



LEGATUS GROUP

NOTICE OF MEETING

Legatus Group Regional Management Group

FRIDAY 14 AUGUST 2020

10.30am – 12noon

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86924529153>

Meeting ID: 869 2452 9153

Password: 336907

AGENDA

1. **Welcome** Chair Colin Byles

- a) Attendance
- b) Apologies

2. **Member Changes / Committees**

- 2.1 Welcome – Sam Johnson (Mount Remarkable)
- 2.2 Committees and appointments – for information & decision.

The following CEO's are on advisory committees:

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

The Visitor Information Services Advisory Committee is seeking a CEO representative.

3. **Local Govt Review Bill**

Russell Peate indicated an item for discussion at the meeting is additional powers for CEO's relating to suspension of Council members.

The Local Government Association facilitated a forum on 7 Augusts 2020 for the Legatus Group to inform about the 'Local Government Reform' process and to encourage debate. Matt Pinnegar LGASA CEO was to attend the meeting but is on leave and Nathan Petrus, Executive Director Member Services and Andrew Lamb Local Government Reform Partner will join the meeting.

4. **Notes and actions from previous meeting 8 May 2020**

The notes from 8 May 2020 meeting were distributed to all CEOs and provided to the Legatus Group June meeting. The Legatus Group noted the report.

Actions:

- a) SA Water Liveability Program/ Stormwater Harvesting (Drought Future Fund) – The following 7 councils have submitted expressions of interest Clare & Gilbert Valleys, Copper Coast, Flinders Ranges, Light, Northern Areas, Orroroo Carrieton & Wakefield with possible interest from Port Pirie, Barossa & Peterborough. No response from Adelaide Plains and the following 4 have said no Barunga West, Goyder, Yorke Peninsula and Mt Remarkable. More detailed proposals have now been received from SA Water and Space Down Under and a report is being developed and workshop is being arranged for Thursday 20 August 2020 those councils how have responded yes or possible. The 20/21 Legatus Group budget allocation is \$76,700 towards these projects which includes a contribution of \$15,000 from member councils. There is also work progressing where a component of this could be included into a broader Drought Futures Fund application although timing for the SA Water project may not allow for this year.
- b) Disability Inclusion Access Planning - Local Government Information Linkages and Capacity Building Program grant is to focus on the YP and support for community and tourism design and communication. The Legatus Group and YP Councils have committed \$22,500 and secured funding of \$26,000 via the Local Government Information Linkage and Capacity Building Program. This is for the 3 YP Councils to assist them in positioning the YP as a destination of choice by allowing for a growth in skills for the people involved and raising awareness of accessible travel and ability to stay and enjoy the region.
- c) Local Govt Risk Services – The Legatus Group CEO delegation of Martin McCarthy, Helen Macdonald, Andrew Cameron and Simon Millcock met with the LGASA Mutual Liability Board and some of the board members plus Andrew Johnson CEO LGASA Mutual Liability. Andrew Johnson is attending the meeting to provide further updates.

Note: Andrew Johnson did table the meeting notes at the LGASA Mutual Board meeting which included his proposed action to address the issues raised by the Legatus deputation. The LGASA Mutual Liability Board support his suggested approach which included:

- a) The Board should receive a briefing on the proposed one-system framework review to satisfy itself that it will address the issues raised by Legatus Group delegation and that it has an appropriate governance structure and independence.
- b) Post the review of the one-system framework, the Board should review the role of Regional Risk Coordinators to ensure they continue to meet the needs of both members and our self-insurance licence as well as address the increasing number of emerging risks facing councils.
- c) Note that JLT/LGRS are in the early stages of rolling out its strategic risk program and that this program is at various stages of engagement/implementation with individual councils. The Board should monitor this program to insure it is meeting the needs of its members (item 3 above). Note to Board, an update on this program is provided in your June 2020 Board agenda.
- d) That the Chair and CEO are to attend future meetings of the Legatus Group CEO's to obtain feedback on the progress of the above actions.

Andrew is currently working with Tony Gray from JLT/LGRS on the roll out of the one-system framework review and on appointing an independent facilitator of this project.

In addition, the Board Chair David Holston and independent director Dascia Bennett have indicated that they would like to attend a future meeting of the Legatus CEO group later this year for an update from the group and allow discussion on the progress of the one-system review. The 14 August 2020 meeting was thought to be too early for this to happen.

