



2020/2021 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. T

he Legatus Group AGM held on Friday 3 September 2021 adopted the following report.

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 (Mayors) of the Constituent Councils which for 2020/2021 were:

Council	Delegate
Adelaide Plains Council	Mayor Mark Wasley
Barunga West Council	Mayor Leonie Kerley
Clare & Gilbert Valleys Council	Mayor Wayne Thomas
Copper Coast Council	Mayor Roslyn Talbot
District Council of Mount Remarkable	Mayor Phillip Heaslip
District Council of Orroroo Carrieton	Mayor Kathie Bowman
District Council of Peterborough	Mayor Ruth Whittle OAM
Light Regional Council	Mayor Bill O'Brien

Northern Areas Council	Mayor Denis Clark - Mayor Ben Browne replaced Mayor Clark from 27 November 2021 Legatus Group meeting.
Port Pirie Regional Council	Mayor Leon Stephens
Regional Council of Goyder	Mayor Peter Matthey OAM
The Barossa Council	Mayor Bim Lange OAM
The Flinders Ranges Council	Mayor Peter Slattery - Mayor Greg Flint replaced Mayor Slattery from 5 March 2021 Legatus Group Meeting.
Wakefield Regional Council	Mayor Rodney Reid
Yorke Peninsula Council	Mayor Darren Braund

Office Bearers for 2020/21

Chairman	Mayor Peter Matthey OAM
Deputy Chairs	Mayor Bill O'Brien Mayor Rodney Reid
South Australian Regional Organisation of Councils	Mayor Peter Matthey Mayor Bill O'Brien
Chief Executive Officer	Mr Simon Millcock
Auditor	Dean Newberry and Associates

The following meetings of the Board of Management were held during the 2020/21 year:

- 3 July 2020 Special Meeting online
- 14 August 2020 Special Meeting online
- 4 September 2020 Annual General Meeting Quorn
- 4 September 2020 Ordinary General Meeting Quorn
- 27 November 2020 Ordinary General Meeting online
- 5 March 2021 Ordinary General Meeting Ardrossan
- 11 June 2021 Ordinary General Meeting Mallala

There were five advisory committees in 2020/2021 and all agendas and minutes from the Board meetings and Committees are published on the Legatus Group Website. All advisory committee minutes were provided in the agendas to the Legatus Group Ordinary General meetings. The Constituent Councils are provided with the Board Agendas, Minutes, Annual Reports, Business Plan and Budgets and Quarterly Financial Reports.

Committee	Members	Meeting Dates
Audit Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayor Kathie Bowman (Chair) • Mayor Denis Clark replaced by Mayor Rodney Reid at 3 June 2021 meeting • Mr Peter Ackland • Mr Colin Byles • Mr Ian McDonald 	21 August 2020 13 November 2020 19 February 2021 3 June 2021
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) • Ms Maree Wauchope (Barunga West) • Dr Helen Macdonald (Clare & Gilbert Valleys) • Mr Russell Peate (Copper Coast) • Mr Eric Brown (Flinders Ranges) • Mr David Stevenson (Goyder) • Mr Brian Carr (Light) • Mr Sam Johnson (Mt Remarkable) • Mr Dylan Strong (Orroroo/Carrieton) • Mr Peter McGuinness (Peterborough) replaced by Mr Stephen Rufus • Mr Peter Ackland (Pirie Regional) • Mr Andrew MacDonald (Wakefield) • Mr Andrew Cameron (Yorke Peninsula) 	14 August 2020 17 December 2020 12 February 2021 14 May 2021
Road & Transport Infrastructure Advisory Committee:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Helen Macdonald Chair (CEO Clare & Gilbert Valleys Council) • Lee Wallis (Goyder) • Steve Kaesler (Barossa) • Tom Jones (Adelaide Plains) • Mike Wilde (Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure) • Kelly-Anne Saffin (CEO RDA YMN) • Dylan Strong (CEO Orroroo Carrieton) • Michael McCauley (Yorke Peninsula) • Stuart Roberts (Wakefield) • Mike Burger (Flinders Ranges) 	7 August 2020 18 November 2020 12 February 2021 14 May 2021
Community Wastewater Management Advisory Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andrew MacDonald Chair (CEO Wakefield) • Gary Easthope (Clare and Gilbert Valleys) • Adam Broadbent (Light) • Matthew McRae (Copper Coast) • Riaz Uddin (Goyder) • Hayden Battle (Wakefield) 	12 August 2020 10 November 2020 11 February 2021 17 May 2021
Visitor Information Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stephen Rufus Chair (CEO Peterborough) from 19 Feb 2021 • Paula Jones (Clare Valley Wine Food and Tourism Centre) till 19 Feb 2021 • Glen Christie (Port Pirie) • Anne Hammond (Yorke Peninsula) • Lynn Spurling (Copper Coast) • Jo Seabrook (The Barossa) • Liz Healy (Light Regional) • Shirley Dearlove (Peterborough Council) • Jeremy Carn (RDA Far North) 	14 August 2020 6 November 2020 19 February 2021 4 June 2021

