



Limestone Coast Local Government Association

"Limestone Coast Better Together"

NOTICE is hereby given that an Ordinary Meeting of the
Limestone Coast Local Government Association Board

is to be held at the

Tatiara District Council
43 Woolshed Street
Bordertown SA 5268
on

7 August 2026

commencing at 10:00am

Charlotte Edmunds
Executive Officer
Limestone Coast Local Government Association



Limestone Coast Local Government Association

Ordinary Board Meeting Agenda

7 August 2026

Tatiara District Council

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Tatiara District Council

Board Members

City of Mount Gambier	Mayor Lynette Martin OAM - <i>President</i>
Tatiara District Council	Mayor Liz Goossens - <i>Vice President</i>
Southern Limestone Coast Council	Mayor Kylie Boston
District Council of Robe	Mayor Lisa Ruffell
Kingston District Council	Mayor Jeff Pope
Naracoorte Lucindale Council	Mayor Patrick Ross

CEO's/Staff

City of Mount Gambier	Paul Simpson	CEO
Tatiara District Council	Kingsley Green	CEO
Southern Limestone Coast Council	Gary Button	CEO
District Council of Robe	Nat Traeger	CEO
Kingston District Council	Ian Hart	CEO
Naracoorte Lucindale Council	Kelly Westell	CEO
LCLGA	Charlotte Edmunds	Executive Officer

1. PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

Time noted

Host Council welcome – Mayor Liz Goossens

WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE TRADITIONAL OWNERS OF THE LAND ON WHICH WE MEET AND PAY OUR RESPECTS TO THEIR ELDERS, BOTH PRESENT AND PAST.

2. APOLOGIES

Board Member apologies: Mayor Patrick Ross, Naracoorte Lucindale Council

Board Members leave of absence: Nil

CEO's/Staff apologies: Ian Hart, CEO Kingston DC, Kingsley Green CEO Tatiara DC, Kelly Westell CEO Naracoorte Lucindale Council

Recommendation

That the Board notes the apology from Naracoorte Lucindale Council Mayor Patrick Ross.

MOVED

SECONDED

CARRIED/LOST



Limestone Coast Local Government Association

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Tatiara District Council

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the LCLGA Board Meeting held 26 June 2026 held at Southern Limestone Coast Council (formally District Council of Grant) be taken as read and confirmed as accurate.

MOVED

SECONDED

CARRIED/LOST

4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Pursuant to Division 1, Part 4, Chapter 5 of the Local Government Act 1999, a Board Member who has an interest in a matter within the Agenda must disclose the interest to the Board.

Report Number and Title:	
Member Name:	
Member Council:	
Type of Conflict:	
Nature of Conflict:	
Member participating in Meeting:	
Reason for participation:	
Member voting on matter:	

5. BUSINESS ADJOURNED

Nil

6. MINUTE ACTION LIST

RECOMMENDATION Moved: Seconded: 1. That the minute action list be received and noted. CARRIED/LOST

Completed	Will be removed from Action List	all actions required of the Motion have been completed			
In Progress	Will remain on Action List until completed	A start has been made on the action of the Motion (progress commentary will provide explanation)			
Outstanding/Delayed	Will remain on Action List until completed	Work has not yet commenced or there has been a delay on the action. (progress commentary will provide explanation)			
Meeting date	Agenda Item	Resolution	Progress commentary	Due Date	Updated due date
10/04/26	8.7 Draft Annual Business Plan and Budget 2026-2031	1. The LCLGA Annual Plan and Budget 2026-2031, as amended, be referred to Constituent Councils for review and comment. 2. That a workshop be held to discuss RDA LC funding agreements.	- Draft sent to Constituent Councils 17 April - Adopted by LCLGA Board 26 June - Sent to all constituent Council CEOs 3 July 2026.	26 June 2026	

Ordinary Board Meeting Agenda

7 August 2026

Tatiara District Council

Meeting date	Agenda Item	Resolution	Progress commentary	Due Date	Updated due date
			Workshop held 29 July 2026.		
10/04/26	8.6 Drought Resilience Plan	The LCLGA write to State and Federal Ministers responsible outlining our concerns with process and outputs of the Drought Resilience Plan	- Letter sent 22 May 2026. - Response received and circulated 31/07/26		
13/02/26	9.5 Charter Review	That the LCLGA Charter be circulated to Constituent Councils for comment and feedback to inform any necessary amendments to be received by the Executive Officer no later than 1 May 2026 That should amendments be suggested, a tender process be undertaken as per the LCLGA Procurement Policy to engage a commercial law firm to draft the amended Charter with the draft to be presented to the Board at its August meeting.	- Request for Constituent Council feedback and comment sent with letter to CEO and background paper, 25 February 2026. - Council feedback and suggestions sent to Norman Waterhouse 29/05/26. - NW advice received 25/06/26. - Workshop with Board held 29/07/26.	7/08/26	9/10/26

Ordinary Board Meeting Agenda

7 August 2026

Tatiara District Council

Meeting date	Agenda Item	Resolution	Progress commentary	Due Date	Updated due date
13/02/26	9.7 LCLGA Policy and Procedure Review	That the report be received and noted. That the Executive Officer be delegated to review all policies, procedures and codes and draft suggested amendments to the register, including revoking unnecessary policies and procedures and adding any required new policies and procedures and that the amended register be presented to the Board in April. 3. All new or amended policies and procedures be presented to the Board in draft no later than 30 June 2026. 4. Any policies, procedures or codes that relate to financial governance of the LCLGA will be referred to the LCLGAs Audit and Risk Committee prior to recommending to the Board.	Outstanding draft policies to be reviewed at A&R in August: • Code of Conduct for Employees • Risk Management	30/06/26	9/10/26

