

# **Great Southern Country Zone Minutes**

**Friday, 28 October 2022**

**Shire of Woodanilling  
Woodanilling Recreation Centre  
Yairabin Street, Woodanilling**

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## Policy and Advocacy Prioritisation Framework



This tool has been developed to assist the Great Southern Zone to determine the relative priority of a particular issue relative to existing policy and advocacy priorities.

The prioritisation framework does not remove the need for judgements to be made and is intended to *guide*, not replace, decision-making.

<b>Impact on Local Government Sector</b> Impact on Local Government sector without intervention	High	Medium	Low
<b>Reach</b> Number of member Local Governments affected	Sector-wide	Significant (multiple regions, Zones, or bands)	Few
<b>Influence</b> Capacity to influence decision makers	High	Medium	Low
<b>Principles</b> Alignment to core principles such as autonomy, funding, general competence	Strong	Partial	Peripheral
<b>Clarity</b> Policy change needed is clear and well-defined	Clear	Partial	Unclear
<b>Decision-maker support</b> Level of support among decision-makers (political and administrative)	High	Medium	Low
<b>Public support</b> Level of support among the public or other stakeholders	High	Medium	Low
<b>Positive consequences for WALGA Zone</b> Prospect of positive consequences for WALGA zone. E.g. enhanced standing among members or leverage for other issues.	High	Medium	Low
<b>Negative consequences for WALGA Zone</b> Prospect of negative consequences for WALGA zone for not undertaking the advocacy effort. E.g. diminished standing among members or other stakeholders.	High	Medium	Low
<b>Partnerships</b> Potential for partnerships with other stakeholders	Yes (3+)	Possibly (1-2)	No (0)

### Using this tool:

- If the majority of the factors are towards the left column, the issue is a high priority
- If the majority of the factors are towards the middle, the issue requires action, but is not a high priority
- If the majority of the factors are towards the right column, the issue is a low priority

Following prioritisation, an appropriate and proportionate policy and advocacy approach can be determined.

## 1. OPENING AND WELCOME

The Chair declared the meeting opened at 12.06pm.

The Shire of Woodanilling, President Stephen Jefferies, extended an acknowledgement of country and welcome to the delegates and guests.

### 1.1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We, the Great Southern Country Zone of WALGA acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of this land, and pays our respects to their Elders past, present and future.

## 2. ATTENDANCE

### ZONE MEMBER REPRESENTATIVES:

<b>City of Albany</b>	Mayor Dennis Wellington Deputy Mayor Sandie Smith CEO Andrew Sharpe (non-voting)
<b>Shire of Broomehill-Tambellup</b>	President, Cr Michael White Deputy President, Cr Doug Barritt
<b>Shire of Cranbrook</b>	Deputy President, Cr George Pollard Cr Perin Mulcahy (observer)
<b>Shire of Denmark</b>	Cr Donna Carman CEO David Schober (non-voting)
<b>Shire of Gnowangerup</b>	President, Cr Fiona Gaze Deputy President, Cr Greg Stewart CEO Bob Jarvis (non-voting)
<b>Shire of Jerramungup</b>	Deputy President, Cr Julie Leenhouders CEO Martin Cuthbert (non-voting)
<b>Shire of Katanning</b>	<b>President, Cr Liz Guidera (Zone Deputy Chair)</b> Deputy President, Cr John Goodheart CEO Julian Murphy (non-voting)
<b>Shire of Kent</b>	President, Cr Scott Crosby Deputy President, Cr Kate Johnston
<b>Shire of Kojonup</b>	Cr Alan Egerton-Warburton President Cr Kevin Gale Cr Ned Radforth (observer)

**Shire of Plantagenet**

**President, Cr Chris Pavlovich (Zone Chair)**

Deputy President, Cr Jon Oldfield

Cr Len Handasyde (observer)

Executive Manager, Works & Services, David Lynch (observer)

**Shire of Woodanilling**

President, Cr Stephen Jefferies

Deputy President, Cr Russel Thomson

Cr Dale Douglas (observer)

CEO Kelly Bartley (non-voting)

**GUESTS**

**Agencies**

Great Southern Development  
Commission

Pippa Hepburn, Regional Development Officer  
Kylie Sullivan, Regional Development Officer

Regional Development Australia  
Great Southern WA Inc

Simon Lyas, Director Regional Development

**Members of Parliament**

Nil.

**WALGA**

Tony Brown, Executive Director Member Services

Janine Neugebauer, Governance & Organisational Services  
Officer

**2.1. APOLOGIES**

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**ZONE MEMBER REPRESENTATIVES**

City of Albany

Cr Matt Benson-Lidholm

Cr Paul Terry

Shire of Broomehill-Tambellup

CEO Anthony Middleton (non-voting)

Manager Finance & Admin. Kay O'Neil (non-voting)

Shire of Cranbrook

President, Cr Philip Horrocks

CEO Linda Gray (non-voting)

Shire of Denmark

Cr Janine Phillips

Shire of Jerramungup

Cr Andrew Price

Shire of Kent

CEO Peter Clarke (non-voting)

Shire of Kojonup

CEO Grant Thompson (non-voting)

Shire of Plantagenet

CEO Cameron Woods (non-voting)

**GUESTS**

Rick Wilson MP, Federal Member for O'Connor

Hon. Shelley Payne MLC, Member for Agricultural Region

Peter Rundle, MLA, Member for Roe

Jane Kelsbie, MLA Member for Warren-Blackwood

Natasha Monks, Chief Executive Officer, Great Southern  
Development Commission

Mel Eastough, Regional Manager, Department of Local  
Government, Sport, and Cultural Industries

Lyn Fogg, Zone Executive Officer

Vivienne Gardiner, RoadWise Road Safety Adviser

**WALGA**

### 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Pursuant to our Code of Conduct, Councillors must declare to the Chair any potential conflict of interest they have in a matter before the Zone as soon as they become aware of it. Councillors and Deputies may be directly or indirectly associated with some recommendations of the Zone and State Council. If you, as a voting delegate, are affected by these recommendations, please excuse yourself from the meeting and do not participate in deliberations.

### 4. GUEST SPEAKERS / DEPUTATIONS

#### 4.1. MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

Nil.

#### 4.2. GUEST SPEAKERS / DEPUTATION

*The following presentations had been previously approved for future Zone meetings:*

- 25 November 2022 (MS Teams meeting) - LGIS - Topic: Shared Management of Volunteers under the WHS Act.

##### 4.2.1. Guest Speaker Request – Western Power

*By Lyn Fogg, Zone Executive Officer*

#### BACKGROUND

Western Power has requested the opportunity to provide the Zone with a presentation and Q & A session in the first quarter of 2023 to provide information on activities in the Region, including Network Standards - reliability, regional capacity, stand-alone power systems and biosecurity. Western Power has also asked:

- What Zone Members would like to discuss with Western Power?

Zone members are requested to nominate topics which they would like Western Power to address.

#### RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Russel Thomson

Seconded: Cr Fiona Gaze

That the Great Southern Country Zone:

1. Invites Western Power to attend and present at the first Zone meeting in 2023 (date to be confirmed); and
2. Requests Western Power to address the following topics of interest to the Zone:
  - a. Power availability - regional areas have been given 34 amps, versus Metro with 64 amps. Why?
  - b. Standalone power systems. Process and costs to obtain system upgrades.
  - c. Pole top fires and new infrastructure – update required.
  - d. Where does Western Power sit with the Southdown Powerline easement?

CARRIED



## **5. AGENCY REPORTS**

*Agency reports provided updates on matters relevant to Zone Members.*

### **5.1. GREAT SOUTHERN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (GSDC)**

*Report submitted by Pippa Hepburn, Regional Development Officer*

Provided an update to the Zone on Western Power's engagement with the Zone.

