



2018/2019 ANNUAL REPORT

The Legatus Group Charter requires that the AGM receive the Legatus Group's Annual Report which may incorporate reports from committees and any representatives reports from other organisations.

The Legatus Group AGM was held on Friday 30 August 2019 and adopted the report.

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The Legatus Group Charter clause 6.3 Annual Report

6.3.1 The Legatus Group must each year, produce an Annual Report summarising the activities, achievements and financial performance of the Legatus Group for the preceding Financial Year.

6.3.2 The Annual Report must incorporate the audited financial statements of the Legatus Group for the relevant Financial Year.

6.3.3 The Annual Report must be provided to the Constituent Councils by 30 September each year.

The Legatus Group is a regional subsidiary of:

- Adelaide Plains Council
- Barunga West Council
- Clare & Gilbert Valleys Council
- Copper Coast Council
- District Council of Mount Remarkable
- District Council of Orroroo/Carrieton
- District Council of Peterborough
- Light Regional Council
- Northern Areas Council
- Port Pirie Regional Council
- Regional Council of Goyder
- The Barossa Council
- The Flinders Ranges Council
- Wakefield Regional Council
- Yorke Peninsula Council

The Central Local Government Region was established in 1998 under Section 200 of the Local Government Act 1934 as a controlling authority. It now continues in existence as a regional subsidiary of its member Councils under Part 2 of Schedule 2 of the Local Government Act 1999 by the provisions of Section 25 of the Local Government (Implementation) Act 1999. In 2016 the Central Local Government Region of South Australia adopted the trading name of Legatus Group to which it is referred. The Legatus Group is established to:

- undertake co-ordinating, advocacy and representational roles on behalf of its Constituent Councils at a regional level
- facilitate and co-ordinate activities of local government at a regional level related to community and economic development with the object of achieving improvement for the benefit of the communities of its Constituent Councils

- develop, encourage, promote, foster and maintain consultation and co-operation and to strengthen the representation and status of local government when dealing with other governments, private enterprise and the community
- develop further co-operation between its Constituent Councils for the benefit of the communities of the region
- develop and manage policies which guide the conduct of programs and projects in the region with the objective of securing the best outcomes for the communities of the region
- undertake projects and activities that benefit the region and its communities
- associate collaborate and work in conjunction with other regional local government bodies for the advancement of matters of common interest.

The Legatus Group is a body corporate and is governed by a Board of Management which has the responsibility to manage all activities of the group and ensure that they act in accordance with its Charter.

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Legatus Group Board of Management: The Board consists of all principal members (Mayor / Chairman) of the Constituent Councils which for 2018/2019 were:

Council	Delegate
Adelaide Plains Council	Mayor Tony Flaherty until 9 November 2018 Mayor Mark Wasley from 9 November 2018
Barunga West Council	Mayor Cynthia Axford until 9 November 2018 Mayor Leonie Kerley from 9 November 2018
Clare & Gilbert Valleys Council	Mayor Allan Aughey OAM until 9 November 2018 Mayor Wayne Thomas from November 2018
Copper Coast Council	Mayor Paul Thomas AM until 9 November 2018 Mayor Roslyn Talbot from 9 November 2018
District Council of Mount Remarkable	Mayor Colin Nottle until 9 November 2018 Mayor Phillip Heaslip from 9 November 2018
District Council of Orroroo Carrieton	Chairman Kathie Bowman
District Council of Peterborough	Mayor Ruth Whittle OAM
Light Regional Council	Mayor Bill O'Brien
Northern Areas Council	Mayor Denis Clark
Port Pirie Regional Council	Mayor John Rohde until 9 November 2018 Mayor Leon Stephens from 9 November 2018
Regional Council of Goyder	Mayor Peter Matthey OAM
The Barossa Council	Mayor Bob Sloane until 9 November 2018 Mayor Bim Lange from 9 November 2018
The Flinders Ranges Council	Mayor Peter Slattery