7. EXTERNAL ORGANISATION PRESENTATION – via Teams

LGA SA Jane Vergou - Project Manager, Sector-wide Approach to Sustainable Procurement (to present via Teams)

8. EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTS

8.1 DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Report: Jennifer Schilling, Principal Regional Advisor - Limestone Coast
Attachments: 8.1 PIRSA Update July 2026

RECOMMENDATION

Moved:

Seconded:

1. That the report be received and noted.

CARRIED/LOST

8.2 REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA – LIMESTONE COAST

Report: Interim CEO Sarah Philpott
Attachments: 8.2 RDALC REPORT MAY-JUNE

RECOMMENDATION

Moved:

Seconded:

1. That the report be received and noted.

CARRIED/LOST

8.3 CROSS BORDER COMMISSIONER

Report: Kelly-Anne Saffin, Cross Border Commissioner
Attachments: Nil

8.4 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Report: TBA

Attachments: [Member services updates | LGA South Australia](#)

RECOMMENDATION

Moved:

Seconded:

1. That the report be received and noted.

CARRIED/LOST

8.5 ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY

Report: Peta Crewe, Regional Director, Mount Gambier

Attachments: 8.5 Adelaide University Aug update

RECOMMENDATION

Moved:

Seconded:

1. That the report be received and noted.

CARRIED/LOST

8.6 LIMESTONE COAST LANDSCAPE BOARD

Report: Steve Bourne, CEO

Attachments: Nil

9. LCLGA REPORTS**9.1 PRESIDENTS REPORT**

Report Author:	LCLGA President
Consulted:	N/A
Strategic Reference:	Strategic Plan 2026-2031
Budget Implications:	Nil
Risk Assessment:	Low
Attachments:	Nil

RECOMMENDATION

Moved:

Seconded:

1. That the report be received and noted.

CARRIED/LOST

The following activities have been undertaken as President of LCLGA since the last Board meeting:

- Interview with Di Gould, Mount Gambier Times re the Local Government Elections change of date to April 2027.
- Along with Mayor Boston, Mayor Ross and Mayor Pope, attended the celebration of 150 Years of Tatiara District Council at Council Chambers in Bordertown on 29 June 2026.
- Met with Regional Engagement Officer, Children's University Adelaide in my role as Regional Ambassador for the Children's University, following which I wrote to Mayors, encouraging them to meet with the Officer when she contacts them.
- Attended Adelaide University 2026 Scholarship Grants and Awards presentation dinner.
- Mayor's catch ups.
- Various catch ups with Executive Officer.
- Along with Mayors and CEOs attended Workshop to consider to the Water Allocation Planning process, Regional Development Australia Limestone Coast, and the LCLGA Charter.
- Travelled to the Eyre Peninsula with Mayor Goossens for the SAROC meeting and LGA Board Meeting. We were hosted by Mayor Quigley of the Lower Eyre Peninsula Council. It was very interesting to observe the achievements of the town of Cummins community infrastructure, driven by the community, the wonderful cropping season and in Coffin Bay the oyster industry.

Tatiara District Council

- The SAROC Committee debated the Item of Business from the Naracoorte Lucindale Council requesting the LGA advocate to the State Government to investigate the appointment of an Independent Agriculture Commissioner to provide increased protection for South Australia's primary producers and regional communities.
- Mayor Ross provided an excellent on-line presentation to the Committee, with much discussion ensuring, resulting in the Item of Business to be presented to the Annual General Meeting in November.
- David Whiterod, Director, Office of Local Government provided a verbal update on the Local Government Periodic Elections to be held in April 2027.
- Matters discussed were Remuneration Tribunal and consideration of application of CPI to Member Allowances and other transitional arrangements.
- SAROC Committee Members expressed concerns around the budget preparation, compulsory training requirements and the need to get new Members through financial training before they pass the budget which will require LGASA to get more people involved to deliver that training.
- LGA Secretariat has published FAQs on Member Portal and Michael McCarthy, Manager Governance is going to make further inquiry into matters of concern, for example, Mayors conducting Citizenship Ceremonies on Australia Day.
- Meeting with Sarah Philpott, Interim CEO Regional Development Australia Limestone Coast.

9.2 EXECUTIVE OFFICERS REPORT

Report Author:	Executive Officer
Consulted:	N/A
Strategic Reference:	Strategic Plan 2026-2031
Budget Implications:	Nil
Risk Assessment:	Low

RECOMMENDATION

Moved:
Seconded:

1. That the report be received and noted.

CARRIED/LOST

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Update of the activities of the Executive Officer and LCLGA operations.

DISCUSSION

It has been a full 12-months of the 'new' LCLGA as an advocacy focused model. This marks a significant milestone as this initial 12-month period has been one of re-structure and re-building the LCLGA's operations to align with the new strategic direction.

It also marks the final handover of the programs once managed by LCLGA with the role of Regional Tourism Organisation now in the hands of Regional Development Australia Limestone Coast. While strategic management of Limestone Coast Tourism as the RTO is no longer the role of LCLGA, LCLGA will, of course, remain a key stakeholder and advocate for tourism as an increasingly important economic driver in our region.

