

# 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 31 January 2020 commencing at 10.30am – 1.30 pm. (light lunch provided). To be followed by a Legatus Group Coastal Councils meeting 1.30pm – 2.30pm.

# **AGENDA**

1. **Welcome**
   1. Attendance
   2. Apologies: Andrew Cameron and Peter McGuinness
2. **Member Changes / Committees**

2.1 Welcome – Eric Brown (Flinders Ranges) Farewell - Andrew Cole (Barunga West)

2.2 Committees and appointments – for discussion.

The Legatus Group Regional Management Group is Chaired by Colin Byles.

The following CEO’s are currently on committees:

* Dr Helen Macdonald Chair Road and Transport Infrastructure
* Peter Ackland and Colin Byles Audit and Risk

The two Legatus Group advisory committees who are seeking CEO representation are the CWMS with two vacancies and the Road and Transport Infrastructure with one vacancy.

1. **Notes from previous meeting**

The notes from August 2019 meeting were distributed to all CEOs and provided to the Legatus Group August meeting.

The Legatus Group Regional Management Group held a workshop on Friday 29 September 2019 to discuss the Local Government Reform.

Following discussion and due to the workload during October which included the LGA Conference, AGM, consultation on State Planning Reform and noting that the review of the Legatus Group budget and long-term finances may provide an opportunity to identify some regional / sub-regional projects there was no meeting held in November.

1. **Presentations** 
   1. **10.45 am Paul Chapman CWMS Project Officer**

Background:

Since March 2018, the Legatus Group has been managing and reporting on regional CWMS Service Arrangements (focussed on the Legatus Group) through a funding allocation approved by the LGA CWMS Management Committee.  Along with the annual regional CWMS forum the Legatus Group has developed a list of all systems, worked on common compliance issues, undertaken a report on a regional sludge processing viability and identified areas for resourcing sharing including training programs. The Legatus Group has been approved an extension to the Service Arrangements arising from this work and is seeking to work closely with all Regional LGAs to take a more state-wide coordination approach. As such the Legatus Group is taking a lead role in both waste and wastewater and building on its lead role in the following areas:

* Assist councils at a regional level with CWMS services via sessions held in each of the SA Regional Local Government areas.  The details of these sessions would be developed in consultation with the region, but the central theme would be to build capacity across the regions.
* State-wide annual conference.
* Work with ESCOSA to trial a simplified model of reporting which may be described as the verify-trust model.
* Work with TAFE and the regulators to develop an online, anytime course for compliance officers.
* Use the Legatus MoU with UniSA which includes research into waste, wastewater, remote sensing and asset management in CWMS and this will continue to identify areas of research that will benefit the sector.
* Investigating the options for joint management of CWMS and further the possibility of a biosolids processing plant.

Dr Paul Chapman the Legatus Group CWMS Project Officer will discuss the issues and provide an overview.

CWMS are of great value to communities and highly desirable as assets. They are also expensive, dangerous and difficult systems, heavily regulated and highly variable in performance.  CWMS currently create significant challenges for Councils and more of them will be wanted, both of which suggest that a process to begin to consider alternative organisational and ownership arrangements could be included in the discussions and documents attached:



This has been presented to the SAROC Regional EOs who are supportive of further investigation.

* 1. **11.15am Disability Access and Inclusion Plans Senior Policy Officer – Merindah Ward** phone

Background:

The suggested approach last year (apart from the Barossa Light and Adelaide Plains) for regional / sub regional approaches was held off until the LGA commenced their work on support for councils to prepare their Disability Action and Inclusion Plans, which are due to be completed by October 2020.

The LGA have advised that they have engaged Senior Policy Officer – Merindah Ward – to lead this project over the next twelve months; and assist councils to work together to meet this new legislative requirement and achieve good local outcomes for access and inclusion planning.

Yorke Peninsula, Copper Coast, Barunga West and Wakefield Regional Councils have collectively engaged the company Infraplan to provide a DAIP for each Council (the project will be underway in early February 2020).

