

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE LIMESTONE COAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION TO BE HELD ON FRIDAY 17TH APRIL 2020 VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE

Meeting Opened at 10.04am

Presidents Welcome and Acknowledgment of Country

Tony Pasin – Member for Barker

Mr Pasin provided an overview of the federal government response to the COVID -19 Pandemic health and economic crisis. This response includes working closely with the community to assist bringing Australians home, child care centre funding for councils and working with DC Grant and Rex Airlines to ensure services to Mount Gambier and the region can be maintained. Further information at <https://www.tonypasin.com/>

1.0 MEMBERS/DEPUTY MEMBERS

1.1 Present

Naracoorte Lucindale Council	Mayor Erika Vickery (LCLGA President)
City of Mount Gambier	Mayor Lynnette Martin (Mayor)
Wattle Range Council	Mayor Des Noll Cr. Moira Neagle (Deputy Mayor)
District Council of Grant	Mayor Richard Sage (LCLGA Vice President)
Kingston District Council	Mayor Kay Rasheed
District Council of Robe	Mayor Alison Nunan
Tatiara District Council	Mayor Graham Excell Cr Robert Mock

1.2 In Attendance

City of Mount Gambier	Mr Andrew Meddle (CEO)
District Council of Grant	Mr Darryl Whicker (CEO)
Wattle Range Council	Mr Ben Gower (CEO)
Naracoorte Lucindale Council	Mr Trevor Smart (CEO)
District Council of Robe	Mr James Holyman (CEO)
Kingston District Council	Ms Nat Traeger (CEO)
Tatiara District Council	Ms Anne Champness (CEO)
LCLGA	Mr Tony Wright (EO) Ms Mae Steele (Executive Support Officer)

1.3 Guests and Observers

Federal Member for Barker	Mr Tony Pasin MP
LGA SA	Mr Andrew Johnson

1.4 Apologies

PIRSA	Ms Peta Crewe (Regional Manager – Limestone Coast)
RDA Limestone Coast	Mr David Wheaton (CEO)

“That the apologies be accepted.”

Moved, Wattle Range Council

Seconded, Kingston District Council

CARRIED

2.0 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Any delegate or staff member with a potential conflict of interest is asked to declare the interest on the supplied **Conflict of Interests Declaration Form** detailing what the conflict is and why they will not be participating in any item relating to that issue.

NIL

3.0 MINUTES OF MEETINGS

3.1 Confirmation of the Minutes of the LC LGA General Meeting held in the Naracoorte Lucindale Council on 14th February 2020.

“That the Minutes of the LC LGA General Meeting held on 14th February 2020 be taken as read and confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings at that meeting.”

Moved, Wattle Range Council **Seconded**, District Council of Robe

CARRIED

4.0 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES - ACTION SHEET

Business arising from the Minutes of the February General Meeting.

- Executive Officer highlighted ongoing and completed actions.

5.0 CORRESPONDENCE

5.1 Inwards and Outwards

Key Correspondence to 9th April 2020

Many of these correspondence items will have been received directly by member councils. Should any delegate wish to access any correspondence items listed, but not included with this agenda, they can be made available by contacting the LC LGA Executive Officer.

“That correspondence be received and noted by LC LGA delegates.”

Moved, Kingston District Council **Seconded**, District Council of Robe

CARRIED

With the leave of the meeting President Erika Vickery paused proceedings to allow Mr Tony Pasin, Federal Member for Barker to address the group.

6.0 FINANCIAL

6.1 Financial Reports

Executive Officer

It is recommended that LC LGA:

1. Receive and note the finance reports:
 - a. Report from the Executive Officer.
 - b. The Balance Sheet for the period ending 29th February.
 - c. The Consolidated Profit and Loss Budget Analysis for the period 1st July 2019 to 29th February 2020.

Moved, District Council of Robe **Seconded**, City of Mount Gambier

CARRIED

10.25am Mayor Richard Sage joined the meeting.

7.0 RECOMMENDATION REPORTS

7.1 LCLGA Strategic Plan - 2020-2025

Executive Officer

It is recommended that LC LGA;

“Board approves the adoption of the LCLGA Strategic Plan- 2020-2025.”