Wakefield Regional Council	Mayor Rodney Reid
Yorke Peninsula Council	Mayor Ray Agnew OAM until 9 November 2018 Mayor Darren Braund from 9 November 2018

Office Bearers for 2017/18

Chairman:	Mayor Peter Matthey OAM
Deputy Chairs:	Chairman Kathie Bowman Mayor Bob Sloane until 9 November 2018 Mayor Bill O'Brien from 9 November 2018
South Australian Regional Organisation of Councils	Mayor Peter Matthey Mayor Bill O'Brien
Chief Executive Officer:	Mr Simon Millcock
Auditor:	Dean Newberry and Associates

Meetings of the Legatus Group

The following meetings of the Board of Management were held during the 2018/19 year:

- Annual General Meeting 17 August 2018
- Ordinary Meeting 17 August 2018
- Ordinary Meeting 12 December 2018
- Ordinary Meeting 15 February 2019
- Ordinary Meeting 31 May 201

There were four committees in 2018/2019 and all agendas and minutes are published on the Legatus Group Website and minutes were provided to the Legatus Group meetings.

Committee	Members	Meeting Dates
Audit Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayor Ray Agnew (Chair) until 9/11/18 • Chair Kathie Bowman • Mayor Colin Nottle until 9/11/18 • Mr Colin Davies until 1/12/18 • Mr Peter Ackland • Mayor Denis Clark from 30/1/19 • Mr Ian McDonald from 30/4/19 	<p>3 August 2018 30 November 2018 30 January 2019 30 April 2019</p>
Management Group (Council CEOs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Colin Byles (Northern Areas) (Chair) • Mr James Miller (Adelaide Plains) • Mr Martin McCarthy (Barossa) • Mr Andrew Cole (Barunga West) • Dr Helen Macdonald (Clare & Gilbert Valleys) • Mr Peter Harder (Copper Coast) replaced by Mr Russell Peate • Mr Colin Davies (Flinders Ranges) • Mr David Stevenson (Goyder) • Mr Brian Carr (Light) • Mr Wayne Hart (Mt Remarkable) • Mr Kristen Clark (Orroroo/Carrieton) replaced by Mr Dylan Strong • Mr Peter McGuinness (Peterborough) • Mr Peter Ackland (Pirie Regional) • Mr Jason Kuchel (Wakefield) replaced by Mark McShane and Andrew MacDonald • Mr Andrew Cameron (Yorke Peninsula) 	<p>3 August 2018 30 November 2018 1 February 2019 10 May 2019</p>
Road & Transport Infrastructure Advisory Committee:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lee Wallis (Goyder) • Peter Porch (Northern Areas) • Colin Davies (CEO Flinders Ranges) until 30/11/18 • Jo-Anne Buchanan (RDA Yorke Mid North) • Steve Kaesler (Barossa) • Trevor Graham (Yorke Peninsula) • Martin Waddington replaced by Tom Jones (Adelaide Plains) • Steve Watson (Clare & Gilbert Valleys) • Mike Wilde (Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure) • Dr Helen Macdonald (CEO Clare & Gilbert Valleys Council) from 10/4/19 • Wayne Hart (CEO Mt Remarkable) from 10/4/19 	<p>2 August 2018 30 November 2018 5 February 2019 10 April 2019</p>
Community Wastewater Management Advisory Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wayne Hart (CEO Mt Remarkable) • Andrew Cole (CEO Barunga West) • Lee Wallis (Goyder) • Gary Easthope (Clare and Gilbert Valleys) • Chris Parish (Wakefield) • Adam Broadbent (Light) 	<p>17 October 2018 15 March 2019 23 May 2019</p>

Chairman's Report

I would like to firstly acknowledge both the outgoing and incoming Mayors following the November 2018 Local Government elections and this has seen eight new Mayors join the Legatus Group Board. In particular I take the opportunity to thank those long serving Mayors who provided a valuable service to their communities and the region.

It has been my pleasure to serve as Chairman in 2018/19 and I would like to take this opportunity to report on some of the highlights of the year.

