



## **AGENDA ORDINARY MEETING**

**Friday 4 September 2020 to follow on directly from the AGM**

**Hosted by The Flinders Ranges Council**

---

Notice is hereby given that the Ordinary Meeting of the Legatus Group will be held on Friday 4 September 2020 following directly after the AGM which commences at 10am in The Flinders Ranges Council Chambers | Seventh Street, Quorn SA 5433

Simon Millcock

Chief Executive Officer

## Contents

No.	Title	Page
1	MEETING PRELIMINARIES	3
2	WELCOME	3
3	CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES	3
4	PRESENTATIONS 4.1 Hon Geoff Brock 4.2 Claire Wiseman RDA Far North 4.3 Kay Strong AusIndustry	17
5	BUSINESS ARISING NOT OTHERWISE ON THE AGENDA 5.1 Drought / Wellbeing	17
6	CHAIRMANS REPORT	24
7	ITEMS REFERRED FROM COUNCILS 7.1 Glare Visors (Street Light Shields) – Yorke Peninsula Council 7.2 Strategic Plan and Review – The Barossa Council 7.3 RDAYMN – Subscriptions	24
8	2020/2021 Business Plan Project Report	30
9	AUDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT GROUP	34
10	FINANCIAL REPORT 2020/2021	37
11	REGIONAL MANAGEMENT GROUP	40
12	ROAD AND TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE	43
13	CWMS ADVISORY COMMITTEE	46
14	VISITOR INFORMATION SERVICES ADVISORY GROUP	48
15	LGA & SAROC 15.1 LGA 15.2 Rates Equity 15.3 SAROC Key Outcomes	50
16	OTHER BUSINESS 16.1 Climate Change Sector Agreement	56
17	CEOs leave and Conflict of Interest	57
18	NEXT MEETING	57
19	CLOSE MEETING	57

## **I. MEETING PRELIMINARIES**

### **MEETING ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**

#### **Meeting Attendance**

An attendance sheet will be provided.

**Apologies:** MPs Stephan Knoll, Dan van Holst Pellekaan, Fraser Ellis, Jon Gee and Tony Piccolo, Mayor Wayne Thomas (Clare and Gilbert Valleys), CEOs Helen Macdonald (Clare and Gilbert Valleys) and Martin McCarthy (The Barossa Council).

## **2. WELCOME HOST COUNCIL**

Welcome by The Flinders Ranges Council

## **3. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held 5 June 2020 and Special meetings 3 July 2020 and 14 August 2020.**

#### **Recommendations:**

- 1. That the minutes of the Legatus Group Meeting held on 5 June 2020 be taken as read and confirmed.**
- 2. That the minutes of the Legatus Group Meeting held on 3 July 2020 be taken as read and confirmed.**
- 3. That the minutes of the Legatus Group Meeting held on 14 August 2020 be taken as read and confirmed.**

**Minutes of the Legatus Group Ordinary Meeting 5 June 2020 Meeting held via Zoom on-line conference commencing 10.30am**

#### **I Meeting Preliminaries**

The meeting was advised that each of the Board Members taking part in the meeting, must at all times during the meeting be able to hear and be heard by each of the other Board Members present. At the commencement of the meeting each Board Member announced their presence to all other Board Members following a roll call. Board Member were advised they must not leave the meeting by disconnecting their audio-visual or other communication equipment unless that Board Member has previously notified the Chair of the meeting.

The Northern Areas Council advised that Mayor Denis Clark is on leave and that Deputy Mayor Sue Scarman as such is the principal member of the Northern Areas Council on 5 June 2020.

Present

Board members: Mayor Peter Matthey OAM – Chairman (Goyder), Mayor Leonie Kerley (Barunga West), Mayor Wayne Thomas (Clare & Gilbert Valleys), Mayor Bill O'Brien (Light), Mayor Bim Lange (Barossa), Mayor Phillip Heaslip (Mount Remarkable), Mayor Peter Slattery (Flinders Ranges), Deputy Mayor Sue Scarman (Northern Areas), Mayor Rodney Reid (Wakefield), Mayor Ruth Whittle OAM (Peterborough), Mayor Darren Braund (Yorke Peninsula), Mayor Mark Wasley (Adelaide Plains), Mayor Roslyn Talbot (Copper Coast), Mayor Kathie Bowman (Orroroo Carrieton) and Mayor Leon Stephens (Port Pirie).

In Attendance

Council CEO's Ms Maree Wauchope (Barunga West), Dr Helen Macdonald, (Clare & Gilbert Valleys), Mr Andrew MacDonald (Wakefield), Mr Sam Johnson (Mt Remarkable), Mr Dylan Strong (Orroroo Carrieton), Mr Peter McGuinness (Peterborough), Mr Peter Ackland (Port Pirie), Mr Andrew Cameron (Yorke Peninsula) and Mr Eric Brown (Flinders). Others Ms Anita Crisp (Uni Hub Spencer Gulf), Ms Claire Wiseman (RDA Far North), Ms Anne Moroney (RDA BLFAP), Mr Tony Fox (Northern and Yorke NRM), Ms Lisa Teburea (LGA), Mr Stephen Smith (LGA) and Mr Simon Millcock (CEO Legatus Group).

State MP's Hon Dan van Holst Pellekann, Hon Tony Piccolo and Federal MP Rowan Ramsey.

Apologies

Mayor Denis Clark (Northern Areas). Council CEO's Mr Martin McCarthy (Barossa), Mr David Stevenson (Goyder), Mr Brain Carr (Light), Mr James Miller (Adelaide Plains) and Mr Colin Byles (Northern Areas). MP's Mr Fraser Ellis, Hon Stephan Knoll, Hon Geoff Brock and Mr John Gee. RDA YMN CEO Kelly-Anne Saffin.

The Chairman declared the meeting open at 10.33am.

2 Welcome Host Council

Not applicable.

3 Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Minutes of the Legatus Group Meeting held on 28 February 2020 at Clare.

Motion: That the minutes of the Legatus Group Meeting held on the 28 February 2020 at the Valleys Lifestyle Centre Main North Road Clare be taken as read and confirmed.

Moved: Mayor Leonie Kerley Seconded: Mayor Rodney Reid CARRIED

4 Presentations

4.1 Hon Dan van Holst Pellekann MP Minister for Energy and Mining and Member for Stuart:  
The Minister addressed the meeting on the following:

- COVID-19 noted the support, awareness of impact to regional businesses, mental health / wellbeing, interstate fly in drive in and the hundreds of people who need to cross borders (concerns of some mine operators telling people the borders aren't open to them is disappointing). Comfortable with boarder opening with NT and WA but not Vic.
- Rating Equity support to be include in the Reform Bill and as outlined at last Legatus Group meeting this includes support from Minister Knoll.

- Borrow Pits correspondence with SAROC Chair Mayor Vickery and State Director Cement Concrete & Aggregates Australia Jason Kuchel. Noted there are inconsistencies from both sides on the approach and a need to keep costs low for councils re their roads and to be environmentally sensible and that the Local Govt Act is the appropriate location for legislation although recognise it needs more rigour in clarification.

Hon Dan van Holst Pellekann then left the meeting.

4.2 Lisa Teburea Executive Director Public Affairs LGA: Lisa addressed the meeting on the following points:

- COVID-19 – LGA Functional Support Group and support from councils. There has been good data which can be of assistance for future preparedness. The group is scaling back with LGA focus on recovery. Noted \$340m in projects that councils have identified and acknowledged the Australian Govt bringing forward Federal Assistance Grants and awaiting the guidelines for the further \$40m being made available to SA Councils. \$25m has been made available for 37 projects in SA through Planning and Development grants and \$700,000 for community job support program. Continuing to advocate to unlock funding from GISA and Planning and Development Fund. Discussion with SA Govt re infrastructure projects and to better utilise Crown Land. Lobbying to wind back the solid waste levy which could provide \$13.6m to support Local Government not getting traction. Lobbying for the reintroduction of Youth Traineeship Program. Rate relief is being supported by every Council in various ways.
- Plan for SAROC and RDSA a focus for the next 12 months on working in collaboration.
- Local Govt Reform Bill being introduced soon and need to ensure Rating Equity is included.

4.3 Anita Crisp CEO Uni Hub Spencer Gulf: Anita addressed the meeting on the following points:

- Uni Hub established as a Regional University Study Centre by Spencer Gulf Cities to improve locally supported university access for our regional community and help meet shortages in skilled workforce
- Significant gap in skills requiring university level qualifications - VET qualifications consistent with state average.
- Community owned, responsive to local needs, underpinned by strong partnerships – operating where market has failed.
- Study centres in Port Pirie and Port Augusta supporting 112 students - strong interest from Kadina as a third site.
- Currently offering nursing, psychological science, education, social work, business, engineering, digital media.
- Delivery partners - CQ University, Adelaide University, Flinders University.
- University partners – fee-sharing on courses tendered by Uni Hub.
- Immediate opportunities – midyear intake: Assoc Degree in Engineering, Bachelor of Business, Master of Business Administration & Bachelor of Digital Media
- Continue to work with employers and industry groups to identify and broker qualifications to meet areas of skilled workforce demand.

- MOU with Legatus to support Council skilled workforce needs (tourism, planning, public health, project management etc).
- Research, VET and professional short-courses.
- Establish university-accredited clinical nursing and engineering lab facilities in the region.
- Expand university partnerships – encourage more local support for distance students and collaborative presence.
- Stronger school engagement to support local pathways and career opportunities across catchment schools.

Mayor Leon Stephens acknowledged the progress of the UniHub in a short time since it commenced and complimented the diversity in its approach and for Councils to provide feedback to the UniHub.

4.4 Claire Wiseman CEO RDA Far North: Claire addressed the meeting on the following points:

- Overview of RDA Far North
- Priority projects including connectivity including key roads such as the Strzelecki Track and mobile black sport the NBN
- COVID-19 recovery current services include 1 on 1 business advisory services. 8% of the region on job keeper. Noted that sports hubs have been able to utilise the job keeper program. Over \$7.3b in possible private investment and that large percentage of the businesses in the region are mature with 63% of operators been there for over 10 years. Focus has been on keeping employees, adopting new systems and strengthening their marketing. Challenge for some have been no business planning / future planning although seen increase in use of technology during the past 3 months.

4.5 Anne Moroney CEO RDA Barossa Light Gawler Adelaide Plains: Anne addressed the meeting on the following points:

- The need to see the economy as a system and ensure alignment occurs with local government.
- Digital connectivity issues continue to be high priority to assist with attracting workers or having workers be able to remain and work remotely.
- Response being provided to COVID-19 including strong business to business support. The Business and Community network have been strength to the response and the use of a WhatsApp members support has seen positive outcomes.
- Noted the importance for the keeping strong relationship with China due to the importance for the wine industry.

4.6 Tony Fox Regional NRM Manager: Tony addressed the meeting on the following points:

- Thanked the member councils for promoting the nominations for the new board and that 46 applications were received from across the region and the new board have been in place for 3 weeks. The Minister noted the keen interest in the region and that the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board was the first in state. The board

is predominantly farmers and following their first meeting they are identifying priority settings. The Business Plan will be available to Legatus Group soon and that he looks forward to being able to present at the next meeting on how the budget will be allocated. Staff will now be employees of the board.

- Thanked the Legatus Group on the work done re the Coastal Management Action Plan and the next stage will be the seed funding for implementation and interest in how this can be used to value add and seek other funding.

## 5 Business arising not otherwise on the agenda

### 5.1 Drought

The Legatus Group CEO provided a report with the agenda.

Motion:

- 1) That the Legatus Group notes the report and supports subject to the 2020/2021 Legatus Group Budget being approved that the Smart Irrigation Scheduling and Temperature Sensor System Project and Stormwater Harvesting Project are included in a proposed Regional Future Drought Fund Application.
- 2) That the Legatus Group Chair writes to the Hon Tim Whetstone MP Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development thanking the SA Government for the extension of the Family and Business Support Program in the Northern Region of the Legatus Group.
- 3) That the “Emerging themes for drought response and climate change resilience report” developed by Edge Consulting be received and published on The Legatus Group Website.

Moved: Mayor Rodney Reid Seconded: Mayor Mark Wasley

CARRIED

### 5.2 Pigeon Control

The Legatus Group CEO provided a report with the agenda.

Motion: That the Legatus Group notes the report.

Moved: Mayor Ruth Whittle Seconded: Deputy Mayor Sue Scarman

CARRIED

## 6 Chairman’s Report

### 6.1 Chairman’s report

Chair Mayor Peter Matthey advised that he had attended all the required SAROC and LGA meetings on behalf of Legatus Group along with attending the meeting with Premier and Minister for drought support and noted that PIRSA were increasing support for FaB program and this will also be looked at in their 20/21 budget.

Motion: The Chairman’s report be received.

Moved: Mayor Bim Lange Seconded: Mayor Peter Slattery

CARRIED

### 6.2 CEO’s Performance Review

Chair Mayor Peter Matthey provided a report with the agenda on behalf of the Chair and Deputy Chairs relating to the annual CEO's performance review. The Legatus Group CEO Simon Millcock then left the meeting and general discussion held on the report and recommendation.

Motion: That the Legatus Group supports the recommendation to provide a 2% increase to the CEOs remuneration commencing 1 July 2020.

Moved: Mayor Ruth Whittle    Seconded: Mayor Wayne Thomas                      NOT CARRIED

Motion: That whilst there is no increase to the CEO's remuneration from the 1 July 2020 the Legatus Group notes the solid performance by the CEO and the generous offer to not seek an increase for his remuneration.