The end of financial year also begins the external audit process which this year sees a new auditor engaged. As this is the first year with new auditors, additional information has been required to help Bentleys get to know our organisation. The Audit will be presented to LCLGA Audit and Risk Committee 20 August 2026 and a Special Board meeting will be held in September to ensure the Annual Report with Audited Financial Statements can be presented before the 30 September compliance deadline.

The Charter Review is ongoing with final advice being provided to Norman Waterhouse in line constituent council feedback, and Board expectations discussed at the recent workshop. The draft Charter will be presented to the Board for adoption in October.

A draft Connective Trails Strategy was presented to the steering group in late July, with a final Strategy expected to be completed in September. This will conclude the project funded through LGA SA's Regional Capacity Building Allocation for the 2025-26 allocation.

Two projects have now been submitted to the LGA SA for the 2026-27 allocation, in line with board resolutions made at the last meeting.

With the Federal Government's inquiry into Local Government sustainability holding public hearings in Adelaide on 25 August, all Regional LGAs are preparing submissions to the committee and giving evidence including a shared platform of recommendations. LC LGA will prepare a submission and LCLGA Vice President will appear at the hearing as the LCLGA representative along side Kingston DC and DC Robe reps.

In-person engagement with key stakeholders to advance the priorities and build the profile of the LCLGA as well as ensuring operational compliance has included:

- ICON - Radiation Treatment
- LGA SA & Regional LGAs
- Bentleys - Audit meeting

Tatiara District Council

- Limestone Coast Landscape Board – CEO, Steve Bourne
- Southern Limestone Coast – CAC officer, Tony Elletson
- RDA SA – CEO, Leonie Boothby
- PPSA – CEO, Caroline Rhodes
- Cross Border Commissioner and RDA LC Chair & Acting CEO re Tourism advocacy
- Adviser to Minister Boyer re Palliative Care (In-Home Hospice Care)
- Radiation Treatment Working Group
- Murraylands Riverland LGA
- NTRO – condition assessment trial proposal
- External Finance Consultant – draft financial reporting
- Member for Mount Gambier, Travis Fatchen MP
- Southern Limestone Coast CEO and CAC officer
- Minister for Tourism & Environment and Water Hon. Emily Bourke MLC
- Agri-Business Leaders Lunch
- RDA LC Interim CEO - Sarah Philpott
- Limestone Coast Water Alliance
- Regional LGAs catch up
- Trials Strategy working group meeting with Tredwell – draft strategy
- LCLGA Board workshop

Internally, meetings on matters pertaining to the administration and management of the LCLGA include;

- Regional Tourism Manager
- LCLGA CEOs catch-up
- Mayor's catch-ups
- Meetings with LCLGA President
- Tourism Management Committee

The next few months will see planning begin for the 2027 advocacy plan and engagement with constituent councils and board members.

Planning is also underway for the second LCLGA Limestone Coast Leaders Forum, this time focusing on Housing. This is planned for late October / November.

Finally, an initial request has been submitted for PIRSA to brief LCLGA councils in region regarding the PIRSA/LGA SA co-funded project to research, develop and register a new bait for pest birds. The report is awaiting final sign off before release.

Annual Leave has been requested and granted by LCLGA President between August 17 and August 28, noting that I will be working remotely on the 20th to attend Audit and Risk Committee and see that external audit is finalised.

9.3 LANDSCAPE BOARD NOMINATIONS

Report Author:	Executive Officer
Consulted:	N/A
Strategic Reference:	Strategic Plan 2026-2031
Budget Implications:	Nil
Risk Assessment:	Low
Attachments:	9.3 S Bourne to LCLGA - LCLB recruitment

RECOMMENDATION

Discuss consideration of a letter of recommendation for Board position/s to represent Local Government in the Limestone Coast.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report informs the Board of the Landscape Board nomination process, noting that at least one member of the Board is a member or officer of a council within the region.

DISCUSSION

Correspondence was received from CEO of the Limestone Coast Landscape Board requesting that we share and promote that nominations for Board positions are open.

The *Landscape South Australia Act* requires landscape boards have at least one member that is a member or officer of a council within the region.

The LCLGA Board may wish to consider making a recommendation/s to fill this position.

9.4 LCLGA SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES

9.4.1 TOURISM TRANSITION COMMITTEE

SUB-COMMITTEE	Tourism Transition Committee
MEETING DATE/s	TBA
MINUTES	Nil

9.4.2 TOURISM MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

SUB-COMMITTEE	Tourism Management Committee
MEETING DATE/s	30 June 2026
MINUTES / attachments	9.4.2 A LCLGA_TMC Minutes June 2026 Draft 9.4.2 B LCLGA TMC TORs

RECOMMENDATION

Moved:

Seconded:

1. That the draft minutes of the Tourism Management Committee meeting held 30 April 2026 be received and noted.
2. That the LCLGA Tourism Management Committee be dissolved as a result of the RTO transition to RDALC.

CARRIED/LOST

9.4.3 ROADS AND TRANSPORT WORKING COMMITTEE

SUB-COMMITTEE	ROADS AND TRANSPORT WORKING COMMITTEE
MEETING DATE	Nil
MINUTES	N/A

9.4.4 AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE

SUB-COMMITTEE	LCLGA AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE
MEETING DATE	Next meeting 20 August with Bentleys
MINUTES	Nil

10. MOTIONS WITH NOTICE

Nil

11. MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE**12. QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE**

Nil

13. QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE**14. MEETING SCHEDULE**

As per Clause 3.7.7 of the LCLGA Charter, the time and place of ordinary meetings of the Board (including the Annual General Meeting), fixed by the Board in accordance with Clause 3.7.2, will be confirmed at each ordinary meeting of the Board.