Following on from the key regional state-wide issues that the Legatus Group undertook reports for in the previous year we were extremely pleased to see that the State Government removed the impost to councils for rubble royalties. The formation of the SA Coastal Council Alliance was an outcome of the previous year's work.

The Legatus Group continues to play the lead role on issues around rating equity and impacts of the NDIS on local government. Whilst this year we have also taken a lead role in state-wide approaches to Community Wastewater Management and the Drought. These have all been progressed to the South Australian Regional Organisation of Councils (SAROC) and we continue to provide a strong partnership approach with our other regional local government associations.

We delivered a significant report on the Digital Maturity of Local Government and whilst the report sought to have a whole of SA approach the Legatus Group constituent councils took a lead and I will be interested to see how these findings progress.

This year has seen us actively involved in the issues around the new LGA constitutional changes and the formation of the new look LGA Board along with the new SAROC business plan and budget. It should be noted that Legatus has been active in representing members; as we raised our concerns to both SAROC and to the LGA Board. Given the amount of time and expense for regional councils to attend meetings in Adelaide; I was satisfied with the outcome in relation to the constitutional changes and gratified to see increased levels of consultation afforded to the regions.

The drought has seen a significant impact to regional SA and whilst it was pleasing to see support from the Australian Government through the Drought Communities Program there were levels of inconsistencies which the Legatus Group raised with the Prime Minister. I note our region gained extra support with a further 6 of our councils being added onto the program following the initial 7. This program is providing up to \$13 million to our region for local infrastructure and other projects for communities and businesses who have been impacted by drought. Whilst we need to show that local government is able to deliver stimulus packages such as these in a timely manner and I note the role of the Legatus Group CEO who is currently working on a report for the Legatus Group and SAROC which will include issues of equity and clarity on the decision-making process.

The Legatus Group was active in its lobbying for road funding for a number of our major highways and I wrote to the State Minister on these matters. I was pleased to see the announcements by the Australian and South Australian Governments of funding for both the Horrocks and Barrier Highways. The Road and Transport Infrastructure Advisory Committee have been active this year in overseeing the delivery of stage 2 of the Legatus Group Regional Transport Plan which resulted in the Deficiency Action Plan and a robust assessment of this year's Special Local Roads Program funding applications. The Legatus Group 2019 Road and Transport Forum held on 12 July 2019 was a further successful outcome by the committee.

The region has been proactive in supporting the challenges and changing environment through the management of the Sector Agreement for the Climate Change Adaptation Plan and the subsequent release of the report on a Regional Sustainability Hub. This resulted in the Legatus Group being successful in their bid to project manage the Yorke Mid North Coastal Management Action Plan which is due for release later in 2019.

Our effort to encourage and foster closer working relationships with the three Regional Development Australia (RDA) organisations and Natural Resource Management Boards in our region; resulted in the successful Yorke Regional Planning Forum, workshops on the Creative Industries and the role of local

government in supporting businesses and the South Australian Regional Development Conference. The Legatus Group Visitor Information Services report was undertaken and will soon be presented to the board for consideration.

The Audit and Risk Management Group Committee have ensured that the work plan has assisted us in improving our governance. There has been valuable feedback gained from the Legatus Group Management Group meetings that have included a series of workshops and information sharing opportunities by and for the CEOs and I note with interest their discussions on Local Government Risk.

This year saw the formation of the Legatus Group Community Wastewater Management Advisory Committee who have been overseeing the 2-year Joint CWMS program, staging of a successful SA conference and overseeing the development of a regional sludge viability report which will soon be presented to the board for consideration.

It has been pleasing to see the continued dialogue with the six State Government Members of Parliament, and many of them making time to attend our board meetings. During the year the Legatus Group commenced greater interaction with Universities on research projects and this opportunity provided tangible project work for Interns whilst delivering cost effective research for the region.

In closing I would like to thank everyone who has taken a proactive role in progressing the region and thank both Mayor Bill O'Brien and Chairman Kathie Bowman for your roles as Deputy Chairs.

