

# NOTICE OF MEETING

NOTICE is hereby given of the Legatus Group Regional Management Group meeting that will be held at the Clare & Gilbert Valleys Council Chambers 4 Gleeson Street Clare on Friday 1 February 2019 commencing at 10.00am – 2.30 pm. (light lunch provided).

# **AGENDA**

1. **Welcome**
   1. Attendance
   2. Apologies: Peter McGuinness, Colin Davies, Brian Carr and Peter Ackland.
   3. Welcome new and acting CEOs and risk management officers.
2. **Notes from previous meeting**

The attached notes were distributed to all CEOs and were provided to the Legatus Group meeting held 14 December 2018.

****

1. **Workshop**

The Workshop on Local Government Risk Services will run from 10am – 12.30pm and CEO’s were invited to include their key operational risk management representatives.

Agenda

1. Welcome – introduction Simon Millcock (10 minutes)
2. Set the scene / background – Dr Helen Macdonald CEO Clare and Gilbert Valleys Council and Martin McCarthy CEO The Barossa Council (15 minutes)
3. Response to the matters raised and current changes Dr Andrew Johnson Chief Executive Officer LGASA Mutual Pty Ltd Andrew Johnson (30 minutes)
4. General question time – comments with Andrew Johnson (40 minutes)
5. Legatus Group approach – ways forward without Andrew Johnson (30 minutes)

Background – provided to all CEO’s and Andrew Johnson

Following discussions between Helen Macdonald, Martin McCarthy & Jason Kuchel and from the previous Legatus Group Regional Management Group meeting further feedback was sought on a list of key issues for discussion at the workshop.The following was compiled by Martin and endorsed by Jason and Helen with agreement from other CEOs that they key topics. This information was provided to Andrew Johnson prior to the meeting.

1. Lack of strategic alignment and goals of the insurer and those they insurer:
   1. Akin to the tail wagging the dog;
   2. The level of frustration with this has seen results in people giving up, pushing back and constructively trying to resolve issues;
   3. The so-called reward system is broken – they are actually just giving our overcharged money back; and
   4. The strategic goal of the insurer is to make money and the commission they get is based on the premium– when this is mixed with c. above, they inflate the premium to increase revenue (and profits given claims are going down) and then provide a thinly vailed rebate to that is akin to price gouging and is possibly anti-competitive and against the law.

1. RRC’s:
   1. Provide no value would prefer them out of the organisation;
   2. They don’t understand risk – on one hand they espouse the virtues of Councils setting its own risk profile and on the other hand they audit you against standards of low or zero risk – it’s our business not there’s;
   3. In essence they are a hindrance to proper risk and safety systems as any resources we have are wrapped up with endless compliance, discussion, utopian targets and paperwork and not safety;
   4. They are administrative, and compliance based – 10 years ago they were people based and got out on the ground and helped not just barked the insurers line; and
   5. If they change the model that RRC’s are about the industry and safety, then they should be supported 100% but at present see all the points above.
2. The system is broken on the ground it’s about compliance not safety (advise from staff).  It is too complex as an industry we have been too slow to move from a prescription system with endless documentation (which was required 5-10 years ago when we had to lift our game) to one that actually empowers the staff who actually know how to be safe – in the words of one of Martin’s outside crew who finished with just short of 50 years “the level of paperwork is f…..g b……s now days we just want to get the work done and we know how to do it”….. hallelujah Martin say!
3. The system is demoralising for staff – the goal posts keep shifting – the reward systems is not a reward system even in its wording (it’s a “non-compliance” because cannot demonstrate 1 line in a 20-page document).  This is also linked to 2 above.  Councils are losing good people.
4. We are asked for endless data – for what is data’s sake not for improvement.
5. The projects that are funded through R&D and other funds do not seem to accord with what we actually need on the ground, simplification, practical solutions, efficiencies and empowerment not more documentation.
6. Unsure how the money flows and what the relationships are e.g. the sudden thrusting of sky trust at the industry.
7. That we should also recognise the good work:
   1. That the restructure provides an opportunity to reinvigorate the conversation and find some solutions;
   2. There are many people (through the industry and the insurer) passionate about making sure we make this work;
   3. There is a small group (us) trying to get a strategy/document together to present issues and solutions – we acknowledge we need to be part of the solution not just raise the issues;
   4. The scheme offers a sound product and service; and
   5. Happy with the service provided in some of our more difficult claim matters that I get involved in.