The following has been sent to all councils from the LGAWCS

WHS One-System Sector Review

Ten years ago, in response to Member Council non-conformance's being identified in RTWSA evaluations a template model WHS system was developed for the Local Government sector – commonly known as 'One System' (OS). This model was built in consultation with a sector working party set up by the LGA Workers Compensation Scheme Board and was delivered to an expressed design mandate.

OS was designed to be used to inform Members of the aspects to be addressed within a compliant WHS system for them (the “what needs to be covered” guide for middle managers) and provide a starting template for Members to use to adjust with their local “how we do it” content and then implement effectively. There was not and remains no requirement to use the one system documents, however each Member is required to at least meet the standard in the core components captured within each of the one system documents, which address the legal and performance standard requirements.

There has been a level of criticism of the model, with views conveyed that the documents are too long, too complex and don't provide the “how a member does it” at the local level. In light of the age of the model and the on-going comments around its usability it has been agreed that a project be developed to undertake a review in to the WHS One System to ascertain whether a more effective system can be identified and if not, how the current system can be improved and / or simplified.

Invites have been extended to key stakeholders across the sector to be involved in the review. We have been fortunate to identify an extremely well credentialed individual to facilitate and conduct the review, Marie Boland. Marie most recently conducted the review of the harmonised national WHS Legislation and has had previous experience working in Local Government, so understands the unique challenges. Our objective is to determine whether there is a viable alternative to the One System model and if not how the One System can be improved and / or simplified and provide a structure for consistent effective management of staff to minimise risks to health and safety across the sector and supports Members to meet their legal and performance standard obligations for a self-insured employer.

We are aiming to have the process completed before the end of 2020 and will keep you all well informed throughout.

d) Visitor Services Port Wakefield “A sense of departure and arrival” An initial working group has been formed between the Wakefield Regional Council, Legatus Group, RDA Yorke and Mid North, RDA Far North and Yorke Peninsula Tourism. This project is seeking to discover mutually beneficial opportunities that enhance existing tourism experiences and create a new offering which reinforces South Australia's brand across the region, and they are commencing discussions with SATC. A discussion paper has been developed and meeting to occur with SATC and Legatus VIS Advisory Committee.

e) Smarter Regions CRC The Legatus Group have approved becoming a project partner for the Smarter Regions Cooperative Research Centre (CRC). The CRC application has been submitted for consideration with the Legatus Group as one of the 14 Showcase Regions in Australia. There has been a commitment to invest \$90M cash and \$156M in-kind and they are seeking \$71.25M from the CRC Program. This would be the largest CRC funded in its history and the Bid Development Committee expects to know about the outcome of Stage 1 by the end of September and will need to submit the Round 2 application by early November. Stage 2 planning has begun with a program of workshops and events to help the partners get to know each other better. The Legatus Group held a workshop with member councils and the Smarter Regions CRC that focussed on Community Development to help identify possible project areas and the notes were distributed. There was significant discussions around volunteers and the ability to support whilst looking at ways to assist to be a more inclusive community so that all sections of community can contribute and be involved. Noted that there is a need to vary how this is done across the age groups in the region. Linking with community capacity building via the Brighter Futures Program was a suggested starting point.

f) Hub and Spoke Project - The Legatus Group has become an in-kind Hub and Spoke partner and the Legatus Group CEO was approved to be a member of the Steering Committee this is a project generated by City of Prospect in partnership with the Legatus Group and Murrylands Riverlands LGA to facilitate growth in two key sectors: Creative Industries and Ag Tech. An application has been submitted to the Regional Growth Fund to assist with building South Australia's start-up ecosystem by supporting programs, events and activities that benefit the start-up community through developing collaborative partnerships between City (Lot Fourteen/FIXE) Suburban (Little City – Prospect and Unley) and Regional SA via Yorke Peninsula, Pirie, Loxton and Mid North. The University of Adelaide will assist through providing high calibre experts who will run business focused workshops in the two sectors. While mentors in the sectors will identify

pathways from being a start up to scaling up and accessing marketing advice and investment. There is also a proposal being developed for the SA Innovation Fund by the City of Prospect.