**NOTED**

### **5.2. REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA GREAT SOUTHERN WA INC (RDA-GS)**

*Report submitted by Simon Lyas, Director Regional Development*

Provided an update to the Zone on the following

- Building better regions. Funding round 6 has been replaced with other Federal Government funding programs. More information on guidelines for the new funding programs will be provided in due course.
- The rail working group – presentation to be provided for the next meeting.

**NOTED**

### **5.3. SOUTH COAST NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (SCNRM)**

*Report submitted by Cr John Oldfield, Shire of Plantagenet Zone Delegate*

No report.

### **5.4. LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGRICULTURAL FREIGHT GROUP (LGAFG)**

*Report submitted by Cr Russel Thomson, Shire of Woodanilling Zone Delegate*

No report.

### **5.5. GREAT SOUTHERN HUMAN SERVICES FORUM**

*Report submitted by Cr Donna Carman, Shire of Denmark Zone Delegate*

Kim Daniel from Department of Communities advised the next Great Southern Human Services Forum will be held on 9 November 2022. These are monthly one hour in person or Teams meetings. They are pleased to have a Local Government representative on the group again.

**NOTED**

### **5.6. GREAT SOUTHERN REGIONAL ROADS GROUP**

*Report submitted by Cr Len Handasyde, Chair Great Southern Regional Roads Group*

Provided an update to the Zone on the meeting held this morning, as per below:

*The GSRRG meeting was held this morning at 10:00.*

*22-23 Works are planned and ready to go. Denmark has a couple of changes that are being handled OK with some works being shifted around to suit the program better. The amounts of money involved is about the same.*

*Additional funding of \$1,191,626 became available partly with Albany's four projects deferred and an increase in Vehicle Licensing Fees netting and additional \$261,344 of that \$1,191,626.*

*Five roads will capture most of that with further assessments to be made in January 23.*



*For FY 23-24 Road Project Grants: 53 Submissions received for an allocation of an indicative \$7.5M. These have been assessed and the allocated projects total \$7,423,573 leaving a balance of \$76,427 for assessment later in the year.*

*Black Spot: no submissions made from the region. Tech Working Group looking at reasons why. It was indicated that a Senior Road Safety Auditor was not available in the region. With the requirement of either a crash history or a Road Safety Audit it was difficult to comply. It was suggested that an RSA might be sourced from the South West.*

*Commodity Route Fund: 9 Projects totaling \$2.337 M are being assessed for a decision later in the year.*

*Accruals are still an issue with around 3 M carried over at the end of June. Accruals were greater than initially thought with around 2.6 M paid out in July or August. This is not ideal, but we are getting the work done.*

**NOTED**

## **5.7. WALGA ROADWISE**

*Report submitted by Vivienne Gardner, RoadWise Road Safety Advisor*

[Attachment No. 1](#) Regional Road Safety Advisor Report – October 2022.

**NOTED**

## **5.8. DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, SPORT, AND CULTURAL INDUSTRIES (DLGSC)**

*Report submitted by Mel Eastough, Great Southern Regional Manager*

Mel Eastough was an apology.

# **6. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

## **RESOLUTION**

**Moved:** Cr Jon Oldfield

**Seconded:** Cr Julie Leenhouders

**That the minutes of the Great Southern Country Zone meeting held on 26 August 2022, as previously circulated, be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.**

**CARRIED**

## **6.1. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

## **6.2. ZONE RESOLUTION STATUS REPORT**

*By Lyn Fogg, Zone Executive Officer*

[Attachment No.2](#) Great Southern Country Zone Status Report – October 2022.

The Status Report provided an update on actions taken in response so Zone resolutions at previous meetings. Zone Members were asked to review responses.

## RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Julie Leenhouders  
Seconded: Cr Liz Guidera

That the Great Southern Country Zone NOTES the Status Report dated October 2022, as detailed in Attachment No.2.

CARRIED

## 7. ZONE BUSINESS

### 7.1. ZONE REPORTS

#### 7.1.1. Zone Financial Report

*By Lyn Fogg, Zone Executive Officer*

Nil report provided as the Zone Bank Account details have not yet been transferred to WALGA Executive.

A report will be prepared for the next meeting.

NOTED

#### 7.1.2. Zone Chairperson's Report

*Report submitted by Zone Chair, President, Cr Chris Pavlovich*

[Attachment No. 3](#) Zone President's Report October 2022.

NOTED

#### 7.1.3. Great Southern Zone Roads Committee

*By Cr Len Handasyde (Shire of Plantagenet), Chair*

Membership: Cr Mark Paganoni, Cr Kevin Gale, Cr George Pollard, Cr Scott Crosby, Cr Russel Thomson, Cr Dale Douglas, Simon Lyas (Great Southern RDA) and Cr Len Handasyde as Chair of the Great Southern Regional Roads Group.

Committee Terms of Reference: *(includes Heavy Haulage matters as per GSCZ:26/08/2022)*

1. To investigate the current road infrastructure right across the networks (State, Regional Road Group roads and other local roads) as to their fit for purpose from a freight task and road safety and efficiency perspective both now and in the next 20 years.
  - Reviewing the impact and compliance of AMMS concessional loading on the Local Government Road Network; and
  - The compliance and implication of RAV access to the Local Government Road network and effectiveness in the Local Government CA07 conditions.
2. Once the data is known, make recommendations to the Great Southern Zone of WALGA in order for them to advocate and seek funding to remedy the shortfalls.
3. Co-opt members as required to fulfil the above task as there will be outside technical expertise required from time to time.
4. Report progress of sub-committee to the Great Southern Zone of WALGA at each of its meetings.
5. Finalise a report for publishing prior to the end of 2023-24 financial year.
6. Group to cease operations on 30 June 2024.

### Great Southern Roads Committee Report

A meeting of this committee was held last Friday 21 October in Tambellup. Committee members were on hand with MRWA's Brad Lenton, and the GSDC's Pippa Hepburn along with Juliet Grist online from Rural and Regional Economics.

Juliet Grist presented her involvement with the Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Network (WSFN) detailing how data was collected and made sense of. She fielded questions after her presentation and is available to work for us in the initial stages should we choose to utilize her services and firsthand knowledge of the WSFN.

RDA Great Southern was represented by Andrus Budrikis the Chair and he and RGAGS are supportive of this study and are likely to co-fund a portion of it.

The GSDC was represented by Pippa Hepburn who indicated that they could be involved with working with the group to investigate funding pathways going forward.

MRWA's Brad Lenton supported the groups objectives and suggested that the list of roads be narrowed down to focus on routes with freight as importance. He suggested that the construction standards used in the Wheatbelt region be mirrored for consistency across boundaries.

He advised that the majority of roads in the great southern are rated RAV 7, and that there is a potential increase in length of vehicles in this classification to 42m under the PBS.

Priority Roads: It was agreed that this list be reviewed to ensure there are no double ups and that the data collected informs the final list. Mapping will be used also to inform the list.

The following steps to be taken from here –

- Update the list of roads and mapping, the group to agree on the final list
- Collection of data from Shires, up to 5 years of data if available
- Determine who to send the data to
- Request financial contributions/commitment from Shires

To that end a motion was put and carried by the Great Southern Roads Committee:

#### MOTION

Moved Cr Crosby, seconded Cr Gale that WALGA Great Southern Zone Shires be requested to each make a contribution of \$4,000 to the Great Southern Road Committee as initial seed funding to begin preliminary work for data collation and analysis; and that a formal request be made to Regional Development Australia Great Southern for a contribution of \$10,000.

CARRIED

This item could possibly be considered as a late item at the Zone meeting on 28 October 2022.

The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Friday, 9 December in Tambellup.

Cr Handasyde advised that the motion from the GSWALGA meeting to read:

"That WALGA Great Southern Zone Shires be requested to each make a contribution of \$4,000 as initial seed funding to begin preliminary work for road data collation and analysis. Further a formal request be made to Regional Development Australia Great Southern for a contribution of \$10,000. Further a request be made to the Great Southern Development Commission for a contribution of \$4,000."

