



Agenda Legatus Group Road and Transport Infrastructure Advisory Committee

Thursday 15 February 2024 10.30am

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89362864155>

Meeting ID: 893 6286 4155

Passcode: 358886

1. Welcome Chairperson Dr Helen Macdonald

2. Attendance

Members: Mayor Leon Stephens, Helen Macdonald, Steven Kaesler, Lee Wallis, Tim Neumann, Andre Kompler, Daniel Willson, Stuart Roberts, Mitchell Foote and Russell Troupe.

Non-Members: Mayor Rodney Reid, Simon Millcock, Tim Viner-Smith HDS, Dr Soufiane Boufous Associate Professor UNSW and Tony Fox Northern and Yorke Landscape Board.

3. Apologies

4. Conflict of Interest

5. Minutes of the committee meeting held 31 October 2023

The draft minutes of the Legatus Group RTIAC held on 31 October 2023 were provided to all members following the meeting and can be found at: <https://legatus.sa.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Draft-minutes-31-10-2023.pdf>

These minutes were provided to the Legatus Group 1 December 2023 meeting.

Recommendation: That the Legatus Group Road and Transport Infrastructure Advisory Committee minutes of the 31 October 2023 be taken as read and confirmed.

6. Matters Arising

6.1 Legatus Group Reviews

Author: Simon Millcock

As reported at previous meetings the Legatus Group have been undertaking a review of its Charter and Strategic Plan. At their special meeting on 15 December 2023 they received a report which was endorsed and has been distributed to member councils for their consideration. The responses will be an agenda item for the Legatus Group 23 February 2024 meeting.

There is likely to be a change in name from Legatus Group to Northern and Yorke Local Government Association. There is direct relevance to the Legatus Group Road Transport and Infrastructure Advisory Committee.

The recommendations include that the Legatus Group transition to a new business planning framework in 2024-25, which will introduce a rolling four-year Business Plan that is reviewed annually. The Business Plan will incorporate the functions of a Strategic Plan, Action Plan, Long-Term Financial Plan and Annual Business Plan and be used to inform an annual Budget.

Whilst also noting that Legatus is a leader of or partner in a suite of regional plans and strategies for transport, waste, regional development, climate change and drought resilience. These documents guide priority actions for Legatus where they are needed and supported by members.

Legatus Members are seeking a more succinct and focussed Business Plan that directs resources to the priorities and actions of greatest need. To achieve this, the Business Plan will be built around three strategic pillars that organise and focus the organisation's objectives, priorities and measures.

Focus Area 1 – ADVOCATE - Legatus harnesses and leverages the strength of fifteen Councils speaking together with a united and powerful voice to advocate for better outcomes of the region. This includes develop and implement an Advocacy Plan and Framework to set priorities and guide a targeted and tactical approach to regional advocacy with a focus leading or supporting for increased and fairer allocation of funding for roads and transport infrastructure. Achieve a minimum 20% increase in the combined total amount of State and Federal road and transport infrastructure investments in the region by the end of 2027/2028.

Focus Area 2 – COORDINATE - Councils and partners work together through Legatus on issues, actions and outcomes that can be sensibly, efficiently and effectively progressed at a regional level to provide benefits to members. Coordinate and manage the region's requirements for SLRP Funding. Implement, monitor, review and update the Legatus Group 2030 Regional Transport Plan. Achieve a member satisfaction score of at least 75% for the coordination of the Special Local Roads. Complete a major review of the Legatus Group 2030 Regional Transport Plan completed by end February 2025.

Focus Area 3 – OPERATE - The Legatus Group operates effectively in accordance with legislative requirements and delivers value to its members. Review the Terms of Reference of all Advisory Committees at least once every two years.

The Legatus Group CEO is developing a draft Business Plan and the Budget during February and March as this must be referred to the Constituent Councils at least eight (8) weeks prior to the date of the meeting at which the budget is to be adopted (after 31 May and before 30 June).

The Legatus Group recent work on Roads and Transport Infrastructure can be found at <https://legatus.sa.gov.au/sustainable-development-infrastructure/>

Feedback from the committee will be sought at the meeting for suggestions on areas that the Legatus Group Business Plan could focus on with regards Road and Transport and items that could be listed for a survey of member councils on topics for consideration.