* 1. **11.30 SA Water Greg Ingleton Business Development Manager – Environmental Opportunities**

Background:

As part of SA Water’s Liveability program, six of the Legatus Group Councils have expressed interest in trialling air temperature sensor technology that will provide live air temperature data. SA Water have indicated that there is some resourcing available but not across all the councils. There may also be interest from other Legatus Group councils and the budget may be considered for partnering with these councils and SA Water to extend the program to all those who are interested. Attached is the original information:



Update from Greg:

There are two projects which are linked via the communications arrangements. The smart irrigation project uses soil moisture probes and smart water meters to feed into a bespoke irrigation software package. The software also receives input from BoM so can accurately forecast the irrigation requirements for a site. It is based on agricultural principles so is a more proactive rather than reactive method of irrigating open space. SA Water put the councils water budget into the software so that there is no risk of running over budget. SA Water is interested in this approach as they see that it can demonstrate best practice irrigation and avoid the risk of councils turning off irrigation due to running over budgets.

The second element is the air temperature sensors which demonstrate the value of green open space, and hence the need to maintain irrigation in our communities. In regional areas SA Water could put an air temperature sensor in most of the parks in a town.

Both systems require the Lorawan network (collaborative project between several councils in metropolitan Adelaide) . This is best done using communication gateways that will be located in each town. SA Water are still working out the price with the vendor, so we will have more info on that in the next week or so.

* 1. **12 noon Artificial Intelligence for Regions CRC Javin Shi and Paul Dalby Adelaide Uni**

The attached report was provided by the LGA:



The LGA has responded acknowledging that there are links to the current development of the State Government’s SA Regional Development Strategy. SAROC has an Economic Development strategic priority and seeks advocacy and partnership opportunities that recognise the specific needs of the regions and support councils to drive sustainable economic development, with specific activities to:

* Advocate to the Commonwealth and State Government to develop and implement initiatives that will assist with the growth and development of regional South Australia; and
* Continue to advocate to the State and Commonwealth Governments for the decentralisation of South Australia’s population to support regional South Australia

SAROC are undertaking their strategic planning for the 2020-21 annual business plan from which funds may become available if there is consensus for support. The Legatus Group may wish to consider being involved and members of the bid team have offered to meet with regional communities who are interested in becoming ‘Showcase Regions’ for this Centre to fast-track their adoption of this new form of technology. They would also be happy to engage with regional and local businesses through workshops or one-on-one. RDA Yorke Mid North CEO Kelly-Anne Saffin is invited to attend this presentation.

* 1. **12.30 Clinton Fern NorthPoint General Manager Corporate Sales**

1. **Local Government Risk Services**

For discussion

1. **Sustainability**

The Building Resilient Regional Communities through collective Action Sustainability Hub Project: Phase 2 2019 report can be found at: <https://legatus.sa.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Project-Report_FINALVERSION-2019_.pdf> The Legatus Group CEO is continuing to facilitate discussions with NRM / DEW, RDA YMN and Clare and Gilbert Valleys Council re a concept plan for 155 Main North Road re the Sustainability Hub.

The inaugural Climate Ready Regions Conference is being held Saturday 18 April in Clare with the theme Opportunities for business and communities in the changing climate. Speakers will cover:

* Regional South Australian businesses that are establishing commercially integrated solutions for climate risk management
* Community organisations that are strengthening the resilience of our communities
* Aboriginal enterprises that are harnessing their knowledge to build intergenerational capital
* South Australian regional, cross-sectoral partnerships that have been taking climate action for a decade
* Opportunities in water, waste, energy, biodiversity, land management and ESG.

Confirmed speakers include:

* Martin Haese, CEO of Business SA and Chair of the Premier’s Climate Change Council
* Christian Hampson, Co-Founder of Yerrabingin, Sydney NSW
* Mark Robinson, Townsville City Council QLD
* Jen St Jack, Central Coordinator of the South Australian Regional Climate Partnerships
* Dr. Melissa Nursey-Bray, Adelaide University

The flier and bookings can be found at<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/climate-ready-regions-conference-south-australia-tickets-89506621715>

Final programming is occurring for the SA Parks and Leisure Conference, SA Adaptation Practitioners Network Forum and a Networking event which will all be held on Friday 17 April also in Clare.

