received a report that outlined more explicitly what the tasks might be and the volume of work this might generate.</p> <p>Executive officer to provide this feedback to the state risk team.</p>	Executive officer	ASAP	Complete

21/2/2019	5.	<p>Lack of Regular doctor attendance at the Merredin Hospital – flow on effect to the St John Ambulance sub centre.</p> <p>Alternative patient transfers are to Northam and Perth and the much greater times of these transfers is having significant effect on the SJA sub centre.</p> <p>The Chair to voice the committee’s concern with the regional director Sean Conlan.</p>	Chair	As soon as practical.	<p>Emergency Tele Health System is now in use in all country hospitals therefore every hospital has real time access to Doctors 24/7.</p> <p>Martin Cope spoke with the Regional Director, Sean Conlan. It has been raised with the Minister of Health.</p> <p>Action Item to be removed.</p>
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Appendix 2

Local EM Status for the Wheatbelt EM District

Local Government	Status LEMA	LEMC Functionality	Comments
Beverley	Endorsed 2017	Meeting regularly	
Bruce Rock	Endorsed 2018	Meeting quarterly.	LEMA tabled at SEMC 5 October 2018.
Chittering	Endorsed 2018	Meeting quarterly.	LEMA due for review September 2018. Finalised going to Council for endorsement November 2018.
Cunderdin	Endorsed 2016	Meeting quarterly.	
Dalwallinu	Due March 2019	Meeting quarterly.	Due 2019. Review discussed with D/CEO, about to commence.
Dandaragan	Endorsed 2015	Meeting quarterly	
Dowerin	Due Dec 2019	Meeting quarterly	Meeting held with CEO and DEMA. Progressing with LEMC review workshop scheduled for May.
Gingin	Endorsed 2015	Meeting quarterly	
Goomalling	Endorsed 2017	Meeting quarterly	
Kellerberrin	Due March 2019	Meeting regularly	Finalised. Working through formatting issues. To be sent to DEMC for comment shortly.
Koorda	Completed 2015	Meeting regularly	
Merredin	Completed 2016	Meeting quarterly	

Local Government	Status LEMA	LEMC Functionality	Comments
Moora	Endorsed 2018	Meeting quarterly	LEMA tabled at SEMC 5 October 2018
Mt Marshall	Endorsed 2017	Meeting quarterly.	
Mukinbudin	Endorsed 2019	Meeting regularly	Will be tabled at SEMC on 9 March 2019
Narembeen	Endorsed 2017	Meeting regularly.	
Northam	Endorsed 2016	Meeting regularly.	
Nungarin	Review due 2018	LEMC does not meet.	LEMA in final draft waiting for compliancy check. Will be sent to DEMC shortly for comment.
Quairading	Endorsed 2017	Meeting quarterly.	
Tammin	Endorsed 2014	Meeting quarterly	Due 2019. LEMA currently under review.
Toodyay	Endorsed 2016	Meeting quarterly.	
Trayning	Review Due 2018	Meeting regularly	CEO has advised he doesn't have the resources at this current point in time to complete.
Victoria Plains	Endorsed 2018	Inaugural meeting 19 February 2019	The joint Wongan Ballidu & Victoria Plains LEMC has now been dissolved with each operating separately.
Wongan Hills	Endorsed 2019	Meeting regularly.	Now operating separately as above. LEMA to be noted at SEMC on 9 March 2019
Wyalkatchem	Due June 2019	Meeting quarterly	LEMA reviewed by LEMC workshop and nearly finalised. Will be complete by review date.
Yilgarn / Westonia	Endorsed 2016	Meeting Quarterly.	
York	Endorsed 2018	Meeting quarterly.	

Appendix 2 LEMC meeting and exercise schedule.