Moved: Mayor Bim Lange    Seconded: Mayor Leonie Kerley                                      CARRIED

## 7        Items referred by Councils

### 7.1       Flinders Ranges Council – Foreign Ownership of real assets in Australia

The Finders Ranges Council provided a report with the agenda and the Legatus Group CEO provided notes to the report.

Mayor Slattery introduced the motion "That the Legatus Group requests the South Australian Regional Organisation of Councils Committee support and present a notice of motion to the Local Government Association of South Australia seeking their support for a combined approach to the Foreign Investment Review Board and the Commonwealth Ministers responsible for oversight of this Board expressing concern regarding the continuing growth of foreign ownership of assets in Australia, including in particular agricultural land and calling for significantly stricter controls on foreign ownership of all real assets in Australia" Motion not seconded.                                      MOTION FAILED

## 8        Business Plan

The Legatus Group CEO's report was provided with the agenda and the Chair invited questions.

Motion:

- 1) That the Legatus Group notes the report.
- 2) That the Legatus Group supports the Disability Inclusion Action Project titled "Inclusive and accessible tourism experiences for the Yorke Peninsula".
- 3) That the Legatus Group CEO is authorised to progress a contract with the Department Environment and Water (Landscape Board) on stage 2 of the Yorke Mid North Coastal Management Action Plan subject to there being no financial commitment from the Legatus Group.
- 4) That the Legatus Group CEO and Chair are supported to continue the development in partnership with the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board, SA Government, RDA Yorke and Mid North and RDA Barossa Light Gawler Adelaide Plains a new Climate Change Sector Agreement.



- 5) That the Legatus Group continue to provide in-kind administration support for the Climate Change Sector Agreement whilst seeking to secure funding for a coordinator.
- 6) That the Building a Culture for Encouraging Regional Youth into Volunteering Report and the Creative Industries in the Legatus Group Region Report both be received and published on the Legatus Group website.

Moved: Mayor Rodney Reid      Seconded: Mayor Wayne Thomas      CARRIED

## 9      Audit and Risk Management Committee

Mayor Kathie Bowman as Chair of the Committee provided a report which included copies of the minutes of their meetings 13 March 2020 and 22 May 2020 along with a report prepared on the Legatus Group Policies and a copy of the Legatus Group Charter.

Motion:

- 1) That Mayor Kathie Bowman be reappointed to the Audit and Risk Management Committee and that a further expression of interest is called for the vacant position of a professionally qualified officer, selected from staff of Legatus Group Councils.
- 2) That the Legatus Group endorse the 3 new Policies (1) Working from Home (2) Agenda items and Meeting Presentations (3) Board Members Code of Conduct and notes the report of the review of the policies that there is no need for any changes to current policies.
- 3) That the Legatus Group notes the Audit and Risk Management Committee acknowledgement of the detailed format of the current budget that has circulated to Member Councils, and that the Board endorse that the format be amended to a less detailed presentation at the first budget review to assist with operational efficiencies.
- 4) That the Legatus Group endorses a change to the Legatus Group Charter Item 5 as outlined in Item 3.2 of the Legatus Group Audit and Risk Management Committee meeting held on 22 May 2020 and that the Legatus Group CEO be requested to provide a report to the Constituent Councils seeking a resolution from each council.

Moved: Mayor Leonie Kerley      Seconded: Mayor Peter Slattery      CARRIED

## 10      Financial Report

The Legatus Group CEO provided a report with the agenda containing the financial reports 1 July 2019 – 30 April 2020 including the Balance Sheet, Profit and Loss by Job and Profit and Loss Summary reports and Legatus Group CEO's credit card and reimbursement for January 2020 – April 2020.

Motion:

- 1) That the Legatus Group notes the report for the period July 2019 – March 2020 summarising the financial position and performance of the Legatus Group against the Budget was provided to all constituent councils.

- 2) That the Legatus Group notes the financial report for the period July 2019 – April 2020.
- 3) That the Legatus Group notes the Legatus Group CEO's credit card purchases.
- 4) That the Legatus Group approves Flinders Ranges CEO Eric John Brown and Megan Jane Dixon Director of Finance and Administration be included as signatories to the Legatus Group Bank accounts.

Moved: Mayor Rodney Reid      Seconded: Mayor Leon Stephens      CARRIED

## 11 Legatus Group 2020/2021 Business Plan and Budget

The Legatus Group CEO provided a report with the agenda outlining the process and responses from constituent councils to the draft business plan and budget and that endorsement had been received from twelve of the councils. The meeting noted that the draft business plan and budget has yet to be considered by Northern Areas and Barunga West Council. The meeting noted the response from the Barossa Council and that an update of the Long Term Financial Plan has been provided. Mayor Bim Lange indicated that the Barossa Council were looking forward to receiving the response to their questions and that they were re-thinking services in general to their council.

Motion:

- 1) That the Legatus Group agrees in principal to the draft Business Plan and Budget for 2020/2021 subject to endorsement by all Constituent Councils.
- 2) That all Constituent Councils who have not responded regarding the draft 2020/2021 Business Plan and Budget and Strategic Plan and three-year Action Plan provide their response by Friday 26 June 2019.
- 3) That the Legatus Group CEO provides a response to the Barossa Council on their resolution regarding the Legatus Group Business Plan and Budget from their meeting held on 19 May 2020.
- 4) That the Legatus Group hold a telephone conference meeting on Friday 3 July 2020 to consider any comments from Constituent Councils and to adopt the draft 2020/2021 Annual Business Plan and Budget.

Moved: Mayor Rodney Reid      Seconded: Mayor Mark Wasley      CARRIED

## 12 Legatus Group Regional Management Group

Mr Colin Byles Chair of the committee provided a report with the agenda that included the notes of their meeting on 8 May 2020.

Motion: That the Legatus Group notes the report.

Moved: Mayor Peter Slattery      Seconded: Mayor Leonie Kerley      CARRIED

## 13 Legatus Road and Transport Infrastructure Advisory Committee

### 13.1 Committee meeting

Dr Helen Macdonald the Chair of the committee provided a report with the agenda which contained the notes of the Legatus Group Legatus Road and Transport Infrastructure Advisory Committee meeting held 2 April 2020.

Motion: That the Legatus Group approves the updated 2030 Legatus Group Transport Plan Road Deficiency Action Plan

Moved: Mayor Rodney Reid      Seconded: Mayor Phillip Heaslip      CARRIED

### 13.2 SLRP 20/21

The Legatus Group CEO provided a report on the process and assessment of the 2020/2021 Legatus Group prioritising of roads for the Special Local Roads Program with the following roads listed in priority: (1) Turretfield Road Gomersal Road to Rosedale Road (Light), (2) Main Road 45 Waterloo Road to Steelton Road (Clare & Gilbert Valleys), (3) Stonewell Road Condor Lauke Way to Seppeltsfield Road (Light), (4) Orroroo Heavy Vehicle Bypass North Terrace (Orroroo Carrieton), (5) Basedow Road Murray Street to Light Pass Road (Barossa) and (6) Angle Grove Road Full length (Wakefield).

Motion: That the assessment and prioritising for Legatus Group region SLRP roads funding for 2020/2021 is endorsed.

Moved: Mayor Mark Wasley      Seconded: Deputy Mayor Sue Scarman      CARRIED

### 14 Legatus Group CWMS Advisory Committee

Andrew MacDonald Chair of the Committee provided a report which included the minutes of their meetings held on 6 March 2020 and 26 May 2020. Mayor Lange discussed a recommendation regarding the Asset Management by Remote Sensing being progressed via the MoU with UniSA and including the company IPACS and noted that these systems maybe already be in place.

Motion: That the Legatus Group notes the report.

Moved: Mayor Bim Lange Seconded: Mayor Leonie Kerley      CARRIED

### 15 Legatus Group Visitor Information Services Advisory Committee

The Legatus Group CEO provided a report with the agenda which included the minutes of their inaugural meeting on 8 May 2020.

Motion: The Legatus Group notes the report.

Moved: Mayor Rodney Reid      Seconded: Mayor Darren Braund      CARRIED

### 16 Local Government Association and SAROC

The agenda included the SAROC Key Outcomes Summary from the 19 March 2020 and 21 May 2020 meetings. Lisa Teburea provided an update on the Stage 2 of the new Planning rules and that information will be provided to councils soon from the LGA.

Mayor Bim Lange leaves the meeting.

### 17 Other Business

#### 17.1 COVID-19 Update

The Legatus Group CEO provided a report on the work undertaken by Legatus Group.

#### 17.2 GM Crops

The Legatus Group CEO provided a report with the agenda on the “Genetically Modified Crops Management (Designated Area) Amendment Bill 2020. Lisa Teburea provided an update that LGA has distributed information and seeking greater clarity from the Minister.

Motion: That the Legatus Group notes the report.

Moved: Mayor Rodney Reid Seconded: Mayor Leonie Kerley CARRIED

#### 17.3 Hub and Spoke Innovation Model

The Legatus Group CEO provided a report with the agenda and advised he had distributed the letter and outline of the project from The City of Prospect to all Legatus Group Mayors and CEOs.

Motion: That the Legatus Group become an in-kind Hub and Spoke partner and that the Legatus Group CEO is to approved to be a member of the Steering Committee.

Moved: Mayor Leon Stephens Seconded: Deputy Mayor Sue Scarman CARRIED

#### 17.4 Smarter Regions Cooperative Research Centre

The Legatus Group CEO provided a report with the agenda which included the information pack and investment required to become a project partner.

Motion: The Legatus Group become a collaborating projects Project Partner for the Smarter Regions Cooperative Research Centre project with a Legatus Group budget allocation of \$3,000.

Moved: Mayor Rodney Reid Seconded Mayor Bill O'Brien CARRIED

Hon Tony Piccolo MP leaves the meeting.

#### 17.5 Support Regional Water Quality Improvement Program

The Legatus Group CEO provided a report with the agenda regarding approach from Mt Remarkable and The Flinders Ranges Councils for assistance re ESCOSA Draft Regulatory Determination on Regional Aesthetics.

Motion: The Legatus Group supports the response provided by the Legatus Group CEO on the Regional Water Quality Improvement Program.

Moved Mayor Peter Slattery Seconded Mayor Phillip Heaslip CARRIED

### 18 NEXT MEETING

The meeting agreed that as The Finders Ranges Council was unable to host the meeting due to COVID-19 restrictions and the likelihood of restrictions being eased that the next meeting Friday 4 September 2020 which is the AGM followed by the Ordinary Meeting which was to be hosted by the Yorke Peninsula Council be hosted by The Finders Ranges Council.

### 19 CLOSE

Meeting closed by the Chair at 1.25pm

### **Minutes of the Legatus Group Special Meeting 3 July 2020 meeting held via Zoom on-line conference commencing 10.30am**

#### I Meeting Preliminaries

The meeting was advised that each of the Board Members taking part in the meeting, must at all times during the meeting be able to hear and be heard by each of the other Board Members present. At the commencement of the meeting each Board Member announced their presence to all other Board Members following a roll call. Board Members were advised they must not leave the meeting by disconnecting their audio-visual or other

communication equipment unless that Board Member has previously notified the Chair of the meeting.

Present

Board members: Mayor Peter Matthey OAM – Chairman (Goyder), Mayor Leonie Kerley (Barunga West), Mayor Wayne Thomas (Clare & Gilbert Valleys), Mayor Bill O'Brien (Light), Mayor Bim Lange (Barossa), Mayor Peter Slattery (Flinders Ranges), Mayor Denis Clark (Northern Areas), Mayor Rodney Reid (Wakefield), Mayor Ruth Whittle OAM (Peterborough), Mayor Darren Braund (Yorke Peninsula), Mayor Mark Wasley (Adelaide Plains), Mayor Roslyn Talbot (Copper Coast) and Mayor Leon Stephens (Port Pirie).

In Attendance

Council CEO's Dr Helen Macdonald, (Clare & Gilbert Valleys), Mr Peter McGuinness (Peterborough), Mr Peter Ackland (Port Pirie), Mr Andrew Cameron (Yorke Peninsula) Mr David Stevenson (Goyder), Mr James Miller (Adelaide Plains) and Mr Simon Millcock (CEO Legatus Group).

Apologies

Mayor Phillip Heaslip (Mt Remarkable), Mayor Kathie Bowman (Orroroo Carrieton) and Councils CEOs Maree Wauchope (Barunga West), Sam Johnson (Mt Remarkable), Andrew MacDonald (Wakefield) and Martin McCarthy (Barossa).

The Chairman declared the meeting open at 10.33am.

## 2 Legatus Group 2020/2021 Business Plan and Budget

### 2.1 Approval of Budget

The Legatus Group CEO provided a report with the agenda outlining the progress of the 2020/2021 Business Plan and Budget since the Legatus Group Ordinary meeting held on 5 June 2020. The Legatus Group CEO spoke to the report and the meeting noted approval from Northern Areas and Barunga West Councils takes the approval of the business plan and budget to 14 of the 15 constituent councils.

The Legatus Group CEO included the response provided to the Barossa Council and the advice from the Legatus Group Independent Auditor with his report in the agenda.

Mayor Bim Lange advised that he cannot commit to the current budget and business plan on behalf of The Barossa Council but that this will be an agenda item at their July 2020 Council meeting. He expanded on the issues he raised at the 5 June 2020 meeting on behalf of The Barossa Council. General discussion was held on these matters and the ability for the Legatus Group to operate without the approval from The Barossa Council.