## MOTION

**Moved:** Cr Scott Crosby  
**Seconded:** Cr Kevin Gale

**That the Great Southern Roads Report be received and the \$4000.00 per Zone Local Government funding request be forwarded to all Local Governments for their consideration and that a formal request be made to the Great Southern Development Commission as well as RDA Great Southern.**

**CARRIED**

## 7.2. ZONE PRIORITY STRATEGIC ISSUES

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**Action (GSCZ 24/06/2022):** WALGA to gather information (referring to items 7.3.1 and 7.3.2) and required key outcomes from Zone Councils on Housing and Digital Connectivity, and then create a Zone proposal to take to State and Federal Governments. Zone Councils to liaise with Lyn Fogg at WALGA.

### ZONE EXECUTIVE OFFICER COMMENT:

Zone Member responses on Strategic Priorities of Housing, Reliable Digital Connectivity / Telecommunications and Jobs and Investment have been received from only four Local Governments as detailed below under Item 7.2.1, 7.2.2 and 7.2.3.

### 7.2.1. Housing

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Issues identified at the Zone meeting held 24 June 2022:

- Availability of land. Market failure. Most Zone Local Governments have residential property 'shovel-ready' for subdivision and development, but the increasing cost of headworks is a barrier for developers.
- Advocate for lower deposits for bank loans on residential housing outside the metro area.
- Review of Planning Act to see if it is appropriate for regional areas and amend it to cut out any barriers to building, e.g., building codes changed to allow more innovative and sustainable construction methods.
- Problem with builders not being able to hire enough staff to undertake building projects.
- Current difficulty sourcing building materials.
- State Government requires more GROH housing in the region.
- Job, House, and Land packages.
- Carbon reduction – stand-alone sustainable housing developments for communities. Matter for WA Planning Commission.

**Action (GSCZ 24/06/2022):** Each Zone council to discuss and prioritise key outcomes to be achieved to increase housing in regional areas. Quantify the housing needs of each community.

**Action (GSCZ 26/08/2022):** If Local Governments could respond by 21 October 2022, so that this issue can be considered at the 28 October 2022 meeting.

### ZONE EXECUTIVE OFFICER COMMENT:

The following Zone Member Local Governments provided a response as at the October 2022 Zone Meeting:

- Shire of Denmark
- Shire of Gnowangerup

- Shire of Kent
- Shire of Plantagenet

The Minister for Housing, Lands; Homelessness; Local Government has previously indicated there is potential for funding opportunities to be considered to enable Local Governments to develop identified 'lazy land' for residential purposes (affordable or social housing) where market failure is evident.

**Action (GSCZ 28/10/2022) That the CEOs of the Shires of Kojonup and Plantagenet to discuss a possible joint submission.**

### **7.2.2. Reliable Digital Connectivity / Telecommunications**

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Issues identified at the Zone meeting held 24 June 2022:

- Delegates to discuss with their councils about issues to bring to the Zone on this matter.
- Mayor Wellington suggested submitting joint Zone proposal to local members prior to elections.
- Need shovel-ready projects for this proposal.
- What is the one project we could go to the next State Government election with? Possibly housing and telecommunication connectivity.

**Action (GSCZ 24/06/2022):** Each Zone council to discuss and prioritise key outcomes to be achieved to improve telecommunications in regional areas and report back to the Zone.

**Action (GSCZ 26/08/2022):** If Local Governments could respond by 21 October 2022, so that this issue can be considered at the 28 October 2022 meeting.

#### **ZONE EXECUTIVE OFFICER COMMENT:**

The following Zone Member Local Governments provided a response as at the October 2022 Zone Meeting:

- Shire of Denmark
- Shire of Gnowangerup
- Shire of Kent
- Shire of Plantagenet

#### **RESOLUTION**

**Moved:** Cr Michael White  
**Seconded:** Cr George Pollard

1. That Local Governments identify to the Zone Executive Officer at least one priority digital / telecommunications blackspot area within their District, supported by evidence and justification, to enable a targeted advocacy to be undertaken.
2. That the Great Southern Zone advocate to upgrade existing infrastructure (towers).

**CARRIED**

### **7.2.3. Jobs and Investment**

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Issues identified at the Zone meeting held 24 June 2022:

- How do we attract more people to move from cities to live in regional areas?

#### **ZONE EXECUTIVE OFFICER COMMENT:**

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The following Zone Member Local Governments provided a response as at the October 2022 Zone Meeting:

- Shire of Kent
- Shire of Plantagenet

**NO FURTHER ACTION**

#### **7.2.4. Designated Area Migration Agreement (DAMA) Project**

*By Zone President, President Cr Chris Pavlovich*

##### **BACKGROUND**

The Great Southern Country Zone resolved at its meeting held 26 June 2022:

*That the Great Southern Country Zone of WALGA supports the concept of the Designated Area Migration Agreement (DAMA) as follows:*

- 1. The Great Southern Country Local Governments are to report back to the Zone Executive Officer by Wednesday, 17 August 2022 as to their interest in joining the DAMA.*
- 2. The Great Southern Country Zone acknowledge the Regional Development Australia office will act as the Designated Area Representative (DAR), and*
- 3. The Great Southern Country Zone acknowledges that funding will be required from each Local Government.*

Note: Each of the above resolutions was made subject to: *Regional Development Australia Great Southern undertaking the role of the Designated Area Representative.*

The RDA Great Southern WA Inc, reported to the 26 August 2022 Zone meeting, as follows:

- *RDA Great Southern approved a \$10K contribution to the DAMA Business Case at its meeting on Friday 24 June 2022.*
- *At the same meeting RDA approved its commitment to be the Designated Area Representative (DAR) and will manage the development of the Business Case.*
- *I have spoken to an immigration consultancy in Perth – Perdaman Global Services and expect to receive their quote for preparation of the DAMA Business Case in the next two weeks. Perdaman have prepared the South West DAMA BC, and the Pilbara DAMA BC and have extensive immigration experience.*
- *RDA Great Southern is in the process of recruiting a 0.6 EFT Research Officer who will assist in the preparation of the DAMA Business Case including coordinating employer surveys throughout the region. The surveying will commence in the near future and will require support from the Shires for distribution via their websites, newsletters etc.*
- *Our office will be happy to liaise on a regular basis with all Shires and we expect to form a small DAMA working group in the near future to assist with and monitor progress on the project.*

The Great Southern Country Zone resolved at its 26 August 2022 meeting:

*That a working group consisting of three Great Southern Local Government Authority CEOs from the Shires of Kojonup, Katanning and Plantagenet, and the Great Southern Country Zone*



*President, be established to progress the DAMA on behalf of all committed Great Southern Local Governments.*

*DAMA Working Group Charter:*

- 1. Recommending the committed Local Government's consult with their respective industries on skill shortages and gather supporting evidence by Friday, 23 September 2022.*
- 2. (a) Review the other WA DAMA business cases and their learnings to determine our process and next steps; and  
(b) Prepare a draft budget and scope of works for the business case and prepare a shortlist of suitable contractors to quote on the business case by 17 October 2022.*
- 3. Prepare the final report with recommendations for the next Great Southern Country Zone meeting on Friday, 28 October 2022.*

The meeting further **AGREED** that the DAMA Working Group meetings should include representation from the Great Southern Development Commission (GSDC) and Regional Development Australia Great Southern (RDA-GS).

In its resolution on 27 September 2022 approving participation and contribution to the DAMA project, the City of Albany requested representation on the DAMA Working Group. If the Zone determines that this Working Group is to continue beyond the above 'Working Group Charter', then the Zone will be required to consider the City of Albany's request.