Recommendation

1. That the Board confirm the 2026 Ordinary meeting schedule as follows;

DATE	LOCATION
7 AUGUST 2026	TATIARA DISTRICT COUNCIL
9 OCTOBER 2026	NARACOORTE LUCINDALE COUNCIL
11 DECEMBER 2026	KINGSTON DISTRICT COUNCIL - AGM

2. That the Board note a Special Board Meeting is expected to be held 24 September 2026 to present the Annual Report with Audited Financial Statements.

MOVED

SECONDED

CARRIED/LOST

15. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**15.1 Tourism Transition Update**

Report Author:	LCLGA EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Consulted:	LCLGA PRESIDENT
Strategic Reference:	Strategic Plan 2026-2031
Budget Implications:	Nil
Risk Assessment:	Extreme (Reputational and Human Resources)
Attachments:	

CONSIDERATION FOR EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

Exclusion of the Public – Section 90(2) Order

Pursuant to Section 90(2) and (3)(k) of the *Local Government Act 1999* the Limestone Coast Local Government Association Board (the Board) orders all persons present with the exception of all Board Members, LCLGA CEOs Paul Simpson, Nat Traeger, Gary Button, EO Charlotte Edmunds and Interim RDA CEO Sarah Philpott be excluded from attendance during Agenda Item **15.1 Tourism Transition Update**. The Board is satisfied that, pursuant to section 90(3)(k) of the Act, the associated documents to be received, discussed and considered in relation to this is:

- (a) information the disclosure of which would involve the unreasonable disclosure of information concerning the personal affairs of any person (living or dead);

The Board is satisfied that the principle that the meeting be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed in the circumstances because the information to be disclosed would involve the unreasonable disclosure of information concerning the personal affairs of any person (living or dead);

Moved:

Seconded:

CARRIED/LOST

[Redacted content]



Limestone Coast Local Government Association

Ordinary Board Meeting Agenda

7 August 2026

Tatiara District Council

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

CONSIDERATION FOR KEEPING ITEMS CONFIDENTIAL

Moved:

Seconded:

1. Having considered Agenda Item **15.1 Tourism transition Update** in confidence under section 90(2) and (3)(k) of the Local Government Act 1999, the Limestone Coast Local Government Association Board (the Board), pursuant to section 91(7) of that Act orders that the documents and minutes relevant to Agenda Item **15.1 Tourism Transition Update** be retained in confidence until such time as all parties, including staff, media and industry stakeholders have been notified.
2. The Board delegates to the LCLGA Executive Officer, pursuant to Section 91(9)(c) of the Local Government Act 1999, the power to revoke the order made by the Board under Section 91(7) and (9) of the Act at part (1) of this resolution at any time prior to the expiration of the period of the order specified therein.

CARRIED/LOST

16. MEETING CLOSE

Time noted



Limestone Coast Local Government Association

Ordinary Board Meeting Agenda

7 August 2026

Tatiara District Council

ATTACHMENTS

Att. No.		Pg.
8.1	PIRSA Update June 2026	1
8.2	RDALC Report May-June	3
8.5	Adelaide University update	6
9.3	S Bourne to LCLGA – LCLB recruitment	8
9.4.2 A	LCLGA_TMC Minutes June 2026 Draft	9
9.4.2 B	LCLGA TMC TORs	12

PIRSA update - LC LGA meeting August 2026.

Avian Influenza (Bird Flu)

PIRSA continues preparedness, surveillance and awareness activities relating to avian influenza (bird flu). If queried by members of the public, stakeholders are encouraged to share the following information:

- Avoid contact with sick or dead birds and other animals.
- Record what you see, including location, date, time and species (if known).
- Take photographs or video where possible.

Report observations to the **Emergency Animal Disease Hotline** on **1800 675 888**. PIRSA encourages local government, industry and community stakeholders to share information from official sources and follow PIRSA social media channels for updates.

SA Information and Resources: <https://birdflu.sa.gov.au>

National Information: <https://birdflu.gov.au>

Australian Plague Locust Update

The Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) are preparing a coordinated response to the increased risk posed by Australian plague locusts across parts of regional South Australia.

PIRSA will undertake further surveillance in the Flinders North and pastoral zones in early spring to identify where locust populations are emerging and determine whether treatment is necessary. Any control activities will be targeted according to the local environment, land use, locust density and potential risks to agricultural production, communities and sensitive sites.

Under the *Plant Health Act (2009)*, landholders are primarily responsible for controlling locusts on their properties; however, PIRSA will continue to support landholders through surveillance, advice, monitoring and control guidance.

Locusts are highly mobile pests and could fly in to previously unaffected areas with little warning - monitoring and reporting by the public will be important. Australian Plague Locusts are a notifiable pest and landowners or producers are required to report any sightings by calling the Exotic Plant Pest Hotline **1800 084 881** or via PIRSA's online plant-pest reporting form. For more information or to report any locust activity, visit pir.sa.gov.au/locusts

Wild Dog Management Update

The SA-Victoria border remains a priority wild dog management area for the South Australian Government. Following the Victorian Government's decision to protect dingoes in north-west Victoria in March 2024, reported livestock attacks in border regions have increased significantly.