1. Data and reporting – best way to summarise this is the data and reporting internally in the organisation and the scheme can improve and things like lost time injuries is useless as an indicator we need to find other ways.
2. Asset fund – it’s on the radar for later next year but need to settle this all down first.
3. The level of legislative burden on us generally and safety is but one (important yes) component of around 100 Acts – Martin and his exec team did one 18 months ago (so it’s a little old) which are now using as a basis for developing a reform document by this Council as its priorities that will make a difference in the cost of doing business.
4. **LUNCH**
5. **REGIONAL HEALTH (30 minutes) 1pm**

Presentations on key topics by:

* 1. Cr Alan Zubrinich Deputy Mayor Port Pirie Council Chair NDIS Disability Workforce Hub
  2. Larissa Mackrill Disability Workforce Coordinator
  3. Courtney Thorpe Coordinator - Yorke & North Country SA PHN

Questions and discussions.

The attached letter was provided by Legatus Group CEO to the Parliamentary Review SA Public Health Act 2011 and note item 6.1.vi and includes the need for a regional wellbeing officer.



1. **LEGAL PRESENTATION HWL Ebsworth (30 minutes) 1.30pm**

Presentation by Michael Durrant - Partner

Background:

LGASA Legal Connect (a sub-brand of LGASA Commercial Solutions) has secured law firm HWL Ebsworth to provide expert legal advice to the local government sector. This partnership with LGA includes having a dedicated relationship partner for each of the local government regions outside of the metro area. That selection is made based on that partner's experience and expertise in advising on local matters in those areas. The HWL Ebsworth team will provide LGA council members with high-end advice, offering the scope, breadth and depth of experience in local government matters as well as expertise on a broad range of areas nationally.

Michael is a specialist in advising the private and public sector as to its legislative, regulatory and contractual obligations. He is an expert in governance, energy, property and land access, environment and planning and commercial litigation and dispute resolution. Michael has been named in Doyle’s Guide as a leading Energy and Resources and Native Title lawyer. Michael has also been named in Best Lawyers™ Australia for Alternative Dispute Resolution, Energy Law, Mining Law and Oil and Gas Law.

1. **DISCUSSION ITEMS**
   1. CEO Simon Millcock update (verbal and written)
      1. Audit and Risk Committee update from meeting 30 January 2019

The Legatus Group CEOs were canvassed for nomination from a professionally qualified officer from a constituent council (apart from Port Pirie and Flinders Ranges) to fill the current vacancy on the committee.

Whilst several councils responded, to date there has been no nominations received from a professionally qualified officer from a constituent council and as such still seeking nomination.

* + 1. Road and Transport Infrastructure Advisory Committee
* Regional Transport Plan

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 5 February 2019 and will include presentation by HDS re the Road Deficiency Action Plans. HDS have issued individual spread sheets to each council. They noted that there are some inconsistencies which have been highlighted. These final items will need to be worked through at the meeting. The attached Road Deficiency Action Plans for the region is attached.



* Horrocks Highway

The Legatus Group did not approve the recommendations for an allocation of funds to gain a report on the socio-economic impact of the further deterioration of Horrocks Highway in partnership with other regional and industry bodies identified by the committee. They did approve a letter be sent to Hon Stephan Knoll Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government seeking a response on what the full works required for upgrading of Horrocks Highway are, along with the timeframes for this work and the associated costs. (No response to date)

* Princes Highway

The Legatus Group CEO attended a workshop held by GHD on the Princes Highway Corridor Strategy and provided information to all Legatus Group CEOs whose councils have the highway in their council, and on the site, visits being undertaken by GHD. Wakefield Regional Council arranged to meet with them.

* Restricted Access Vehicle Route Assessment Tool

The Legatus Group supported a scoping exercise approach received by AARB for developing a grant application for an unsealed road functionality for the Restricted Access Vehicle Route Assessment Tool. This is being progressed with assistance from Trevor Graham Director, Assets & Infrastructure Services at Yorke Peninsula Council.

* SLRP funding management % to Legatus Group for management fee

The Legatus Group agreed that it does not currently impose a policy for setting a management fee for successful SLRP applications but that this be reviewed annually as part of the Legatus Group work plan.

* Future budget allocations to road and transport infrastructure

The Legatus Group approved the allocation of Regional Capacity Building surplus as of 30 June 2018 towards regional road and transport infrastructure subject to the approval of the 2019/2020 and long-term financial budget and the board seeks consideration and any recommendations on the allocation of these funds by the Road and Transport Infrastructure Committee.