An amendment to the motion was Moved by District Council of Grant

It is recommended that LC LGA;

1. Note and receive the 2020-2025 LCLGA Strategic Plan.
2. Executive Officer to complete consultation with LCLGA councils prior to formal adoption.

Seconded, City of Mount Gambier

CARRIED

7.2 LCLGA Annual Business Plan 2020-2021

The President with consent of the members moved the 7.2 to the end of the meeting for the purpose of a presentation to be made from the Executive Officer.

7.3 Limestone Coast Regional Public Health & Wellbeing Plan Regional Health Plan

Project Manager

It is recommended that LC LGA;

1. Receives and notes the report, and
2. Endorses the Draft Limestone Coast Regional Public Health & Wellbeing Plan to enable Public & Stakeholder consultation.

Moved, Wattle Range Council **Seconded**, District Council of Robe

CARRIED

7.4 SEGRA Conference Cancellation

Executive Officer

It is recommended that LC LGA;

“Board notes the decision to cancel the 2020 SEGRA Conference.”

Moved, Kingston District Council **Seconded**, Tatiara District Council

CARRIED

7.5 **Governance Arrangements & Risk Exposure for Externally Funded Projects**

Wattle Range Council

It is recommended that LC LGA;

“Executive Officer prepares a report for the LCLGA Board that outlines the governance arrangements and associated risk profile for externally funded projects/programs that are currently being auspiced and/or managed by the LCLGA.”

Moved, Wattle Range Council **Seconded**, District Council of Robe

CARRIED

7.6 **Executive Officer Performance Review (in confidence)**

The President, with the consent of the members, moved the 7.6 to the end of Section seven after item 7.8 to be discussed in confidence.

10.42 am Tony Pasin left the meeting and did not return

7.7 **COVID-19 Impact on Operations**

Executive Officer

It is recommended that LC LGA;

“Board notes the progress in transitioning to alternative working arrangement.”

Moved, Kingston District Council **Seconded**, Tatiara District Council

CARRIED

7.8 **Joint Planning Board (JPB)**

Executive Officer

It is recommended that LC LGA;

“Board approve the agreement, in attachment one, to form a Joint Planning Board.”

Moved, District Council of Robe **Seconded**, Wattle Range Council

CARRIED

7.9 **Special Local Roads Program**

Executive Officer

It is recommended that LCLGA;

“Endorse the submissions of the seven regional priority projects totalling \$1,907 million for 2020 Special Local Roads Program.”

Moved, District Council of Robe **Seconded**, District Council of Grant

CARRIED

10.47am Andrew Johnson left the meeting and did not return due to technical difficulties

7.6 **Executive Officer Performance Review – In Confidence**

1. Pursuant to Section 3.6.18 of the LCLGA Charter, and Section 90 of the Local Government Act 1999, the Association orders that the public with the exception of:

Ms Nat Traeger (CEO) Kingston District Council
Ms Anne Champness (CEO) Tatiara District Council
Mr Andrew Meddle (CEO) City of Mount Gambier
Mr Darryl Whicker (CEO) District Council of Grant
Mr Ben Gower (CEO) Wattle Range Council
Mr Trevor Smart (CEO) Naracoorte Lucindale Council
Mr James Holyman (CEO) District Council of Robe
Mr Tony Wright (EO - LCLGA
Ms Mae Steele (Executive Support Officer) - LCLGA

be excluded from attendance at the meeting in order to consider and discuss Confidential Item 7.6 Executive Officer Performance Review

2. Is satisfied that the principle that meetings of LCLGA should be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed in relation to this matter because it relates to information the disclosure of which would involve the unreasonable disclosure of information concerning the personal affairs of any person.

Moved, City of Mount Gambier **Seconded**, District Council of Robe

CARRIED

Executive Officer

It is recommended that LC LGA;

1. Appointed AME as a consultant to facilitate the performance appraisal for the Executive Officer for three years, and
2. A committee consisting of Mayor Erika Vickery- Naracoorte L, Mayor Richard Sage and Mr James Holyman be appointed to work with AME on the Executive Officer performance appraisal process, and to provide a report to the Board on the review outcomes.