Motion: That the meeting notes the report including that the Legatus Group is able to operate after 1 July 2020 without the adoption of a budget due to the reference to the Legatus Group Charter with specific requirements that must be considered outlined at: Clause 5.1.2, the budget must be adopted within 6 weeks of endorsement of the draft budget by all of the Constituent Councils and Clause 5.1.3 Legatus Group may incur expenditure before adoption of its budget for the year but the spending must be provided for in the appropriate budget for the year. In that event, any spending which is expected to be incurred after 1 July 2020 which has not been approved by all of the Constituent Councils in an adopted budget, must be provided for in the budget which is to be adopted by the Constituent Councils.

Moved: Mayor Leon Stephens Seconded: Mayor Mark Wasley

CARRIED

## 2.2 Charter variations re Budget.

The Legatus Group CEO provided an update on the responses being received from Constituent Council.

## 2.3 2020/2021 Project Updates.

The Legatus Group CEO provided a report with the agenda that outlined since the 5 June 2020 meeting there has been:

- Success with two grants: (1) “Inclusive and accessible tourism experiences for the Yorke Peninsula” and (2) stage 2 of the “Yorke Mid North Coastal Management Action Plan”.
- Drought Futures Fund and meeting noted that the Smart Irrigation Scheduling and Temperature Sensor System and Stormwater Harvesting Projects may not be included the broader Yorke Mid North Alliance application due to timing.
- Open Your World - Community Wellbeing and Resilience Grants program which closes on 17 July. The meeting was also provided with a file note by the Legatus Group CEO titled State Wellbeing Grant which outlined meetings held with Dylan Strong (CEO Orroroo Carrieton) and Angela Ruddenklau (PIRSA) and with regional wellbeing service providers.

General discussion was held on the value of the Legatus Groups support and commitment to Wellbeing across the region.

Motion: The Legatus Group supports the Legatus Group CEO progressing with a regional approach for an application to the Community Wellbeing and Resilience Grants as outlined in the file note to the meeting.

Moved Mayor Roslyn Talbot Seconded Mayor Rodney Reid

CARRIED

## 3 Next Meeting

The meeting noted that the next meeting of the Legatus Group is Friday 4 September 2020 but that a further special meeting to adopt the budget may need to be called subject to the response from The Barossa Council.

Close of meeting

Meeting closed by the Chair at 11.25am

## **Minutes of the Legatus Group Special Meeting 14 August 2020 meeting held via Zoom on-line conference commencing 9.30am**

### I Meeting Preliminaries

The meeting was advised that each of the Board Members taking part in the meeting, must at all times during the meeting be able to hear and be heard by each of the other Board Members present. At the commencement of the meeting each Board Member announced their presence to all other Board Members following a roll call. Board Members were advised they must not leave the meeting by disconnecting their audio-visual or other communication equipment unless that Board Member has previously notified the Chair of the meeting.

Present

Board members: Mayor Peter Matthey OAM – Chairman (Goyder), Mayor Wayne Thomas (Clare & Gilbert Valleys), Mayor Bill O'Brien (Light), Mayor Bim Lange OAM (Barossa), Mayor Peter Slattery 9.35am (Flinders Ranges), Mayor Denis Clark (Northern Areas), Mayor Rodney Reid (Wakefield), Mayor Kathie Bowman (Orroroo Carrieton), Mayor Ruth Whittle OAM (Peterborough), Mayor Phillip Heaslip (Mt Remarkable), Mayor Darren Braund (Yorke Peninsula), Mayor Mark Wasley (Adelaide Plains), Mayor Roslyn Talbot (Copper Coast) and Mayor Leon Stephens (Port Pirie).

In Attendance

Council CEO's Dr Helen Macdonald, (Clare & Gilbert Valleys), Mr Russell Peate (Copper Coats), Mr Eric Brown (Flinders Ranges), Mr Colin Byles (Northern Areas), Mr Dylan Strong (Orroroo Carrieton), Mr Andrew Cameron (Yorke Peninsula) Mr David Stevenson (Goyder), Mr James Miller (Adelaide Plains) and Mr Simon Millcock (CEO Legatus Group).

Apologies

Mayor Leonie Kerley (Barunga West) and Council CEOs Mr Martin McCarthy (Barossa), Mr Brian Carr (Light), Ms Maree Wauchope (Barunga West), Mr Sam Johnson (Mt Remarkable), Mr Andrew MacDonald (Wakefield), Mr Peter McGuinness (Peterborough), Mr Peter Ackland (Port Pirie) and Mr Andrew MacDonald (Wakefield).

The Chairman declared the meeting open at 9.30am.

## 2 Legatus Group 2020/2021 Business Plan and Budget

### 2.1 Approval of Budget

The Legatus Group CEO provided a report with the agenda outlining the progress of the 2020/2021 Business Plan and Budget since the Legatus Group Ordinary meeting 5 June 2020 and Special meeting 3 July 2020. The meeting noted there may need to be flexibility given the uncertain times and opportunities that may present themselves.

Motion: That the 2020/2021 business plan and budget is adopted noting that all Constituent Councils have approved the draft 2020/2021 business plan budget.

Moved: Mayor Denis Clark Seconded: Mayor Rodney Reid

CARRIED

### 3 Charter Variations re budget

The meeting received an update from the Legatus Group CEO that included 11 Constituent Councils have now approved the variation.

## 4 2020/2021 Business Plan Project Update

### a. Grant Applications

The Legatus Group CEO provided a report on the grant applications which had occurred since the special meeting on 3 July 2020.

Motion: That the Legatus Group

- a. Notes the SA Community Wellbeing and Resilience Grants for a SA Central Region Community Connections Program was submitted.

- b. Notes the continued work being undertaken in partnership with the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board on the Drought Futures Fund.
- c. Supports the approach for grant funding for (1) LGA R&D Grant Regional and Remote Community Development Capacity Building and Training Program and (2) LGA R&D Script Development for Training Course re Community Wastewater Management Schemes

Moved: Mayor Bim Lange Seconded: Mayor Mark Wasley CARRIED

b. CWMS Remote Condition Monitoring

The Legatus Group CEO provided a report with the agenda which included an update on a previous recommendation from the Legatus Group CWMS Advisory Group.

Motion: The Legatus Group approves an allocation of up to \$7,000 from the 20/21 Legatus Group budget to support the Asset Management by Remote Sensing project.

Moved: Mayor Roslyn Talbot Seconded: Mayor Rodney Reid CARRIED

c. Legatus Group Community Collaborator

The Legatus Group CEO provided a report with the agenda which included notification of Ms Bridget Johns being employed on a 42 week contract as the Legatus Group Community Collaborator.

Motion: The Legatus Group notes the report.

Moved: Mayor Leon Stephens Seconded: Mayor Ruth Whittle CARRIED

5 Nominations to SAROC

The Legatus Group CEO provided a report with the agenda.

The meeting noted that the Legatus Group CEO and the LGA CEO have liaised with each constituent councils and that the meeting included as part of its agenda the purpose of calling for nominations for the two positions.

Discussion at the meeting was that the Legatus Group Charter outlines that the AGM is when positions for appointments are made for representatives to other organisations. The meeting noted that traditionally the Legatus Group Chair and a Deputy Chair who are appointed annual at the AGM have been the SAROC representatives. The meeting noted an expression of interest had been received from Mayor Heaslip.

Motion: The Legatus Group seeks an extension of time in notifying the LGA CEO of the nominations for the two positions to SAROC until the Legatus Group AGM which is being held on Friday 4 September.

Moved: Mayor Denis Clark Seconded: Mayor Bim Lange CARRIED

6. Appointment Legatus Group Audit and Risk Management Committee

The Legatus Group CEO provided a report on the vacancy on the committee and expression of interest from CEO Peter Ackland.

Motion: That the Legatus Group appoints Peter Ackland CEO Port Pirie Regional Council to the Legatus Group Audit and Risk Management Committee.



Moved: Mayor Rodney Reid Seconded: Mayor Kathie Bowman

CARRIED

Close of meeting

Meeting closed by the Chair at 10.16am

## **4 PRESENTATIONS**

**4.1 Hon Geoff Brock MP Frome**

**4.2 Ms Claire Wiseman CEO RDA Far North**

**4.3 Ms Kay Strong Regional Manager Northern SA AusIndustry**

## **5 BUSINESS ARISING NOT OTHERWISE ON THE AGENDA**

### **5.1 Drought**

#### **Reports for Discussion**

From: Simon Millcock, CEO, Legatus Group

#### **Recommendation:**

- 1. The Legatus Group notes the progress of the SA Water Smart Irrigation and the Space Down Under Stormwater Harvesting Projects.**
- 2. The Legatus Group notes the report on Wellbeing and continues to support the commitment made at the November 2019 meeting.**
- 3. That the Legatus Group notes the report on the Drought Futures Fund and supports the partnership approach through the Yorke Mid North Alliance.**

#### **Background**

- a) Legatus Group Water Projects

Following previous reports and the approved 2020/2021 Legatus Group Business Plan and Budget further detailed proposals were received for the Smart Irrigation Scheduling and Temperature Sensor System Project from SA Water and Stormwater Harvesting Projects from Space Down Under. The following 7 councils submitted expressions of interest Clare & Gilbert Valleys, Copper Coast, Flinders Ranges, Light, Northern Areas, Orroroo Carrieton & Wakefield with possible interest from Port Pirie, Barossa & Peterborough. No response from Adelaide Plains and the following 4 have said no Barunga West, Goyder, Yorke Peninsula and Mt Remarkable. There was a discussion paper developed around the reuse of water through the Community Wastewater Management Schemes.

A workshop was held with those councils' operational staff and SA Water, Space Down Under and Edge Consulting on Thursday 20 August 2020.

### **Smart Irrigation**

Over the past three years SA Water has been trialling different technology that helps agricultural and urban irrigators irrigate more effectively and efficiently. A “smart irrigation” package was compiled by SA Water in 2017 which brought together existing irrigation software and hardware. The smart irrigation package includes a smart water meter and a soil moisture probe, both of which feed data into an irrigation scheduling software system developed by SWAN Systems Pty Ltd. The software requires information from the specific site that is being monitored (soil type, allocated water budget, turf quality goals) and also receives inputs from the Bureau of Meteorology forecasts.

These inputs then determine the required irrigation rates to both satisfy the budgetary requirements for the site, and also to keep turf health at the optimum level according to the end use of the park or oval. Through this project, SA Water worked together with open space managers to ensure they remain within their water use budget while providing quality green public open space for the community, at an acceptable cost.

The smart irrigation package was trialled during the 2017/18 irrigation season at various sites across Adelaide. During the 2019/20 irrigation season the smart irrigation project was extended to 25 parks, ovals and playgrounds. This expanded project involved 12 councils from across metropolitan Adelaide, including councils located on the northern, southern and eastern edges of the Greater Adelaide metropolitan area.

SA Water's interests in this project are to improve their level of customer service for the irrigation sector (including councils, schools etc.), to determine if more open space can be irrigated to improve the liveability of the community using the same volume of water that is currently being used for public open space irrigation.

#### **Aim**

- To demonstrate that significant water savings are achievable using the smart irrigation package
- To improve the economic case for irrigating and maintaining green open space
- To demonstrate value capture on aspects that are outside of SA Water's, schools and council's jurisdiction
- To implement the tools that can move the regions to being water sensitive

#### **Results**

From the 25 sites monitored during the 2019/20 irrigation season, a wealth of data was collected to show the benefits of using this approach to manage irrigation for large open space. The collated data from all the monitored parks across all participating councils showed that the average additional water use was just over 30% for the 2019/20 irrigation season. Extrapolated out across the entire Adelaide metropolitan area, this would equate to an optimisation opportunity that could provide an additional 1.7GL of water for other currently-unirrigated open spaces, and the subsequent benefit for the community through more green open space for recreation. This is now the focus for the next stage of the smart irrigation program, which involves the roll out of the commercial version of smart irrigation for councils, schools, and other open space managers.

Insight for Legatus Group

Only one site from a Legatus Group council was included in the smart irrigation trial in 2019/20. The site was a relatively small park and was previously irrigated to an aesthetics standard. During the first month of monitoring, the council used around \$1500 worth of water on this park. After consultation and additional advice to the irrigation team, irrigation volumes dropped to around \$500/month.

Since the completion of the trial SA Water has been exploring data from across most councils in the Adelaide metro area. An assessment of the 2018/19 financial year data for around 200 council and school sites has shown that the average 30% overuse of water as identified in the smart irrigation trial, is common across most councils and schools. An assessment was conducted on the data from 12 of the 15 Legatus group councils, for the 2018/19 financial year

- Total annual water use is approx \$2M across 280 parks
- Top 20% (57) of these parks use 75% of this water
- Example of the use of smart irrigation at 45 parks
  - Cost - \$140k yr 1, then \$60k each year after
  - Savings to the region in the vicinity of
    - 20% - \$300k/yr
    - 30% - \$450k/yr

NOTE – approx. \$350k savings due to change in water price is occurring across the Legatus Group Councils for 2019/2020

### **Stormwater**

Space Down Under is based at the ThinLab Waite, Waite Campus and they have been developing a project to capture road runoff from residential streets to irrigate street trees.

This includes currently: City of Mitcham, City of Marion, City of Holdfast Bay, City of Onkaparinga, City of Unley and City of Burnside. These councils are seeking alternative water supplies for their considerable environmental watering needs. Vegetated areas and strategically maintained trees improve the quality of life by providing vibrant ecosystem services.

