

# NOTICE OF MEETING

Legatus Group Regional Management Group

FRIDAY 8 MAY 2020

10.30am – 12.30pm

via Zoom <https://zoom.us/j/886653404>

Meeting ID: 886653404

Password: 007920

# **AGENDA**

1. **Welcome** Chair Colin Byles
   1. Attendance
   2. Apologies
2. **Member Changes / Committees**

2.1 Welcome – Maree Wauchope (Barunga West) & Colin Davies (Acting Mount Remarkable)

2.2 Committees and appointments – for information:

The following CEO’s are on these advisory committees:

* Dr Helen Macdonald Chair & Dylan Strong Road and Transport Infrastructure
* Peter Ackland and Colin Byles Audit and Risk
* Andrew MacDonald Chair CWMS

The Visitor Information Services Legatus Advisory Committees are seeking a CEO representative.

1. **Notes and actions from previous meeting**

The notes from 31 January 2020 meeting were distributed to all CEOs and provided to the Legatus Group February meeting. The Legatus Group noted the report and provided in-principal support for a Regional SA Water Liveability Program and for the Legatus Group CEO to continue dialogue with SA Water and Constituent Councils on a funding model for consideration in the 2020/2021 Legatus Group Business Plan.

3.1 SA Water Liveability Program

The Legatus Group CEO held further discussions with Greg Ingleton Business Development Manager SA Water and then with Harsha Sapdhare and these have been included into the 2020/2021 Legatus Group Business Plan and Budget which was distributed to all councils in April 2020.



The 2020/2021 Legatus Group Business Plan and Budget has an allocation of $3,780 for 1 site in each council which would include a council contribution of $1,000. These projects may have some linkage into a broader regional Drought Futures Fund (refer item18).

3.2 CWMS

At the last meeting, the need to include CAPEX as part of the lifecycle costs was discussed. This will be an agenda item for the next Legatus CWMS Committee and subject to further clarification and input from the committee this paper will be an agenda item for the next Legatus Management Group meeting.

* 1. Artificial Intelligence CRC

The Legatus Group CEO followed up with Paul Dalby and included both Tony Fox at Northern and Yorke Landscape Board and Kelly-Anne Saffin RDA Yorke and Mid North and Paul has been invited to the Digital Preparedness Webinar Tuesday 12 May 2020.

* 1. Disability Inclusion Access Planning

A contact list from member councils was developed and a workshop planned for the Legatus Group in partnership with Merindah Ward Senior Policy Officer LGA. Due to COVID-19 which was cancelled but will now see a webinar held on Friday 15 May 2020 at 10am.

A funding application submitted to the Local Government Information Linkages and Capacity Building (LGILC) Program was not approved in the 1st round and the funders suggested a revision and to re-submit for the 2nd round.

* 1. Local Govt Risk Services

A letter was developed by Martin McCarthy for an Urgent Request for the LGASA Mutual Liability Pty Ltd Board to host a closed workshop with CEOs and Senior Practitioners of Local Government. This was signed by all Legatus Group CEOs although some delays due to changes in some of the positions. A copy was provided to all other Regional LGA Executive Officers. On 30 April, the response letter from the Chair of SA Mutual Liability Pty Ltd Board was distributed to all Legatus Group CEOs and Regional LGA EOs.

The LGASA Mutual CEO has been asked to liaise with the Legatus Group CEO to arrange for a delegation from Legatus to present to the Board on the issues and concerns outlined in the letter. The LGASA Mutual CEO is to provide their Board with an update on the process being undertaken to review the “one system” framework as they believe through this review many of the concerns at the operational level can be addressed. A working group has been established comprised of practitioners from across the sector (including Legatus Members) to review the current WHS One System framework with a view to assessing the system and identify opportunities to simplify.

* 1. Visitor Information Local Government Tourism, Hospitality and Retail Award

Martin McCarthy provided information on the initial approach to LGA and further update to be provided at the meeting.