Moved, Kingston District Council **Seconded**, City of Mount Gambier

CARRIED

Moved, District Council of Robe

It is recommended that;

“Report 7.6 to remain in confidence until all parties have been notified,

Seconded, Wattle Range Council

CARRIED

8.0 INFORMATION REPORTS

8.1 LC LGA President's Report

How the world has changed since our last meeting in February. Since mid-March we have been dominated by the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. With directives from the Federal and State governments changing constantly we have all been taking part in many briefings through the LGASA. I have also made many media interviews in relation of reinforcing the directive of non-essential travel, particularly over the Easter holiday into our region. It was encouraging to see people generally following the directives of our Federal and State leaders in relation travelling into the regions and to social distancing. It really is a balancing issue between caring for our health and caring for our economy. Many businesses in our area have had to make dramatic changes to the way they run their businesses and organisations, both government and non for profit are looking at ways to assist, either financially or with wellbeing resources. The planning for the way out of this to best support our communities will dominate our thinking.

Thank you to all the staff for their continued work in very different circumstances to usual and I very much appreciate the support from all the Limestone Coast Mayors and CEOs. Take care and stay well

16th February - SA Firefighters Memorial Service in memory of those who lost their lives on the 16th February 1983, Ash Wednesday bushfires and Opening of Stage 1 of the SA Firefighters Museum was opened by Hon Tony Pasin and Rex Hall.

17th February - LC RDA Board meeting at Robe. The meeting was preceded by a industry visit to Transmutation, a new recycle, reuse business which reuses waste plastics in particular bread bag tags to make new bowls and coasters, and polystyrene to make door knobs. The business is in discussion with the Robe Council to further progress the uses of one-use plastics

20th February - SAROC Special meeting to review items of business submitted for the LGA Ordinary General Meeting in April LGA Board of Directors meeting. The agenda included LGA Submission Planning and Design Code, Phase 3 Consultation, Submission to the Senate Select Committees on Temporary Migration

25th February - Limestone Coast Economic Development Group meeting

27th February - I attended the bi monthly Country Arts SA board meeting. This was held at American River, Kangaroo Island as a gesture of support to the island in response to the bushfires. The board had the opportunity to meet with locals who spoke emotionally about their experiences and the challenges of the process of recovery. They were all very appreciative of the kindness felt by the generous giving of many.

11th March - RDALC - .id workshop

12th March - RDALC breakfast meeting with CSIRO team, Launch of the Rail corridor and freight analysis for the Limestone Coast and South West Victoria using TraNsit (CSIRO's Transport Network Strategic Investment Tool), Limestone Coast Community Service Round Table Meeting at Mt Gambier Public Library.

13th March - Local Government Functional Management Group (LGFMG) afternoon tea that recognised local government supporting the recent bush fire emergencies.

17th March - Teleconference LGA Covid-19 briefing.

19th March - SAROC meeting – teleconference - the agenda included advocacy to the State Government to co-invest in funding of the Regional Climate Partnerships in order to continue the implementation of the Adaption Plans, urging the State government to finalise and release the state-wide Little Corellas strategy, consider the Regional Local Roads mapping and priorities as a potential activity to be included in the 2020-21 SAROC Annual Business Plan and that LGA secretariat liaise with other state and territory local government associations and ALGA regarding the possibility of a discussion with Australian Research Board and National Heavy Vehicle Regulator to further develop the Restricted Access Vehicle Route Assessment Tool for unsealed roads, endorsed the draft SAROC Strategic Plan 2019-2023 and SAROC 2020-21 Annual Business Plan for consultation with regional councils and regional LGAs LGA Board meeting – teleconference.

23rd March - LGA video conference with Mayors, Premier and Minister for Local Government. Key messages were that there needs to be consistency messages across local government. Premier: decisions are being made based on health advice; constantly learning from other experiences; need to proceed in a respectful manner, Minister Knoll: Local Government Public Health Emergency Bill to vary Local Government Act to allow flexibility eg meetings held electronically, way to carry out public consultation; encouraged LG to stimulate economy by proceeding with projects.

24th March RDALC Board meeting – teleconference re Covid19 - RDA officers to assist local businesses examples are - how to set up a web page, tips on working from home, how to set up videoconferencing, promotion of local businesses.