The TREENET Inlet Systems are designed for ready implementation across urban catchments which harvests road runoff from residential streets and arterial roads to irrigate street trees. Kerb side inlets are installed in the kerb; they connect to an infiltration trench or 'leaky well' which detains the water until it soaks into the soil in the nature strip. Trees act as a sink for carbon dioxide during photosynthesis and store carbon in the biomass form. Trees should be planted and maintained to optimise tree health, effective stormwater management and other environmental benefits.

These systems deliver stormwater quality and quantity benefits while the increased irrigation of street trees helps to mitigate the urban heat island effect and improve other environmental and human outcomes. By intercepting the 'first flush' of stormwater, TREENET Inlet Systems remove pollutants near their source. This promotes biosequestration of nutrients such as phosphorous and nitrogen that might otherwise cause algal blooms in receiving waters downstream. This project presents new opportunities to improve the local environment and mitigate climate change.

#### **Project objectives**

- To explore and inform best practice to irrigate street trees

- To determine the effectiveness of TREENET inlet systems to reduce the stormwater flows
- To investigate the relationship between the trees (with passive irrigation) and the environmental benefits

#### Key outcome from the project

- Use of trial case studies to generate baseline information for Australian Government Research Project Grants
- Develop a best practice guide to practitioners for the Australian context
- Sharing information for future improvements

#### Types of interest sought

- Research scope, methodology, costing and reporting
- Trial site monitoring, data reporting and funding opportunities
- 

#### The consensus from the workshop was:

- Smart Irrigation Project with SA Water – Individual Councils to engage directly with Greg Ingleton SA Water during next 2 weeks and that through the 20/21 Legatus Group Budget there is funding for those councils who take up the program of \$5,500. Noting the timelines for implementing of the systems is Sept-Oct.
- Stormwater Harvesting Research Project – Those councils who wish to be involved in the research project to confirm with Legatus Group CEO by Thursday 3 September 2020 and progress can continue.
- Reuse of Wastewater – To be further discussed.

Components of these 3 projects could be included into a broader Drought Futures Fund application although timing for the SA Water project may not allow for this year.

#### b) Wellbeing

As reported in the July and August 2020 Legatus Group Meetings a grant application was submitted for a Wellbeing Project to the SA Community Wellbeing and Resilience Grants. This is to match \$28,000 from the 2020/2021 Legatus Group Business Plan and Budget allocated for Drought COVID-19 Wellbeing. It was anticipated that a response would be confirmed in early August but there has been significant interest in the grants, with a high number of applications being submitted. The applications are now being assessed and they will be in contact after all of the information has been considered by the grant's assessment panel. They are hoping to advise all applicants of the outcome in early September.

The 2 extra Family and Business mentors were a proposed pathway to embed the rural counsellor model of support in the region for a longer term. Their contracts are until December 2020 and consideration is needed to maintain pressure on the SA Government to ensure the momentum gained is maintained. The Legatus co-contribution, along with that from individual councils, remains a required leverage.

Information received from Dylan Strong CEO Orroroo Carrieton is that both positions have been delivering extension services and outreach and they are making great headway.

Dylan has written to the new Primary Industries Minister Hon. David Basham on behalf of the seven councils regarding these issues along with an invitation to the regions affected by drought.

Further dialogue is encouraged including contact with the Mid North Suicide Prevention Network's to gain an update on the progress of the clinical psychology services. With the mental health support framework under increased pressure due to COVID.

There are also a series of wellbeing projects that are occurring across the region and these include funding through programs such as PIRSA. The newly commencing Legatus Group Community Collaborator Bridget Johns will look into higher levels of coordination of such events like these in areas of cross-promotion and regional support.

c) Drought Futures Fund – projects for consideration

Edge Consulting are being contracted through the Yorke Mid North Alliance and they have provided the following table which outlines the Future Drought Funding grant categories and suggested projects that Legatus Group councils may wish to pursue in partnership with one another or in partnership through the Alliance.

Many of the funding categories encourage a cross-council collaborative approach. The water projects discussed at the Legatus Group workshop could fit into the Networks for Building Drought Resilience category. These would need to have a greater emphasis on demonstrating how they will help deliver well-being benefits to residents. The link between well-being needs to be broader than human thermal comfort and should deliberately strive to improve well-being through drought resilience and social cohesion.

Funding for the Future Drought Fund is available until the 2028/2029 financial year. Significant funding opportunities are likely to exist across this period, as such, applications for funding can occur over multiple years.

Funding category	Project ideas	Target Group/purpose	Funding Pool 20/21
<b>Drought resilience leaders</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A mentoring program organised through a particular peak body or multiple peak bodies and operated through local agricultural bureaus, Landcare groups and agricultural extension groups. This work may be facilitated by NRM, local government or private business.</li> <li>Formal succession planning to identify what works well, what are expected difficulties and how drought and reduced rainfall will impact farms during times of succession planning. This program should encourage farmers to be proactive in succession planning and not wait until death, injury or when someone has "had enough".</li> </ul>	<p>Best delivered in collaboration with an organisation with cross council reach - Farming groups, RDAs, Landscape, PIRSA</p> <p>Upskilling and empowering community leaders to mentor others, enable information exchange and empower the community.</p>	\$7.45m
<b>Networks for building drought resilience</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is an opportunity to source providers of mental health services, such as PERMA +</li> </ul>	Best delivered in collaboration with	\$3.75m

	<p>training that focuses on well-being and positive psychology and through before and after surveying can quantify change within individuals and therefore communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support grassroots community well-being initiatives through RDA and local government community development programs</li> <li>• Liaise with external research bodies, such as Professor Philip Batterham from the Centre for Mental Health Research at the Australian National University. Use existing research to define trends for farming communities that may apply to the CLGR.</li> <li>• Focus well-being programs in the areas that need it most, noting that remote areas are more likely to need the greatest assistance.</li> <li>• Incorporate well-being and resilience training as part of broader drought resilience training. This may include partnering with specialist providers, such as the National Centre for Farmer Health.</li> <li>• Source leaders and well-regarded groups in the community to promote and participate in well-being and resilience programs.</li> </ul>	<p>an organisation with cross council reach – RDA’s, Landscape Boards, PIRSA.</p> <p>Funding for agricultural groups/networking groups to support training and networking events. Information exchange, skills development, risk management planning, Focus on projects that encourage connectedness and improve well-being.</p>	<p>Note the small funding pool. May be worth developing a Legatus Group proposal for the whole region that can be applied to a number or target organisations.</p>
<b>Regional drought resilience planning</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capture stories through agricultural groups and Landcare groups regarding the challenges of drought, ways that farmers are building resilience and successes and challenges of farming in dry conditions. Promote the stories through social media channels, websites, community noticeboards, local media etc.</li> <li>• Partner with research and development groups to access and interpret large data sets relating to reduced rainfall and drought. Utilise the data to develop themes, trends and patterns. Develop stories based on these themes and communicate to farming groups.</li> <li>• Through NRM and PIRSA networks, identify leaders and early adopters within the sector. Develop demonstration trials around drought related management of stock and crops.</li> <li>• Develop a ‘train the trainer’ model that targets trusted advisors in the region.</li> <li>• Share water related information and data. Data on groundwater quality and quantity and the effect of drought on this, should be readily communicated through the integrated workshop model and case studies. Understanding water better is critical to its responsible management and use and its long-term sustainability.</li> <li>• Develop a drought specific website. Data, stories and information sought from other stakeholders can be stored here. The website could be used to promote events, opportunities, services, products, guides and good news stories.</li> </ul>	<p>Partnerships between councils and regional stakeholders – develop a plan for agriculture.</p> <p>Focus on cross council partnerships</p>	\$10m
<b>Farm Business Resilience Program</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tailored workshops and programs utilising specialist knowledge from leading agricultural consultants and services that lead farmers through strategic planning (incorporating succession planning) for farm business. Included in this should be a focus on history, values, planning and the expected risks associated with climate change and drought.</li> </ul>	<p>Farming organisations, councils, RDA’s, Landscapes, PIRSA</p> <p>Strategic management skills. Focus on farm business planning, rather</p>	\$20m

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bridge the gap between banking and agriculture. A formal series of workshops co-delivered by banking staff and business specialists that convey information about the banking sector processes, expectations, access to finance and risk to farmers. The workshops are to be incorporated into a broader business planning training program.</li> <li>• Identify banks who are willing to develop a partnership and help deliver information or train a facilitator to deliver information to the community. A focus should be on a banks view of drought and the long-term risks and opportunities of climate change Consider programs that provide supplementary income to farms, such as carbon farming, environmental stewardship, tourism and renewable energy. Options, such as farm stays, events, bush walking, on-farm experiences are popular tourism experiences.</li> </ul>	<p>than agronomic focus.</p> <p>How can Landscapes, PIRSA, RDA's offer this best? Which organisation is best positioned to deliver such a program?</p>	
<b>Natural Resource Management Drought Resilience Program - Grants</b>	<p>Agricultural trials focused on dry times and drought. Seemingly focused on agricultural trials as opposed to business planning.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Landscape hydrology training incorporated into a broader training program.</li> <li>• Incorporate weather and climate information into water related education programs.</li> <li>• Investigate aquifer storage and recharge for low rainfall zones.</li> </ul>	<p>Farming organisations.</p> <p>How could councils support this?</p>	<p>\$10m Grants are available for projects between \$20 - \$200K.</p>
<b>Drought Resilience Research and Adoption</b>	<p>Two drought resilience adoption and innovation hubs will be established in Regional Australia. A regional university will be selected to lead delivery of the program. There will be innovation grants provided by the university.</p> <p>Applications due to open in February 2021.</p>	<p>Assistance to primary producers and communities.</p> <p>Need for the Alliance to link with the University and use the MoUs that the Legatus Group has with SA Universities.</p>	<p>\$20.3m</p>

The following information is based on a recent PIRSA Crop and Pasture report, providing an updated analysis of sub regions (“pockets”) of concern. June rainfall for the agricultural area varied from above average in the Adelaide Hills to very much below average in part of the Northern Mallee and Eastern Eyre Peninsula. In the Pastoral Zone, June rainfall was below average to very much below average across the whole Pastoral area with several locations recording their lowest June rainfall on record.

July rainfall in the agricultural area was below average to very much below average with Kangaroo Island and parts of the Northern Yorke Peninsula, Mid-North and Lower South East recording their lowest rainfall on record. In the Pastoral Zone, July rainfall ranged from above average in the far northwest to very much below average.

Rainfall for August as of 14 August varied from below average on most of Eyre Peninsula, Yorke Peninsula and the South East to very much above average in parts of the Far North Pastoral Zone. Large areas of the Pastoral Zone have received more than 25 mm in August with the majority receiving more than 10 mm. Further rain is forecast for the agricultural area and the southern pastoral districts for the week of 17 August.

Above average rainfall in April that provided a germination in many of the drought affected areas has been followed by below average rainfall in May, June and July and pastures have rapidly deteriorated or died, particularly in the pastoral areas.

The area affected by rainfall deficiencies for the twelve months to the end of July has significantly increased since early May. There are large areas with severe deficiency on Eyre Peninsula, Kangaroo Island, Yorke Peninsula, Lower Murray and the Lower and Mid-North. Areas affected by rainfall deficiencies in the Gawler Ranges and Northeast Pastoral Zone have also increased.

## **6 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

### **6.1 Chairman's Report**

The Legatus Group Chairman may wish to provide a report to the meeting.

**Recommendation: The Chairman's report be received.**

## **7 ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCILS**

### **7.1 Glare Visors (Street Light Shields)**

#### **Reports for Discussion**

From: Yorke Peninsula Council

**Recommendation: For general discussion and feedback.**

#### **Background:**

In 2018 SA Power Networks began replacing existing light bulbs in streetlights within the Yorke Peninsula Council area with Light Emitting Diode (LED) lighting.

LED lighting has the potential to cut Council's energy costs and greenhouse gas emissions by up to 80%.

The changeover to LED lighting on the Yorke Peninsula is part of a wider changeover agreed with many councils across the state.

Whilst the changeover to LED lighting has a number of benefits to Council and Council's ratepayers; unfortunately, the light emitted by the LED streetlights is significantly brighter than the light emitted by the existing light bulbs.

As a result, since the changeover commenced, Council has received four (4) complaints regarding the brightness of streetlights and five (5) requests for glare visors (streetlight shields) to be placed on streetlights to alleviate this brightness.

To date three (3) glare visors have been placed on streetlights throughout the Council area.



Due to the geographic nature of Council's area, and its small rates base, Council has not been able to fund the installation of glare visors itself and has instead put the onus back on the property owner to pay for this themselves.

Up to the end of the 2019-20 financial year this did not present too many issues, as the average cost to install a glare visor was \$91.50 (GST excl.) and property owners were willing to pay this. However, as of the 2020-21 financial year the average cost to install a glare visor, as per the regulator, is now \$618.90 (GST excl.). This represents a price increase of 576%.

Due to the significant price increase it is no longer feasible for Council to expect property owners to pay this cost; however, it is also not feasible for Council to pay this cost.

This may present challenges moving forward, with property owners potentially expecting Council to pay this cost and Council not being willing to do so.

As the changeover to LED lighting on the Yorke Peninsula is part of a wider changeover agreed with many councils across the state, Council is curious to know whether other Legatus Group member councils are facing familiar challenges, and if so what their approach to this issue is.