The rate of dingo attacks on livestock in north-west Victoria has more than doubled since March 2024, with 236 attacks recorded in the first six months of 2025-26, compared with 244 attacks during all of 2024-25. Wild dog attacks on livestock on the South Australian side of the border have also increased. Wild dog activity has been regularly detected within Ngarkat Conservation Park since October 2024.

The Department for Environment and Water (DEW) Chief Executive's Control Notice requires baiting by all land managers in the region until no further evidence of wild dogs is

PIRSA update - LC LGA meeting August 2026.

detected. DEW is updating its Ngarkat baiting program, which is expected to significantly increase baiting activity in line with the Control Notice.

Regional Leadership Development Program (RLDP) 2026-2028

The RLDP is set to commence following the success of the 2024/2026 Program. The program funded through the Thriving Regions Fund:

- Supports the development of current and emerging regional leaders across South Australia.
- Builds leadership capability,
- strengthens community networks and supports long-term regional capacity.
- Encourages collaboration and strategic leadership across regional industries, businesses and communities. <https://regionaldevelopment.sa.gov.au/regional-leadership-development-program>

Harmful Algal Bloom

The South Australian Research and Development Institute (SARDI) has released the findings of the most comprehensive investigation to date into the state's unprecedented harmful algal bloom.

The independently peer-reviewed report concludes that a combination of environmental factors most likely contributed to the emergence and spread of the *Karenia* algal bloom, which began in March 2025 and went on to affect extensive areas of South Australia's coastal waters.

The report identifies three primary contributing factors:

- Nutrient-rich floodwaters from the 2023 River Murray Flood
- Record coastal upwelling during 2023–24
- A marine heatwave.

SARDI found that these factors likely combined to create highly favourable conditions for the harmful algal bloom to develop. The report was externally and independently reviewed by leading experts from Tasmania and the United States. This can be downloaded from [algal bloom impact](#).

2026 Young Rural Ambassador,

Naracoorte's Eddie Lock has been named the 2026 Young Rural Ambassador, in recognition of his dedication to agricultural shows and the rural and regional communities they highlight.

It is the second year in a row that a representative from the Naracoorte Show and the South East and Border Show Association has been named Young Rural Ambassador, after Shayla Lapse received the honour last year.

Eddie was recognised at the SA Country Shows Youth Presentation Night on 17 July for his longstanding contribution to the Naracoorte Show. He convenes the Poultry, Pigeon, Technologies and Young Farmer Challenge sections and is also an active exhibitor. The award acknowledges his dedication, leadership and ongoing support of the regional show movement.

Supported by the Malinauskas Government, the award also highlights the importance of youth participation in the agricultural show movement and supports the development of its next generation of leaders.

MAY-JUN 2026

WE SUPPORT BUSINESSES WHERE THEY'RE AT

During the 2025 - 26 financial year, the Small Business Fundamentals program supported **70** local businesses through one-on-one advisory services, with **48** businesses participating in mentoring and **123** attendees across **7** workshops. This level of participation demonstrates the value of the program in reaching businesses throughout the region, helping them access trusted advice, strengthen capability, and improve resilience during a period of sustained economic pressure.

One-on-one support grew consistently across both advisory and mentoring streams, reaching businesses across the full breadth of the Limestone Coast. Growing word of mouth referrals from existing participants further reflect strong satisfaction and an emerging reputation for the program across the region.

RDALC maintained regular communication with business associations across the Limestone Coast to strengthen relationships and ensure support remained responsive to local business needs. A targeted email was distributed to reconnect with each association, confirm current committee and contact information, provide a program update, and invite interest in an annual catch-up meeting. This engagement supports ongoing collaboration and helps ensure RDALC maintains current networks and an understanding of emerging priorities across the region.

WE ENCOURAGE INVESTMENT IN THE REGION

Stakeholder Engagement

- RDALC met with two schools in the Wattle Range Council area that requested further information following the release of the Early Childhood Education and Care Report.
- The RDALC Manager of Partnerships and Projects met with AusIndustry representatives.
- RDALC prepared two letters of support and one regional advocacy submission.
- RDALC completed three economic impact modelling assessments to inform potential investment opportunities across the region.
- A launch event for the Early Childhood Education and Care Report is planned for Tuesday, 7 July 2026 at Parker Estate, with 30 invited attendees including key government and sector stakeholders.

NARACOORTE LUCINDALE COUNCIL

- An email was distributed to Business Association members to provide a committee update, seek feedback, and gauge interest in an annual networking event similar to that held in the previous year.
- A bulk email campaign was delivered promoting access to specialised, virtual business mentoring services through Polaris, available to businesses across all industries and sectors.
- The Business Support Coordinator visited Naracoorte to engage with local business owners and provide information on grant opportunities and available business support services.
- A total of 64 business interactions were recorded within the Naracoorte Lucindale Council area for the May–June reporting period.

KINGSTON DISTRICT COUNCIL

- A bulk email campaign was delivered promoting access to specialised, virtual business mentoring services through Polaris, available to businesses across all industries and sectors.
- Virtual business support was provided to a female-led technology start-up, with a follow-up meeting scheduled later in the year.
- A total of 19 business interactions were recorded within the Kingston District Council area for the May–June reporting period.