25 LEMCs 28 LGs	Proposed Meeting	Proposed Meeting	Proposed Meeting	Proposed Meeting	Proposed Meeting	Proposed Exercise	Ex Report Received	Annual Report Received
Beverley	14/08/2018	13/11/2018	12/02/2019	14/05/2019				Yes
Bruce Rock	15/10/2018	25/02/2018	18/02/2019					Yes
Chittering	22/08/2018	28/11/2018	27/02/2019					Yes
Cunderdin	29/09/2018	28/01/2018	27/02/2019	29/05/2019				Yes
Dalwallinu	30/07/2018	29/10/2018	25/2/2019	29/04/2019				Yes
Dandaragan	22/08/2018	14/11/2018	13/02/2019	22/05/2019				Yes
Dowerin	01/05/2018	01/08/2018	01/11/2018	01/02/2019				Yes
Gingin	08/08/2018	14/01/2018	13/02/2019	08/05/2019				Yes
Goomalling	08/08/2018	14/11/2018						Yes
Kellerberrin/Tammin	28/09/2018	27/11/2018	26/02/2019	28/05/2019				Yes
Koorda								NO
Merredin	16/08/2018	14/11/201	14/03/2019					Yes
Moora	14/08/2018	13/11/2018	12/02/2019	14/05/2019				Yes
Mt Marshall	08/08/2018	14/11/2018	12/02/2019	14/05/2019				Yes
Mukinbudin						01/08/2018		NO
Narembeen	25/07/2018	25/11/2018	25/02/2019	25/06/2019				Yes
Northam	09/2018	11/2018	03/2019	06/2019				Yes
Nungarin								Yes
Quairading	30/09/2018	29/11/2018	28/02/2019	30/05/2019				Yes
Toodyay	08/08/2018	14/11/2018	02/2019	05/2019				Yes
Trayning								NO
Victoria Plains	16/08/2018	15/11/2018	14/02/2019	16/05/2019				Yes
Wongan Ballidu								NO
Wyalkatchem	15/08/2018	17/10/2018	13/02/2019	17/04/2019				Yes
Westonia								NO
Yilgarn	07/2018	10/2018	01/2019	04/2019				

York	14/08/2018	13/11/2018	12/02/2019	14/05/2019			Yes
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Appendix 3 Local Risk Status for the Wheatbelt EM District

Wheatbelt EM District Local Risk Project Status as at 21 st February 2019													
	Attended Introduction	Initial Planning Meeting	Hazards Selected	Scenarios Created	Risk Statements Completed	Workshop - Hazard 1	Workshop - Hazard 2	Workshop - Hazard 3	Workshop - Hazard 4	Workshop - Hazard 5	Workshop - Hazard 6	Report Completed	Sent to DEMC & OEM
Beverley													
Bruce Rock													
Chittering													
Cunderdin													
Dalwallinu													
Dandaragan													
Dowerin													
Gingin													
Goomalling													
Kellerberrin													
Tammin													
Koorda													
Merredin													
Moora													

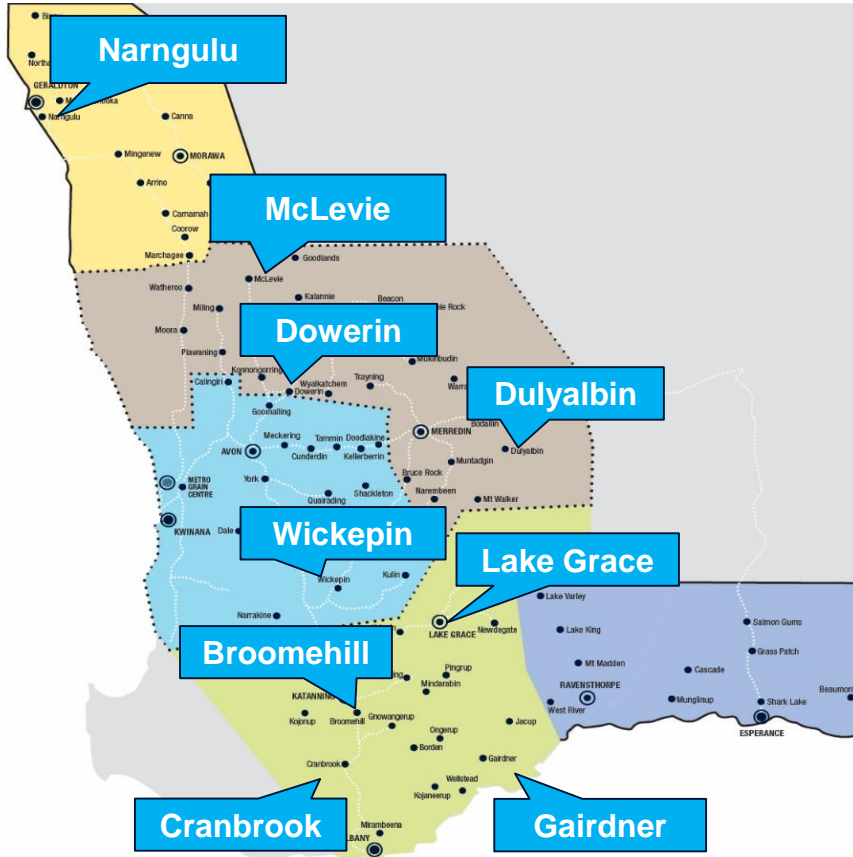
Mount Marshall													
	Attended Introduction	Initial Planning Meeting	Hazards Selected	Scenarios Created	Risk Statements Completed	Workshop - Hazard 1	Workshop - Hazard 2	Workshop - Hazard 3	Workshop - Hazard 4	Workshop - Hazard 5	Workshop - Hazard 6	Report Completed	Sent to DEMC & OEM
Mukinbudin													
Narembeen													
Northam													
Nungarin													
Quairading													
Toodyay													
Trayning													
Wongan Hills													
Victoria Plains													
Wyalkatchem													
Yilgarn													
Westonia													
York													