## **7.2 Strategic Plan and Reviews**

### **Reports for Discussion**

From: The Barossa Council / Legatus Group CEO

#### **Recommendation:**

- 1. That a Strategic Planning Workshop be held in conjunction with the Legatus Group November 2020 meeting and that this is facilitated by an external facilitator following a survey on the strategic plan by the Board, Committees, Employees and Regional Partner Chairs and CEOs.**
- 2. That the Legatus Group contract an external organisation/individual to provide an independent comparison of SA Regional LGA services including member fees, return on investment, executive office wages and their duties and that this report is provided to the first Legatus Group meeting in 2021.**
- 3. That the Legatus Group CEO provides a report to the first Legatus Group meeting in 2021 outlining any recommended changes to the 2020/2021 Business Plan and Budget and to the Legatus Group Strategic Plan and Long Term Financial Plan including the outcomes of the review and any suggested refinements using feedback from the survey, dialogue with councils, committees and the workshop.**

#### **Background:**

The 5 June 2020 Legatus Group meeting noted the correspondence from and to the Barossa Council on the request for details on a review of the Strategic Plan, comparison of regional executive office wages and duties and the update of the Long Term Financial Plan.

The Barossa Council responded with a request that the Legatus Group CEO place on notice for the next ordinary meeting of the Legatus Board of Management that the impending review include the review of the strategic role of Legatus, all projects be assessed as to duplication with any other State or not-for-profit agencies such as Regional Development Boards and the proposal for how Legatus intends to reduce its extensive cash reserves over the long term financial plan period. This request was presented along with the Legatus Group CEOs response to the Barossa Council on 14 August 2020 Legatus Group Special Meeting and further discussed at the Legatus Group Audit and Risk Management Committee.

The Legatus Group CEO provided the following information in response and as part of the background in his comments regarding the correspondence on duplication.

*I will be noting that all projects being undertaken in the Business Plan have come through the approved reports, Legatus Advisory Groups / Committees, via consultation / partnership and or support with the Landscape Board and 3 x Regional Development Australia organisations. Plus, they have come from SAROC Strategic and Business Plans and the Regional Plan and Climate Change Sector Agreement which are both joint plans between RDAYMN, Legatus Group and Northern and Yorke Landscape Board.*

*They are reported on or discussed at the Regional Alliance meetings and RDA Barossa Light Gawler Adelaide Plains have recently attended Alliance meetings. The RDA Barossa Light Gawler Adelaide Plains CEO has indicated they are now likely to partner with the new Northern and Yorke Climate Change Sector Agreement so there will be increased dialogue. Whilst noting that the RDA Barossa Light Gawler Adelaide Plains CEO is kept informed of all projects undertaken and invited to all Legatus Group meetings including the offer to present. They have advised that for the Road, Transport & Infrastructure Advisory and the Visitor Information Services Advisory Committee which have RDA positions they were comfortable with having one of the other RDAs as a representative.*

*To date the only indication of duplication I have been advised of could relate to the Creative Industries from RDA Barossa Light Gawler Adelaide Plains (as the Legatus part funded the Barossa Music Officer position) and the offer has been made that some Legatus Group funds could be utilised by them but this has not yet been taken up.*

The Legatus Group CEO has since met with RDA Yorke Mid North CEO and is progressing discussions on a collaborative approach between the Legatus Group and the 3 RDA's. The Legatus Group Charter says the Legatus Group may at any time review the Long Term Financial Plan but must undertake a review of the Long Term Financial Plan as soon as practicable after the annual review of its Business Plan and concurrently with any review of its Strategic Plan.

In any event, the Legatus Group must undertake a comprehensive review of its Long Term Financial Plan every four (4) years. The Long Term Financial Plan will be taken to form part of the Legatus Group's Strategic Plan. The Legatus Group Audit and Risk Management Committee (item 9 of this agenda) discussed this matter and noted that the work plan indicates that a review of the Strategic Plan is scheduled for November 2020. They also encourage all councils to invite the Legatus Group CEO to a meeting / workshop during October – December 2020 to discuss the Legatus Group Business Plan.

### **7.3 RDA Yorke Mid North Subscriptions**

#### **Reports for Discussion**

From: Northern Areas Council

**Recommendation: For general discussion and feedback.**

**Background:** Refer to the attached letter.



26<sup>th</sup> August 2020

Legatus Group  
PO Box 419  
Clare SA, 5453

Email: [ceo@legatus.sa.gov.au](mailto:ceo@legatus.sa.gov.au)

Dear Simon,

**Re: Regional Development Australia (RDA) Yorke and Mid North - Council Subscriptions**

I refer to the subscriptions paid by Council's in the Legatus Group to the RDA Yorke and Mid North and the inequity in the subscription formula.

The Northern Areas Council moved at the Council meeting held on the 18 August 2020 the following motion:

**“MOVED Cr. Clark**

**SECONDED Cr. Pollard**

**That Northern Areas Council refer the matter of inequities in the subscription formula of Council subscriptions to the Regional Development Australia Yorke and Mid North to the Legatus Group for further discussion.**

**CARRIED 10123”**

Eleven Council's in the Legatus Group are part of RDA Yorke and Mid North.

The subscription formula used by the RDA Yorke and Mid North has no consistent basis to raise the subscription to each Council. Total subscriptions are \$320,980.

The attached spread sheet shows in the first columns the subscription currently paid by each Council to the RDA and what this cost is per person for each Council, based on population.

It can be seen from these figures there is no set amount per person to achieve the subscription amount. Each Council listed has a different amount per person; there is no consistent figure per person.

To achieve a consistent amount per person and still raise approximately \$321,000 the second last column on the spread sheet outlines a draft amount per person of \$4.28. To achieve equality there will be winners and losers in the amount of subscriptions paid by Council's to the RDA.

The Northern Areas Council request that this item be placed on the Legatus Group agenda for the meeting to be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> September 2020 for discussion, with the potential outcome being a deputation to the RDA to discuss the subscription formula in more detail to achieve equity.

Mayor Denis Clark will speak further on the matter at the Board meeting.

Any queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Colin Byles". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent 'C' and 'B'.

Colin Byles  
Chief Executive Officer.

## DRAFT RDAYMN Contribution

Council	Population	Contribution	Per Person cost	New Rate @ \$4.28 pp	Difference
C&GVC	9023	\$49,283	\$5.46	\$38,618	-\$10,665
Goyder	4136	\$30,082	\$7.27	\$17,702	-\$12,380
Orroroo Carrieton	895	\$4,316	\$4.82	\$3,831	-\$485
Peterborough	1678	\$8,794	\$5.24	\$7,182	-\$1,612
Barunga West	2544	\$6,290	\$2.47	\$10,888	\$4,598
WRC	6801	\$17,776	\$2.61	\$29,108	\$11,332
Yorke Peninsula	11056	\$30,682	\$2.77	\$47,320	\$16,638
Copper Coast	14139	\$32,948	\$2.33	\$60,515	\$27,567
Mt. Remarkable	2864	\$15,985	\$5.58	\$12,258	-\$3,727
Pt Pirie	17364	\$98,842	\$5.69	\$74,318	-\$24,524
Northern Areas	4524	\$25,982	\$5.74	\$19,363	-\$6,619
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>75024</b>	<b>\$320,980</b>		<b>\$321,103</b>	

New rate per head calculated by dividing total population into total contribution

## 8. 2020/2021 BUSINESS PLAN

### 8.1 Project Updates

#### Reports for Discussion

From: Simon Millcock, CEO, Legatus Group

**Recommendation: That the Legatus Group notes the report.**

#### Background:

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

<b>1. Water / Climate Change / Drought / Coronavirus</b>	
<b>Project</b>	<b>Status</b>
Climate Ready Conference	Planning yet to commence
Sustainability Hub Concept Plan	Commenced with URPS consultants contracted and draft report provided to the reference group and to the Yorke Mid North Alliance meeting 20 August. Consultation phase commencing with broader stakeholders.
Smart Irrigation System	Updated proposal received by SA Water and workshop to be held 20 August for participating Councils – Refer item 5.1 of agenda
Storm Water Harvesting	Updated proposal received by Space Down Under and workshop to be held 20 August with participating Councils – refer item 5.1 of agenda
Wellbeing Officer/s Drought / COVID-19	Workshop held and grant application submitted for a SA Community Wellbeing and Resilience Grant for a SA Central Region Community Connections Program.  Further discussions to occur re the roles of Wellbeing Officers refer item 5.1
Northern and Yorke Coastal Management Action Plan	Contracted Greening Australia for technical assistance and Brian Hales for Project Management and Expressions of Interest were submitted to the 7 Legatus Group Coastal councils. 4 Projects received from councils and contracts to be developed and projects to commence in Sept / October.
<b>2. Community Capacity</b>	
Brighter Futures	Carry over of the Orroroo Carrieton and Flinders Ranges project and contracting of KPPM – further projects to be identified

Volunteering	5 x Youth Volunteering Project C&GVC, Goyder and WRC (carry over) commenced and further projects to be identified
Community Development Officer training	KPPM proposal received and workshop held and funding application to LGA R&D submitted.
Disabilities Awareness Program	Local Government Information Linkages and Capacity Building Program application successful to focus on YP and support for community and tourism design and communication commenced. First phase research project PhD Intern commenced.
Reconciliation Action Awareness program	Workshop held on the draft report with invite to all councils. The formation of Northern and Yorke Landscape Board Aboriginal Advisory Committee is being considered and projects yet to be identified.
Regional Community Volunteer Coordinator	Ms Bridget Johns commences on 7 September via a part time 42 week contract as the Legatus Group Community Collaborator. The role will be assisting in progressing and coordinating volunteering opportunities along with the ongoing development, implementation and monitoring of the actions from the following specific areas: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Wellbeing / Community Resilience</li> <li>2. Volunteering including Youth Volunteering Projects</li> <li>3. Reconciliation Action Awareness Program</li> <li>4. Community Development Training</li> <li>5. Brighter Futures Programs</li> </ol>
<b>3. Regional Capacity</b>	
Conference / forums	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• YMN Alliance Forum to be confirmed in 2021</li> <li>• Regional Roads being discussed by RTIA Committee</li> <li>• Creative Industries to be confirmed</li> <li>• Visitor Information Services being discussed by Committee</li> <li>• Sustainable Regions through Parks, Recreation, Sport and the Environment, 20 Nov 2020 Clare</li> <li>• Mainstreet SA confirmed 2021 Clare</li> </ul>
Regional Coordinator	Regional Coordination role/s for (1) Creative Industries (2) Visitor Information Services and (3) Roads as discussed by Advisory Committees and with RDAs. Meeting held with RDAYMN CEO in early August and followed correspondence with CEO RDABGLAP. Roads Transport Infrastructure Coordinator –Focus role to support the progress with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SAROC, DIT and Grants Commission on the State-wide Local Roads Hierarchy / Priorities</li> <li>• Legatus Regional Roads Forum 2020</li> <li>• Legatus Socio-Economic Impacts Road Deficiency – consultancy to identify an initial level of impacts to community and industry in areas such as productivity and costs re connectivity due to the current level of deficiency in the funds available for the regions</li> </ul>



	<p>local roads. This is designed to complement the Legatus Group Regional Local Road Industry Engagement Document and the SA Regional Road Priority list and provided data in supporting increased assistance for funding.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SLRP and Roads Database updates – consultancy for progressing any updates to Regional Road Action Plan and Priority Setting and independent review of SLRP applications.</li> <li>• Collective Freight Network</li> </ul> <p>Visitor Information Services – Being scoped out for linkages across all 3 RDAs noting the support to Legatus funded projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disability Inclusion Yorke Peninsula (YP) Tourism the 3 YP Councils to assist them in positioning the YP as a destination of choice by allowing for a growth in skills for the people involved and raising awareness of accessible travel and ability to stay and enjoy the region.</li> <li>• Creative Industries Cultural Tourism Research Project this is being progressed currently via Northern and Yorke SA Creative Industries Cultural Tourism Research Project in possible partnership with Finders University. With links to the following 3 recent Legatus Group reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Delivery of Visitor Information Services</li> <li>○ Creative Industries</li> <li>○ Digital Maturity</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Regional Visitor Information Services Forum Creative Industries (CI) – Legatus Group focus for coordinator would be on community development aspects – homebased artisans – youth / volunteering the current Youth in Music Project as an example gaining good responses. Noted RDA Barossa well entrenched in this the industry space and that Coordinator role would be able support if there is interest and to discuss further. Note the current projects being supported in the budget include - CI Cultural Tourism – SA Regional CI Conference - Smarter Regions CRC-Hub-Spoke Project.</li> </ul>
Youth in Music	Commenced and contracted local musician James Stewart-Rattray and Stu Nankivell who are delivering a series of webinars and sessions can be viewed at <a href="https://legatus.sa.gov.au/yimrec/">https://legatus.sa.gov.au/yimrec/</a>
SA Regional Road Priority	Progressing through a working group established with SAROC, Regional LGA EOs, DPTI and Grants Commission.
Legatus Socio-Economic Impacts Road Deficiency	Agenda item for the RTIA Committee and in discussions with RDAs.
SLRP and Roads Database updates	Agenda item for the RTIA Committee

Creative Industries Cultural Tourism Research project	Flinders University Collaborative Research Agreement is being completed and reference group being formed for project to commence September.
IT data gathering and digital research project	To be confirmed although may link with the Smarter Regions CRC or the Hub-Spoke Projects
<b>4. CWMS / Waste</b>	
CWMS Project Officer & Regional Waste Management Strategy Project Management	Dr Paul Chapman contracted till 30 June 2021 CWMS Project Officer and reports through the CWMS Advisory Committee and as RWMS Project Manager till mid Dec 2020.
CWMS Conference	Planning has commenced for first quarter 2021 to be hosted in Whyalla
SA Regional Waste Management Strategy	Commenced and Rawtec and UniSA contracted with a Regional SA Reference Group formed. A survey has been sent of all Regional Councils to assist with data to help inform the cost modelling.
Legatus Group Waste Management Action Plan	On hold awaiting the outcome of the SA Regional Waste Management Strategy
Research Projects including with UniSA	Currently being scoped and include CWMS Remote Condition Monitoring and LGA R&D application submitted re on-line training. PhD Intern projects being finalised and refer to CWMS Advisory Committee minutes.