Recommendation: That the committee notes the report and supports a survey of member councils on ideas for the Legatus Group to consider regarding Road and Transport Infrastructure.

6.2 Regional Roads Priority Plan and SLRP 2024

Author: Simon Millcock

Note Tim Viner-Smith HDS will attend the meeting and provide updates and to discuss further the:

- Regional Route and Road Action Plan
- 2024 Regional Roads Database
- Presentation at Roads Forum
- 2023 – 2024 SLRP Regional Priorities List (SLRP is opening on 4 March 2024 and closing slightly earlier this year).

Route Changes – Some minor changes proposed from Wakefield Regional Council, they have requested the inclusion of two roads:

- Dunn Road – Treager Road to Balaklava Road (Freight / Tourism / Community Access)
- Whitwarta Road – Balaklava Road to Templeton Road (Freight / Community Access)

Tim will discuss the supporting evidence provided by the Council at the meeting. It's a minor update so Tim is not expecting a lot of changes after last year's work.

Action Plans – minor updates from Adelaide Plains, Light Regional Council and Wakefield Regional Council. Tim is still waiting to hear back from a few Councils to finalise details and plans to provide a draft before the meeting for circulation and approval at the meeting.

Roads Database – Light Regional Council have indicated the need to add two projects to the list this will seek approval from the Committee once received. Barossa has provided an additional project for inclusion in the roads database. Tim is waiting for some Councils to confirm/finalise which projects they want to put up this year for SLRP, he hopes to have clarity at the meeting so a discussion can be held on year's approach.

The Barossa Council additional roads database application was not included in the HDS fee but HDS will need to include a fee of \$650 (excl GST) per application. Tim is expecting a further two from Light RC but have not received yet. This would add a further \$1,950 to this year's budget. Tim has been chasing up Councils with projects on the list to check status and costs and this has included a number of new people into positions to provide them with updates.

The Committee have traditionally met in early May to conduct the Stage 2 scoring for SLRP. With SLRP closing earlier this year (April 29) the committee will need to meet meeting in early April to discuss as the Legatus Group CEO will be on leave from mid-April.

Recommendation:

1. **That the committee supports the inclusion of the two roads from Wakefield Regional Council as proposed.**
2. **That the committee endorses the updated Road Action Plans.**
3. **That the committee supports the update to the Roads Database and draft list of projects for this year's SLRP.**
4. **That the committee recommends the Legatus Group expend the cost for the proposed 3 additional reviews by HDS for the roads database application.**
5. **That the Committee meet on Monday 8 May to undertake the stage 2 scoring for this year's SLRP applications.**

6.3 Lobby for increased funding re SLRP

Author Simon Millcock

The Legatus Group 1 December 2023 meeting carried the recommendation from the Road and Transport Infrastructure Advisory Committee to allocate \$1,900 towards annual support for the Legatus Group data being stored within the main SAROC State-wide roads dataset.

Tim Viner-Smith will be attending the meeting and available for any questions.

Recommendation: That the committee notes the report.

7. Other Business for discussions

7.1 UNSW

Author Simon Millcock – Soufiane to attend and present (10 minutes)

Dr Soufiane Boufous Associate Professor Acting Director, Transport and Road Safety (TARS) Research School of Aviation, Faculty of Science UNSW Sydney has made contact and is interested in partnering with Legatus Group regarding a Research Project associated with cycling and walking strategies. Noting that item 8.5 in the Legatus Group Regional Transport Plan touches on cycling <https://legatus.sa.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/003-202.pdf>

Soufiane will provide a background on a possible research project that could identify the level of work being undertaken by our member councils with cycling and walking strategies that could identify the level of infrastructure and our roles in supporting cycling tourism from the urban perspective. Especially with its links to the State Cycling Strategy:

https://dit.sa.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0016/1004272/Cycling_Strategy_Refresh_Draft_11022022.pdf

<https://tourism.sa.gov.au/support/campaigns/tourism-trailblazers/bike-about>

Our region has 2 of the major tourism cycling destinations in SA:

Riesling Trail

<https://www.clarevalley.com.au/news/how-to-do-the-riesling-trail>

Mountain Biking Southern Flinders Ranges:

[https://www.premier.sa.gov.au/media-releases/news-items/\\$1.8-million-epic-mountain-bike-trail-to-transform-southern-flinders-visitor-experience](https://www.premier.sa.gov.au/media-releases/news-items/$1.8-million-epic-mountain-bike-trail-to-transform-southern-flinders-visitor-experience)

There is potentially Local Govt and other Grant funds that looks at R&D

7.2 Landscape Board Halting the spread of Woody Weeds

Author Simon Millcock – Tony Fox to attend and present (10 minutes)

Landscape SA Northern and Yorke are developing a 3 year region-wide project seeking to halt the spread of prioritised woody weeds and Tony Fox their General Manager will attend the meeting and outline their project.

Interest for the Road and Transport Infrastructure Advisory Committee would be on the many species of woody weeds established in dense populations and continue to spread. This impacts roadsides and riparian zones are recognised pathways for the introduction and movement of these weed species.

It is a priority for the NY Landscape Board to mitigate the impacts and they are seeking Local Govt amongst others as partners to deliver an intensive and coordinated control campaign. This is designed to improve the amenity of many roads surrounding townships and high-value tourist sites.

Recommendation: For discussion and consideration.

7.3 Legatus Group Roads Forum

Author Simon Millcock

The Legatus Group has held an annual Roads Forum that focusses on the Legatus Group Regional Plan and other topical issues. It has been designed to allow both Elected Members and Operational Staff who have an interest in roads and transport matters to attend. Plus, the forums have included:

- Dept Infrastructure Transport
- RAA
- National Heavy Vehicle Regulator
- Research – in areas associated with road base
- Member Council Case Studies
- SLRP information

This year's forum is listed for 10 May 2024 to be held at Melrose.

Feedback is sought from the committee on the types of presenters and topics for the forum. Noting that the survey as outlined in item 6.1 could also generate discussions.

Recommendation: For discussion and consideration.

7.4 Native Vegetation

Author Simon Millcock

Sarah Wozniak a Senior Policy Officer at the Local Government Association is reaching out to each Regional LGA to discuss native vegetation matters.

Sarah was unable to attend this meeting and I can provide an update following Sarah's presentation at the Regional LGA Executive Officer meeting at LG House on 8 February.

- The LGA Board has approved 'Native Vegetation' as one of the top Policy Priorities in 2024.
- The State Government, Department for Environment and Water (DEW) has indicated that it will review the *Native Vegetation Act 1991 (SA)* in the first half of 2024.
- Given the above, the LGA's Policy Team is currently scoping a project on native vegetation to progress this year.
- Matters of sector interest that have been raised so far include:
 - Road safety and function

- Costs to councils
 - Bushfire mitigation activities
 - Legislative interactions
 - Individualised/local issues
- Sarah is visiting with members across the state, and particularly in the regions, to hear directly about native vegetation management undertaken across the sector.

7.5 Lower greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in local roads and footpaths

Author Simon Millcock

The Legatus Group have been approached by Carmine D'Amico Coordinator Transport Strategy & Assets Engineering Strategy & Assets at City of Charles Sturt via a consortium of councils to investigate lower GHG emissions in local roads and footpaths. I have confirmed that the Legatus Group will be an in-kind contributor to this project.

The project will collate relevant information and tools from industry bodies and other jurisdictions applicable for SA local government context. It will develop a decision support tool for councils' asset managers to lower GHG emissions associated with local road and footpath design, material choice and construction, by:

- Quantifying the GHG emissions associated with standard (base case) road and footpath designs, materials and construction methods – to establish a benchmark
- Understanding pathways to lower GHG emissions
- Establishing a standardised approach for low emission road and footpath design and procurement specifications, and reporting embodied GHG emissions
- Engaging industry bodies and key stakeholders with this project as part of the collective transition to the low carbon economy.

Updates will be provided as this project commences.

Recommendation: For noting.

8. Close and next meeting.

Special meeting SLRP State 2 scoring Monday 8 April 2024 10.30am
 Ordinary meeting Friday 17 May 2023 10.30am