CBH Network Strategy Update

CBH Government & Industry Relations | Rob Dickie



Network Strategy



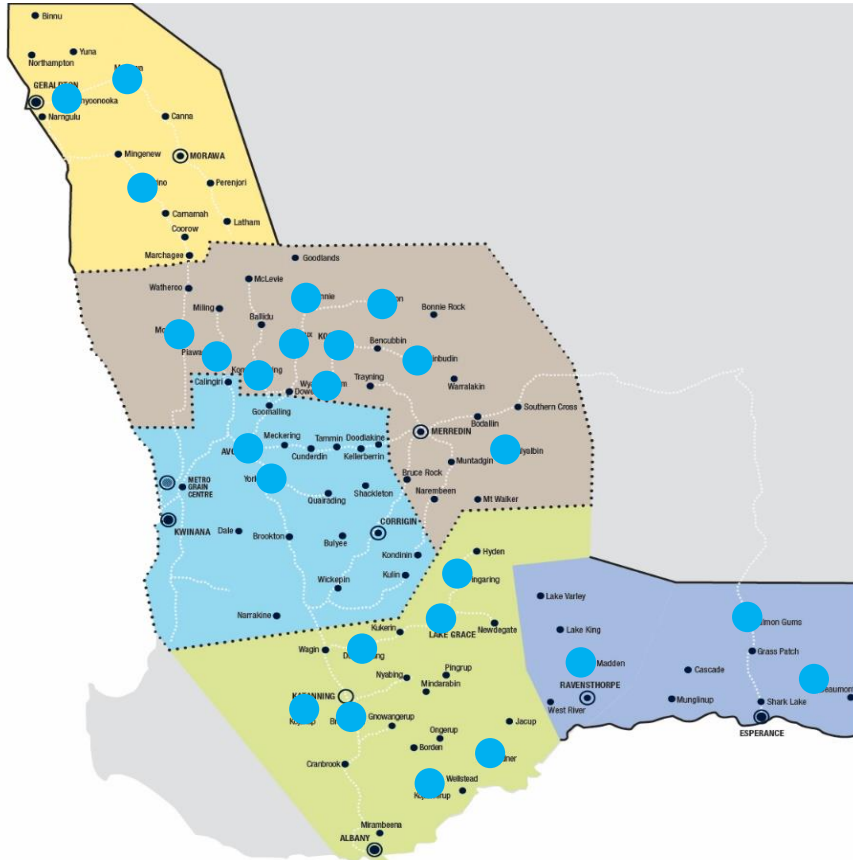
Storage

+1Mt of storage to be constructed in FY2019

8 expansion storage projects

1 new, greenfields site – Narngulu

458kt of storage delivered so far

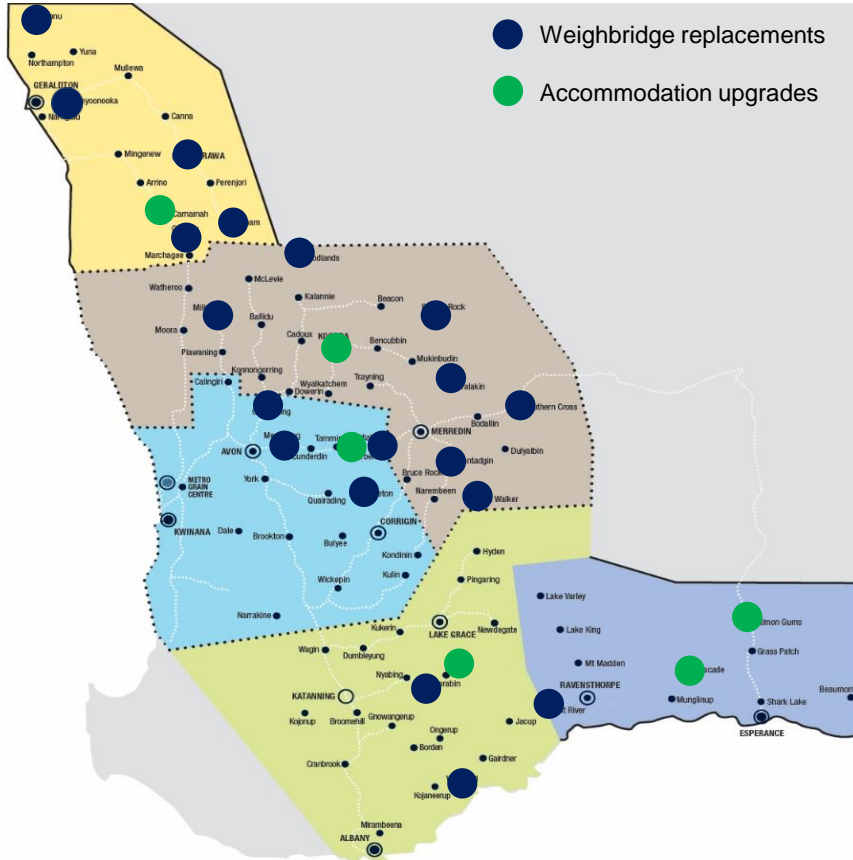


Throughput enhancements

25 sites inloading and outloading enhancements

Involves the installation of new equipment or upgrading infrastructure to increase throughput, resulting in sites being able to receive grain faster

Network Strategy



Weighbridge replacements

16 replacements planned of 36m weighbridges

Other Key Projects

8+ accommodation upgrades



Container Deposit Scheme and FOGO

Session Outline

- Container Deposit Scheme - Opportunities for Local Governments
- Important issues for CDS implementation
 - Minimum Coverage for the Scheme
 - Waste Local Law
 - Planning considerations
 - Material Recovery Facility Audit Protocol
 - Material Recovery Facility agreement on benefit sharing
 - WALGA Ongoing engagement and advocacy
- Food Organic Garden Organic (FOGO) Collection services

Opportunities for Local Government

- Host **refund point** – procurement for refund points occurring at the moment (Containers for Change)
- Host a **donation point** – or encourage a local group to do so
- **Facilitate** local community / business involvement in the Scheme:
 - Promotion, assistance and engagement
 - Planning approvals

Important issues for Local Government

- Minimum Coverage for the Scheme – Great Eastern Country Zone
- Refund points were allocated based on minimum 500 people in a town site
- Sites allocated to **Bruce Rock - Cunderdin – Kellerberin – Merredin**