* Heavy Vehicle Access workshop

The Legatus Group support the staging of a workshop on the topic of heavy vehicle access for both elected members and administration that will coincides with the release of the deficiency report stage 2 of the Legatus Group Regional Transport Plan.

* Bridge and rail crossing deficiency report.

The Legatus Group has approved the development of a report for consideration in the 2019/2010 business plan for a bridge and rail crossing deficiency report.

* Vacancy for CEOs on the Committee

The terms of reference for the Road and Transport Infrastructure Advisory Committee allows for a maximum of 2 CEOs from the constituent councils. Colin Davies had been a long-standing member of the committee and he tendered his resignation in December. Consideration from current CEOs to join this committee is sought.

* + 1. Community Wastewater Management Advisory Committee

There have been no meetings of the committee or workshops and the following update is:

* Expression of interest submitted for PhD Intern to undertake research on the development of a business case for regional processing – sludge/trade waste. The responses are still to be assessed.
* 12 Councils have taken up the training program through Tafe for Certificate III Wastewater or units of training to Legatus Group councils for 2019 at a heavily discounted rate and program starts in February.

Discussions were held with councils regards funding still available for CWMS project officer, but nothing has progressed and as such a part time project officer will soon be sourced.

iv Waste / transfer stations training

Update provided prior to Christmas by TAFE re the Waste Management training proposal and they are waiting on people to come back from leave.

* TAFE’s Primary Industries unit has examined the brief we sent and are keen to take it on.
* For the moment, the next step is for TAFE to arrange to get the relevant training package positioned on the delivery scope.
* TAFE met with Green Industries SA on Tuesday to see if there were any leads, they could give TAFE. Nothing tangible, but they are keen to provide consultancy if/when needed. They agreed that the best way forward is as being done, with Ivan, Copper Coast Council and Legatus leading the way.

v Emergency Management

The Legatus Group CEO was invited as the only Regional Local Government representative to attend the LGA Council Ready program “Sense making workshop” in December 2019 which provided:

* + - * an opportunity for stakeholders to engage with the information gathered through the emergency management health checks with councils;
      * to involve stakeholders with interest and/or connection with the program in the data analysis process; and
      * to generate insights to inform the Health Check Report and Stage 2 Implementation Plan.

The Stage 2 Implementation Plan will include details about the regional project officers (e.g. how many, where they are based, their work program etc). Regional LGAs, along with councils and other stakeholders, have been invited to a workshop which was being held on 24 January at Port Pirie but now occurring in February where they will work through some of the options.

vi Health / Wellbeing Officers

The Legatus Group were unsuccessful in their expression of interest for one of the two regional trails of the Community Wellbeing Alliance. Consideration is required on how to progress this and reference to item 4 of this agenda. Refer to the letter which was attached at item 5.3 to the SA Health Review.

vii Climate Change – 3-year plan

* + - 1. Mid North Sustainability Hub – PhD Intern Bride Meyer – McLean has commenced the project to explore the viability of a Mid North Sustainability Hub with a working group formed which includes RDA YMN, Clare & Gilbert Valleys Council, Northern Areas Council and Northern and Yorke NRM. Desk top research is being undertaken with interviews occurring in early February and draft report due early March 2019. This project will assist in develop a scoping document on a regional sustainability hub concept planin partnership with NRM and C&GVC with Clare being the regional centre and using the old Tafe site. This will include a review of the virtual hub “Goyder Line Sustainability Hub” concept.
      2. Coastal –
         1. PhD Intern: As reported in December 2018 at the Legatus Group meeting the NRM have approved $15,000 for the Legatus Group to contract AMSI for a PhD Intern research project to focus on the synergies across the work NRM, SAROC, Legatus Councils, communities and other organisations for coastal matters and AMSI will be sending through contract for a John Watson to commence in February. He will form part of the project team if the Legatus Group are successful with the expression of interest.
         2. SA Coastal Council Alliance: This project has commenced, and meeting held by Anita Crisp with LegatusCoastal Council contacts.
         3. Yorke & Northern Coastal Management Action Plan: The Legatus Group were invited to submit an expression of interest by NRM for the delivery of a Northern & Yorke Coastal Management Action Plan. This was due to the work the Legatus Group have been doing for several years on this topic and their role in the Yorke Mid North Alliance for the Climate Change Sector Agreement. As there is insufficient time available for the Legatus Group CEO to deliver this project and in keeping with the Legatus Group procurement policy, three organisations who have been working with the Legatus Group in the past on climate change were invited to submit a proposal relating to this expression of interest via a consortium approach. Written quotes were received from these consultants and if successful the Legatus Group would also need to employ a project officer and look at contracting an ecologist. This project would be delivered at no cost to the Legatus Group, as the grant would cover all expenses with an allocation of funds towards administration by the Legatus Group. Given the requirments for tenders the Legatus Group CEO has advised the Legatus Chair and Deputy Chairs along with the Legatus Group Coastal Council CEOs of this approach. If this expression of interest is successful it is likely to commence before the next Legatus Group meeting.