Mayor Peter Matthey

Chairman Legatus Group

CEO Report

In 2018-2019 the Legatus Group consolidated the sub-regional approach to operations and support across the constituent councils whilst strengthening the partnerships with other regional bodies by expanding this to include research projects with Universities.

Following the November 2018 Local Government elections, a series of meetings were arranged with each constituent council and these took the form of either presentations at council meetings or workshops with councils.

Along with over 30 Legatus Group Board and committee, Yorke Mid North Alliance and SAROC meetings the Legatus Group CEO was actively involved in partnering with fellow regional local government association executive officers. This has seen the Legatus Group CEO take a leadership role and manage several state-wide and regional topics which include:

- I. Regional LGAs:
 - a. SA Coastal Council Alliance – committee member
 - b. Rating Equity for Commercial and/or Industrial Land Uses Outside Towns in South Australia – LGA R&D grant
<https://legatus.sa.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Final-Report-Rating-Equity-for-Commercial-Industrial-Land-Uses-Outside-Towns-in-SA-1.pdf>
 - c. Socio-Economic impacts from the NDIS on regional local governments – LGA R&D grant
<https://legatus.sa.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/KPPM-Legatus-NDIS-Report-FINAL-20-5-18-002.pdf>
 - d. Community Wastewater Management – State Conference and the regional Sludge Viability report (to be released following August 2018 Legatus Group meeting) – APRIntern grant
 - e. Digital Maturity – funding LGA R&D grant
<https://legatus.sa.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Legatus-Digital-Maturity-Index-Final-Report.pdf>
 - f. Regional representative on the working party for the LGA's Council Ready program

2. Regional Development South Australia
 - a. RDSA Conference – Tailm Bend
3. Yorke Mid North Alliance:
 - a. Yorke Mid North Regional Forum – Kadina
 - b. Climate Change – Sector Agreement and Sustainability Hub report – APRIntern grant
<https://legatus.sa.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Final-report-May-2019.pdf>

Other regional projects that the Legatus Group CEO has been managing / supporting are:

- 2030 Legatus Group Regional Transport Plan Deficiency Action Plan I completed
<https://legatus.sa.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Regional-Transport-Plan-Road-Deficiency-Action-Plans-Feb-19.pdf>
- Visitor Information Services review, which was completed, and this will be presented to the Legatus Group meeting on 30 August 2019 and published following their approval.
- Hummocks/Barunga Ranges Brighter Futures project commenced – funding from SA Government
- Yorke Mid North Coastal Management Action Plan commenced – funding NY NRM and APRIntern grants
- Youth into Volunteering – Building Better Futures grant
- Regional and sub/regional forums on the Music and Creative Industries
- Workshop on the role of local government in supporting local businesses

Support has been provided to constituent councils for the delivery of a regional / sub-regional approach for the Councils Disability Access Inclusion Action Plans which are due in 2020. There was an expression of interest submitted to the LGA for funding a regional wellbeing officer for the Legatus Group constituent councils which was not successful.

There continues to be work regarding the drought which includes collating the responses from all regional councils for a report to be developed for SAROC.

Support has been provided to the Legatus Management Group in their efforts to progress issues raised around Local Government Risk Management.

Through coordination by the Legatus Group, training was delivered by TafeSA for Certificate III in Water Industry Treatment (Wastewater) through the Small Regional Community funding with significant training costs being reduced and uptake by a total of 19 participants registering.

The Legatus Group continues to be in a healthy financial position with the balance from the year being \$166,358 and with an accumulated surplus and reserves at 30 June 2019 of \$1,000,821. There will be an assessment of the long-term financial coverage of the Legatus Group undertaken in the coming year and noting that the Rubble Royalties Funding ceases from 30 June 2020.

All grants were acquitted and reporting requirements for ongoing grants.