- All part time sites, minimum opening hours, 16 hours per fortnight, at least 8 weekend hours

Important issues for Local Government

- **Waste Local Law** – important to have in place (or check your Health Local Law)
 - Public Place – prohibition on removal of material from bin
 - Kerbside Bins – prohibition and penalty for removal of material from bin

Homeowners film 'bin bandits' rummaging through rubbish to collect cans



Seven Network 2 February 2019

'Bin Bandits' have been rummaging through people's rubbish to collect cans following the introduction of recycling refund schemes, sparking debate about the legality of their actions.

Important issues for Local Government

- Planning considerations
 - The WA Planning Commission has released a Position Statement on CDS infrastructure
 - Really important that Local Government planners are across the issues associated and ready for applications



Department of Planning,
Lands and Heritage



Western
Australian
Planning
Commission

*We're working for
Western Australia.*

Position Statement:

Container Deposit Scheme Infrastructure

May 2019

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Important issues for Local Government

- Material Recovery Facility Audit Protocol
 - The large MRF's will **not be directly counting** every container that goes through the facility, instead an audit approach will be taken
 - The audits will need to be at kerbside (for glass) and at the MRF for other materials
 - **Audits are expensive** to undertake (\$200K plus), so individual Local Government by Local Government data won't be available – just a State average
 - Baseline audits have been commissioned by the Government, so you may be contacted by the contractor (Talis) to be part of this.