## **9 AUDIT and RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

### **Reports for Discussion**

#### **Audit and Risk Management Committee meeting**

From: Chair Mayor Kathie Bowman

#### **Recommendations:**

- 1. That Mayor Kathie Bowman is appointed Chair of the Audit and Risk Management Committee**
- 2. That the Legatus Group undertake a review of its 2020/2021 Business Plan and Budget in November 2020 and that this includes a review of the Long Term Financial Plan.**
- 3. That the Legatus Group encourages its members to invite the Legatus Group CEO to a council meeting or workshop during October – December 2020 to discuss the current business plan.**
- 4. That 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 authorise the Legatus Group CEO to comply with the Local Government Act requirements to secure the variation to the charter.**

#### **Background:**

The Audit and Risk Management Committee met on 21 August 2020. The Minutes of the Audit and Risk Management Committee Meeting 21 August 2020 Northern Areas Council Chambers and Zoom – on-line. The meeting was opened at 10.30am.

##### **1. Meeting Attendance**

Present: In person: Mayor Kathie Bowman (Chair), Mayor Denis Clark and Mr Colin Byles  
Online: Mr Peter Ackland and Mr Ian McDonald.

In Attendance: Online: Legatus Group CEO Mr Simon Millcock

##### **2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes**

Motion: That the minutes of the previous Legatus Group Audit and Risk Management Committee meeting held on 22 May 2020 be taken as read and confirmed

Moved: Colin Byles      Seconded: Ian McDonald

CARRIED

##### **3. Business Arising Not Otherwise on the Agenda**

###### **3.1 Vacancies for the Committee and appointment of Chair**

The meeting received a report by the Legatus Group CEO and noted with thanks the reappointment of Peter Ackland and that the Legatus Group were required to appoint the Chair of the Committee.

Motion: That the committee notes the report and recommends that Mayor Bowman continues as Chair.

Moved: Peter Ackland Seconded: Ian McDonald

CARRIED

### 3.2 Charter Review

The Legatus Group CEO provided a report on the variation to item 5.1 of the Charter.

Motion:

1. That the committee notes the report and that a simple majority of the Constituent Councils have approved the variation.
2. That the committee recommends 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.

Moved: Ian McDonald Seconded: Mayor Denis Clark

CARRIED

### 3.3 Policy Updates

The Legatus Group CEO provided a report on the publishing of the new policies.

Motion: That the committee notes the report.

Moved: Colin Byles Seconded: Peter Ackland

CARRIED

## 4. 2019/2020 Financial Report

### 4.1 Annual Financial Report 2019/2020

The Legatus Group CEO provided the 2019/2020 audited financial report with the agenda and general discussion included the increased surplus.

Motion:

1. That the committee notes the charter has been complied with regarding the audited financial report for 2019/2020.
2. That the committee endorse the Legatus Group annual financial statement for the year ending 30 June 2020 as presenting a fair view of the state of the financial affairs of the Legatus Group and recommend the board adopt the annual financial statement.
3. The committee recommends that the Legatus Group retain the Flinders Ranges Council for managing the financial services and Dean Newbery and Partners as the Legatus Group Independent Auditors.

Moved: Ian McDonald Seconded: Denis Clark

CARRIED

### 4.2 Annual Committee Report

The Legatus Group CEO provided a draft report on the work of the committee in 2019/2020 for consideration of including into the Legatus Group Annual Report.

Motion:

1. That the committee approves the report for inclusion into the Annual Report.

2. That the committee agrees it has provided the required level of oversight and recommendations to the Board as per its terms of reference.

Moved: Mayor Denis Clark Seconded: Ian McDonald

CARRIED

#### 4.3 2020/2021 Financial Report

The Legatus Group CEO provided the balance sheet and profit and loss statement for July 2021.

Motion: That the committee notes the report.

Moved: Ian McDonald Seconded: Colin Byles

CARRIED

#### 5. 2020/2021 Business Plan and Budget

The Legatus Group CEO provided a report with the agenda on the 2020/2021 Business Plan and Budget.

Motion:

1. That the committee notes the Legatus Group Business Plan and Budget were adopted in accordance with the Legatus Group Charter.
2. That the committee recommends the Legatus Group undertake a review of its 2020/2021 Business Plan and Budget in November 2020 and that this includes a review of the Long Term Financial Plan.
3. That the Legatus Group encourages its members to invite the Legatus Group CEO to a council meeting or workshop during October – December 2020 to discuss the current business plan.

Moved: Ian McDonald Seconded: Peter Ackland

CARRIED

#### 6. Legatus Group Work Plan

The Legatus Group CEO provided a report with the agenda.

Motion: The committee notes the work plan is up to date.

Moved: Mayor Denis Clark Seconded: Colin Byles

CARRIED

#### 7. Other Business

Nil

#### 8. Next meeting

Subject to the Legatus Group setting their meeting dates for 20/21.

*Meeting Closed at 11.08am*

Note: Since this meeting the Clare & Gilbert Valleys Council confirmed their approval for section 5.1 of the Charter to be varied bringing the total to 12 of the 15 Constituent Councils confirming their approval.

## 10. FINANCIAL REPORT

### Reports for discussion

From: Simon Millcock, CEO, Legatus Group

### Recommendations:

1. That the Legatus Group notes the balance sheet and profit and loss report for the period 1 July – 31 July 2020.
2. That the Legatus Group notes the CEOs credit card expenditure report for the period 1 May – 31 July 2020.

### Discussion:

Quarterly reports summarising the financial position and performance of the Legatus Group against the Budget must be prepared and presented to the Board at each ordinary meeting of the Board and copies provided to the Constituent Councils. The report July 2019 – June 2020 was provided to all Constituent Council Mayors and CEOs as part of the agenda for the AGM.

## Balance Sheet

Legatus Group as at  
31 July 2020

### Assets

	31 Jul 2020	30 Jun 2020
<b>Bank</b>		
Bank SA Cheque Account	114,452	52,686
Bendigo Business Banking Acc	25,070	25,070
<b>Total Bank Current Assets</b>	<b>139,522</b>	<b>77,756</b>
<b>Accounts Receivable</b>		
Accounts Receivable	-	93,409
Accrual: Interest Income	-	437
LGFA General	1,180,686	1,180,250
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>1,180,686</b>	<b>1,274,095</b>
<b>Non-current Assets</b>		
Computers & S/w : Accum Depn	(3,948)	(3,948)
Computers & Software	3,948	3,948
Motor Vehicles : Accum Depn	(4,117)	(4,117)
Motor Vehicles at Cost	28,967	28,967
<b>Total Non-current Assets</b>	<b>24,850</b>	<b>24,850</b>

<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>1,345,058</b>	<b>1,376,701</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Accounts Payable	20,505	18,799
Accruals	-	5,890
GST	(1,264)	-
Income Received in Advance	-	110,500
Prov : Annual Leave	10,314	10,314
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>29,555</b>	<b>145,503</b>
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>		
Prov for Long Service Leave (NC)	7,070	7,070
<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>	<b>7,070</b>	<b>7,070</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>36,625</b>	<b>152,572</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>1,308,434</b>	<b>1,224,129</b>

## Equity

Accumulated Surplus B/F	704,359	166,358
Current Year Earnings	84,305	223,308
Reserve - General	269,770	269,770
Reserve - Rubble Royalty Projects	250,000	250,000
Transfer from Reserves (To AS)	-	1,408,941
Transfer to Reserves (From AS)	-	(1,094,247)
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>1,308,434</b>	<b>1,224,129</b>

Balance Sheet | Legatus Group | 12 August 2020

Page 1 of 1

# Profit and Loss

## Legatus Group 1 July 2020 to 31 July 2020

<b>Income</b>	<b>31 Jul 20</b>
Council Contributions	4,500
Grants : LGA	71,000
Grants : NRM	20,000
Grants : State Government	30,000
Interest : Bank Account	1
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>125,501</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>125,501</b>
<b>Less Operating Expenses</b>	
Accounting Services	59
Advertising & Promotion	756
Bank Fees & Charges	4

Catering	97
Consultants	18,787
Contractors	4,000
FBT	1
Fuel - Unleaded	145
Insurance	2,086
IT & Web	340
Payroll : Gross	12,787
Superannuation Contributions	1,337
Telephone & Internet	292
Workers Comp Premium	505
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>41,196</b>
<b>Net Profit</b>	<b>84,305</b>

### CEO Credit Card/Reimbursement

The Legatus Group CEO is required to provide a report on the Legatus Group credit card purchases which are listed below for the period May 2020 – July 2020.

Date / item	Amount
5 May Liberty Smithfield Fuel	49.08
5 May XERO licence fee financial services	65.00
12 May Liberty Port Adelaide Fuel	14.68
19 May OTR Rosewater Fuel	38.03
20 May Dropbox – extension of capacity	306.90
23 May Woolworths CLARE – office supplies	8.32
26 May DHS Screening – working with children clearance	113.30
30 May Card Fee	4.00
2 June Facebook – marketing for Youth in Music	30.25
2 June International Transaction fee – re Facebook marketing	0.91
3 June X Convenience Gepps Cross Fuel	27.46
5 June XERO licence fee financial services	65.00
16 June Liberty Camden Park Fuel	31.59
23 June Liberty Blair Athol Fuel	34.46
25 June U-Park Frome Street Parking	20.00
29 June Card Fee	4.00
4 July Perry Auburn Fuel	43.76
5 July Xero licence fee financial services	65.00
17 July Main St Bakehouse – Catering Workshop	106.40
21 July United Queenstown Fuel	43.24
28 July Liberty Smithfield	27.69
28 July X Convenience Port Adelaide	44.46
30 July Card Fee	4.00



## **II LEGATUS GROUP REGIONAL MANAGEMENT GROUP**

### **Reports for Discussion**

From: Colin Byles CEO Northern Areas Council / Chair

**Recommendation: That the report is noted.**

**Discussion:** The Legatus Management Group held a meeting on Friday 14 August 2020 via zoom and the following are the notes from the meeting.

#### **1. ATTENDANCE**

1.1 Present: Colin Byles – Chair (Northern Areas), Helen Macdonald (Clare and Gilbert Valleys), Russell Peate (Copper Coast), Andrew Cameron (Yorke Peninsula), Maree Wauchope (Barunga West), Colin Byles (Northern Areas), Peter Ackland (Port Pirie), Eric Brown (Flinders Ranges), Colin Davies Acting (Peterborough), David Stevenson (Goyder), Simon Millcock (Legatus Group) and Nathan Petrus (Director Member Services LGA)

1.2 Apologies: Brian Carr (Light), Peter McGuinness (Peterborough), Sam Johnson (Mt Remarkable), Andrew MacDonald (Wakefield), James Miller (Adelaide Plains), Martin McCarthy (Barossa) and Dylan Strong (Orroroo Carrieton)

#### **2. Welcome**

2.1 Welcome - Chair Colin Byles welcomed everyone to the meeting. Specific welcome to Colin Davies as the Acting CEO at Peterborough and noted whilst an apology that Sam Johnson has commenced at Mt Remarkable.

2.2 Vacancies on Advisory Committees - Discussions held re the current CEO vacancies for the Visitor Information Services Advisory Committee and the meeting noted that Martin McCarthy did not take up the invite for this position and that it remains vacant.

#### **3. Local Govt Review Bill**

Andrew Lamb the LGA Local Government Reform Partner joined the meeting. Discussions held on:

- Suspension of elected members and issues around role of CEO and work health and safety
- CEO remuneration & performance review
- Annual Business Plan

Andrew is feeding the information gathered back into ongoing discussions and seeking to identify solutions. He is open to hearing from others and looking for any further feedback. Discussion held on the issues around Rating of Energy Providers and potential stalemate with meeting being arranged between Minister Dan van Holst Pellekann and Mayors Matthey, Vickery and Telfer to progress the LGAs stance. This followed meetings with Office of Local Govt and new Minister. David Stevenson advised letter is being progressed from Goyder and others are encouraged to support by contacting their local MPs.

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

A report was provided with the agenda which was noted and actions for progressing discussed were:

4.1 Smart Irrigation and Stormwater – 7 Councils have submitted expressions of interest and 3 possible with updated proposals distributed and workshop being held 20 August and this could link into the Drought Future Fund proposals.

4.2 Disability Inclusion Access Planning - Local Government Information Linkages and Capacity Building (LGILC) Program commenced with the 3 YP Councils.