### **DAMA WORKING GROUP REPORT – OCTOBER 2022**

*By Zone President, President Cr Chris Pavlovich*

The DAMA working Group (WG) has met twice since the last Zone meeting and has achieved the outcomes and timelines for the Zone to move forward in relation to a Great Southern Destination Area Migration Agreement (DAMA).

The City of Albany had completed their due diligence and resolved to be part of the DAMA, including funding which was well received. As a major employer base in the Great Southern the WG has recommended the COA CEO be invited to become a member of the WG subject to a Zone resolution.

The WG has sent out a Survey with the assistance of RDA GS. This survey has been distributed to employers in the Great Southern via networks consisting of member Local Governments, ACCI, WA Farmers, Stirling's to Coast and the like. As of the 19 October 2022 over eighty responses have been received over a wide variety of industries. We expect more to be returned over the next month.

We now have the evidence to commit our member LG funding to the next stage of developing a Great Southern Business Plan for application to a GS DAMA. The WG recommends that some funding be called upon subject to the support of the Zone.

A RFQ was distributed to consultants with the necessary credentials to develop a DAMA submission and three responses were received. The WG makes a recommendation for the Zone to appoint a consultant at this Zone meeting. The WG's Confidential Evaluation Report on the consultant submissions will be tabled at the Zone Meeting. The preparation of the Business Case / application process may take up to six months before completed and then ready for submission to the Department of Home Affairs again subject to the endorsement of the Zone.



At the first meeting in 2023 the WG recommends that the RDA GS is requested to submit a service agreement to the Zone for the operational part of the DAMA. This will compete the process and defined as the Designated Area Representative (DAR) for employers in the Great Southern to engage as required on the visa application process.

We hope the Zone delegates will look favourably on the WG recommendations provided below and the DAMA process will continue for the wider benefit to the whole Great Southern Region.

## ZONE EXECUTIVE OFFICER COMMENT

Zone Member Council's individually considered the DAMA project proposal and determined their individual funding contributions by resolution. The following table outlines:

- the original contribution requested by the Zone from each Member Local Government,
- the 62.5% value proposed to be invoiced to each Local Government as the initial project funding to enable preparation of the Business Case; and
- the contribution pledged (by resolution) by each Local Government.

Great Southern Country Zone Members:	Original Contribution Requested:	62.5% of Original Contribution:	Pledged Contribution up to:	Resolution Date
City of Albany	\$40,000	\$25,000.00	\$25,000	27/09/2022
Shire of Broomhill-Tambellup	\$2,500	\$1,562.50	\$2,500	28/07/2022
Shire of Cranbrook	\$2,500	\$1,562.50	\$2,500	n/a
Shire of Denmark	\$8,000	\$5,000.00	\$10,000	19/07/2022
Shire of Gnowangerup	\$2,500	\$1,562.50	\$2,500	24/08/2022
Shire of Jerramungup	\$2,500	\$1,562.50	\$2,500	27/07/2022
Shire of Katanning	\$7,000	\$4,375.00	\$7,000	28/07/2022
Shire of Kent	\$1,000	\$625.00	\$1,000	20/07/2022
Shire of Kojonup	\$5,000	\$3,125.00	\$10,000	26/07/2022
Shire of Plantagenet	\$8,000	\$5,000.00	\$10,000	02/08/2022
Shire of Woodanilling	\$1,000	\$625.00	\$1,000	19/07/2022
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$80,000</b>	<b>\$50,000.00</b>	<b>\$74,000</b>	

Great Southern Country Zone, DAMA Working Group Recommendations:

## RESOLUTIONS

Moved: Cr Sandie Smith

Seconded: Cr Jon Oldfield

That the Great Southern Country Zone:

1. Notes the DAMA Working Group October 2022 Report and extends appreciation to Working Group Members for their efforts.
2. Notes the City of Albany resolution on 27 September 2022 to participate in the DAMA Project and that all eleven Great Southern Country Zone members are now committed to the DAMA Project.
3. Notes Regional Employer Survey Responses indicate adequate interest in a regional DAMA as the basis for the WALGA Great Southern Country Zone to pursue development of the Business Case.

4. Engage Ernst & Young Global Limited to develop the Great Southern Zone DAMA Business Case in line with the project scope and fee structure outlined in the consultant submission; and
  - a. Authorises the Great Southern Country Zone President and RDA GS Chair to execute the engagement authority with the selected consultant.
5. Endorse WALGA invoicing:
  - a. Great Southern Zone member Local Governments for 62.5% of the original requested contribution to raise a minimum of \$50,000 initial project funding; and
  - b. Regional Development Authority Great Southern Inc and Great Southern Development Commission for \$10,000 each as their individual agency contributions to the project.
6. Requests Zone Member Local Governments to pay their invoiced DAMA project contribution by 15 November 2022, to enable Business Case preparation to progress.
7. Endorse the Shire of Kojonup CEO and the Regional Development Authority Great Southern Inc CEO to act jointly as the Zone representatives for communication between the consultant and the Zone and member Local Governments to facilitate preparation of the Business Plan.
8. Requests the Regional Development Authority Great Southern Inc to formally present its DAR operating model, service agreement and fee structure for consideration at the first 2023 meeting of the Great Southern Country Zone.
9. Endorse the City of Albany CEO as a member of the DAMA Working Group.
10. Endorse the Great Southern Country Zone DAMA Working Group Charter being extended to include review and recommendation to the Zone of the Draft Business Case.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **7.3. ZONE MATTERS FOR DECISION**

*Items submitted to the Agenda by Zone Members or the WALGA Secretariat for Zone consideration.*

#### **7.3.1. September 2023 Regional State Council Meeting – Request Zone to Host**

##### **BACKGROUND**

Each year, the WALGA State Council meets in a regional location, hosted by a Zone. There are generally two regional State Council meetings per year – one hosted by a Metropolitan Zone and another hosted by a Country Zone. Regional meeting hosts are rotated between relevant Zone cohort.

Regional meetings afford State Council the opportunity to meet with Elected Members and senior officers from Local Governments within a Zone, to discuss issues of local and regional significance. They also allow State Councillors to meet with other regional groups of interest to gain a first-hand appreciation of the various issues confronting Local Governments in each Zone.

The host Zone facilitates the program for a Zone Forum and may provide a tour of local amenities, recent projects, or points of interest.

The program for the Regional State Council Meeting is usually conducted over two days as per below. The format and program for the Zone Forum is flexible, but will depend on location and travel arrangements as to how much time is available:

Day 1		Day 2	
AM	State Council and WALGA staff travel to Host venue	AM	State Council Strategic Briefing <i>Zone Members attend observers</i>  Morning Tea  State Council Meeting <i>Zone Members attend observers</i>
PM	Zone Forum <i>Program developed and facilitated by the Zone</i>  Afternoon Tea	PM	Lunch <i>Concludes official arrangements</i>  WALGA State Council and staff travel home
Evening	State Council / Zone Member Dinner		

The general requirements for a location to host the regional State Council meeting include:

- Venues and Facilities:
  - Accommodation for State Council members and WALGA staff, located in near vicinity to the meeting and event venues (approx. 35 rooms required);
  - A venue for the Zone Forum and State Council meeting (approx. 40 attendees); and
  - A venue to host a dinner for WALGA State Council, WALGA staff and Zone members (approx. 60 attendees).
- Zone Member Funding Commitment:
  - Zone Member Local Governments cover the per head catering costs for their respective delegates and officers attending the Zone Forum and dinner.
  - Waive the cost of use for Local Government facilities (if available) used as the venue/s for the Zone Forum and State Council meeting.

The Great Southern Country Zone last hosted a regional State Council Meeting in Albany, in 2015.

#### **ZONE EXECUTIVE OFFICER COMMENT:**

It is proposed that the September 2023 Regional State Council meeting be hosted by the Great Southern Country Zone over two days, Thursday, and Friday, 7 - 8 September.