Important issues for Local Government

- Material Recovery Facility/Local Government CDS Benefit Sharing Arrangements
 - Proposed approach in WA - MRF and Local Government share the benefits of the CDS **50/50 – minus the verifiable cost to the MRF** of participate in the Scheme
 - Waste Management and Resource Recovery Association has developed a spreadsheet to show what that would look like
 - The Regulations will provide a default option for benefit sharing
 - Ultimately it is likely the market will adjust, so CDS will be included in the gate fee
 - Talk to your contractor now about how they will pass on the benefits from the CDS.

Timeline

- *Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Amendment (Container Deposit) Bill 2018* introduced into Parliament – **November 2018**
- Scheme Coordinator was put out to tender - closed 5 **December 2018**
- Legislation passed / appointment of Scheme Coordinator – **July 2019**
- Branding for the Scheme – **August 2019**
- Procurement of refund Network – **August - October 2019**
- Appointment of refund Network – **December 2019**
- Community engagement by Scheme Coordinator – **November/December 2019**
- Scheme commences – **2 June 2020**



WALGA ongoing advocacy

Ongoing

- CDS at Events
- WALGA CDS Policy Forum
- DWER Container Deposit Scheme Advisory Group

Coming soon

- Final Regulations for the Scheme

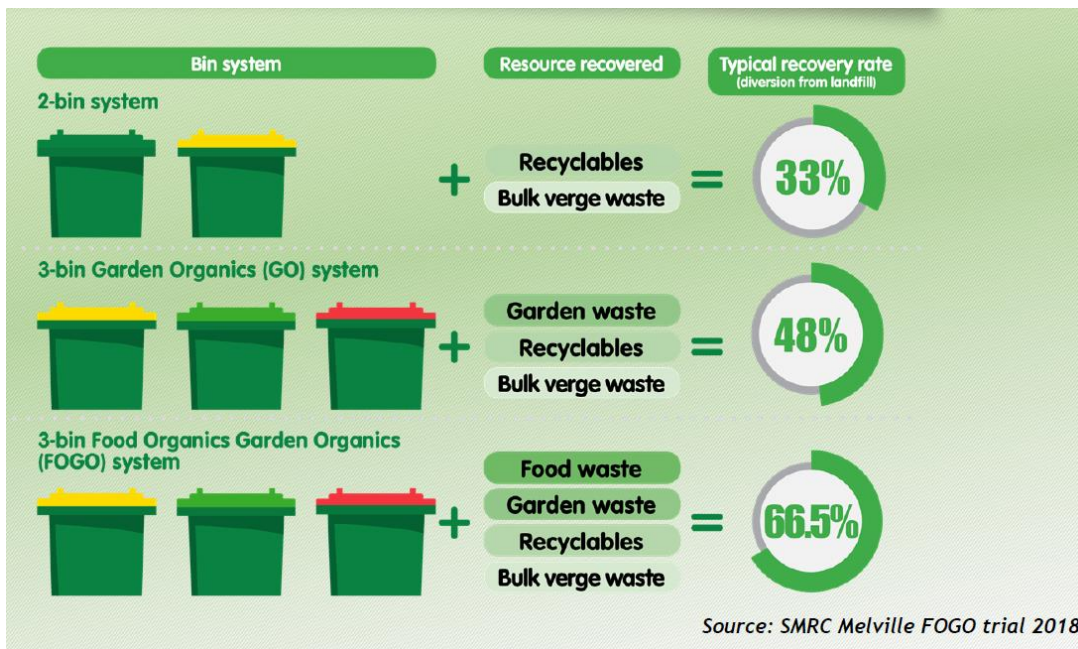
CDS at Events



CDS at Events



Food Organic Garden Organic Collections



- **Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy Target – FOGO for Perth and Peel by 2025**
- Update of the Better Bins Program to focus on FOGO
- Potential to reduce waste to landfill and generate compost for use on land



Food Organic Garden Organic Collections

- Additional steps are still required to ensure that FOGO can be processed and the material collected used, some of the key steps include:
 - Processing infrastructure development
 - Fit for purpose standards for material produced
 - Composting Facility Guidelines
 - DWER capacity to process new licence applications
 - Market development for FOGO product