4.3 Local Govt Risk Services – Legatus Group CEO meet with the LGASA Mutual Liability Board members and report provided on the progress that has occurred. Andrew Johnson CEO LGASA Mutual Liability joined the meeting and provided an update. The meeting noted the positive approach including the appointment of Marie Boland to undertake review on One-System Review and that she has met with some members councils and invite open to others. Email from Andrew Johnson to be distributed. Meeting agreed that there would be value in the offer to have some of the Mutual Liability Board attend the next meeting.

4.4 Visitor Information Services – Port Wakefield report noted and that working group are progressing.

4.5 Smarter Regions CRC – report noted.

4.6 Hub and Spoke – report noted.

4.7 Noted that there was to be discussion on the changes to the Landscape Levy in 20/21 and Andrew Cameron was to follow up to gain further information (still to be progressed).

#### 5. COVID – 19 Update

The Legatus Group CEO advised that a grant application has been submitted for the SA Govt of the Open Your World program. RDA have developed recovery plans for each council area and will be seeking the views of the CEOs. Meeting noted that organisations are becoming more comfortable with on-line meetings.

#### 6. Grant applications / contracts

The meeting noted the update by Simon Millcock and that the Expressions of Interest for the Legatus Group Coastal Council for implementation of the Coastal Management Action Plan close today.

#### 7. 20/21 Business Plan and Budget

The meeting noted the report by Simon Millcock and that the business plan and budget had been formally approved that morning. Meeting noted that Bridget Johns will commence 7 Sept in part time role as Community Collaborator and that discussions continue with RDAs on the other coordinator roles for (1) Creative Industries, (2) Visitor Information Services and (3) Roads.

The meeting noted that the Road Transport and Infrastructure Advisory Committee had completed their review of HDS and the Regional Local Roads Plan. This is leading to a key person from each council to be the point of contact for updates and information.

The meeting noted that both C&GVC and YPC operational staff are now on the reference group for the SA Regional Waste Strategy and that this project has commenced.

8. Climate Change Sector Agreement

The meeting noted the update by Simon Millcock.

9. Charter Variation

The meeting noted the update by Simon Millcock and that now 11 of the councils have approved the variation to item 5.1 re Budget.

10. 2020/2021 Legatus Group Strategic Plan and Business Plan review

The meeting noted the report by Simon Millcock and that there will be a report to the Audit and Risk Committee and Legatus Group Board meetings for this review to be undertaken later in 2020.

11. Other Business Nil

12. NEXT MEETINGS

Subject to the Legatus Group setting their new meeting dates.

13. CLOSE

The meeting was closed at 11.30am

## **12 LEGATUS ROAD AND TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

### **Reports for Discussion**

From: Dr Helen Macdonald CEO / Chair

**Recommendations: That the meeting notes the report and supports the collaborative approach with the RDAs for a Regional Roads Coordination role.**

**Discussion:** The Legatus Road and Transport Infrastructure Advisory Committee held a meeting on Friday 7 August 2020 via zoom and the following are the notes from the meeting.

#### **1. Welcome:**

The meeting was opened at 9.00am by Chair Helen Macdonald

#### **2. Attendance:**

Committee members: Helen Macdonald (Clare & Gilbert Valleys), Tom Jones (Adelaide Plains) Lee Wallis (Goyder), Michael McCauley (Yorke Peninsula), Kelly-Anne Saffin (RDA YMN) and Mike Wilde (DPTI).

Plus, Toni Clarke (LGASA Heavy Vehicle Access Liaison Officer) and Simon Millcock (Legatus Group).

#### **3. Apologies**

Stuart Roberts (Wakefield) due to poor connection, Mike Burger (Flinders Ranges), Dylan Strong (Orroroo Carrieton) due to change in meeting time and Steve Kaesler (Barossa) due to a failure to invite to meeting.

#### **4. Minutes of the meeting held 2 April 2020**

The meeting noted that the minutes of their meeting held on 2 April 2020 were presented to the Legatus Group's 5 June 2020 meeting and that the Legatus Group received and approved the updated 2030 Legatus Group Transport Plan Road Deficiency Action Plan. The meeting resolved that the minutes were a true and accurate record of their meeting. The update on the actions from that meeting:

- An information session was held on the progress of Major Road works by DPTI
- SAROC progressing via Business Plan on a SA Regional Local Road Priorities report

#### **5. 2020 SLRP Applications**

The Legatus Group CEO provided a report with the agenda which outlined the variation to the committee's recommendations on the 2020 Regional Priorities. Notification received that the first 5 ranked roads were recommended by LGTAP to the July LGA Board meeting for proposed funding. This was supported the LGA Board. These have been passed onto the Grants Commission for the Ministerial approval process. As such this information is not to

be taken as confirmation but as information of the process. The Legatus Group regions 5 projects recommended for proposed funding by LGTAP total just over \$2.78m which is around 25% of the funding made available for Regional Roads and around 18% of the total funding across the State. Relevant Legatus Group Council have been informed of the current status.

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

## 6. Industry Engagement Document

The meeting noted that the Legatus Group Regional Local Road Industry Engagement Document had been distributed to all Councils and RDAs and is available on the Legatus Group website.

## 7. Performance review HDS and the Legatus Regional Transport Plan

The Legatus Group CEO provided a report with the agenda including the acknowledgement by HDS of the issues raised. General discussion included the need to have a broader engagement across all member councils beyond the Legatus Group Road and Transport Infrastructure Advisory Committee. The regional forum was seen as a positive approach whilst there would be value in 1-2 sub-regional workshops each year.

Recommendations that a data base of relevant officers across all councils be kept and that updates are provided to them.

## 8. State-wide Regional South Australian Local Government Roads Priority List

The meeting noted the report by the Legatus Group CEO that this is now a SAROC Business Plan project with inclusion of DPTI and the Grants Commission. Mike Wilde provided an update that at a high level this approach makes sense although there is some impact on progress currently due to the recent Government Department and Minister changes. Noted that better alignment between councils along with consistent data would be of assistance. Mike advised that the Dept have noted the proactive approach the Legatus Group has taken on this matter. Also, to be considered is clearer approach around road transfers.

## 9. LGA Heavy Vehicle Access Liaison Officer

The meeting noted the background report by Toni Clarke as the newly appointed LGA Heavy Vehicle Access Liaison Officer. Toni provided a presentation on the role which included the key priorities of:

- Empower and support
- HV Access Tools – RAVRAT – NHVR Portal
- OSOM Review recommendations
- National harmonization / notices

- Higher productivity freight vehicles

Toni is contracted for 2 years and the meeting agreed with value in a series of State-wide Webinars and for Toni to be one of the presenters for the next Legatus Group Roads Forum to be held in the first quarter of 2021. The meeting supported this new role and it was suggested that there are 3-4 subregional workshops as an initial introduction and that the Legatus Group CEO will provide support (note dates 11-12 November).

#### **10. Legatus Group 20/21 Business Plan and Budget**

The committee noted the report by the Legatus Group CEO and were supportive of the approach for:

- Legatus Regional Roads Coordinator
- Scio-Economic Impacts report based on the regional road's deficiency
- Progress with independent support for the 2021 SLRP Roads and Database updates

Kelly-Anne Saffin outlined discussion held with the Legatus Group CEO and information provide to the committees Chair. This included an interest from the RDAs to partner with the Legatus Group through the Road and Transport Infrastructure Advisory Committee to look at targeting Commonwealth Funding approaches. The example discussed was The WA Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Network. The meeting discussed the need for a broader approach and look to includes bridges and rail crossings.

Consensus from the meeting was to support a collaborative approach with the RDAs.

#### **11. Stage 2 Restricted Access Vehicle Route Assessment Tool (RAVRAT)**

The meeting noted the report by the Legatus Group CEO and Toni outlined that there has been some work with the Queensland LGA and this will continue to be progressed via SAROC and the Regional LGA EOs.

#### **12. Other business Nil**

#### **13. Close and date of next meeting**

The meeting was closed at 9.53am and the next meeting date to be confirmed subject to Legatus Group meeting.

## **13 Legatus Group CWMS Advisory Committee**

### **Reports for Discussion**

From: Andrew MacDonald CEO / Chair

**Recommendations That the meeting notes the report and supports an approach to LGA Mutual to be involved with a CWMS Risk Workshop for Legatus Group Councils.**

### **Discussion:**

The Legatus Group CWMS Advisory Committee met on 12 August 2020 and the minutes of that meeting are:

Legatus Group CWMS Advisory Committee Draft Minutes Wednesday 12 August 2020 commenced at 10am via Zoom.

#### **1. Welcome and apologies**

Attendance: Chair Andrew MacDonald (Wakefield), Gary Easthope (Clare and Gilbert Valleys), Adam Broadbent (Light), Matthew McRae (Copper Coast), Paul Chapman and Simon Millcock (Legatus Group).

Apologies: Hayden Battle.

#### **2. Previous Minutes**

Draft Minutes from the meeting of the Legatus Group CWMS Advisory Committee (the Advisory Committee) on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2020 were accepted as a true reflection of the meeting.

#### **3. Matters Arising**

##### **3.1 Proposal for PhD Internship looking at capital expenditure**

The proposal for a PhD scholar to undertake research and report on the design criteria which affect capital expenditure in regional CWMS was welcomed. Adam said that the Light Council is about to plan and design new Schemes and would like to be involved in the work.

##### **3.2 Cross-Council collaboration and alternative business models for CWMS in regional South Australia**

Discussion of this matter was held over to item 5.

##### **3.3 Proposed CWMS training course**

The Advisory Committee noted the funding request made to the LGA R&D Fund for resources to progress the course content to the stage where it can be handed to a digital production company. Members of the Advisory Committee who have volunteered to help develop the content repeated their offer.

It was agreed that the Project Officer will contact the LGA CWMS Manager to arrange a meeting via zoom.

##### **3.4 Asset management by remote sensing proposal**

Progress on this issue has been confined to providing information to the Legatus Board at its meeting of 14 August to aid in its consideration of providing funding. On-going work to

estimate the maintenance costs of CWMS pumps in the Copper Coast Council so as they can determine if they will participate, is beginning to show results which will be shared with members of the Advisory Council as they become available.

The Advisory Committee noted the progress with this item.

### 3.5 Discussions with LGA Mutual

The Advisory Committee expressed some surprise that LGA Mutual was unable to offer more assistance in accounting for and valuing the risks associated with CWMS and instead offered to pay for a facilitator at a CWMS risk workshop. It was thought that this reflected the general lack of awareness of risks in regional CWMS. A general discussion followed which suggested that change in managing CWMS required a recognition of the problems. This would be an important element in the up-coming Discussion Paper.

It was agreed that

- the Discussion Paper (see item 5) would be sent to the CEOs of each of the Regional LGAs
- Simon would ask the Legatus Board to approach LGA Mutual to encourage it to hold a CWMS Risk Workshop.

### 4. Recommendations to the Drought Futures Fund

The Advisory Committee discussed the potential conflict between providing recycled water at low or zero price from CWMS and participating in the DFF water efficiency programs. It was suggested that participation in water efficiency programs by Councils become a criterion for DFF funding.

It was agreed that Simon would raise the issue in the up-coming Legatus Group Workshop on water projects and be guided on a possible funding opportunity to investigate the matter.

### 5. CWMS Discussion Paper for SAROC

Discussion on this matter again turned to the case for change in CWMS and particularly the question of how to improve their governance. It was noted that evidence of Councils failing to comply with regulation is unavailable because it is confidential. Suggestions moved beyond the considerable amount of anecdotal evidence to include matters such as the prices commonly charged by Councils compared with SA Water and an assessment of how much Council time is spent discussing CWMS.

### 6. Other business

#### a. CWMS Conference

The Advisory Committee accepted the offer from the Eyre Peninsular Regional LGA to host the annual Conference which had previously been planned for Kadina.

It was further suggested that Kadina might be the venue for a CWMS Risk Workshop, which might be held by LGA Mutual.

### 7. Date of next meeting

No date for the next meeting was set.



## **I 4 Legatus Group Visitor Information Services Advisory Committee**

### **Reports for Discussion**

From: Simon Millcock Legatus Group CEO

**Recommendation: That the meeting notes the report.**

### **Discussion:**

The Legatus Group Visitor Information Services Advisory Committee met on Friday 14 August 2020 and the minutes of that meeting are:

#### 1. Welcome and apologies

Attendance: Paula Jones (Clare Valley Wine Food and Tourism Centre), Glen Christie (Port Pirie), Lynn Spurling (Copper Coast), Jo Seabrook (Barossa), Liz Heavey (Light), Shirley Dearlove (Peterborough), Jeremy Carn (RDAFN), Simon Millcock (Legatus) and Miranda Lang (SATC)

Apology: Anne Hammond (Yorke Peninsula)

#### 2. Appointment of Chair

Simon Millcock outlined there had yet to be a take up by one of the Legatus Group CEOs for the Advisory Committee. The meeting invited Glenn Christie to Chair and he accepted the role.

#### 3. Introduction

Miranda Lang Manager Infrastructure & Investments SATC provided a brief introduction of her role which includes working closely with the Regional Tourism Organisations and as a support to the regions and assisting with alliances. Miranda was invited to stay for the meeting and provide input as the meeting progressed.

#### 4. Minutes of the committee meeting held 8 May 2020

The meeting endorsed the minutes as a true and accurate record of the meeting and noted the update provide by Simon Millcock. The meeting agreed there had been good value in the Tourism Recovery Webinar held by Kristine Peters.