Chairman's Report

It has been my pleasure to serve as Chairman in 2020/21 and I take this opportunity to report on some highlights of the past year.

We saw the continued disruption and impacts of COVID-19 including the extended need for some meetings to be held on-line. Member councils should be recognised for the support to their communities and I note that the Wakefield Regional Council was awarded the 'Excellence in Local Economic Development' Award for its COVID support program.

The Legatus Group provides a pivotal role to member councils in advocating on both regional and state-wide issues. This has included the continued advocacy on rating equity associated with major energy producers, community wastewater management schemes, regional roads funding and coastal management. I find it extremely frustrating that we have been unable to achieve a satisfactory outcome at this point in time in relation to rating equity.

We provided a leadership role for the South Australian Regional Organisation of Councils (SAROC) via the Waste Management Infrastructure for South Australian Regional Local Government report and the SA Regional Waste Pathways Forum.

Support has been provided to member councils via advocacy through the LGA on the new Planning and Design Code and the Local Government Reform Bill.

The Legatus Group provided support at a state level with the Department of Innovation and Skills re the Creative Industries and to both Mainstreet SA and Parks and Leisure Australia SA/NT to hold their conferences in our region.

At a more regional level the report on reconciliation and work on cultural awareness has been of great support to member councils. The commitment by the Legatus Group on issues such as wellbeing and volunteering have seen several projects and reports progress as we continue to advocate for increased inclusiveness, mental health and aligned services. Our advocacy included support for the extension of the two Family and Business Support Mentors through Dept Primary Industries and Regions within our northern councils.

The Legatus Group acknowledged the Australian Governments rollout of the Drought Communities Funding. This included assisting with securing a South Australia Drought Resilience Adoption and Innovation Hub which was led by the University of Adelaide. The Legatus Group is a Local Government project partner and it is pleasing to see that its head office will be established in the region along with one of the nodes.

Works have commenced on several National and State Highways with long overdue work in our region after years of lobbying. The Road and Transport Infrastructure Advisory Committee have been active this year via updates to our Regional Roads Plan and renewed Deficiency Action Plan. There was a robust assessment of this year's Special Local Roads Program funding applications. The 2021 Legatus Group Road and Transport Forum provided the opportunity for member councils to come together and discuss and be more informed on issues around areas such as heavy vehicle access.

The Legatus Group are seeking to increase the level of productivity, safety and community connectivity through increased funding for local significant roads. This requires fairer funding models to address the regions local roads infrastructure deficiencies and the release this year of our video seeking increased support was part of the broader Local Govt Association approaches to the

Australian Government. The initial work undertaken on the socio-economic impacts Road Deficiency Report will be expanded in the coming year to assist with developing the required data for continued advocacy.

We continue to encourage and foster closer working relationships with the three Regional Development Australia (RDA) organisations and the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board. This year's Yorke Mid North Forum Water for our Future was a success.

The region has been proactive in supporting the challenges of our changing environment through the management of the Sector Agreement for the Climate Change Adaptation Plan. This included the development of the new Northern and Yorke Climate Change Sector Agreement which now includes the Barossa, Light and Adelaide Plains Councils. The concept plans for a Sustainability Hub were completed through our regional partnership approach.

The Legatus Group managed the Northern and Yorke Coastal Management Action Plan stage 1 implementation on behalf of the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board which resulted in several projects being undertaken across the Yorke Peninsula. The continued support for the Northern and Yorke Coastal Management Action Plan included the coordination of workshops and a grant application through the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board. The Legatus Group have been an active supporter of the SA Coastal Council Alliance.