Benefits to constituent councils:

- Identify training needs for the Legatus Region Constituent Councils.
- Regional collaboration and priority setting and sharing of knowledge and resources in the areas outlined above.
- Delivery of regional strategic and business plans and annual work plans.
- Operate Legatus Group in accordance with legislative requirements and board policies and procedures.
- Well regarded by members and stakeholders as valid and relevant through regional collaboration and undertaking or supporting actions on identified priorities.
- Identify regional priorities through collaboration with members and stakeholders and develop agreed actions and/or support.
- Advocate with a single and united voice and in partnership with other Regional LGA's.

- Fostering of economic, environmental and social sustainability through pro-active, innovative, efficient and collaborative approaches to priority issues.

Benefits across the local government sector:

- Assistance with coordinating workshops and consultation sessions and improved regional delivery of LGA services.
- Identified and aided with regional and longer-term outcomes for Constituent Councils.
- Facilitates stronger regional collaboration on projects and areas for sharing of knowledge and services.
- Being able to undertake research projects on the needs specific to regional councils.

Observation:

Due to the November 2018 Local Government elections there was a slight slowdown in progressing regional projects and awareness of the Legatus Group given that there were 8 new board members. Since the election there has been stronger interest by constituent councils to bring issues forward and the formation of the committees has resulted in a more active interaction to address issues.

A focus has been on securing data to assist in decision making and to assist with raising policy issues through the board and SAROC. This year has seen the constructive dialogue with Constituent Councils, Members of Parliament, Ministers, the Local Government Association SA, public servants and other regional stakeholders. This is a result of the Legatus Group CEO position having been settled and by gaining greater clarity on the actions and projects.

Simon Millcock
CEO Legatus Group

The Legatus Group Audit and Risk Committee summary of activities undertaken, and recommendations made during 2018-2019. The committee met on 4 occasions during 2018-2019 with the following attendance:

Date	No of Members Attending
3Aug 2018	4
30 Nov 2018	3
30 Jan 2019	3
30 Apr 2019	4

Committee Member	No of Meetings Attended
Mayor Ray Agnew	1
Chairman Kathie Bowman	4
Mayor Colin Nottle	1
Mayor Denis Clark	2
Colin Davies	2
Ian McDonald	1

The following table sets out the principal issues addressed by the Committee for 2018-19 year:

Principal Issues Examined	Recommendations to Board
Financial Report 2018-2019	No issues, unqualified audit, adopt
Review of budget against actuals	Noted the need for Legatus Group to endorse 2017-2018 adopted budget against actuals for annual financial report
Review of work plan, internal controls	Work planned developed
Charter	Variations to charter noted and recommended and adopted including the need for new auditor and Dean Newberry appointed
Business, Budget and Strategic Plan	Noted the development of the 2018-2019 business plan and budget
Membership	Recommendations to Board re membership
Equity / reserves	Recommendations to Board on levels to be held
Exemption for having committee	Supported the approach for exemption of committee

Chairman Kathy Bowman
 Chairman Legatus Group Audit and Risk Management Committee

Financial Statement year ending 30 June 2019 which was adopted at the 30 August 2019 Legatus Group AGM. The Legatus Group Charter requires that the AGM receive the audited financial statement for the preceding financial year.

The 2018/2019 Legatus Group audited annual financial report was undertaken by Dean Newberry and Partners. This report was prepared by Mr Sean Cheriton The Flinders Ranges Council Acting Finance and Administration Manager and was an agenda item at the Legatus Group Audit and Risk Committee meeting held on 22 August 2019. This meeting endorsed the Legatus Group annual financial statement for the year ending 30 June 2018 as presenting a fair view of the state of the financial affairs of the Legatus Group and that the board adopt the annual financial statement. The meeting also recommended that the Legatus Group retain Dean Newberry and Partners as Auditors for the year end 30 June 2020.

The reports and statements form part of the Legatus Group Annual Report which will be distributed to Constituent Councils for inclusion with their own annual reporting requirements.

The regulations also require that on an annual basis, the Chief Executive Officer of each Constituent Council, the Legatus Group Chair and the Chair of the Audit Committee provide a statement of certification that the auditor is independent of the subsidiary. This has been completed.