DISTRICT COUNCIL OF ROBE

- A bulk email campaign was distributed to registered businesses promoting the virtual business mentoring opportunity with Polaris, contributing to a total of 42 business interactions.
- The business support coordinator communicated with a further 2 local businesses and covered topics such as succession planning and social media marketing.

TATIARA DISTRICT COUNCIL

- RDALC staff travelled to Bordertown to meet with the Small Business Commissioner, Rural Business Support, and the Office for Small and Family Business, alongside local stakeholders and businesses, to discuss regional support services. RDALC also met with Tatiara District Council to identify businesses requiring immediate support and to discuss regional priorities, establishing connections to inform future mentoring and support activities.
- An email was distributed to Business Association members to provide a committee update, seek feedback, and gauge interest in an annual networking event similar to that held in the previous year.
- A total of 80 business interactions were recorded within the Tatiara District Council area for the May–June reporting period.

- The RDALC Manager of Partnerships and Projects met with the Manager of Strategy and Growth.
- The RDALC Drought Project Coordinator attended the Yardrail event.
- Mr Gary Button, CEO, and Ms Kylie Boston, Mayor, attended the Early Childhood Education and Care Report and Toolkit launch held at Parker Estate, Penola on 7 July 2026.
- The Business Support Coordinator worked with the Aviation Museum to progress its Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) registration, including reviewing and advising on required constitutional amendments, assisting with governance documentation, and supporting preparation of the application for submission.
- A bulk email campaign was distributed to registered businesses promoting the Virtual Mentoring program through Polaris, contributing to a total of 51 business interactions for the May–June reporting period.

CITY OF MOUNT GAMBIER

- The Small Business Minister visited the region in May, with RDALC participating in a roundtable discussion attended by approximately eight business owners, council representatives, the Mount Gambier Chamber of Commerce, and other key stakeholders. Key themes included the impact of red tape, rising operating costs, and general overwhelm among business owners, as well as the ongoing challenges regional businesses face in accessing vital support services.
- RDALC, Manager of Projects and Partnerships meet with Manager Economy, Strategy and Engagement
- RDALC served as a sponsor of the Careers Showcase held on May 13 at Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre in Mount Gambier, where over 500 school students, 25 members of the public, and exhibitors from across the region attended. RDALC's "Turn Your Hobby into a Side Hustle" activation generated exceptional engagement through an innovative stamp collection trail that encouraged students to interact meaningfully with the organisation, resulting in significant interest from students and teachers about RDALC's capacity to assist aspiring student entrepreneurs. As part of this initiative, RDALC connected with three young entrepreneurs who have created side hustle businesses ranging from print-on-demand to cupcakes and cookies sold at markets and through social media, with video content showcasing how students have successfully engaged with RDALC services to advance their ventures.
- RDALC, attended Workforce Summit Green Triangle
- An email was sent to the Chamber of Commerce to check in with members, provide a committee update, and gauge interest in holding an annual networking catch-up, similar to last year's event.
- For May-Jun City of Mount Gambier had a total of 208 interactions
- RDALC met with the careers and future pathways educator from St Martins School to discuss student pathways and available support services, and contacted all regional high schools to offer availability for meetings with students who either have an Australian Business Number (ABN) or are prepared to obtain one.

Mount Gambier Campus Update

August 2026

Typically, this is a quieter time of year with most students on midyear break, and academic staff enjoying a slower pace with assessment and exam marking complete. Preparations are well under way for second semester however, with students commencing their studies for the first time joining our Orientation Day event, and other activities are scheduled to ensure all are feeling supported and aware of assistance available to them both on campus and across the University.

For staff involved in future student recruitment, attendance at numerous information sessions and careers events continue across the region with nearly all high school/area schools in the Limestone Coast having received a visit from Adelaide University. We have also welcomed students from Keith Area School and Grant High School on campus and hosted a very popular Student/Parent Information Night.

At the campus we are increasing promotion of postgraduate opportunities in region, with an information session at our upcoming Open Day for course work based higher education degrees, and another in early September, together with our Graduate Research School, focussed on Master of Research and PhD opportunities.

Our annual Mount Gambier Campus Scholarship, Awards and Grant celebration in early July welcomed over twenty students and their families, along with donors, and senior executive to recognise and celebrate those students whose academic achievements were acknowledged through receipt of an award or having their academic journey supported with a Scholarship or Grant. We also partnered with Stand Like Stone, the region's own community foundation, to recognise Adelaide University students who had been supported through their scholarship program. Thank you to our local government donor partners for your continued support and recognition of achievement for our students.

I welcomed the chance to attend the Limestone Coast Early Childhood Education and Care Report and Toolkit Launch, noting the importance of this demonstrated need, but also methodologies for childhood education providers to seek the much-needed support and funding to meet our regional demand. Adelaide University is also able to utilise this information to inform our program delivery for the Bachelor of Teaching (Early Childhood Education) available at the campus and in online format.

During June and July, I have been covering the Regional Director Whyalla role while my colleague has been on extended leave. This presented an opportunity to visit the campus built over sixty years ago and engage with the staff who work closely with their Mount Gambier counterparts as we all strive to provide a world class tertiary education for students in our two major regional centres. The student accommodation they have available at the campus and the opportunity this enables for students travelling significant distances to access their programs provided valuable to insight for what is possible in Mount Gambier. A visit from the Minister for State Development, Hon Chris Picton coincided with my trip and presented an opportunity to also promote ambitions the Limestone Coast has for further tertiary education offerings at the Mount Gambier campus.