5. COVID-19 Update issues

For discussion

6. Grant Applications / Contracts

The following grants have been applied for by Legatus Group and waiting on confirmation:

- a) SA Community Wellbeing and Resilience Grants for a SA Central Region Community Connections Program
- b) LGA R&D Grant Regional and Remote Community Development Capacity Building and Training Program
- c) LGA R&D Script Development for Training Course re Community Wastewater Management Schemes

Youth in Music: The Legatus Group was successful in obtaining a Music Initiatives Support Grant Scheme to fund the development of a program directed at new and emerging music talent in the regions to support their involvement in the Music Business.

Coastal Management Action Plan: The Legatus Group have been contracted by Northern and Yorke Landscape Board with grant funding of \$100,000 for the 2020/21 financial year for Legatus Group councils to develop projects and begin implementation of the Coastal Management Action Plan. Funded projects will require a matching contribution of cash and/or in-kind on a 1:1 basis (with in-kind being actual physical works).

7. 20/21 Business Plan and Budget

The Business Plan and Budget will be formally approved at the Legatus Group Special Meeting being held on 14 August 2020. The following is an update on projects for 20/21:

I. Water / Climate Change / Drought / Coronavirus	
Project	Status
Climate Ready Conference Northern and Yorke Climate Change Sector Agreement	Planning yet to commence
Sustainability Hub Concept Plan Northern and Yorke Climate Change Sector Agreement	Commenced with URPS consultants contracted and reporting to the Yorke Mid North Alliance
Smart Irrigation System SA Water	Updated proposal received by SA Water and workshop to be held 20 August for participating Councils
Storm Water Harvesting Space Down Under	Updated proposal received by Space Down Under and workshop to be held 20 August with participating Councils
Wellbeing Officer/s Drought / COVID-19	Workshop held and grant application submitted for a SA Community Wellbeing and Resilience Grant for a SA Central Region Community Connections Program. Further discussions to occur re the roles of Wellbeing Officers
Northern and Yorke Coastal Management Action Plan	Contracted Greening Australia for technical assistance and Brian Hales for Project Management and Expressions of Interest have been submitted to the 7 Legatus Group Coastal councils.
2. Community Capacity	

Brighter Futures	Carry over of the Orroroo Carrieton and Flinders Ranges project and contracting of KPPM – further projects to be identified
Volunteering	5 x Youth Volunteering Project C&GVC, Goyder and WRC (carry over) commenced and further projects to be identified
Community Development Officer training	KPPM proposal received and workshop held and funding application to LGA R&D submitted
Disabilities Awareness Program	Local Government Information Linkages and Capacity Building Program application successful to focus on YP and support for community and tourism design and communication commenced.
Reconciliation Action Awareness program	Research Project carry over and formation of Northern and Yorke Landscape Board Advisory Committee is being considered and projects yet to be identified.
Regional Community Volunteer Coordinator	Ms Bridget Johns will commence on a part time basis with a 42 week contract as the Legatus Group Community Collaborator. The role will be assisting in progressing and coordinating volunteering opportunities along with the ongoing development, implementation and monitoring of the actions from the following specific areas: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Wellbeing / Community Resilience 2. Volunteering including Youth Volunteering Projects 3. Reconciliation Action Awareness Program 4. Community Development Training 5. Brighter Futures Programs
3. Regional Capacity	
Conference / forums	YMN Alliance Forum to be confirmed date in 2021 Regional Roads being discussed by RTIA Committee Creative Industries to be confirmed Visitor Information Services being discussed by VISA Committee Mainstreet SA confirmed 5-6 Nov 2020
Regional Coordinator	Regional Coordination role/s for (1) Creative Industries (2) Visitor Information Services and (3) Roads is being discussed by Advisory Committees and with RDAs.
Youth in Music	Commenced and contracted local musician James Stewart-Rattray and Stu Nankivell who are delivering a series of webinars.
SA Regional Road Priority	Progressing through a working group established with SAROC, Regional LGA EOs, DPTI and Grants Commission.
Legatus Socio-Economic Impacts Road Deficiency	Agenda item for the RTIA Committee
SLRP and Roads Database updates	Agenda item for the RTIA Committee
Creative Industries Cultural Tourism Research project	Proposal being progressed with Flinders University
IT data gathering and digital research project	To be confirmed although may link with the Smarter Regions CRC or the Hub-Spoke Projects
4. CWMS / Waste	
CWMS Project Officer & Regional Waste Management Strategy Project Management	Dr Paul Chapman contracted till 30 June 2021 CWMS Project Officer and reports through the CWMS Advisory Committee and as RWMS Project Manager till mid Dec 2020.
CWMS Conference	Planning has commenced for first quarter 2021 – hosted in Whyalla
SA Regional Waste Management Strategy	Commenced and Rawtec and UniSA contracted with a Regional SA Reference Group formed. This will include a survey of all Regional Councils to assist with data to be collected to help inform the cost modelling.
Legatus Group Waste Management Action Plan	On hold awaiting the outcome of the SA Regional Waste Management Strategy
Research Projects including with UniSA	Currently being scoped and include CWMS Remote Condition Monitoring and LGA R&D application submitted re on-line training

