



DRAFT Notes of Legatus Management Group meeting

Thursday 12 August 2021 via Zoom

1. ATTENDANCE

1.1 Present: Colin Byles (Northern Areas), Helen Macdonald (Clare and Gilbert Valleys), David Stevenson (Goyder), Andrew Cameron (Yorke Peninsula), Andrew MacDonald (Wakefield), Eric Brown (Flinders Ranges), Sam Johnson (Mt Remarkable) and Simon Millcock (Legatus Group).

1.2 Apologies: Brian Carr (Light), James Miller (Adelaide Plains), Stephen Rufus (Peterborough), Martin McCarthy (Barossa), Maree Wauchope (Barunga West), Dylan Strong (Orroroo Carrieton), Russell Peate (Copper Coast) and Peter Ackland (Port Pirie),

2. Welcome

2.1 Welcome - Chair Colin Byles welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2.2 Update and topical issues – Each CEO provided an update on the current major projects being undertaken within their councils. Noted were difficulties in attraction of staff due to the short labour market and procurement of contractors due to heavy workloads. The impacts of COVID-19 have not assisted and the disruption through lock downs and impacts re the ability to complete projects on time. General support for funds allocated in the 21/22 budget to help supporting marketing of careers in regional local government.

2.3 Councils In Focus website was discussed with feedback required by 27 August 2021. This matter has been discussed by the LGA CEOs Advisory Group and support for councils to engage through Your Say. Discussion held on the concerns expressed about the figures and data being used plus the struggles with being able to access the website for input. Simon Millcock to gain feedback and then investigate a push back to the date. Note on 20 August advise was received of extended ‘deadline’ to provide comments by 31 August.

3. Notes and actions from previous meeting 14 May 2021

A report was provided with the agenda and it was noted that the Legatus Group had received the 12 February notes and items on Joint Planning Boards and Public Transport are being progressed.

4. Joint Planning Boards (JPB)

Simon Millcock provided a report with the agenda which included feedback sought from relevant Legatus Group CEOs on this topic. An offer had been made to coordinate a meeting with the LGA and Dept of Planning and Development. This did not occur but instead there was a workshop held earlier on the 12 August 2021 with invite to all Mayors and CEOs across the State.

The Management Group meeting discussed JPB with those who attended the workshop providing feedback. The general feeling of the meeting was that there was a lack of support for the need for councils to be leading this process. The meeting was unable to identify the long-term advantages for smaller and medium sized councils. The meeting recommended that there needs to be a better understanding of what the consultation process is going to look like from the Department.

5. Public Transport

Simon Millcock provided an update on the formation of the reference group.

6. ESCOSA Presentation

The Commission's CEO, Adam Wilson and the Energy and Water Ombudsman, Sandy Canale joined the meeting and discussed the difference between their roles and discussed the requirements associated with licence for CWMS and the changes. Adam outlined the overall good state of CWMS management and the new ways of engagement associated with the verified trust and accountability. He discussed the need for transparency and that finding would be public. Simon Millcock outlined that the Dr Paul Chapman will continue in his role re CWMS for the Legatus Group with an offer to collaborate with ESCOSA. Adam offered to visit the region and be part of regional workshops.

7. Legatus Group Council Business Problems Workshop

Rhys Moult from the company FOUR joined the meeting and outlined the process for the Legatus Group workshop they are facilitating on Friday 17 September in Port Pirie. The meeting was encouraged to have councils bring their ideas and problems associated with technical solutions. This workshop will allow for in-depth discussions and is aimed at identifying 1-2 projects that could be progressed in 21/22.

8. Strategic Plan Review

Simon Millcock provided a report with the agenda.

9. Business Plan Update

Simon Millcock provided a report with the agenda which included the recently released reports by the Legatus Group and project updates.

10. Legatus Group Administration

Simon Millcock provided a report with the agenda.

11. Other Business

SA Grants – FAGS and Roads Funding – SA Councils disadvantage. Andrew MacDonald provided an update on the progress the Wakefield Regional Council had with their Equitable Distribution of Federal Roads Funding to Rural Councils within South Australia and the meeting supported the approach for the Legatus Group to support their motion to the LGA.

12. NEXT MEETINGS

Date and venue to be confirmed

13. CLOSE

The meeting was closed at 2.30pm