WALGA is seeking appointment of one or more Zone representatives to act as liaison between WALGA and the Zone to plan logistics and locations for the 2023 Regional State Council meeting.

#### **RESOLUTION**

**Moved:** Cr Russel Thomson

**Seconded:** Cr Donna Carman

**That the Great Southern Country Zone:**

1. Endorses the Great Southern Country Zone hosting the September 2023 Regional State Council meeting on Thursday and Friday, 7 – 8 September; and
2. Appoints Shire of Katanning, CEO Julian Murphy as the Great Southern Country Zone's liaison to assist in planning the September 2023 Regional State Council meeting.

**CARRIED**

## **8. WALGA STATE COUNCIL BUSINESS**

### **8.1. ZONE STATE COUNCIL MEMBER REPORT**

*By Zone Chair: President, Cr Chris Pavlovich*

Report to be provided at the November Zone Meeting.

### **8.2. STATE COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA**

The November WALGA State Council Meeting Agenda is not available until mid-November.

The Great Southern Country Zone will therefore consider the November WALGA State Council meeting agenda at the (virtual) Zone meeting scheduled for 25 November 2022.

## **9. EMERGING ISSUES / COLLABORATION**

*Zone Members were encouraged to provide a brief update on emerging issues in their District or matters on which they are seeking to connect with other Zone Members for direct collaboration or support.*

### **9.1. WESTERN POWER – LIMITATION ON RURAL / REGIONAL POWER SUPPLY**

#### **BACKGROUND**

The Shire of Jerramungup raised concerns at the 26 August 2022 Zone Meeting regarding Western Power imposing requirements for 32amp circuit breakers to be installed when any major electrical work is performed on a regional or rural property. Zone Members noted this as a growing concern in the region.

#### **COMMENT**

Western Power provided the below Media Release dated 19 October 2022, in which Western Power appear to 'walk back' from the recently enforced limitation of 32 amps rural supply allocation:

#### **Media release**

19 October 2022

#### **Trial to increase rural power supply allocation**

Western Power is trialling an increase in rural supply allocations in parts of the South West and Wheatbelt regions between now and 31 March 2023.

The trial is being delivered following a review by Western Power to assess community needs and network capacity for regional and rural power supply allocations.

Homes and businesses in the Shires of Boyup Brook, Bridgetown-Greenbushes, Collie, Donnybrook-Balingup, Nannup, West Arthur and Williams will be able to install a main switch circuit breaker of equal rating to those required in urban areas – 63 Amp.



This is an increase from the current 32 Amp supply allocation for single phase connections in regional and rural areas.

Western Power Executive Manager for Asset Management Gair Landsborough said the review had considered recent community and industry feedback on the updated WA Services and Installations Requirements, which was introduced in August 2021.

Under these Requirements, a safety main switch circuit breaker must be installed for all new connections to the grid, including when a new circuit is added to an existing connected premise.

"The circuit breaker requirement was critical to ensuring the safe management of the network and to align with the evolving renewable energy market, as well as Australian standards," Mr Landsborough said.

"To ensure we're meeting community needs, we launched a review of the regional and rural supply allocations."

"With the accelerated roll-out of Advanced Metering Infrastructure, we were able to gather more detailed data and information than ever before – allowing us to model current and future regional network usage."

"The data showed that the existing electrical infrastructure can support an increase in regional load, with network reinforcements to be implemented through our forward planning."

"The trial will further support that the rural supply allocation is fit-for-purpose and we're confident we'll be able to standardise this, but we need to ensure this is managed in a safe and reliable way."

"Main switch circuit breakers support the safety of the community and the network, as they're designed to provide overload protection for a household if connection service capacity is exceeded, preventing significant outages and damage to equipment and appliances."

"Additionally, they ensure safe and equitable access power supply for the whole community and support the growth of renewable energy and rooftop solar and battery storage systems," he said.



Page 1

Electrical contractors remain obligated to assess household demand requirements when adding new circuits for property owners and apply for an upgraded supply allocation where necessary.

Homeowners are responsible for managing their electrical load and should seek electrical contractor advice when adding or replacing larger appliances or equipment.

For more information and the stay up to date on power supply allocation and main switch circuit breakers, visit <https://www.westernpower.com.au/community/news-opinion/rural-power-supply-allocation-increase-trial>

#### About Western Power:

*Western Power is a Western Australian State Government owned corporation responsible for building, maintaining and operating an electricity network which connects our 2.3 million customers to traditional and renewable energy sources, delivering a critical service to the community.*

*We're at the forefront of the energy industry in leveraging new technologies, including integrating microgrid and battery storage solutions. We're planning the grid of the future that's leading the way to a cleaner, brighter and more resilient energy supply for the next generation.*

*To find out more visit the Western Power website at [www.westernpower.com.au](http://www.westernpower.com.au)*

**Western Power Media:** [media@westernpower.com.au](mailto:media@westernpower.com.au) or 1300 139 240 (24 hours)

**NOTED**

## 9.2. SOUTH COAST HIGHWAY

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The Shire of Jerramungup requested advocacy assistance regarding an update on the South Coast Highway and the proposed \$650 million funding from Infrastructure Australia.

### RESOLUTION

**Moved:** Cr Julie Leenhouders  
**Seconded:** Cr Dennis Wellington

**That the Great Southern Zone request WALGA to consider an advocacy position on the South Coast Highway reconstruction in relation to the proposed cost and invite all Local Governments along the South Coast corridor to participate.**

**CARRIED**

## 9.3. WALGA 2022 WA LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONVENTION

---

Feedback provided from the Zone on the annual WALGA WA Local Government Convention, held from 2 - 4 October 2022.

- No value in concurrent sessions as they were not relative to regional areas. The sessions were more metro based.
- Suggested sessions with like-minded groups to have open discussions on relevant matters i.e., Metro, Rural, Regional Capitals.
- Preference for a more formal/sit-down dinner.

The Zone was advised that future Conventions will not be held during school holidays.

**NOTED**

## 9.4. DISASTER RECOVERY FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS (DRFA, WA)

---

The City of Albany requested discussion on the issues of delayed funding and the onerous reporting, causing the funding delays from the Disaster Recovery Fund (DRFA, WA).

### RESOLUTION

**Moved:** Cr Denis Wellington  
**Seconded:** Cr Sandie Smith

**That the Great Southern Zone request WALGA to advocate for a review of the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA, WA) to reduce the extensive delays in the reporting system.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## 9.5. WALGA BEST PRACTICE GOVERNANCE REVIEW

---

WALGA is undertaking a Best Practice Governance Review to ensure their governance model is contemporary, agile and maximises engagement with members.

A significant body of work, which is summarised in the [Background Paper](#), has been undertaken by the Project's Steering Committee.

Member feedback, in the form of a Council decision, is requested from Local Governments on the governance model options presented in the [Consultation Paper](#) by **23 December 2022**.

In addition, to supplement Council feedback, WALGA will be undertaking independent consultation to gain deeper insights from the perspective of CEOs and Elected Members. Look out for more details and a link to the online survey in the coming weeks.

For more information visit [Best Practice Governance Review website](#) or contact [Tim Lane, Manager Association and Corporate Governance via email or on 9213 2029](#).

WALGA would also be happy to present on the material in the Papers or facilitate workshops to assist in deliberations.

**NOTED**

## **10. NEXT ZONE MEETING**

The next meeting of the Great Southern Country Zone is scheduled to be held on:

- **Friday, 25 November 2022, commencing at 10.00am.**  
MS-Teams virtual meeting for Zone consideration and decision on matters in the November WALGA State Council Agenda.

## **11. CLOSURE**

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 1.50 pm.



Attachment No. 1 Refers Item 5.7 - Regional Road Safety Advisor Report – October 2022

[Back to Item 5.7](#)



Road Safety Target-Setting for Local Government

WALGA's RoadWise has produced three editions of the *Road Safety Performance Reports* for Local Governments. The reports identify priority treatment areas for regions based on the main killed and serious injury (KSI) crash types. The *Road Safety Performance Reports* are designed to assist Local Government to focus on a systems approach to road safety as opposed to the more traditional focus on driver behaviour.