29th March - ABC SE Radio interview re urging people to not undertake non-essential travel into the Limestone Coast during the Easter holidays

30th March fiveaa radio interview with Leon Byner re urging people to not undertake non-essential travel into the Limestone Coast and regional areas during the Easter holidays

31st March LGA Mayors and CEOs zoom meeting with Federal Ministers Anne Ruston (Minister for Families and Social Services) – very aware of supporting those who have no other sources of support eg small businesses, sole traders. The Government is relaxing limitations to make accessing the support. The JobKeeper payments are for those businesses that have had either a 30% or 50% reduction in income (depending on size of businesses). There will be other emergency relief announced Simon Birmingham (Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment) – the survival of Australia businesses is foremost - regional tourism businesses support is being announced (SATC announced two programs – please see newsletter attached). There will be stimulus packages to councils announced in due course to assist with infrastructure projects. Various discussions on how to assist vulnerable groups (eg Redcross Telecross service in SA for people to contact in times of need).

1st April - Triple M Radio interview with Ewan Grant re urging people to not undertake non-essential travel into the Limestone Coast during the Easter holidays Limestone Coast LGA Finance and Risk Committee meeting (zoom).

2nd April - LGA Board of Directors Special Meeting (Zoom). Up-date given to the Board re staff options to social distancing (working from home and moving offices), mental health and wellbeing checks being done. The LG Functional Support Group have been meeting regularly. State government states that Councils are an essential service and should continue operating. State Local Government ministers were meeting with the Federal Minister to discuss issues including stimulus support for Councils. A meeting was being set up for Mayors and CEOs with the SA Police Commissioner (this happened on Friday afternoon). Premier will do some media with Mayors re messaging about non-essential travel. Council elected members and staff are urged to check the LGA COVID-19 website for up to date information. Council meetings can now be done electronically and LGA is working with the government on governance re budget processes and public consultations – still being developed. Councils urged to hold off on budget decisions until it is clearer what capacity we will have after Fed and State governments announce their programs

3rd April - Visit to border control site at Hynam with Nick McBride and police officers. Check point was relatively quiet with all interstate travellers being recorded. LCLGA Mayor's weekly meeting (zoom). LGA Mayor's and CEO's meeting with SAPOL assistant police commissioner. Media campaign re no nonessential travel during school holidays. Higher level of shut downs would be extremely difficult to enforce, are divisive, there would always be unforeseen consequences and it is a balancing act for infection control and social cohesion. (The advertising campaign letter that was in the Saturday Advertiser is attached)

6th April - State Regional Local Government Executive Officers zoom meeting – all regions in SA are in a similar situation with staff working from home, events cancelled or deferred. Regional EOs looking at what impacts to regions and what opportunities. Border Watch – media comment re Local Government supporting Federal and State Governments directives re non-essential travel due to COVID-19

7th April - SEGRA webinar re Business management and Leadership – SEGRA (Sustainable Economic Growth for Regional Australia) is holding free webinars frequently and are easily accessed on the SERGA webpage)

8th April - Recorded a podcast with Mamamia (**Australia's** largest independent women's media group) - Clare Murphy and a Sydney GP - "Why Can't I go Away This Weekend" <https://www.mamamia.com.au/podcasts/LGA> SA zoom meeting briefing with Premier Steven Marshall and Minister Stephan Knoll ahead of the Easter break.

Premier Marshall: Health of community - gave an overview of the restrictions, Economy – overview of national and State stimulus support.

Minister Knoll: Councils should review hardship policies. Second gazette re budget process changes re COVID 19 Open space grants closed (NLC has applied for this).

9th April - LGA member workshop on council rates and budget setting to provide guidance on the options available to provide community and business support in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency. The workshop program included brief presentations from the LGA, SA Centre for Economic Studies, Office of Local Government and council case studies.

LGA: LGA has a Hardship Policy template that councils are able to use, the challenge is to use a fair and equitable method of assessing hardship, need to encourage people to come and talk to council, questions to be asked maybe 1) does payment of rates lead to hardship 2) should relief be granted 3) what relief is given (flexible payments, postponement of partial or all, remiss of fines). Urge councils to continue with business as usual to service our communities.