1. **Road / Transport**

The updated Regional Transport Route drawings from HDS were distrusted to all councils and incorporated council feedback and requests with their knowledge of the methodology to the completed drawings. A major focus was on updating the internal council links where previous gaps existed. A re-calling for additional roads database submissions occurred based on the SLRP application form however the full submissions were not required at this stage. Council approval was not required however these projects should be on the works programme and come from Action Plan 1. These will be provided to the Road and Transport Infrastructure Advisory Committee for recommendations to the Legatus Group meeting.

***There is a desire to make this process as strong as possible due to additional grant funding which is expected and the more projects that are ready to go allow the region to be better placed, to leverage this.***

Trialling of the RAVRAT for unsealed roads is continuing with Barossa, Yorke Peninsula and Northern Areas and AARB with report due for the next Road and Transport Infrastructure Advisory Committee.

1. **Waste**

The Legatus Group are leading the SA Regional Waste Management Strategy for SAROC to enable the coordination of waste and recycling infrastructure across regions. The SAROC budget has allowed a $30,000 allocation which would need to also secure funding from the State government to support the development of the strategy and the LGA have identified funding opportunities from Green Industries SA.

The attached project brief outlines the approach currently being proposed.



In conjunction with the application there will be an application for funding for a Legatus Group Regional Waste Action Plan which will follow on from the SA Regional Waste Management Strategy and an update of the Central Local Govt Regions Waste Strategy 2014-2020. This will also look to partner with Uni of SA and possibly Adelaide University and research projects which have been developing. Discussions are also occurring re a PhD Intern to undertake a research project which will align with the Sustainability Hub project.

1. **Visitor Information Services**

A working group meeting is being held on Tuesday 28 January 2020 to discuss the recommendations from the 2019 report. An update will be provided.

1. **Coastal**

**SA Coastal Council Alliance:** Adam Gray has commenced as the coordinator.

**Yorke Mid North Coastal Management Action Plan:** Following the technical workshops the action plan was updated and is now out for consultation. Discussions are occurring re possible funding from NRM for some implementation work and an approach has been made for possible research project with Adelaide University and meeting being held at 1.30pm Friday 31 January for the Legatus Group Coastal Councils.

1. **Planning matters**

**State Planning Reform:**  Following a series of unsuccessful attempts for Legatus to meet with Michael Lennon a report was provided to the November Legatus Group meeting and subsequent response received on 20 January 2020.

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1. **Financials**

The Legatus 2019/2020 Business Plan and Budget was adopted via a special meeting on 5 July 2019. A budget review was undertaken and presented to the Legatus Group November meeting which showed:

* $172k income improvement, and a $104k increase in expenditure – net $68k improvement.
* New items costing a net $125k proposed for consideration.
* New items were shown in the balance sheet only as a reduction in cash, no adjustment was made to reserves for these new items at that time.
* Budget review proposed a cash position at financial yearend of $876k (so if the new items were undertaken, this cash position would decrease by $125k)
* Equity Statement has been adjusted to have only three Reserves at end of financial year and show projected reserve balances of $572k at year end (which is similar to what was Budgeted).

The Legatus Group November meeting approved support in partnership with the Councils of Orroroo Carrieton, Peterborough, Flinders Ranges, Northern Areas, Mount Remarkable, Port Pirie and Goyder the community wellbeing project for up to $100,000 per year for the term of the project with an annual report to be provided. Waiting on confirmation of where this project is currently sitting to determine the funding required from the Legatus Group budget. This will help inform what the business plan and budget could be for 2020/2021 and looking at other sub-regional projects. As such looking for some submissions over the February / March period.

All councils were approached in December 2019 and January 2020 to provide approval for the revised budget and waiting on a number of responses at the time of preparing the agenda.

1. **Pit and Quarry Management**

With reference to agenda item 5.2 of the Legatus Group meeting held 19 November 2019 the report on Pit and Quarry Management can be found at: <https://legatus.sa.gov.au/board-resources-2/>

The LGA Secretariat advised they acknowledged receiving the draft report for the November 2019 SAROC meeting regarding council rubble raising borrow pits considering the Cement Concrete & Aggregates Australia (CCAA) recent correspondence. They suggested holding off on a report to the SAROC committee until there is a clear recommendation as to how SAROC can assist member councils by advocating in respect of this matter. The LGA Secretariat has a mandate to work with the Local Government Risk Services, Regional LGAs and our member councils to progress an understanding of this issue and develop an evidence base from which to further engage with the CCAA and the State Government regarding any potential policy and legislative change.