1. **COVID-19 Update issues**

The Legatus Group CEO has been part of the LGFSG Waste Incident Project Team to assist during the COVID-19 pandemic, with reference to waste and recycling services. Some Legatus Group Councils have also been part of monitoring trials on wastewater.

A meeting was held between the Regional LGA EO’s and a report is being provided to the SAROC Board that will include the role of Local Government in Regional SA and that it can have focus on community resilience / recovery and in partnership with RDAs include a focus on economic / business recovery. The Draft SAROC Plan includes support for recovery and noted the need for flexibility in plans during the coming months. The meeting was supportive of RDSA and SAROC having a united voice although not quite ready at this stage as unsure of the lay of land. This would include supporting the approach being taken by ALGA in using the FAG mechanism to immediately inject $1.26 billion into local communities through their councils.

Chairs and CEOs of RDA Yorke Mid North and Legatus Group met and discussed immediate support which Legatus Group can help with is:

* Support to Councils for any Grant Writing for programs which are coming online currently.
* Progressing with Regional Grant applications in our own right – may seek letters of support from RDAs.
* Progressing with the first meeting of the Legatus Group Visitor Information Services Advisory Group – meeting scheduled for 2pm Friday 8 May

Agreed for Kelly-Anne Saffin to address the management group meeting and the Legatus Group CEO is drafting up report for the 5 June Legatus Group Board meeting around impacts / community modelling re community development – social services impact and welcome any thoughts you may have.

The 2020/2021 Draft Legatus Group Business Plan and Budget has been distributed to member councils and includes an allocation against Drought / Coronavirus Wellbeing Project with an annual allocation of $78,000 per year for three years.

The Regional LGA EOs discussed Solid Waste Levy – COVID-19 impacts to council budgets. The solid waste levy increase to $70 in regional areas commenced on 1 January 2020.  There has been a months’ lag time in terms of how facilities need to pay the waste levy so liabilities that occur in January are paid at the end of February etc.  The waste sector (including councils) have made a couple of payments by now using the new rate.  There has been some discussion that the increase on 1 July 2020 would be limited to CPI but that was prior to all the COVID-19 changes.  There are discussions going on by the LGA in how to deal with the waste levy during this time of economic downturn and possibility the amount of the solid waste levy could be reduced.

1. **Presentations**

11.30am Kelly-Anne Saffin CEO RDA Yorke Mid-North COVID-19 Regional Development update.

1. **Sustainability / Climate Change Sector Agreement**

The inaugural Climate Ready Regions Conference which was being held Saturday 18 April was cancelled and a webinar series if being developed for Thursday afternoons in June.

A Request for Quotes for the Mid North Sustainability Hub Concept Plan has occurred and the steering committee will be assessing applications in time for this project to commence in June 2020.

A draft Climate Change Sector Agreement has been developed and is being presented to the Yorke and Mid North Regional Alliance on 14 May 2020 with an invite to RDA Barossa Light Gawler Adelaide Plains to discuss their partnership with both Alliance and Sector Agreement.

1. **Road / Transport**

The following roads have been submitted for consideration SLRP funding in 2020/2021 after recommendations by the Legatus Group Road and Transport Infrastructure Advisory Committee (RITAC) to the Board. These were selected using a process and database calculator outlined in the 2030 Legatus Group Regional Transport Plan. The total of $3,665,404 being sought exceeds an anticipated amount of between $2m-$3m.

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| Ranking | Road + Council |
| 1 | Turretfield Road Gomersal Road to Rosedale Road (Light) |
| 2 | Main Road 45 Waterloo Road to Steelton Road (Clare & Gilbert Valleys) |
| 3 | Stonewell Road Condor Lauke Way to Seppeltsfield Road (Light) |
| 4 | Orroroo Heavy Vehicle Bypass North Terrace (Orroroo Carrieton) |
| 5 | Basedow Road Murray Street to Light Pass Road (Barossa) |
| 6 | Angle Grove Road Full length (Wakefield) |

A performance review on the work by HDS with specific reference to the 2030 Legatus Group Regional Transport Plan and SLRP assessments was undertaken. The Legatus Group CEO provided a verbal report to RITAC following responses received from 7 councils who along with RITAC supported that there could be value in exploring the market for service provides with regards the 2030 Legatus Group Regional Transport Plan along with having a dedicated resource to assist with the coordination of regional roads issues and grants.