The performance reports focus on the number of people killed and seriously injured. This data is extrapolated into crash types to establish priority treatment areas. By focussing on the priority areas means the greatest reduction in the number of people killed or seriously injured can be made.

Target-setting can be a helpful next step for Local Government in prioritising treatments. Setting targets and making an effective plan to achieve treatments, focuses attention and creates accountability for making them happen. Reporting on results and reviewing successes and failures can also guide future efforts. Target-setting has shown to result in greater resourcing for specific interventions.<sup>1</sup>

WALGA's RoadWise has recently developed a process to support Local Governments to develop road safety targets that are evidence-based, using relevant data and specific to the local context. Regional Road Safety Advisors are available to facilitate this process with Local Governments wishing to establish their own road safety targets.

The most recent edition *Road Safety Performance for Local Government Roads Great Southern Report 2015-2019* is now available please contact Vivienne Gardiner, Regional Road Safety Advisor at [vgardiner@walga.asn.au](mailto:vgardiner@walga.asn.au) to discuss the targets setting process.

Crash Type

Crash Type	KSI	% KSI Crashes	Change from 2014 - 18
Off Carriageway Hit object	47	38.8%	↓
Off Carriageway Non-collision	14	11.6%	↑
Non-collision	13	10.7%	↑
Rear End	9	7.4%	↑
Right Angle	8	6.6%	↑
Head On	8	6.6%	↑
Right Turn Thru	7	5.8%	↑
Other	5	4.1%	↑
Hit Object	5	4.1%	↑
Hit Pedestrian	4	3.3%	↓
Hit Animal	1	0.8%	→
Sideswipe	0	0.0%	↓
<b>Total</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>100%</b>	

WALGA, *Road Safety Performance for Local Government Roads Great Southern Report 2015-2019*

<sup>1</sup> International Transport Forum (2016), Zero Road Deaths and Serious Injuries: Leading a Paradigm Shift to a Safe System, OECD Publishing, Paris. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/9789282108055-en> Page 61

## Driver Reviver – Katanning

Congratulations to the Shire of Katanning and the Katanning Rotary Club for launching their new Driver Reviver Trailer during the recent September long weekend. The local Rotary Club volunteered their time Friday night, 23 September and again on Monday 26 September at the All-Ages Playground adjacent to Great Southern Highway.

Driver Reviver is a community program operated by volunteers from a wide range of service organisations and community groups. Driver Reviver sites, such as Katanning's, provide an opportunity for motorists to take a break from driving and revive with a free cup of tea or coffee, a biscuit and a chat with the volunteers, all of which can assist in preventing the onset of fatigue.<sup>2</sup>



For more information on the Driver Reviver Program contact Vivienne Gardiner, Regional Road Safety Advisor, at [vgardiner@walga.asn.au](mailto:vgardiner@walga.asn.au).

## Keys2Drive – Road Safety Lessons for Learner Drivers and Supervisors

Keys2drive is an Australian Government-funded program providing learner drivers and their parents/supervisors a free driving lesson with a Keys2drive accredited professional driving instructor. The Keys2Drive lesson is not intended to replace normal driving lessons, but to complement them by supporting learner drivers with an intuitive based approach to 'find their own way' to becoming safer drivers.

The Keys2Drive program is available in the Great Southern through a registered local Keys2Drive Instructor. The Albany based instructor recently travelled to Ravensthorpe, Hopetoun, Katanning and Mt Barker to ensure regional learner drivers have access to this important program.



Please contact Vivienne Gardiner, Regional Road Safety Advisor at [vgardiner@walga.asn.au](mailto:vgardiner@walga.asn.au) for further information or visit [Keys2drive](https://www.keys2drive.com.au).

## Best Practice Road Safety – Making Roads Motorcycle Friendly Workshop

The Making Roads Motorcycle Friendly Guide has been developed by WALGA and Main Roads WA based on the Victoria Roads "Making Roads Motorcycle Friendly" publication.

To support the Guide, WALGA have developed a Making Roads Motorcycle Friendly Workshop to provide Local Governments with an understanding on how road design, construction and maintenance can accommodate the vulnerabilities of motorcycle riders. The Workshop is designed for Local Governments engineers and technical staff.

Motorcyclists are considered one of our most vulnerable road users. The workshop has been developed to provide Local Governments with an understanding on how road design, construction and maintenance can accommodate the vulnerabilities of motorcycle riders. The workshop has been developed for Local Government engineers and technical staff.

### For more information:

Vivienne Gardiner, Regional Road Safety Advisor

T: 0418 904 081

E: [vgardiner@walga.asn.au](mailto:vgardiner@walga.asn.au)

<sup>2</sup> Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA), *WA Driver Reviver Program Kit*, WALGA, July 2019.



**Attachment No. 2 Refers Item 6.2 Great Southern Country Zone Status Report – October 2022**

[Back to Item 6.2](#)

Zone	Agenda Item	Zone Resolution	WALGA Response	Update	WALGA Contact
Grt Southern C	<b>2022, 26 August</b> <b>Zone Item 7.2.1</b> Designated Area Migration Agreement (DAMA)	<p>That a working group consisting of three Great Southern Local Government Authority CEOs from the Shires of Kojonup, Katanning and Plantagenet, and the Great Southern Country Zone President, be established to progress the DAMA on behalf of all committed Great Southern Local Governments.</p> <p>DAMA Working Group Charter:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Recommending the committed Local Government's consult with their respective industries on skill shortages and gather supporting evidence by Friday, 23 September 2022.</li> <li>2. (a) Review the other WA DAMA business cases and their learnings to determine our process and next steps; and (b) Prepare a draft budget and scope of works for the business case and prepare a shortlist of suitable contractors to quote on the business case by 17 October 2022.</li> <li>3. Prepare the final report with recommendations for the next Great Southern Country Zone meeting on Friday, 28 October 2022.</li> </ol> <p>The meeting AGREED that the DAMA Working Group meetings should include representation from the Great Southern Development Commission (GSDC) and Regional Development Australia Great Southern (RDA-GS)</p>	<p>Working Group Terms of Reference conclude as at 28 October 2022.</p> <p><b>GSCZ 28/10/2022</b> - refer item 7.2.4</p>	<b>ONGOING</b>	DAMA Working Group
Grt Southern C	<b>2022, 26 August</b> <b>Zone Item 7.3.1</b> Housing	<p>Action (GSCZ 24/06/2022): Each Zone council to discuss and prioritise key outcomes to be achieved to increase housing in regional areas. Quantify the housing needs of each community.</p> <p>Action (GSCZ 26/08/2022): If Local Governments could respond by 31 October 2022, so that this issue can be considered at the November 2022 meeting.</p>	<p><b>GSCZ 28/10/2022 Item 7.2.1</b> - Responses received:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Denmark</li> <li>- Gnowangerup</li> <li>- Kent</li> </ul>	<b>FOR ACTION</b>	ZONE MEMBER LGs