viii NDIS socio – economic impact to regional councils

No progress provided by the LGA on approaches to SA Health to meet and discuss the findings of the reports and seek to progress the areas highlighted. The issues raised were included in the response to the SA Health Review. A letter of support was provided to support the Yorke and Mid North Regional SA Disability Resource Centres.

ix Rating Equity

The LGA President wrote to Minister Knoll on 22 October and the LGA have yet to receive a reply.

x Rubble Royalties

The advice from the LGA is that the law change takes effect from 1 July 2019. Therefore, there will still have to be two more payments for period July – December 2018 and January – June 2019.

xi Regional Partnerships

* Yorke Mid North Regional Planning Day is being held on Friday 22 March in Kadina. A date saver has been distributed and program should be available soon. Legatus Group CEO is coordinating and facilitating a session with the following presenters:
  + Christel Mex Flinders Uni PhD candidate “Stepping up or stepping out? The future of volunteer leaders in grassroots associations.”
  + Lyndsey Jackson “Asset based community development”
  + Matthew Gordon / OurSay “Update on the local government digital maturity project”
  + Nick Crowther from Freerange Future <https://freerangefuture.com/>
* The Regional Development South Australia Conference is being held at The Bend Tailem Bend with a focus on the Food Industry 23-24 May 2019. The master class session on Friday 24 May will include:
  + Joan Martí’s Deputy Director of Cluster Development at ACCIÓ, the Catalan Agency for Competitiveness, Catalonia Government.
  + Warwick Powell Chairman BeefLedger Blockchain with South Australian beef into China.
  + Warrick Duthy Chairperson at The Clare Valley Alliance and involved with the Watervale Hotel, Kilakanoon Wines and Vestey Vineyards.
* Regional Employment, Creative Industries and Music Industry Forum. A Regional Accelerator Music Program (RAMP) Roundtable workshop was held in the Barossa in December 2018. The Legatus Group CEO is working with Lisa Brock the Regional Employment Facilitator, Music SA and RDA Yorke and Mid North on a Creative Industries Forum and RAMP Roundtable to be held in Port Pirie on Wednesday 13 March 2019.
* The Hummocks / Barunga Range Brighter Futures. The Legatus Group CEO is working with DHS, RDA YMN, PIRSA, Barunga West, Wakefield, Port Pirie and Northern Areas on a subregional community capacity building project “Projects that will make a difference to your community”. This is a follow on from Peterborough Brighter Futures project and will be looking at possible partnership for ongoing sub-regional projects in the Legatus Group Business Plans.

xii Digital Maturity of Councils

OurSay have been contracted to deliver this project and the list of key contacts within each council has been provided. Councils need to participate in this flagship research project to understand the best way to support the digital transformation of regional South Australian councils. Our goal with this project is to gain a 100% response rate from Legatus Group Councils and identify quick wins as well as areas long term investment to transition the digital space from an activity many organisations fear, into an opportunity for the sector to positively cement its place in the community. To help chart the digital future a survey has been developed: [Complete the survey](Complete%20the%20survey) (<https://oursay.org/legatus-digital>)

As a minimum we require two responses from each council 1) an Information Technology lead within each council and 2) a CEO or executive delegate.

The survey form will close at 5pm on Monday 4 March 2019.

By participating in [this project](http://oursay.org/legatus-digital) councils will receive an individual benchmark report with sector-based recommendations for digital transformation projects.

Your feedback will support formulating solutions for the sector and incorporate your advice and ideas into recommendations to Legatus and the South Australian Regional Organisation of Councils.

xiii Volunteering project

Waiting on response to the application to the Building Better Regions Fund with the initial focus still on the Mid North sub-region of Wakefield, Clare & Gilbert Valley and Goyder. This project is on creating a culture for youth into volunteering and allowing current volunteer groups to better engage with youth. Project partners have confirmed their support and they are Volunteering SA&NT, UniSA and Mid North Knowledge Partnership.

xiv Drought

A letter was sent to the Prime Minister on 19 December 2018 with a copy to Rowan Ramsey MP Member for Grey and Mayor Sam Telfer President LGA. This letter welcomed the Federal Government’s drought communities package announced at the National Drought Summit to now include 17 local council areas in SA. This will provide up to $7 million to our region as 7 of our member council will be supported for local infrastructure and other projects for communities and businesses who have been impacted by drought.