The feedback and committee were all supportive of the process used to develop the plan and that it utilised sound principles and noted the difficulties in working across 15 Councils with external providers and that the new format is now being understood. The slowness and confusion around understanding the process across the member councils was recognised several times although it was noted this is improving. The Legatus Group CEO waited for any further responses by other councils and provided feedback to HDS.

The 2020/2021 budget has an allocation for a Legatus Group Regional Roads Coordination role, SA Regional Road Priority Project to be undertaken in partnership with SAROC, Legatus Socio-Economic Impacts Road Deficiency Report and a SLRP and Roads Database update.

The unsealed roads RAVRAT project has now been taken up at a State and National Level by the LGA Secretariat following a report to SAROC.

1. **Waste**

The Legatus Group are leading the SA Regional Waste Management Strategy for SAROC and have entered into grant agreements with LGA and Green Industries SA with the project to start on 11 May 2020. A reference group has been formed:

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| --- | --- |
| Simon Millcock | CEO Legatus Group |
| Emily Heywood-Smith | Senior Policy Officer Local Government Association |
| Grant McKenzie | Director Development & Regulation Port Pirie Regional Council |
| Professor Guy M Robinson | Department of Geography, Environment and Population University of Adelaide |
| Associate Professor Nicholas Chileshe | University of South Australia |
| Tony Wright | CEO Limestone Coast LGA |
| Justin Lang | Manager Local Government and Infrastructure  Green Industries SA |
| Simon Grenfell | Executive Officer Fleurieu Regional Waste Authority |

If other Legatus Group CEOs or Operational Staff would like to be involved then let the Legatus Group CEO know. Paul Chapman the CWMS Project Officer is contracted to be the Project Management of this report.

There was a funding application submitted for a Legatus Group Regional Waste Action Plan which was to follow on from the SA Regional Waste Management Strategy and to update the Central Local Govt Regions Waste Strategy 2014-2020. Whilst unsuccessful in the grant application there has been an allocation of $35,000 in the 2020/2021 draft Legatus Group budget.

This work will also look to partner with Uni of SA and Adelaide University and include research projects including a research project with UniSA looking into developing strategic partnerships to deliver a Circular Economy within regional South Australia. This will seek to:

* Identify and develop commercially viable pathways to safely reuse recycled or reformed waste materials within the region.
* Identify how regional communities can be best engaged to understand and respond to the potential benefits of developing a Circular Economy in their region.
* Identify the partnership model that can most effectively engage others to develop innovative commercial ventures based upon the circular economic model within the region.

1. **Visitor Information Services**

The Legatus Group February 2020 meeting approved the formation of a Legatus Group VIS Advisory Committee and the members are:

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| Paula Jones Centre Manager | Clare Valley Wine Food and Tourism Centre |
| Glen Christie  Tourism and Events Manager | Port Pirie Regional Council |
| Anne Hammond  Manager Business & Public Relations | Yorke Peninsula Council |
| Lynn Spurling Library & Tourism Coordinator | Copper Coast Council |
| Jo Seabrook  Manager Tourism Services | The Barossa Council |
| Liz Healy  Tourism Development Manager | Light Regional Council |
| Shirley Dearlove  Team Leader – VIC | Peterborough Council |
| Jeremy Carn  Economic Development Manager | RDA Far North |

Their first meeting is Friday 8 May 2020.

1. **Coastal**

**Yorke Mid North Coastal Management Action Plan:** This project has now been completed and report provided to the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board with discussions continuing regarding implementation. The Landscape Board are looking to contract the Legatus Group $140K for the development of 4 devolved grants with councils ($25K per council) + $40K for project management and technical support.