8. Climate Change Sector Agreement

The Yorke Mid North Climate Change Sector Agreement expired on 30 June 2020 and a draft has been prepared and waiting on the responses from RDA Barossa Light Gawler Adelaide Plains and will be discussed at the Yorke Mid North Alliance meeting on 20 August 2020.

9. Charter Variation – Budget

The Legatus Group meeting of 5 June 2020 endorsed a change to the Legatus Group Charter Item 5.1 (The Budget) and the Legatus Group CEO distributed this information to Legatus Group members on the 12 June 2020. At the 3 July 2020 Legatus Group Special meeting the Legatus Group CEO provided an update on the responses being received from Constituent Council.

As of 5 August 2020, the following 8 Councils have approved the variation: The Barossa, Copper Coast, Flinders Ranges, Goyder, Light, Mt Remarkable, Port Pirie and Wakefield. There have yet to be received responses from other councils. The Charter outlines that the charter may be amended by a resolution passed by a simple majority of the Constituent Councils.

10. Legatus Group Strategic Plan and 20/21 Business Plan review

The Legatus Group Strategic Plan and Long Term Financial Plan was completed in April 2018. The strategic plan is required to have an operational period of 10 years and reviewed at least every 4 years it can be found at: <https://legatus.sa.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Legatus-Group-Strategic-Plan-2018-2028-Final.pdf>

Councils may wish to start to consider their input to the Legatus Group Strategic Plan as the Legatus Group work plan has the review to be undertaken in November 2020. Of note the Legatus Group is no longer receiving funds from Rubble Royalties which were a significant contributor to the budget. In recent years there have been successful grant applications for identified projects which have been able to leverage from the cash reserves and this has resulted in a higher level of reserves than has been desired by the Legatus Group.

The 20/21 Business Plan and Budget is designed to continue this process of securing increased grants whilst also looking to reduce the reserves by around 40%. The budget indicates that there will be approx. \$750,000 as of 30 June 2021 and consideration for the review of the Strategic and Business Plans could include the ability to utilise some of these assets as matched funding for regional and or sub-regional projects.

The charter requires the following:

- The Legatus Group must prepare and submit to the Constituent Councils for their approval a Long Term Financial Plan covering a period of at least ten (10) years in a form and including such matters which, as relevant, is consistent with Section 122 of the Act and the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011 as if the Legatus Group were a council.
- The Legatus Group may at any time review the Long Term Financial Plan but must undertake a review of the Long Term Financial Plan as soon as practicable after the annual review of its Business Plan and concurrently with any review of its Strategic Plan.
- In any event, the Legatus Group must undertake a comprehensive review of its Long Term Financial Plan every four (4) years.
- The Long Term Financial Plan will be taken to form part of the Legatus Group's Strategic Plan and consistent with the Long Term Financial Plan set out above, the Legatus Group must:
 - prepare and adopt a Strategic Plan with a minimum operational period of ten (10) years which sets out the goals, objectives, strategies and priorities of the Legatus Group over the period of the Strategic Plan;
 - prepare an Asset Management Plan, with detailed financials for the first ten years; and
 - submit the Strategic Plan to the Constituent Councils for their approval.

11. Rating Equity

This was not directly included in the current LG Reform Bill and that LGA have continued dialogue with SA Government based on legal advice and further feedback provided by the initial reference group members.

12. **Other Business**

13. **Next meeting**

To be confirmed subject to the Legatus Group AGM setting their dates for the coming year.

14. **CLOSE**