The Legatus Group have supported and are an active partner in the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board Aboriginal Engagement Committee.

We acknowledge the RDA's who have committed their staff to be members of several Legatus Group Advisory Committee and or Project Reference Groups.

The Legatus Group CEO and staff committed large amounts of time to the development of many Conferences and Forums. I also note with positivity of the CEO and the staff's efforts to support other regional councils through their roles and specifically to the CEO who Chaired the Regional LGA Executive Officers Forum. These collaborations included several forums and workshops which have assisted not only the Legatus Group members but also SAROC, and their input is commended.

The collaboration and establishment of MoUs and partnerships with universities has been strengthened during the past year and provided valuable reports through research and partnerships.

This has allowed 11 cost effective research projects in areas such as tourism (mixed reality and accessibility), asset management (pump monitoring), waste (cost model, use of organic waste, supply chain for circular economy), wastewater (design criteria) and reconciliation. These are providing appropriate identification for advocacy and decision making in areas that are of significance to local government, stakeholders and community.

The Audit and Risk Management Group Committee have ensured that the work plan has assisted us in improving our governance and recommendations around variations to our policies.

There has been valuable feedback gained from the Legatus Group Management Group meetings and information sharing opportunities by and for the CEO group.

The Community Wastewater Management Advisory Committee assisted in gaining a further extension of the Joint CWMS program until June 2022, staging of a successful SA conference and assisting with a reform paper now being developed by the LGA CWMS Committee. Their continued work on issues around training associated with compliance is gaining traction.

The Legatus Group Visitor Information Services Advisory Committee have provided a great support especially around the reopening of tourism in our region. Their workshop on story telling was well attended and they have provided direct input to two projects being progressed through the Yorke Peninsula Councils with regards accessible tourism and the Remarkable South Flinders Ranges Councils Tourism Alliance.

It was noticeable that there was a reduced attendance by the six State Government Members of Parliament, and our Federal Member although the Hon Geoff Brock is an exception and is a regular attendee. I note that we have continued to provide the opportunity for dialogue to all MPs.

In closing I would like to thank everyone who has taken a proactive role in progressing the strategic initiatives of the region. I thank Mayors Bill O'Brien (and in his role on SAROC) and Rodney Reid for your roles as Deputy Chairs.

Feedback tells me that the reports prepared by the Legatus Group CEO and progressed to SAROC and other stakeholders and partners in all tiers of government are well received. The organisations positive approach to strong partnerships and a collaborative approach, with our other regional local government associations, stakeholders and tiers of government continues. These activities are coordinated and managed by our CEO Mr Simon Millcock. I wish to thank him for his committed, dedicated and consistent approach in the development and delivery of the of the goals and directions of the board.

I would like to acknowledge all the Board members and those who have committed time to the Advisory Committees. Your valuable service to the communities and the region continues to provide much needed leadership into the future.

Mayor Peter Matthey OAM

Chairman Legatus Group

CEO Report

Firstly, I would like to acknowledge the support provided to me by the Chair and Deputy Chairs, Board, CEOs, Committees, Regional Partners and the Legatus Group staff in making the past year extremely productive and enjoyable.

This year provided consolidation for the positioning of the Legatus Group and the opportunity to expand and support state-wide, regional and subregional programs and research. This was made possible by reducing the reserves of which \$493,077 from the LGA Regional Capacity Building Allocations was required to be acquitted by 30 June 2021.

We were successful with grant applications and contracts to provide services which have been acquitted or reported on accordingly. There was \$333,151 generated from this income stream plus reimbursements and other income of \$105,679. As such 70% of the Legatus Group's income came from outside its membership fees.

This has helped to place the Legatus Group in a solid financial position which is reflected in the 2021 – 2022 business plan and budget whilst consideration is needed to not raise expectations of increased capacity and or project delivery into the future due to the reliance on grants.

Of special mention during the past year is the partnerships developed with several universities through formal MoU's, collaborative agreements and the use of the APR. Intern program. This not only made the research reports extremely cost effective but provided greater links between universities and local government.

This year saw my attendance and delivery of agendas, minutes and reports to nearly 40 Legatus Group Board / Committee, Yorke Mid North Alliance and SAROC meetings whilst managing the delivery of several regional forums, workshops and webinars. There was considerable time spent with the development and management of reference groups for nearly all projects.