The Legatus Group meeting supported the approach recommended by the LGA Secretariat to hold off on the report to SAROC and that the Legatus Group canvasses constituent councils for a representative/s to be part of a working group and compiles information from the Legatus Group region on the the current number of borrow pits that are active, inactive but still is use/occupancy and inactive and due to be rehabilitated.

At the time of preparing the agenda the Legatus Group CEO was waiting on 2 councils to respond and from those who have responded 2 have none whilst the rest of the figures are.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Number Borrow Pits Active | Number Borrow Pits Inactive but still in use / occupancy | Number Borrow Pits Inactive and due to be rehabilitated |
| 455 | 370 | 115 |

1. **Yorke Mid North Regional Alliance**

The 3 CEOs from RDAYMN, NY NRM and Legatus Group are progressing with:

1. **Regional Reconciliation Action Plan** –Dr. Melissa Nursey-Bray Associate Professor, Head of Department Geography, Environment and Population Director, Adaptation, Community Environment Research Group has commenced this project and a working group has been formed to assist.
2. **2020 Regional Forum** – flier attached



The annual **Yorke Mid North Forum** will be held in Clare on Friday 27 March 2020 with this year’s theme ***“Resilient Towns Resilient Lives”***

The questions being posed are what will our towns look like in 10 years’ time?

This year the keynote speaker is Adelaide based Dr Fiona Kerr who is a sought after international speaker who consults globally to companies and governments ranging from defence to Cirque Du Soleil on building capacity in both human resource and technical future proofing; creating adaptive, change resilient companies, sectors and regions.

The international speaker is Caprielle Lewis the Area Director of economic development for Sisters, Oregon USA who will provide a case study of this small town and its significant population growth and the tourism-based economy that has become more diverse and resilient with a higher percentage of local jobs being created in traded sector companies.

They will be joined by 12 local, regional and state based presenters covering topics such as Local infrastructure of towns – Designing our future,  Sustainable management of water resources for environmental health and community wellbeing and Social cohesion of towns – Volunteers where will they be.

1. **Landscape Board and Regional Alliance -** Discussions have commenced around the new Landscape Board with the inclusion of Barossa, Light and Adelaide Plains and the Alliance membership.
2. **Brighter Futures**

The Hummock Brighter Futures program was the third round of Brighter Futures in the region with participation by groups from the District Council of Barunga West, Northern Areas Council, Port Pirie Regional Council and Wakefield Regional Council. These groups will be presenting their projects at the Snowtown Community Club on Wed 12 February. Presentations will be from Balaklava Town History Centre Stage, Crystal Brook Community Garden, Crystal Brook Eco Bricks, Mundoora Historic Town Walk and Jamestown Eco Products.

The Legatus Group have received the funding from the State Government to deliver a new program for 2020 which will be for project in Flinders and Orroroo Carrieton Councils to commence in the next couple of months. There is an opportunity to identify other small communities for some further subregional projects to access further support for 2020/2021 financial year from the State Govt.

1. **Volunteering**

**Youth into Volunteering:** A local working group has been supporting the current research project across Goyder, Clare and Gilbert Valleys and Wakefield Regional Councils by Dr. Melissa Nursey-Bray Associate Professor, Head of Department Geography, Environment and Population Director, Adaptation, Community Environment. Report due in February.

LGA R&D funding has been received to deliver phase 2 of the project. This will see the establishment of a series of actions that will be trialled, monitored and reported and which will be built from a strategy / pathway for developing a culture for encouraging youth into volunteering in the Mid North of SA. These trials will be evidence based and become something that can be replicated across South Australia. The trails will be based on current focus areas of the Legatus Group which are: • Tourism Visitor Information Services (ﬂow on from current VIS report) • Event (local event that could take next step and be a regional event) • Emergency services (CFS – SES)

1. **Rating Equity**

AEC have been contracted to provide a report based on an economic analysis … on the impacts of rating policy on growth of the energy industry and employment across states … (and) the impact of rating policy on growth in the (SA) energy industry and regional communities.