As mentioned, the annual Mount Gambier Campus Open Day is coming up and will be held on Sunday 9 August 10am- 2pm – please see web link for further information and sharing [Mount Gambier Campus Open Day](#).

Our Public Lecture series also continues each month – the next on the 25th August with researchers Dr Rebecca Marrone and Dr Maria Vieira presenting - *Future Minds: Creativity and Ethics in the Age of AI*. If you would like to be added to our Public Lecture mailing list, or receive a link to the recording, please email: MountGambierEnquiries@adelaide.edu.au

Peta Crewe

Regional Director Mount Gambier

27/07/2026

peta.crewe@adelaide.edu.au

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Ref: 26/00189-C

15 July 2026

Charlotte Edmunds
Executive Officer
Limestone Coast Local Government Association
By email: eo@lclga.sa.gov.au

Limestone Coast Landscape Board

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Dear Charlotte

Nominations are now open for South Australians to apply for membership positions on the Limestone Coast Landscape Board. The *Landscape South Australia Act* requires landscape boards have at least one member that is a member or officer of a council within the region.

Applications are now open and close 16 August 2026.

We would be very appreciative of your support and assistance promoting the 2026 Limestone Coast Landscape Board recruitment process. We encourage you to share this opportunity with your member organisations and networks, particularly emerging leaders.

We will have media releases and social media posts appearing soon and sharing these would be most appreciated. I have also attached a flyer that you may choose to use in your community newsletters.

More information and the application form can be found: landscape.sa.gov.au/board-nominations.

Please don't hesitate to contact Andrea Bartetzko andrea.bartetzko2@sa.gov.au for further communication needs, or me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Bourne".

Steve Bourne
General Manager
Limestone Coast Landscape Board

Tourism Management Committee Meeting

30 June 2026
10:30am
Online via Teams

MINUTES**1.0 Welcome and apologies**

Present members:

City of Mount Gambier	Biddie Shearing
Naracoorte Lucindale Council	Josie Collins
Robe District Council	Alex Graham
Kingston District Council	
District Council of Grant	Rebecca Perkin
Tatiara District Council	Kelly Hutchinson
LCLGA	Kate Napper Charlotte Edmunds

Apologies: Amelia Peters (KDC), Mayor Lynette Martin OAM

Kate welcomed members and opened the meeting.

2.0 Previous Minutes

Agreed. No action.

3.0 Action items

N/A

4.0 Transition update

- Charlotte provided the committee with update on RTO transition to RDALC.
- RDALC has signed a contract with SATC to be the RTO from July 1.
- LCLGA is hoping to do an indepth handover soon and support the RDA LC in the role for the next couple of months. Waiting on new CEO to start and confirmation of RTM role to ensure a considered handover of all IP.
- Unsure of the Tourism Management Committee's continuation yet. This will be up to RDA as to how they engage with Councils. Tourism Transition Committee is also unknown pending RDA advice.

5.0 Destination Management Plan (DMP) Update

- Kate confirmed that DMP has been endorsed by the LCLGA Board. SATC will now circulate to State level stakeholders prior to publication. RDA LC will then take on the implementation of the DMP.
- Charlotte thanked Kate for her work on the DMP.

- Noted that LCLGA has not agreed to an Action Plan for the first 12 months as we have left this to RDA LC to design. The plan is positioned as a regional stewardship document, not the responsibility of one organisation alone.

6.0 SATC programs and marketing

- The new SATC regional funding agreement for 2026–27 includes deliverables linked to the DMP.
- A new regional marketing package is pending, though some activities such as filming and campaign work are already progressing.
- The Simple Pleasures winter campaign is underway, with more than 30 Limestone Coast deals/offers registered.
- Stony Rise Lodge was accepted into the Distribution Ready Program, supported by an LCLGA travel bursary.
- Concern was raised about SATC capability programs being delivered in Adelaide rather than regionally, creating participation barriers for Limestone Coast operators. Kate and Charlotte advocated strongly for regional delivery of SATC capability programs. Tourism 101 was a positive outcome of this advocacy. SATC have promised further programs for the Limestone Coast in new financial year.

7.0 Industry engagement and events

- The agritourism workshop held on 21 May was very successful, fully subscribed with 34 registrations and strong business interest.
- The workshop generated promising follow-up opportunities, including potential agritourism developments near Ewens Ponds and interest from Tatiara and Robe operators.
- The Limestone Coast Tourism Industry Networking Event on 13 May attracted around 40 registrations and included engagement with the new Tourism Minister.
- There was also a site visit to Kilsby Sinkhole with the Minister during Country Cabinet.

8.0 Tourism conference and sector updates

- The SA Tourism Conference included discussion of the **True South Promise**, linked to tourism for good and the State Tourism Plan.
- Further information will be shared with those who could not attend.
- Bird flu was identified as an emerging issue for tourism operators, with webinar information to be circulated.

9.0 Regional events funding

- The latest Regional Event Fund round had one known Limestone Coast recipient: Coonawarra Cabernet Celebrations.
- The funding environment was described as very competitive and challenging for regional events.