It outlined the Legatus Groups concerns to the Australian Government on the following matters:

* 1. The timing of the roll out and its impact on SA Councils ability to deliver due to being advised 12 weeks later than Eastern States and whilst SA was in the midst of council elections. This resulted in decisions on projects being delayed leaving little time to be complete by 30 June 2019.
  2. Equity / clarity on the decision-making process and an explanation for exclusion for council selection as Port Pirie, Flinders Ranges and Peterborough were not included.

The Legatus Group requested a review of the government’s decisions on these 2 points. Whilst noting the impracticality around the timelines for submitting, accessing, acquitting and finding sufficient local suppliers within these timeframes. The other area of concern which was discussed is that some of our communities are lacking health services and medical practitioners, in particular mental health issues.

Whilst some member councils have individually written to local member Rowan Ramsey MP Member for Grey, it is the belief of the Legatus Group that the communities of the three councils who were not able to secure funding will be adversely affected.

The most significant impacts for those who have received funding is the increased pressure to attempt to deliver projects within the set time frames especially for some of our smaller councils who have limited capacity.

The Legatus Group is seeking to take an active role in the longer-term drought issues and assist with delivery of planning to identify the gaps on what current services and programs are being delivered for a strategy that focuses on impacts if the drought conditions continue.

Initially discussions have been held with our 3 Regional Development Australia organisations and follow ups with regional PIRSA and Northern and Yorke NRM re continuity planning and identification of regional strategic projects that are scoped and ready for activating when funding opportunities occur.

There was agreement that

* A workshop is a good idea and we should schedule for early February 2019;
* The purpose of the workshop was to look at gaps, but more importantly longer-term priorities ie water retention on properties, property management planning, skills for resilience and project management.
* PIRSA has a breakdown of a significant number of current projects which she will outline at the workshop and we can share those that we already know;
* NRM passed on that industry development in the kangaroo industry was one of the activities that had been discussed with Premier and was something PIRSA and others should be pursuing.

xv Tourism Visitor Information Services Report

An expression of interest has been distributed for the delivery of this report. The purpose of the report is to identify, quantify, assess and provide recommendations on the delivery and possible partnership approaches for visitor information services for consideration by the Legatus Group constituent councils and regional partners. The report will identify any gaps and ways to add value to these resources over the next 5 years and assist with identifying areas for regional projects and funding.

The focus for this report is on the use of digital, physical assets and volunteer resources that will provide a mechanism in strengthening connections across the region whilst providing a clear understanding of the contribution by local government to visitor information services.

Feed back was sought from across the Legatus Group Constitute Councils and the three RDA’s and this assisted in the development of the briefing notes for the expression of interest. It is planned to be completed by the end of April 2019.

xvi LGA and SAROC

The Legatus Group SAROC members are Mayors Mattey and O’Brien and the Legatus Group CEO attended a team building workshop run by LGA which included both the Greater Adelaide ROC and SAROC members and further strategic planning sessions are being progressed. There is still a lack of clarity on what their strategic and business plans will be and there are further workshops planned.

In collaboration with the other 5 Regional LGA EO’s project briefs have been developed on 23 regional projects for consideration by SAROC as they develop of strategic plan and budgets.

* 1. LED Street Lights – Update Andrew Cameron (held over from last meeting)

Yorke Peninsula Council have prepared a business case for upgrade of street lights to LED, with significant savings predicted over a 20-year period on all models presented. They plan to workshop that with their new Council and then get them to consider formally via a Council report early next year. If that is endorsed, they will commence the procurement process and formalise the contract with SAPN, targeting July next year.

Seeking interest from other councils who may want to partner in the procurement process and possibly also the negotiation process with SAPN to enable some economies of scale. There was some work done around 12 months ago by the former Legatus Group procurement officer in this space.

* 1. Illegal Dumping - to be left on the agenda.

7.4 Proposal for development of a Regional Roadside Vegetation Management Plan - Legatus Group CEO yet to progress.

* 1. Meetings

The Regional Management Group meetings to be held in Clare on following dates:

* Friday 10 May
* Friday 16 August
* Friday 15 November

1. **OTHER BUSINESS**
2. **CLOSE**