The SA Coastal Council Alliance is identifying ways to be able to become sustainable and progress the required objectives of the alliance.

1. **State Planning Reform**

Following correspondence between the Legatus Group and the State Planning Commission the attached letter was received.

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1. **Financials**

The Legatus 2019/2020 budget variation was adopted at the February 2020 Legatus Group meeting and it was noted there was support for partnership with the Councils of Orroroo Carrieton, Peterborough, Flinders Ranges, Northern Areas, Mount Remarkable, Port Pirie and Goyder community wellbeing project. These funds were not required in 19/20 due to the State Government expanding the FaB program.

The draft 2020/2021 Business Plan and Budget has recognised previous comments by the Board, Audit Committee and Management Group that many of the carry over reserves which have been long standing projects and programs have been acquitted with some dating back several years. These amounts are now to be rolled into general reserves allowing them to be utilised over the coming years for allocations to specific projects. This can allow for leveraging in partnership with councils and or others to gain increased dollars for the region via grants. Note there will need to be flexibility in the 2020/2021 process due to the impacts of drought and coronavirus which can be addressed in the midterm review.

The forecast income for 2019/2020 is $222,500 (although this may now be higher with some new project money coming in which will need to carry over). With cash assets likely to be above $1,220,000 the proposed deficit for 2020/2021 is based on utilising the income generated during the past four year and requirement that the Rubble Royalties reserves gained in the past two years needs to be acquitted in 2020/2021.

The projects for 2020/2021 have been identified through the recent reports and research project and the advisory committees. This would still place the Legatus Group by 30 June 2021 in a sound financial position with cash reserves of around $745,000 which was the position it was in on 30 June 2017.

1. **Pit and Quarry Management**

A report was provided to SAROC who at their February 2020 meeting endorsed the Chair of SAROC to write to the Minister of Energy and Mining seeking a commitment from the SA Government to work with the LGA on a Code of Practice. The SAROC Chairperson, Mayor Erika Vickery, wrote to the Minister for Energy and Mining,  Hon Dan van Holst Pellekaan MP, on 11 March 2020 seeking a commitment from the State Government to work with our sector on a Code of Practice for the rehabilitation of future borrow pits. The LGA has yet to hear from the Minister or his department.

1. **Yorke Mid North Regional Alliance**

Progress is continuing on the Regional Reconciliation Action Plan Project and the Climate Change Sector Agreement along with discussions around the Drought Future fund. Due to the changes in the Landscape Boards boundaries RDA Barossa Light Gawler Adelaide Plains CEO has been invited to the next Alliance meeting. The Yorke Mid North Forum was to have been held in Clare last month as themed *“Resilient Towns Resilient Lives”* and due to COVID-19 this was cancelled and a series of Webinars now developed in its place they are:

* Thursday 7 May – Creative Industries <https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_LdhVJf7oQmCRqc_jEuWLow>
* Thursday 14 May – Volunteering <https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_73Y46-zaSTOkhqd-2yHqeA>
* Thursday 21 May – Planning and Design <https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_HWD3irJrSIWVx7j4ykGa9A>

1. **Brighter Futures**

The Flinders and Orroroo Carrieton Councils project has commenced with the contracting of Kristine Peters and an initial meeting with both councils. It was noted that both were in the thick of projects generated by Drought Communities, and DCOC has Peter Kenyon doing a Rural Aid workshop in June which will generate a few projects. Hence, because of the CDO's current workloads and timing of other activities, it was suggest that recruitment for Brighter Futures Northern (Round 4) commences in July with the first session in August, the second in September and the final session in Feb/March of 2021 - and presentations/reports either at the last session or a month afterwards (depends on how they're tracking with projects). Kathy Denier at FRC has indicated her interest in shadowing Kristine in the delivery of the three sessions.