#### 5. Impacts of COVID-19

General discussion held and following key points were discussed:

- Inconsistency across the region with some areas exceeding their usual winter numbers and others still in decline. Good to see South Australian's are getting our and about. Barossa – good level of day trippers, Clare – seeing increased overnight stays, Yorke Peninsula very busy school holidays and use of the wide open spaces, Peterborough – Flinders impacted still due to drought and lack of interstate especially RV travellers.

- Some businesses yet to open or restricted in their hours and ability to trade.
- Majority of brochures / printed material out of date and the need to be able to provide real time opening hours. ATDW not as effective as info being undertaken by the local VICs.
- Community groups and others not willing to develop or progress events and festivals.
- Impacts on volunteers continue with a need for local people to embrace although the fear of not knowing what next week brings, anxiety and mental health for communities to support tourism.
- Forward bookings are a concern and the northern drought affected communities heavily hit due to being closed during summer and then COVID-19 closures.

Miranda outlined the great support from the sector along with Governments focus on:

- Border restrictions.
- Social distancing – food and drinks at gatherings.
- COVID safe and management plans.
- Information distribution flow is appropriate (meeting noted the numbers of organisations sending information out and clarification delays occur following announcements).
- There is a COVID training program which is a free service.
- Noted VICs taking names good for contact tracing.

Ideas included:

- Holiday for Christmas in SA.
- Campaign to encourage South Australians to take their annual leave.

The meeting noted the importance local VICs play in knowing what is happening locally and that a focus of campaigns should encourage visitors to make contact with the local VIC to get up to date information.

## 6. Budget 2020/2021- Projects

The meeting noted the report by Simon Millcock on the Legatus Group business plan and budget which were approved that day with reference to:

- Regional VIS Coordination – in discussions with the RDA's
- Disability Inclusion YP Tourism Project - about to commence and working group established
- Creative Industries Cultural Tourism Research Project – about to commence and advisory committee will assist as reference group including to identify the locations and themes for augmented / virtual reality projects
- Regional Visitor Information Services Forum – still to be progressed
- Regional Community Collaborator – part time position Bridget Johns about to commence and will include focus on volunteering

Liz Heavey to follow up on Volunteering and the Wellbeing Community Development projects.

## 7. Port Wakefield “A sense of departure and arrival”

Andrew MacDonald CEO of Wakefield Regional Council was an apology and the discussion paper for the project was provided with the agenda. General comments were that it is important that this project can link to the broader region and align with interactive maps and it has the ability to connect back into projects. Identify the deliverables and process for taking it to the next step. Comments from Miranda:

- Like that Council is taking the lead
- Focus now is on drive routes so timing is good if focus on the drive market (drive within a drive) – the road trip .
- Conceptually sees the project as a positive not yet discussed any further than today’s meeting
- The focus on experience needs to be beefed up if looking at making this a destination interactive experience.
- Broader regional touring routes focus.
- Alignment with the SATC Strategy needs to priority – will provide some timelines and look to continue discussions.

## 8. Local Government Tourism, Hospitality and Retail Award

Jo Seabrook provided an update on progress.

## 9. Other Business

Nil

## 10. Close and date of next meeting

The meeting was closed at 3.00pm and date for next meeting to be confirmed.

# 15 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION & SAROC

## 15.1 Reports for Discussion

From: Dr Andrew Johnson CEO LGASA Mutual Pty Ltd Executive  
Director Corporate Governance, LGA

### **Recommendations: For discussion.**

### **Background:**

Dr Andrew Johnson from the LGA will attend the meeting and provide an update.

## 15.2 Rating Equity

From: Simon Millcock, CEO, Legatus Group

**Recommendations: That the Legatus Group writes to both Ministers Dan van Holst Pellekaan and Vicki Chapman to confirm its support for the approach by the LGA on this matter.**

### **Background:**

This matter was not directly included in the current LG Reform Bill and the LGA have continued dialogue with SA Government based on legal advice and further feedback provided by the initial reference group members. This resulted in the following letter being provided to Minister Dan van Holst Pellekaan.

Noting that the Goyder Council has also written to both Dan van Holst Pellekaan and Vicki Chapman regarding the matter.



*In reply please quote our reference:* ECM 716484 AJL/MD

26 August 2020

Hon Dan Van Holst Pellekaan MP  
Minister for Energy and Mining  
GPO Box 974  
ADELAIDE SA 5001  
**Emailed:** [dem.ministervhp@sa.gov.au](mailto:dem.ministervhp@sa.gov.au)

Dear Minister

### **Rating equity for electricity generators**

This letter follows several informal discussions you have had with representatives of the local government sector about a fairer scheme for the payment of rates for electricity generators. In particular, we understand that you have expressed your views to Mayors and senior officers from councils in the Legatus Group as well as Upper Spencer Gulf councils.

Council rates in South Australia are generally determined by the elected representatives of local communities. However, for many years, SA Government regulations have compelled councils to grant a discount on council rates to electricity generators. It appears that the

mandatory rating discounts were granted when most electricity generators were in State Government hands.

The estimated annual revenue foregone by SA regional Councils when compared to Victorian Government rating regulations is estimated at \$4.8 million per annum. Councils are not compensated for this significant loss of revenue.

In March 2019, Local Government Minister Knoll wrote to the LGA seeking feedback assurances that fairer rating arrangements would not impact upon investment or employment in regional SA.

The Legatus Group commissioned two pieces of research from the respected, independent AEC Group. The AEC Group specialise in economic and other research in the regional development, resources, planning and development sectors.

The resulting AEC Reports (attached) found:

- Current SA rating regulations do not enable councils to recoup their expenditure on servicing electricity generators - either during the construction phase or on an ongoing basis. These costs are borne by other ratepayers, skewing their business and residential decision-making.
- SA councils are significantly disadvantaged in their ability to rate, compared with their interstate counterparts, particularly in Victoria and Queensland.
- Energy investment location decisions are primarily made by reference to electricity generation efficiencies (access to wind, sun, fossil fuels) and the ease with which connection can be made to the national grid.
- Introduction in SA of similar rating practices to Victoria will not impact the commercial viability of energy sector projects, and therefore will not influence location decisions for investments in such projects.
- If local economies and communities retained additional rate payments, this would create an opportunity to provide a financial, economic and social boost to SA regions. AEC Group estimate the change would create up to an additional 43 permanent full-time equivalent jobs in SA regions.

The AEC Group recommended amending SA regulations to enable SA councils to rate electricity generators pursuant to a regulated formula, similar to the arrangements applying in Victoria.

#### Ongoing vs development phase.

One option put to the LGA during recent discussions is that councils should be able to levy rates during the construction phase of any new electricity generation project, but not on an ongoing basis.

The two AEC Reports, plus data from SA regional councils, demonstrate that councils continue to incur expenses related to these businesses, on an on-going basis. For example, a

100-tonne crane maintains wind generating towers in several locations within the District Council of Goyder. These cranes do considerable damage to local roads as they travel between wind generation sites.

Councils incur a wide range of additional costs providing services to these businesses and the employees who work within them (many of whom do not live in the council area and so do not contribute residential council rates).

Having reviewed the evidence, the LGA is of the view that there is no basis for the argument that a council should not be able to charge fair rates to electricity generators on an on-going basis.

### **Community contributions**

It has also recently been argued that, if council rates are increased, electricity generation companies will reduce the contributions they make to local communities via other means. This suggestion is not supported by commercial theory or practice. The size of council rates *and* community contributions are both comparatively small, compared to the operating costs of most electricity generators.

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) decisions are typically made independently from decisions on operation costs (including payment of applicable taxes). Further, companies usually make CSR-based spending decisions because they lead to an overall increase in company profits<sup>1</sup>. If a company has made a decision to invest in CSR, it generally does not make commercial sense to reduce this contribution, even if other operating costs increase slightly.

The LGA calls on the South Australian Government to change the current regulatory arrangements, so that councils can charge fair rates to electricity generators. Based on our legal advice, the LGA has submitted four alternative legislative options through which this can be achieved.

Discussions about rating equity for electricity generators have been ongoing for some time, and local government has invested in the economic and legal research that confirms this is a positive and worthwhile reform for the State Government to pursue. The *Statutes Amendment (Local Government Review) Bill 2020* is currently before the House of Assembly, providing the opportunity for this long awaited reform to be implemented. Ideally, the SA Government would make amendments to its own Bill before debate continues in the House.

I would appreciate the opportunity to meet with you at your earliest convenience to discuss the issues set out in this letter and confirm your position on rating equity for electricity generators.

---

<sup>1</sup> The Corporate Social Performance-Financial Performance Link Sandra A. Waddock and Samuel B. Graves Strategic Management Journal Vol. 18, No. 4 (Apr., 1997), pp. 303-319

We look forward to your early response.

Yours sincerely



Mayor Sam

Telfer

**President**

Telephone: (08) 8224 2039

Email: [lgapresident@lga.sa.gov.au](mailto:lgapresident@lga.sa.gov.au)

Copy to: Hon Vickie Chapman MP – Deputy Premier

### **15.3 SAROC Key Outcomes**

From: Mayor Peter Matthey and Mayor Bill O'Brien

**Recommendations: For discussion.**

**Background:**



## **SAROC Committee Meeting – Key Outcomes Summary – 22 July 2020**

### **Guest Speaker – Michael Lennon – Chair, State Planning Commission**

Michael Lennon gave the SAROC committee a verbal update on the implementation of phase 2 of the Planning and Design Code and the readiness process for Phase 2 councils. He also touched on the What We Heard report for phase 3 Councils noting that a number of SAROC councils are in phase 3 of the implementation program.

### **Regional LGA EO's Communique**

Simon Millcock from Legatus, provided a Regional LGA Executive Officer update. The Committee approves the SAROC Chair writing to Martin Haese the Chairman of the

Premier's Climate Change Council advising him of the support SAROC has for the Climate Change Sector Agreements and the value that the coordination role provides and also supports the Regional LGA Executive Officers approach to progressing of the Wellbeing Alliance via a workshop later on 2020 to allow more time for impacts of COVID-19 to be assessed.

## **Regional economic and community recover from Covid-19**

The Committee noted this report and agreed to write to the Minister responsible for Regional Development to encourage the progressing of the recommendations of the Regional Development Strategy.

## **Community Development - update**

SAROC noted the report that provided an update on the activities identified in the Community Development theme of its Annual Business Plan.

## **SA Coastal Council Alliance**

The SAROC Committee noted the report and the overview of the South Australia Coastal Councils Alliance and has requested that the LGA Secretariat, when entering into a funding agreement with the Limestone Coast LGA as the South Australia Coastal Councils Alliance's host agency, seeks to ensure that:

- i. SACCA undertakes adequate and meaningful consultation by engaging with all regional coastal councils as it progresses its 2020-21 work plan;
- ii. SACCA undertakes direct consultation with the SAROC Committee in the Funding the Future: A New Approach for Coastal Management in SA research project; and
- iii. SACCA presents to SAROC its options and draft recommendations for a SACCA funding model and governance beyond June 2021.

## **SAROC Key Activities Calendar**

The Committee noted the report and adopted the SAROC Strategic Plan and Annual Business Plan key activities calendar.

## **Regional LG Update Standing Item**

SAROC agreed that a standing item be included on the SAROC agenda to share verbal updates of key issues and initiative from each regional LGA chair.



## 16 OTHER BUSINESS

### 16.1 Climate Change Sector Agreement

From: Simon Millcock Legatus Group CEO

#### Recommendations:

1. That the Legatus Group Chair is authorised to sign the new Climate Change Sector Agreement on behalf of the Legatus Group when it is finalised.
2. That the Legatus Group CEO is approved to continue to provide administrative support for the reporting requirements of a new Climate Change Sector Agreement.

#### Discussion:

The Legatus Group, Northern and Yorke Landscape Board, RDA Yorke and Mid North in partnership with the SA Government managed a three-year Climate Change Sector Agreement that finished 30 June 2020. The Alliance through the Legatus Group CEO completed the required 6 monthly reports and the final report for the Agreement.

A new Climate Change Sector Agreement is being finalised and the draft is attached. This is waiting on responses from RDA Barossa Gawler Light Adelaide Plains as the new Agreement will cover all of the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board boundary.

The Legatus Group involvement continues to support the dissemination of information on climate change from Government to council decision makers through:

- The Legatus Group Strategic Plan
- Subregional forums (e.g. Coastal Management, CWMS)
- The annual Yorke and Mid North Regional Forum
- Contributed to the Regional Roadmap; and
- The reporting of activities to the board.

Additionally, the Legatus Group supports the identification of local scale actions through scoping regional opportunities, provision of the sub regional forums and workshops.

The key scoping projects and 2020/2021 Legatus Group Business Plan include the following:

- Coastal Management
- Water
- CWMS
- Climate Ready Conference
- Sustainability Hub Concept Plan
- Smart Irrigation System
- Storm Water Harvesting
- Storm Water Harvesting

The Climate Change Sector Agreement will require the Chair to sign.

## **17 CEOs Leave and Conflict of Interest**

From: Legatus Group Chair Mayor Peter Matthey

**Recommendation: That the meeting notes the report.**

### **Discussion:**

The Legatus Group CEO has been approved annual leave from the 17 – 21 September and he advised that he will be assisting on a volunteer basis with the coordination of the Clare Valley Festival of the Lamb which is being managed through the Mintaro Progress Association and his declared conflict of interest.

## **18 NEXT MEETING**

Friday 27 November 10.30am Yorke Peninsula Council to host and venue to be advised.

This will include a workshop on the strategic plan.

## **19 CLOSE**



