

AGENDA

South Australian Local Government Financial Management Group Executive Committee

23 March 2018 at 9:30am

Campbelltown City Council (Council Chambers – 172 Montacute Road, Rostrevor)

1. Present

Executive Committee:

- Clive Hempel (President), Mid Murray Council
- Alexander Oulianoff (Treasurer), Mount Barker District Council
- Elizabeth Williams (Secretary), Alexandrina Council
- Anthony Amato, Town of Gawler
- Craig Mudge, District Council of Mount Remarkable
- Eion Williamson, District Council of Grant
- Kate George (Vice President), City of Salisbury
- Leta Northcott, City of Unley
- Mark Lague, The Barossa Council
- Michael Wetherall, City of Port Adelaide Enfield
- Mike Carey, Adelaide Hills Council
- Norman Biggs, City of West Torrens
- Pep Piscioneri, City of Adelaide
- Ray Barnwell, City of Marion
- Simon Zbierski, City of Campbelltown

Proxies:

- Donna Stubbs, City of Charles Sturt (for Annette Martin)
- Gary Long, City of Prospect (for Chris Birch)
- Katy Bone, Town of Walkerville (for Anna-Lucia Draper)
- Sonia Sghendo, City of Onkaparinga (for Diane Eckermann)

Observers/Guests:

- Shane Sody, Local Government Association of SA

It is important to note that on occasion it may be necessary for the Executive Committee to discuss an item in confidence and in those circumstances, observers and guests will be asked to leave the room for that item.

2. Apologies

- Annette Martin, City of Charles Sturt
- Chris Birch, City of Prospect
- Diane Eckermann, City of Onkaparinga
- Anna-Lucia Draper, Town of Walkerville

3. Presentations

3.1 9:30am to 10am – Transition Model - new service provider for the State Valuation Office
Presenters: Delfina Lanzilli, Valuer-General and Anthony Smit, Deputy to the Valuer-General

3.2 10am to 10:30am – Benchmarking Council facilities to achieve performance excellence
Presenter: Sandra Klein, Commercial Manager CERM PI, University of SA

3.3 10:30am to 11am – Construction Industry Training Levy
Presenters: Julie Holmes, Director Simpler Regulation Unit, Department of Treasury and Finance and Frances Thompson, Principal Policy Officer - Simpler Regulation Unit, Department of Treasury and Finance

4. Confirmation of Minutes

Recommendation: *That the minutes of the meeting held on 23 February 2018 be confirmed as a true and correct record.*

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

Nil

6. Treasurer's Report

Recommendation: *That the financial statements for February 2018 be noted.*

Treasurer's Report			
Action Items	Meeting	Responsible	Status
Investigate future options for an automated finance and event registrations system.	28/07/17	Treasurer	Quotes to be provided by Alex at the March 2018 meeting.

7. Projects/Work Groups – Update/Status

7.1 Seminars – Clive Hempel (Chairperson)

- Conference held on 16 March 2018.
- AGM to be held on 31 August 2018 at the Adelaide Zoo Sanctuary – presenter Andrew Leunig.

Seminars			
Action Items	Meeting	Responsible	Status
Setup a Facebook group for the workgroup to see how it works.	31/03/17	Seminar Workgroup	Facebook group created – yet to complete active testing.
Discuss regional workshops	24/11/17	Seminar Workgroup	Completed.

7.2 Membership & Communication – Eion Williamson (Chairperson)

7.2.1 Engagement with Distant FMG Members (Clive Hempel)

- It is proposed that as a method to engage and understand issues of distant FMG Members that on a trial basis distant members (located >100km? from the CBD) attend a FMG meeting and that associated cost of traveling, accommodation etc be reimbursed by the FMG. An expression of interest would be sought from FMG Members that would like to attend a future FMG meeting, the following information would be supplied in the expression of interest: Estimated cost of travel (vehicle, flights, Taxi etc), accommodation and any other associated costs along with a preferred list of meeting dates.

Membership & Communication			
Action Items	Meeting	Responsible	Status
Review the Executive Committee visiting Regional LGA meetings to discuss topical issues.	29/05/15	Membership Workgroup	Completed by Seminar Workgroup.
LinkedIn, Facebook or a website forum to be investigated with the help of Irene Scales before an information sharing platform is selected.	31/03/17	Membership Workgroup	Seminars Workgroup to trial Facebook Group.
New Chairperson for the Membership and Communication Workgroup in Diane's absence.	23/12/18	Clive Hempel	Approach Eion Williamson regarding the Chairperson role.

7.3 Rating and Valuation – Norm Biggs (Chairperson)

Rating and Valuation			
Action Items	Meeting	Responsible	Status
Rate rebate policy – a possible LGR&D Scheme application to be prepared for funding to update the 2008 policy. Workgroup to seek a quote from Michael Kelledy (original author of the policy) to see how much it would cost to have the policy updated.	24/02/17	Rating & Valuation Workgroup	LG R&D funding to be applied for in 2018, if unsuccessful then consideration of funding jointly by FMG & RPSA. Expressions of interest would be sought for the rewrite of the Rebate Information Paper.

7.4 Local Government Price Index – Chris Birch

Local Government Price Index			
Action Items	Meeting	Responsible	Status
Speak with the SA Centre for Economics regarding forecasting and commentary for the LGPI and provide feedback to the Executive Committee.	18/03/16 & 29/04/16	Chris Birch / LGPI Workgroup	Request for quote has been submitted. Chris Birch will follow up with Chris Russell at the LGA.