The 2020/2021 draft Legatus Group budget has an allocation for partnering with a further 2-3 councils and the SA Govt for a further Brighter Futures project in 2020/2021 whilst also developing a training program.

1. **Volunteering**

**Youth into Volunteering:** Following on from the reference group the final report has been received and is attached:



The working group will be meeting on 13 May to discuss 3-4 trial projects which can progress across the Goyder, C&GVC and WRC. A funding application for a Youth Music project has been submitted and the 2020/2021 draft Legatus Group budget has an allocation of funds towards a Regional Community Volunteer Coordinator and further Youth Volunteering Projects.

1. **Rating Equity**

The final report was provided to the Legatus Group and SAROC and can be found at: <https://legatus.sa.gov.au/regional-strategic-voice/> The Legatus Group supported the approach by SAROC to seek a commitment from the State Government to immediately commence working with local government on amendments to rating policy with regards to electricity generators. The LGA Secretariat are now progressing discussions associated with Local Govt reform and noted the positive responses from the Ministers at the Legatus Group meeting and interest in putting in the Bill and then how to implement.

1. **Business Support / Creative Industries**

Following input from the reference group the research project has been completed and the executive summary and recommendations are attached:



The full report is a large document and can be provided to those who would like copy. Work is being progressed on gaining approval from those identified in the data base to be able to share their information. Current projects being progressed are:

* Music Development Office Project Grants - Yorke Mid North On-Line Youth Music Program
* Regional Growth Fund – Creative Industries Thematic Cultural Tourism Project

1. **University Memorandums of Understating**

The Legatus Group now have MoUs with Uni SA and with University of Adelaide and waiting on MoU with Flinders University. The MoU with UniSA has a Strategic Research Action Plan which includes:

* Legatus Group CWMS Asset Monitoring / Sensor (focus research on pumps)
* Mid North Sustainability Hub (assistance with concept plans re inclusion of waste management trial sites)
* Legatus Group Regional Sludge (focus research on discerning the characteristics of CWMS sludge)
* SA Regional Waste Management Strategy (member of the reference team and specific partnership on the cost model for regional waste management)
* Legatus Group Regional Waste Action Plan (member of reference group and specific partnership on (1) Food waste monitoring Clare Valley Restaurants and (2) Data gathering from Legatus Group region on can and bottle collections.
* SA CWMS Conference (via presentations)
* Regional Drought Futures Fund Project/s (member of reference group)

1. **Drought**

The Legatus Group CEO has been involved with a series of regional discussions which have included RDA CEOs, Landscape Board, PIRSA and others to discuss the Future Drought fund which makes $100m available each year from 1 July 2020 to support Australian farmers and communities.

The proposed water monitoring and storm water projects (item 3.1) could be combined with some of the work being progressed with CWMS to add to a broader regional “Water and the Landscape” funding application to focus on becoming resilient to, the effects of inevitable future drought.

1. **GM Crops**

The GM Crops Bill is set to be passed after the Marshall Government reached a position that will enable legislation to pass to lift the GM food crops moratorium and allow GM to be grown on mainland SA. Once the legislation passes through Parliament, farmers will have certainty to plan well in advance of the 2021 grain growing season.

Under agreed amendments to the Marshall Liberal Government's*'Genetically Modified Crops Management (Designated Area) Amendment Bill 2019'*, **local councils** will have a time-limited ability to apply to be a GM crop cultivation free area and the moratorium will remain on Kangaroo Island.

While councils will be able to apply to have the moratorium continue within their municipality, the final decision will rest with the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development. Councils will lose the ability to apply to be a non-GM crop cultivation area six months after the legislation being assented to. The LGA have received a few queries from councils about the Bill and what it means for councils. The LGA intends to issue some guidance notes and templates to councils once the legislation is finalized and we have a clearer understanding of the Minister’s expectations. The LGA We have let the parties know how disappointed we are that this outcome was negotiated without consultation with the local government sector.

1. **Other Business**
2. **Next meeting** Friday 14 August 2020
3. **CLOSE**