Due to the employment of 3 extra Project Officers, there was increased HR requirements whilst their employment allowed an increase in strategic development which included my time with the review of the Legatus Group Strategic Plan.

Other administration responsibilities included for part of the year as Chair of the Regional LGA Executive Officers, Secretariat to the Murray Darling Association Region 8 and a member of LGA Functional Support Groups associated with COVID-19 reference groups.

Plus, I am a member of the Yorke Mid North Alliance and the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board Aboriginal Engagement Committee. My time was also provided to the Local Government Information Technology SA Awards, Volunteering Strategy for SA and the SA Creative Industries Think Tank.

There was an increased level of conference, forums, workshops and webinars which included (1) Sustainable Regions through Parks, Recreation, Sport and the Environment (2) Legatus Group CWMS Risk Assessment Workshops (3) Heavy Vehicle Access (4) Coastal Management Strategic Planning (5) SA/NT Parks and Leisure Regional Conference (6) SA CWMS Conference (7) YMN Alliance Forum (8) Legatus Group Visitor Information Services Forum (9) SA Regional Creative Industries Conference (10) Regional Women's Networking Event (11) Legatus Group Roads Forum (12) Cultural Awareness Training and (13) SAROC Regional Waste Pathways Forum. These provided valuable opportunities for increased knowledge for both Elected Members and Operational Staff for member councils.

There was the commencement of projects associated with water and waste via:

1. Sub-regional projects for Smart Irrigation and Storm Water Harvesting which focus on urban areas. This has shown strong interest in the role Local Government can have with regional partners and the inaugural SA Drought Innovation and Adoption Hub of which the Legatus Group is a member.
2. The Legatus Group were commissioned by the SA Regional Organisation of Councils (SAROC) and secured funding from Green Industries SA to progress regional waste management for Local Government.

The Community Wastewater Management Schemes work continued to provide valuable support across regional SA. This including a series of workshops and a discussion paper which assisted the LGA CWMS Committee in looking to develop a reform paper. The LGA have again advised of the value of this work by supporting an extension of funding until June 2022.

A focus on Community Development via the Brighter Futures and Volunteering had mixed results with the Brighter Futures program which was intended for roll-out in the Flinders Ranges Council and District Council of Orroroo Carrieton unable to proceed due to COVID-19 and Council staffing constraints resulting from the rollout of Drought Communities Fund projects. Discussions have been

held to revamp this project. The Youth Volunteering project resulted in a series of videos produced that feature reasons why youth are volunteering and some training was provided to young people around wellbeing.

The Wellbeing Gap Analysis report associated with the 7 Northern Councils was just about completed and will provide a valuable document for the future lobbying efforts. Support was provided for the extension of the 2 Family and Business Support Mentors mentioned in the report.

The formation this year of the Remarkable South Flinders Ranges Councils Tourism Alliance and the Yorke Peninsula Tourism Accessibility Working Group and the management of the Northern and Yorke Coastal Management Action Plan are three examples of where the Legatus Group can provide a management role.

The following is a list of 2020/2021 Legatus Group reports which are being used to further progress actions and they can now be found on the Legatus Group Website:

1. Creative Industries in the Legatus Group Region. The research project was completed and a series of projects are now being progressed.
2. Tourism and the use of Mixed Reality. This report was a collaboration between the Legatus Group and Flinders University and looks at the options for Augmented and Virtual Reality Storytelling for the region.
3. Inclusive and Accessible Tourism Experiences Yorke Peninsula. This report provides a critical analysis of the literature and identifies Opportunities and Gaps in the Yorke Peninsula as a destination of choice for people with a disability.
4. Reconciliation Action Planning Northern and Yorke Region. Following input from the reference group and a cultural review the report by the Adelaide University was completed in October 2020.
5. Waste Management Infrastructure for South Australian Regional Local Government & Regional SA Waste and Resource Recovery Background Report by Rawtec. These 2 reports will assist with future actions regarding Waste Management for Regional Local Governments in SA and for the development of the Legatus Group Waste Management Action Plan.
6. Making and Using Organic Compost report. This builds on a previous study of biosolids and septage waste within Legatus Group councils which found that there was insufficient volume of this material to establish a composting plant.
7. Evaluation of expansion options for existing CWMS in SA. This report was instigated due to many CWMS having reached or are approaching their treatment capacity due to population growth, climate change impact and growing demand for recycled water.
8. Socio-Economic Impacts of Road Deficiency Report. This report assesses (qualitatively and quantitatively, where possible) the economic, social and environmental impacts/ costs from not being able to upgrade major roads to a fit for purpose standard due to insufficient funding. This can be used to support advocacy efforts of the Legatus Group and its member Councils for securing required funding.
9. PROJECT 155 Mid North Sustainability Hub Concept Plan. This involved the development of a concept plan and was the next stage of progress towards a Regional Sustainability Hub.