LGFA: have had many queries from councils – Local government has a role in stimulating the economy – options are to use reserves or to borrow – most councils are in a good position to do so. SA Centre for Economic Studies: We are looking at a depression due to

drop of demand. Scale of Local government budgets are very small compared to local economy; therefore the scope of local government is relatively limited. Local government have a good pool of expertise to manage other levels of governments stimulus projects. The full report "SACES report: Providing Local Economic Stimulus: The Role for Councils" can be sourced on the LGASA webpage COVID-19

8.1.1 LGA Board

- (i) Draft Minutes of the LGA Board of Directors Meeting held on 20th February, the 19th March, and Special Meeting 2nd April 2020.

8.1.2 SAROC

- (ii) Draft Minutes of the SAROC Committee - Special Meeting held on Wednesday 20th February and Draft Minutes and key outcomes of the SAROC Committee Meeting 19th March.

8.2 **Local Government Association of SA**

Andrew Johnson - unable to provide a report due to technical difficulties.

8.3 **Executive Officer**

Tony Wright

8.4 **Starclub Field Officer**

Tony Elletson

8.5 **Tourism Industry Development Manager**

Biddie Shearing

8.6 **Regional Community Road Safety Officer**

Ali Auld

8.7 **Limestone Coast Leadership Program**

Ali Auld

8.8 **LC Substance Misuse Project Officer**

Sophie Bouchier

8.9 **Project Manager**

Michaela Bell

It is recommended that LC LGA:

"the reports for LC LGA President, Local Government Association SA, Executive Officer, Starclub Field Officer, Tourism Industry Development Manager, Regional Community Road Safety Officer, Limestone Coast Leadership Program, Substance Misuse Project Officer and Project Manager be received and noted."

Moved, Wattle Range Council

Seconded, Kingston District Council

CARRIED

9.0 EXTERNAL SUBMISSIONS FOR NOTING

- 9.1 No new submissions since 14th February 2020

10.0 LCLGA SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES

- 10.1 **LCLGA Tourism Management Group Minutes – 25th March 2020**
- 10.2 **LCLGA Regional Waste Management Committee Minutes– 24th February 2020**
- 10.3 **LC Regional Sporting Academy Advisory Group Minutes – 19th November 2019**
- 10.4 **LCLGA Roads and Transport Committee – 25th March 2020 & 8th April 2020**

It is recommended that LC LGA;

“The Minutes and reports from the LCLGA Sub-Committees having first been circulated amongst members, be adopted.”

Moved, Kingston District Council **Seconded,** District Council of Robe

CARRIED

11.0 OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS AND COMMITTEES

- 11.1 **Regional Development Australia Limestone Coast**
David Wheaton - Chief Executive Officer
- 11.2 **LC Heritage Advisory Services Reports – February & March 2020**
Richard Woods
- 11.3 **PIRSA**
Peta Crewe

It is recommended that LC LGA;

“Receives and note the Reports.”

Moved, District Council of Robe **Seconded,** District Council of Grant

CARRIED

12.0 OTHER BUSINESS

7.2 LCLGA Annual Business Plan 2020-2021

A presentation was provided by the Executive Officer, which identified a number of matters that needed further direction from members, particularly in light of the COVID-19 impacts on the LCLGA members and funding expectations.

It was agreed that a further workshop would be held to provide the Executive Officer with direction on matters so the Business Plan can be completed.

13.0 MEETING CLOSED – 12.00pm

The next LC LGA General Meeting is to be held Via Video Conference **Friday 19th June 2020.** Acceptances and apologies to Mae Steele, Executive Support Officer Phone 8723 7310 or Email admin@lclga.sa.gov.au

LC LGA CALENDAR

Date	Meeting	Location
21 st May 2020	SAROC	TBC
19 th June 2020*	LC LGA GM	TBC
23 rd July 2020	SAROC	TBC
14 th August 2020	LC LGA GM	TBC
TBC August 2020	LGA Roads & Works Conference	TBC
17 th September 2020	SAROC	TBC
9 th October 2020	LC LGA	TBC
29 st October 2020	LGA Conference & AGM	Adelaide Oval, Adelaide.
19 th November 2020	SAROC	LGA House, Adelaide
11 th December 2020	LC LGA GM & Christmas Lunch	TBC
TBA February 2021	SAROC	LGA House, Adelaide
12 th February 2021	LG LGA AGM & GM	TBC