The working group which includes Legatus Group CEOs David Stevenson and Colin Byles were joined by Helen Macdonald at a draft report workshop. The draft report is now being assessed by the working group with final report due by early February 2020. AEC have used their Input-Output model under 2 different scenarios (one being additional Council spend and the other being additional economic activity from households and small businesses due to increased disposable incomes). This shows an employment loss under current rating policy and implementing a recommended rating policy for electricity generators could help facilitate an increase in regional employment. An interim report will be provided to SAROC and final report and recommendations to the Legatus Group meeting on 28 February 2020.

1. **Business Support / Creative Industries**

There continues to be support provided across the region with regards the Creative Industries and Verity Laughton PhD Intern has been contracted through Flinders University. She is halfway through her research project with expected outcomes to deliver:

1. A concise data base of creative industries / innovation individuals, organisations and projects across the Barossa, Yorke Peninsula, Mid North and South Flinders Ranges.
2. A final report which will include key recommendations regarding the need for a regional coordination role.

This is being undertaken in collaboration with other regional projects including:

* Live Music Activation – Leah Blankendaal Regional Live Music Coordinator
* Entrepreneurship - Dee Edwards Entrepreneurship Facilitator for the Barossa - Yorke - Mid North
* Regional Games & Skills Development Strategy – Lisa Brock Employment Facilitator Yorke & Mid North

1. **Murray Darling Association Region 8**

The Legatus Group CEO is providing secretarial support to the MDA Region 8 and they held their AGM on 29 November. The members of Region 8 are the Mayors and CEOs of financial MDA member councils and Cr Brian Lockyer (Barunga West) was appointed as Chair.

1. **University Memorandums of Understating**

The Legatus Group now has a formal MOU with Uni SA and informal arrangements with University of Adelaide and Flinders University .

1. **Drought**

The SAROC Chair, Mayor Erika Vickery has written to Minister David Littleproud seeking an urgent meeting with her and the LGA President to:

* 1. explain the current circumstances facing regional SA communities with regards the continuing rainfall deficiencies,
  2. discuss issues of equity and clarity on the decision-making process for the current and any future Drought Community Support Initiatives with regards South Australia, and
  3. identify a process for SAROC in partnering with Regional Development South Australia for continuity planning and identification of regional strategic projects that are scoped and ready for activating when funding opportunities occur.

As of 23 January 2020, the LGA are awaiting a response from the Minister. At its meeting in November, SAROC considered a comprehensive report on the LGA Submission in response to the draft Drought Resilience Funding Plan.

The LGA submission (made in December 2019) and in summary, it

* + advocates for greater State and Federal funding initiatives that will assist local governments and their communities to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change.
  + recommends for the Plan to provide a coherent and consistent decision-making approach.
  + identifies that “drought should be considered as an enduring, regular feature of the Australian landscape” while also acknowledging that Australia’s weather and climate continues to change in response to a warming global climate.
  + notes that in the future South Australia is projected to experience more hot days and “decreases in rainfall across southern Australia with more time in drought.”

The Legatus Group have:

* Provided responses on the Drought Resilience Funding Plan.
* Chair Mayor Peter Mattey has written letter to Minister Littleproud. (see attached which includes review re Barossa)



* + Supporting in partnership with 7 of its member councils the community wellbeing project with an allocation for up to $100,000 per year for the term of the project.
* Coordinated a meeting between all 3 RDA CEOs and NRM to discuss the Future Drought fund which makes $100m available each year from 1 July 2020 to support Australian farmers and communities. A draft project brief is being prepared (working title “Water and the Landscape”) to focus on becoming resilient to, the effects of inevitable future drought. This would be designed to allow for consultation on prioritising projects to then as next stage consider developing business case/s. Timelines to have this work undertaken by mid Feb 2020 as a joint Alliance project funded between the RDAs, NRM and Legatus with support from PIRSA.

1. **Other Business**
2. **Next meetings**

* Friday 8 May 2020

1. **CLOSE**

**1.30pm Legatus Group Coastal Councils meeting.**

Agenda items:

1. SA Coastal Council Alliance – introduction Adam Gray Coordinator
2. Final Coastal Management Action Plan – Mick Durant Greening Australia
3. Implementation next phase Coastal Management Action Plan – Andy Sharp NRM Mick Durant Greening Australia
4. Coastal Research and Development Grant – Melissa Nursey-Bray Adelaide University