10. Future Drought Fund report. This looked at the opportunities for the Northern and Yorke Region.

There was also a series of webinars undertaken which have been recorded and produced and they can be found on the Legatus Group website.

Greater use of social media was undertaken with the use of a Legatus Group Facebook and LinkedIn pages. These included the release of videos re Youth Volunteering, Roads Equity and Youth into Music and a SA Regional Creative Industries Showreel.

Observation: This year has seen an increase in sub-regional support via an increasing number of collaborations occurring between councils that have been supported by the Legatus Group. Support to councils has been a focus and it was pleasing to see the value of having some extra resources (people and cash) being utilised during this year. The continued collaborations with the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board and RDA Yorke Mid North add value to all 3 organisations and this year has seen increased involvement with RDA Barossa Light Gawler Adelaide Plains.

During the year there was a review of the Legatus Group Strategic Plan and an external review of my performance. There were several synergies between both including the need to have a greater strategic focus with clearer and more relevant goals and objectives. Support was identified for bringing forward potential projects and responsiveness to member Council proposals with the promotion of subregional and focus groups as good examples of joint shared initiatives.

I would like to sincerely thank the support I received from Paul Chapman, Bridget Johns, Moira Coffey, Sarah Cheesmur and Sean Cheriton. Working as a team in isolation across a myriad of topics had its challenges but the resulting work from all was of a professional standard that reflected well for the Legatus Group.

Simon Millcock

CEO Legatus Group

The Legatus Group Audit and Risk Committee summary of activities undertaken, and recommendations made during 2020-2021. The committee met on 4 occasions with the following attendance.

Date	No of Members Attending
21 August 2020	5
13 November 2020	5
19 February 2021	4
3 June 2021	4

Committee Member	No of Meetings Attended
Chairman Mayor Kathie Bowman	4

Mayor Denis Clark till 19 February 2021	3
Mayor Rodney Reid from 3 June 2021	1
Peter Ackland	3
Colin Byles	3
Ian McDonald	4

The following table sets out the principal issues addressed by the Committee for 2020-2021 year.

Principal Issues Examined	Recommendations to Board
Financial Report	No issues, unqualified audit, adopted for the 19/20 financial year.
Review of budget against actuals	Noted no issues and supported the allocation of the expenditure identified of carry over reserves and accumulated surplus for business plan and budgets.
Review of work plan, internal controls	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Work planned maintained and adoption of recommendations by Auditor for increased internal controls – recommended for the Legatus Group consider adopting: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Budget Framework Policy b. Code of Conduct for Employees <p>Draft policies developed.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Recommended an external review of CEOs performance which was undertaken. 3. Recommended that Legatus Group Audit and Risk Management Committee be provided access via the read only format to the financial transaction reports of the Legatus Group. Approved by the board. 4. Assisted with and provided recommendations re the provision of Financial Management Services.
Charter	Recommended the Legatus Group adopt the variation to item 5.1 of the Legatus Group Charter as set out in item 3.2 of the Legatus Group Audit and Risk Management Committee meeting held on 22 May 2020 and they authorise the Legatus Group CEO to comply with the Local Government Act requirements to secure the variation to the charter. Completed.

Business, Budget and Strategic Plan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Noted the development of the 2020-2021 business plan and budget. 2. Recommended the review of the Legatus Group Strategic Plan and provided input to the review.
Membership	Recommendations to Board re membership of Audit Committee
Equity / reserves	Recommendations to Board on levels to be held

Mayor Kathy Bowman

Chairman Legatus Group Audit and Risk Management Committee