



NEWSLETTER

December 2023

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 1 Feb Legatus Group Waste Management Advisory Committee
- 6 Feb Legatus Group CWMS Advisory Committee
- 8 Feb Launch Regional LGA Workforce Toolkit – Torrens Uni
- 9 Feb Legatus Group Audit Committee
- 15 Feb Legatus Group Road Transport Infrastructure Advisory Committee
- 23 Feb Legatus Group Ordinary Meeting hosted by Yorke Peninsula Council

The Legatus Group are completing the review of their Strategic Plan and Charter following a final workshop held on 1 December 2023. A special meeting on 15 December 2023 will consider final changes before distributing to member councils for their consideration.

ADVOCACY

The Legatus Group note the support provided to the District Council Orroroo Carrieton re their motion at the LGA AGM for a review of the model Fee Structure currently set by ESCOSA was carried.

The Legatus Group at their 1 December 2023 meeting have endorsed support for the Flinders Ranges Council efforts to achieve improved water quality for the residents of the Quorn township.

They continue to lobby the SA Govt to support a centralised model for mental health services in Regional SA. Plus, support to the LGA on gaining Rating Equity for SA Councils from Wind and Solar Power Generators.

ROADS

The 2023 Special Local Roads Program (SLRP) funding of \$4,597,000 was secured for 5 projects across 4 member council this year. This amount of funding makes up 34.5% of all SLRP funding for Regional Roads.

The Legatus Group continue to advocate for increased funding for regional roads and have allocated funding to ensure their priority roads data is stored within the main State-wide roads dataset. HDS have commenced the Legatus Group Regional Route and Road Action Plan Update 2024 Regional Roads Database and 2024 SLRP Regional Priorities List.

PREPARING YOUR COMMUNITY FOR DISASTERS AND EMERGENCIES

The Legatus Group have released the “Preparing your Community for Disasters Handbook” on the Legatus Group Community Disaster Preparedness website <https://communitydisasterprep.com.au/>

The project was designed to align with the 2019 Local Government Emergency Management Framework that reflects the breadth of councils’ roles in emergencies with a focus of the project being the alignment of engagement with community. A recent presentation to the LGA Secretariat discussed the value of presenting at the launch of the Resilience Canopy program being launched in South Australia in 2024.

The handbook can be replicated across all of Regional SA. It has direct relevance to elected members, staff and financial & risk implications including to assets and the wellbeing for the whole of the local government sector. This project was funded under the Disaster Risk Reduction Grants Program funded by the Australian Government and the South Australian Government.

CARBON OFFSETTING

Transitioning to a low carbon economy is a key challenge facing governments all around the world. Local government plays a pivotal role in this transition within both their own operations and communities in assisting and mitigating transitional, economic and reputational risks.

The Legatus Group were a member of a consortium of SA Council who undertook research via 3 phases. Phase 1 - Eligibility for Councils to Run Carbon Offset Projects - Phase 2 Feasibility for SA Councils to implement Projects to generate Australian Carbon Credit Units (ACCUs) - Phase 3: Equity - Partnership opportunities for SA Councils to implement Projects to generate ACCUs.

Through phases 1 and 2 it established that Local Government is eligible to register carbon projects with the regulator. The Legatus Group upon receipt of the Phase 3 report are now seeking interest from Constituent Council in progressing with possible options identified from the reports.

REGIONAL LG CAREER PATHWAYS & WORKFORCE TOOLKIT

Legatus Group in collaboration with Torrens University who secured a LGA R&D Grant have released the “Local Government Career Pathways and Workforce Toolkit for Regional SA” on their website and are seeking interest from member councils in progressing with relevant recommendations in the report.

Meeting current and future skill needs is an ongoing challenge for the sector and more significantly regional councils. The comprehensive Regional Local Govt Careers Toolkit is designed to assist regional local government to attract workers in Regional SA and has received strong interest from the LGA who are working with LG Professionals on a Building Sector Capability project.