Zone	Agenda Item	Zone Resolution	WALGA Response	Update	WALGA Contact
Grt Southern C	<b>2022, 26 August Zone Item 7.3.2</b> Reliable Digital Connectivity / Telecommunications	Action (GSCZ 24/06/2022): Each Zone council to discuss and prioritise key outcomes to be achieved to improve telecommunications in regional areas and report back to the Zone. Action (GSCZ 26/08/2022): If Local Governments could respond by 31 October 2022, so that this issue can be considered at the November 2022 meeting.	<b>GSCZ 28/10/2022 Item 7.2.2</b> - Responses received: - Denmark - Gnowangerup - Kent	<b>FOR ACTION</b>	ZONE MEMBER LGs
Grt Southern C	<b>2022, 26 August Zone Item 7.3.3</b> Zone Strategic Priorities	Action (GSCZ 24/06/2022): Jobs and Investment WALGA to gather information (referring to items 7.3.1 Housing and 7.3.2 Reliable Digital Connectivity / Telecommunications) and required key outcomes from Zone Councils on Housing and Digital Connectivity, and then create a Zone proposal to take to State and Federal Governments. Zone Councils to liaise with Lyn Fogg at WALGA. Update (GSCZ 26/08/2022): Work is progressing on this item and further information will be provided for the October meeting.	<b>GSCZ 28/10/2022 Item 7.2.3</b> - Responses received: - Kent	<b>FOR ACTION</b>	ZONE MEMBER LGs
Grt Southern C	<b>2022, 26 August Zone Item 8.2</b> Change to Bank Signatories	1. That the Great Southern Zone of the WA Local Government Association makes the following changes to bank signatories for its Commonwealth Bank account number: 10089139 (BSB: 066-515 Katanning branch) : a. Remove: Veronica Fleay and Annabel Paulley. b. Add: WA Local Government Association Chief Finance Officer Rick Murray and Finance Manager, Tina Moss crop 2. That the Great Southern Zone of the WA Local Government Association changes the postal address for all bank correspondence relating to the Commonwealth Bank account number: 10089139: from PO Box 100, Woodanilling, WA 6316 to PO Box 1544 West Perth WA 6872. 3. That the Great Southern Zone of the WA Local Government Association requests that the Commonwealth Bank removes Annabel Paulley from online banking viewing access relating to account number: 10089139 and provides online banking access to Chief Finance Officer Rick Murray of the WA Local Government Association.	<b>GSCZ 28/10/2022</b> Zone Executive Officer has followed up. Bank signatory form provided for Zone Chair and Deputy Chair to execute at the October Zone Meeting.	<b>IN PROGRESS</b>	Janine Neugebauer Zone Support



Zone	Agenda Item	Zone Resolution	WALGA Response	Update	WALGA Contact
Grt Southern C	<b>2022, 26 August</b> <b>Zone Item 9.1</b> Review of the Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007: Consideration of WALGA Discussion Paper	That the Zone endorse the following recommendations: [Zone endorsed recommendations 1 to 11 inclusive, as printed in the Minutes]	Refer <b>State Council Minutes 09/09/2022</b> , pg 125 GSCZ feedback contributed to informing WALGA's engagement with the Review. WALGA met with the Independent Panel undertaking the Review in early September.	<b>COMPLETED</b>	Lyn Fogg Zone Executive Officer
Grt Southern C	<b>2022, 26 August</b> <b>Zone Item 10.6</b> Great Southern Roads Sub-Committee	<p>1. That it be recommended to the Great Southern Country Zone WALGA that the Sub-Committees Great Southern Roads Committee and the Heavy Haulage Committee be combined.</p> <p>2. That the Great Southern Country Zone WALGA write to each Shire Chief Executive Officer / Manager of Works requesting them to collect data for each of the identified roads in their respective Shire, including during 2022 harvest period; noting that data over 5 years' old is not acceptable.</p> <p>3. That the Great Southern Country Zone WALGA formally request from Co-operative Bulk Handling a copy of their prioritized list of routes for the Great Southern Region.</p> <p>4. That the Great Southern Council Zone WALGA formally request from Bunge Grain Services a copy of their Prioritised list of routes for the Great Southern Region.</p>	<p><b>Resolution 1: - GSCZ 28/10/2022</b> - Agenda template amended to now ONLY include Great Southern Roads Sub-Committee.</p> <p><b>Resolution 2: - GSCZ 28/10/2022</b> - GSCZ Member CEO's received email request for data collection dated 07/09/2022 and on 12/09/2022 CEOs were forwarded the 'Final Roads Grouping' spreadsheet (courtesy of Cr Handasyde)</p> <p><b>Resolution 3: - GSCZ 28/10/2022</b> - Rob Dickie, CBH Head of Government and Industry Relations advised 07/10/2022: ~ CBH has provided advice to the Secondary Freight Group regarding priority roads. ~ CBH is unable to extract / provide additional data (to that already provided) as they are already in 'harvest' ~ CBH suggest that the State Government's Revitalising Agricultural Region Freight Strategy, may assist the Zone. <a href="https://www.transport.wa.gov.au/Freight-Ports/revitalising-agricultural-region-freight-strategy.asp">https://www.transport.wa.gov.au/Freight-Ports/revitalising-agricultural-region-freight-strategy.asp</a></p> <p><b>Resolution 4: - GSCZ 28/10/2022</b> - Emailed request to Bunge Group Logistics, Steve Camarri on 07/10/2022. Awaiting response</p>	<p>Resolution 1 - <b>COMPLETED</b></p> <p>Resolution 2 - <b>COMPLETED</b></p> <p>Resolution 3 - <b>COMPLETED</b></p> <p>Resolution 4 - <b>IN PROGRESS</b></p>	Lyn Fogg Zone Executive Officer



Zone	Agenda Item	Zone Resolution	WALGA Response	Update	WALGA Contact
Grt Southern C	<b>2022, 26 August</b> <b>Zone Item 11.3.1</b> State Council Agenda - 9 Sept 2022	That Great Southern Country Zone supports Matters for Decision, item 5.1 (2023-24 State Budget Submission) as listed above in the September 2022 State Council Agenda.  1. Supports Matters for Decision, item 5.2 as listed above in the September 2022 State Council Agenda, SUBJECT TO the WALGA Secretariat: Clarifying the legal liability of local government and Bush Fire Brigade Volunteers in the chain of Work Health and Safety responsibilities. 2. Notes all Matters for Noting and Organisational Reports as listed in the September 2022 State Council Agenda.	<b>28 Oct 2022:</b> LGIS presentation scheduled for November Zone Meeting - <i>Shared Management of Volunteers under the WHS Act</i> .	<b>COMPLETED</b>	<b>Lyn Fogg</b> <b>Zone Executive Officer</b>
Grt Southern C	<b>2022, 26 August</b> <b>Zone Item 8.2</b> Creation of the Great Southern Roads Sub-Committee	<b>Sub-Committee Terms of Reference:</b> 1. To investigate the current road infrastructure right across the networks (State, Regional Road Group roads and other local roads) as to their fit for purpose from a freight task and road safety and efficiency perspective both now and in the next 20 years. 2. Once the data is known, make recommendations to the Great Southern Zone of WALGA in order for them to advocate and seek funding to remedy the shortfalls. 3. Co-opt members as required to fulfil the above task as there will be outside technical expertise required from time to time. 4. Report progress of sub-committee to the Great Southern Zone of WALGA at each of its meetings. 5. Finalise a report for publishing prior to the end of 2023-24 financial year. 6. <b>Group to cease operations on 30 June 2024.</b> <b>Members:</b> Cr Mark Paganoni, Cr Kevin Gale, Cr Dale Douglas, Cr George Pollard, Cr Scott Crosby, Simon Lyas (RDA Great Southern) and Cr Len Handasyde.	<b>28 Oct 2022:</b> Zone Executive consulted with the 'Sub-Committee' Chair, who confirmed transition to the name 'Great Southern Roads Committee'. Zone Agenda template updated.	Ongoing to 30 June 2024	