7.5 Newsletter / Website – Elizabeth Williams (Chairperson)

7.6 Financial Management Framework – Mark Lague (Chairperson)

7.6.1 Consultation Draft Model Financial Statements 2017- LGA Circular 11.9

Financial Management Framework			
Action Items	Meeting	Responsible	Status
Discuss ideas from Councils for best practice in relation to AASB124 Related Party Disclosures.	22/09/17	Financial Management Framework Workgroup	

7.7 Fees and Charges – Elizabeth Williams (Chairperson)

7.8 Costing Principles – Alex Oulianoff (Chairperson)

7.9 Asset Management – Pep Piscioneri (Chairperson)

7.10 Long Term Financial Plan – Kate George (Chairperson)

Long Term Financial Plan			
Action Items	Meeting	Responsible	Status
Executive Committee to review the Long Term Financial Model Agreement with David Maxwell.	25/11/16	LTFP Workgroup	
Seek clarity on IPWEA's involvement and work with LG Solutions to negotiate on pricing for their model.	22/09/17	LTFP Workgroup	Agreement and pricing under negotiation with LG Solutions.

7.11 Dog and Cat Management – Simon Zbierski (Chairperson)

8. Correspondence

Nil

9. Confidential Discussion Items

10. Other Business

10.1 Sponsorship Proposal 2018/19 (Clive Hempel)

Recommendation: That the Sponsorship Proposal for 2018/19 be adopted and the sponsorship increase of 2.3% rounded down to the nearest \$50 is approved.

10.2 LGITSA Relationship (Tony Amato)

10.3 Outstanding Block Clearing Fees (Clive Hempel)

- Presently there is an inconsistency with the way Councils seek to recover the cost associated with the removal of inflammable undergrowth under “The Fire and Emergency Services Act 2015” with some Councils keeping the outstanding amounts on a sundry debtor account while other Councils after 14 days place the outstanding cost against the property (transfer the debt to appear as an outstanding amount on the rates notice).

The Fire and Emergency Services Act 2015 S105J (9) states:

*(9) If an amount is recoverable from a person by a council or the Minister under subsection (8)—
(a) in the case of an amount recoverable by a council—the council may recover the amount as if it were rates in arrears;*

The Local Government Act 1999 Section 144 (2) Recovery of Amounts due to Council states:

If a fee, charge, expense or other amount payable to a council relates to something done in respect of rateable or other property, or is payable by a person as the owner or occupier of rateable or other property within the area of the council, the council may, after giving at least 14 days’ notice requiring payment of the fee, charge, expense or other amount, recover the fee, charge, expense or other amount as if it were a rate declared on the property at the time of the notice requiring payment.

Discussion to be held if a legal opinion should be sought to clarify if the debt can be transferred against the appropriate property, if so then can interest also be raised against the outstanding block clearing fee as per other rate in arrears.

Other Business			
Action Items	Meeting	Responsible	Status
Possibility of having an Eyre Peninsula Financial Managers Group (sub group of LGFMG) to assist with keeping in touch with industry changes and Eyre Peninsula city counter parts - President to contact Michelle Tucker and advise her of the Executive Committee’s discussion and then contact Regional LGA’s to seek their feedback.	31/10/14	President	Continue to investigate options.
Invite Peter Ilee to a future Executive Committee meeting to discuss Grants Commission payments once meeting locations are known for 2017/18.	23/06/17	President	Will be attending the September meeting.

11. Next Meeting

27 April 2018 at the Barossa Council.

Standing Items	Meeting	Frequency
Sponsorship Proposal for the next financial year	March	Annually
AGM Matters and Recommendations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constitution Adoption • Membership Guidelines Adoption • Membership Fees • Honorary & Life Member Nominations • Auditor Appointment • Executive Committee Nominations 	June	Annually
Davin Lambert – LGFA update	July	Annually
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Committee Members • Workgroup allocations • Meeting dates for next 12 months • Event registration fees for the financial year 	September	Annually

12. Close

For further information regarding topics raised at the FMG Executive Committee meetings, please see contact details below:

FMG President, Clive Hempel: chempel@mid-murray.sa.gov.au.

- Asset Management Workgroup Chairperson, Pep Piscioneri: p.piscioneri@adelaidecitycouncil.com
- Costing Principles Workgroup Chairperson, Alex Oulianoff: aoulianoff@dcmtbarker.sa.gov.au
- Dog and Cat Management Chairperson, Simon Zbierski: szbierski@campbelltown.sa.gov.au
- Fees and Charges Workgroup Chairperson, Elizabeth Williams: elizabeth.williams@alexandrina.sa.gov.au
- Financial Management Framework Workgroup Chairperson, Mark Lague: mlague@barossa.sa.gov.au
- Local Government Price Index Workgroup Chairperson, Chris Birch: chris.birch@prospect.sa.gov.au
- Long Term Financial Plan Workgroup Chairperson, Kate George: kgeorge@salisbury.sa.gov.au
- Membership & Communication Workgroup Chairperson, Eion Williamson: eion.williamson@dcgrant.sa.gov.au
- Newsletter & Website Workgroup Chairperson, Elizabeth Williams: elizabeth.williams@alexandrina.sa.gov.au
- Rating and Valuation Workgroup Chairperson, Norm Biggs: nbiggs@wtcc.sa.gov.au
- Seminars Workgroup Chairperson, Clive Hempel: chempel@mid-murray.sa.gov.au