10 Limestone Coast brand, website and social media

- The group discussed the importance of maintaining the Limestone Coast visitor brand, website and social media presence.
- Naracoorte Lucindale Council has been managing some of this work longer than originally planned and no longer has the capacity to continue indefinitely.
- There is no confirmed handover plan yet, but RDA is aware the digital assets are part of the transition package.
- Strong concern was expressed that the Limestone Coast brand should not simply be absorbed into broader SATC statewide marketing.

11. Visitor guide

- The visitor guide proof has been circulated, with further review underway.
- Timing for printing is driven by existing stock levels rather than a fixed annual schedule.
- Current stock is likely sufficient through to August unless demand increases.
- Councils were reminded to provide any final feedback.

12. Trails and regional growth projects

- The trails strategy project is running behind schedule, now likely to be finalised around mid-September.
- Consultation is complete, and the steering committee will meet with Treadwell on 29 July to review a draft strategy.
- The project remains with LCLGA.
- Some coastal visitor framework and four-wheel-drive mapping items have been removed from the LCLGA work plan, with the DMP potentially providing a pathway forward.

13. Advocacy and upcoming meetings

- LCLGA recently gave evidence to a Federal Parliamentary Committee on economic growth, tourism and trade opportunities in regional South Australia.
- Key themes included branding, clean green image, food and fibre exports, and international visitation.
- A meeting with the Minister is scheduled for 10 July regarding the Melbourne to Adelaide touring route and Naracoorte Caves proposals.

14. Actions and follow-ups

- Prepare and release communication about the RTO transition.
- Clarify RDA's governance approach, including the future of this committee.
- Share agritourism workshop attendee/follow-up lists with relevant councils.
- Circulate bird flu webinar recording.

Meeting End: 11.16am

Limestone Coast Local Government Tourism Management Committee

1. Preamble

The Limestone Coast Local Government Tourism Management Committee (the Committee) is established to collaborate on matters relating to tourism on behalf of the Limestone Coast Local Government Association (LCLGA) and the six Constituent Councils:

- City of Mount Gambier
- District Council of Grant
- District Council of Robe
- Naracoorte Lucindale Council
- Kingston District Council
- Tatiara District Council

2. Membership

The membership of the Committee shall consist of;

- One member from each constituent council intended to be the Chief Executive Officer or delegate with relevant tourism, marketing or visitor experience responsibilities
- The Executive Officer of the LCLGA
- The Regional Tourism Manager of the LCLGA

The President of the LCLGA shall be an ex-officio member of the Committee

A person may be removed from membership of the Committee by resolution of the LCLGA Board.

3. Term of Office

A member of the Committee holds office at the pleasure of the LCLGA Board.

4. Administrative Support

The Presiding Member (Chair) shall ensure administrative support is provided to the Committee.

6. Role of the Presiding Member

The Chair of the Committee shall:

- Be appointed by the Committee at the first meeting of each calendar year.
- Preside at all meetings of the Committee and, in the event of the Chair being absent from a meeting, the members present shall appoint a member to preside for that meeting or until the Chair is present.
- Preserve order at meetings so that the business is conducted in due form and with propriety.
- Ensure minutes are appropriately endorsed as a true and correct record of meetings, in line with meeting procedures.

7. Aims and Objectives

7.1 Ensure ongoing communication and collaboration across constituent councils to:

- Build and strengthen the network of tourism expertise within local government
- Identify opportunities to collaborate, share knowledge and experiences and create efficiencies through shared tourism efforts
- Identify opportunities to secure funding for tourism as it relates to constituent councils – in particular region-wide, joined up visitor experiences that benefit the economies of constituent councils and the regional tourism industry
- Guide and coordinate any operational actions for Local Government relating to the region's Destination Management Plan, local industry capability and product development
- Guide advise and coordinate tourism related strategic objectives on behalf of the LCLGA as the RTO

7.2 Provide advice and recommendations to the LCLGA Board and, as required, the Tourism Transition Sub-Committee Tourism related matters including but not limited to;

- Delivery of actions related to the Regional Growth Strategy 2025-2030 Goal: VISIT.
- Marketing strategies for the region's visitor experiences, including potential funding mechanisms.
- Data relating to regional tourism in the Limestone Coast, including any strategies to promote the region's position as a tourism leader.
- Development of and actions emerging from the region's Destination Management Plan

- Emerging tourism opportunities to support constituent councils and their local visitor economies through product development, industry capability and marketing

8 Calling and Timing of Meetings

- Ordinary meetings of the Committee shall be held at least six times a year at times and places determined by the committee, considering the availability and convenience of Members of the Committee.
- Each Member of the Committee, at the time that notice of a meeting is given, is to be supplied with a copy of any documents or reports that are to be considered at the meeting, so far as this is practicable.

9 Reporting

- Minutes of each meeting will be provided to the LCLGA EO for noting by the LCLGA Board
- The Committee will also report to the Tourism Transition Sub-committee, who shall consider recommendations of the Committee.

10 Financial Responsibility

The Committee has no authority to expend funds unless approved by the LCLGA Board.

11 Delegation of Functions and Powers

- The primary purpose of the Committee is to report to the LCLGA Board and relevant sub-committees on any matters related to Aims and Objectives detailed in Section 7.
- The Committee will make recommendations to the LCLGA Board and relevant sub-committees on matters related to the aim and objectives of the Committee.

12 Dissolution

The Committee may be dissolved at the discretion of the LCLGA Board.

13 Alteration of Terms of Reference

The LCLGA Board may, at any time, either on its own initiative or at the request of the Committee, alter, delete or add to any provisions of these Terms of Reference.