Zone	Agenda Item	Zone Resolution	WALGA Response	Update	WALGA Contact
Grt Southern C	<b>2022, 24 June</b> <b>Zone Item 7.3</b> Local Government Cat Local Laws	That the Great Southern Zone of WALGA; 1) Acknowledge the challenges with gazettal of Cat Local Laws, which meet community expectations, under current legislation, particularly in relation to cat containment within the property of the owner, and control of cats in public places and; 2) Write to WALGA State Council seeking an update and feedback on resolution 232.4/2021; and; 3) Write to the Honourable John Carey, Minister for Housing, Lands, Homelessness and Local Government requesting an update and timelines associated with updates to the Dog and Cat Acts.	This remains a matter of concern to the sector. A number of Local Governments have recently failed to make Cat Local Laws inclusive of provisions for cat containment and prohibition from roaming in public places. The lack of adequate heads of power for this purpose within the Cat Act 2011 requires statutory review and amendment. WALGA will inform the Minister for Local Government of the urgent need for review of the Cat Act.	Ongoing	Tony Brown Executive Director, Member Services <a href="mailto:tbrown@walga.asn.au">tbrown@walga.asn.au</a> 9213 2051
Grt Southern C	<b>2019, 25 November</b> <b>Zone Item 8.1.4</b> Prioritise Key Strategic Issues for the Zone in 2020 Lobby against Legislation (CA07) That Will Prevent Local Governments from Restricting Access to Local Government Roads	The Great Southern Zone of WALGA does <u>not</u> support the removal of the CA07 condition on RAV approval, and replacement with the CA88 condition in its current form. WALGA therefore be requested to endorse this position and to write to the Minister for Transport that an alternative condition is formulated following discussion with Asset Managers to provide greater control and management of their asset base.	The RAV Access working group met by teleconference in early December. Based on the resolution of this meeting a letter detailing Local Government expectations was sent to Main Roads WA.  The Association discussed this matter with Main Roads WA in November 2020. They are engaging with the State Solicitors Office prior to a proposed consultation with Local Government concerning a proposed approach.  WALGA has subsequently met with Main Roads who confirm that the status quo remains until further notice.	Ongoing	Ian Duncan Executive Manager, Infrastructure <a href="mailto:iduncan@walga.asn.au">iduncan@walga.asn.au</a> 9213 2031
Grt Southern C	<b>2019, 25 November</b> <b>Zone Item 8.1.3</b> Prioritise Key Strategic Issues for the Zone in 2020 Distribution of Roads Funding	That the WA Local Government Association be requested to endorse the Great Southern Zone's position on the distribution of road funding, and to write to the Treasurer and Minister for Transport of Western Australia to seek increases in the return of revenue collected by the Commonwealth of Australia to a level that sustains and preserves the vital road assets under management of Local and State Authorities.	A working group has been established and is progressing with the support of the Regional Development Commission. WALGA will provide continuing support as required.	Ongoing	Ian Duncan Executive Manager, Infrastructure <a href="mailto:iduncan@walga.asn.au">iduncan@walga.asn.au</a> 9213 2031
Grt Southern C	<b>2019, 25 November</b> <b>Zone Item 8.1.2</b> Prioritise Key Strategic Issues for the Zone in 2020 Clearing Requirements in Town Sites – Align with Metropolitan Requirements	That WALGA writes to the Minister for Emergency Services, the Minister for Planning, Lands and Heritage and the Minister for Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety to request an amendment to the Action Plan for Bushfire Framework Review 2019, to increase in the minimum area of declared bushfire prone vegetation from one hectare to four hectare to be valid for regional and remote townsites and villages in addition to metropolitan areas.	The State Government announced on 30 July 2019 a comprehensive review of the Bushfire Prone Area Map and mapping methodology, this includes a three-stage action plan to address the inherited inconsistencies across Western Australia's bushfire frameworks, standards, and mapping.  More information can be found here: <a href="https://www.dplh.wa.gov.au/bushfireframeworkreview2019">https://www.dplh.wa.gov.au/bushfireframeworkreview2019</a>	Ongoing	Nicole Matthews Executive Manager, Policy <a href="mailto:nmatthews@walga.asn.au">nmatthews@walga.asn.au</a> 9213 2039





Zone	Agenda Item	Zone Resolution	WALGA Response	Update	WALGA Contact
			<p>As part of the Bushfire Framework Review 2019, there will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a staged review of the Map of Bush Fire Prone Areas</li> <li>• development of a new mapping methodology</li> <li>• an amendment to the policy and regulatory mechanisms, including State Planning Policy 3.7 Planning in Bushfire Prone Areas and Guidelines for Planning in Bushfire Prone Areas.</li> </ul> <p>Advice received from the Department of Planning Lands and Heritage was that a revised SPP 3.7, guidelines and regulations, would be released for public comment in June 2020. This will now occur in 2021.</p> <p>Letters to the three responsible Ministers were sent in January 2020. Minister Logan responded in March 2020. The matter has been noted by the Minister and a request for DFES to raise the matter with the Bushfire Framework Review working group has occurred. Local Governments will get an opportunity to further comment on the new map once it is published.</p> <p>DPLH advises that the updated SPP3.7 and revised Bushfire Prone Area Map will not be released for public comment until the first half of 2023.</p>		



**Attachment No. 3 Refers Item 7.1.2 – Zone Chairperson’s Report**

[Back to Item 7.1.2](#)

# **GREAT SOUTHERN ZONE**

## **PRESIDENTS REPORT October 2022**

Well Christmas is fast approaching; we say goodbye to COVID-19 regulations and our zone faces new challenges.

The lack of suitable labour and housing to attract labour into our region is a formidable challenge and indeed Australia wide. The Great Southern DAMA is a great initiative to provide for our future labour needs and to grow our economy. We need to ensure that all our required skills/trades are included, and this includes local government labour needs.

The ability for new housing investment in each LG will be a driving factor in increasing overall economic development or the flip side, to do nothing and trigger a declining population base over time. As with any substantial change there are winners and losers. Our zone needs to work collaboratively to look at state and federal initiatives to drive housing investment and come out of this challenging environment stronger than ever before.

Local government operations particularly in regional areas are being negatively impacted because of staff shortages across the suite of LG functions. Technical and specialist staff shortages are of a particular concern as our organisations strive to deliver and maintain service levels to our communities.

LG has fixed and statutory obligations and community service levels need to be maintained to retain and attract our population base. The ability to scale down LG operations is very limited so with staff shortages it generally is the organisation and our communities that suffer. Over the next five years I see a greater need for CEOs to work with their neighbours and to develop innovative solutions to maintain community service levels through resource sharing and outsourcing.

As an industry if we don't find solutions then others may make decisions for us. As we have seen recently with “one vote one value” and the native logging demise, the state government controlling both houses of parliament can act swiftly and decisively when required.

Telecommunications and reliable internet are now a fundamental part of our everyday lives. There is certainly a strategic disconnect between Metro and country in connectivity speed and reliability. Telstra have advised the zone in past presentations that with high internet capability (increase frequency technology) then the transmitting distance reduces. I believe more work needs to be done in this space for a long-term strategic outcome over the whole Great Southern Region.

Green power and reliable base load energy in general may be a challenge for the Great Southern in the future. We have already seen that Western Power plan to limit the rural areas to half that of the Metro area. Surely essential services like power and water can be provided on an equal and fair basis over the populated areas of WA. and governments needs to be reminded of this basic equity principle.

As mentioned before the WALGA organisation can be a very powerful tool for LG if initiated for assistance in reaching tangible outcomes sector wide. The expertise of WALGA staff and their ability for our sector to access to heads of government departments, not to mention the Ministers in specific areas, cannot be underestimated.



Our zone consists of many different LG, and the one size fits all approach does not meet the community expectations. Woodanilling with a population of 500 will have an alternate strategic vision to say Albany with a population of 40,000. Whilst the issues mentioned above (housing, telecommunications, and labour) effects all zone LG's what can we do with other matters affecting only a few of our zone members?

One solution may be to split off small working groups of LGs to resolve their unique concerns. This can be reported back through our zone and sent up to state council. Often parts of other zones are facing similar concerns and a WALGA policy team engaged to assist these working groups can only be a good thing.

In closing I take this opportunity to thank the GS DAMA working group for all their assistance of late and look forward to us all achieving as a collective and progressive Great Southern Zone

Cr Chris Pavlovich