



AGENDA ORDINARY MEETING

Friday, 29th August at 10.30 am

Hosted by Regional Council of Goyder

**Venue: 1 Market Place, Burra
and online via MS Teams**

**Meeting ID: 421 144 542 704 8
Passcode: ac9ev2mc**

Bridget Ransome

Chief Executive Officer

Northern & Yorke Local Government Association

MEETING FORMAT

Board Meeting Commences 10.30 am
Lunch 12.30 pm

ORDER OF BUSINESS

No.	Title	Page
1	ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS	
	1.1 Date of Meeting	4
	1.2 Apologies	4
	1.3 Leave of Absence	4
	1.4 Conflict of Interest	4
	1.5 Confirmation of previous minutes	4
	1.6 N&YLGA Action List	4
	1.7 Deferred / Adjourned items	5
2	PRESENTATIONS / PETITIONS / DEPUTATIONS	
	2.1 Brett Matson and Archie Hooper (Aircentric AI)	5
3	REPORTS FOR INFORMATION	
	3.1 Audit & Risk Management Committee	5
	3.2 2025 Small Town Re-Invention Conference Update	5
	3.3 Media Training for Mayors and CEOs	6
4	REPORTS FOR DECISION	
	4.1 N&YLGA Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy	7
5	MOTIONS AND QUESTIONS	
	5.1 Motions with notice: CEO N&YLGA Employment Contract	8
	5.2 Motions without notice	8
	5.3 Questions with notice	9
	5.4 Questions without notice	9
6	MEMBERS' COMMUNICATION	
	6.1 Chairperson's Report	9
	6.2 Members' Updates	11
7	CLOSE - NEXT MEETING	12

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment Number	Title
A	Northern & Yorke Board Meeting Draft Minutes 6 th June 2025
B	Audit and Risk Management Committee Meeting Draft Minutes 28 th May
C	Management Reports June and July 2025
D	Bank Reconciliation Reports June and July 2025
E	N&YLGA Waste Management Strategy 2021-2026
F	Rawtec Waste Management Strategy Review Proposal

VISION

The Northern and Yorke Local Government Association (N&YLGA) is recognised, respected and supported as a strong and successful region.

OUR VALUES

The N&YLGA:

- Speaks with one voice on what matters most to our communities.
- Works together efficiently making the best use of available resources for delivery of services.
- Build partnerships with those who can contribute to stronger and more sustainable communities.

OPENING OF MEETING

The N&YLGA Chairman will open the meeting.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The host Council: Regional Council of Goyder will provide an acknowledgement of Country.

WELCOME BY HOST COUNCIL

The host Council: Regional Council of Goyder will provide a welcome (10 minutes maximum).

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Meeting attendance sheet to be distributed.

I.1

Date of Meeting: 29th August 2025

Author: N&YLGA CEO Bridget Ransome

I.2 Apologies

Mayor Roslyn Talbot, Dylan Strong CEO, Mayor Michael (Bim) Lange, Stephen Rufus, Mayor Stephen McCarthy,

I.3 Leave of Absence

I.4 Conflict of Interest

I.5 Confirmation of Previous Meeting Minutes

Northern and Yorke LGA Board Meeting Minutes 6th June 2025 (Attachment A).

Recommendation: That the draft minutes of the Northern and Yorke Local Government Association Board Meeting held on 6th June 2025 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

I.6 N&YLGA Action List

Item	Topic	Action	Status	Comment
4.2	Advocacy Plan / consultation with member councils	A draft Advocacy Plan has been prepared.	On-going	A draft Advocacy Plan was presented at the 6 th June 2025 N&YLGA Board meeting. The plan will be reviewed on a 6-month basis.
	Roads / Transport Plan	HDS has been appointed as consultant and is progressing the review.	On-going	An update of the plan is progressing.
Item	Topic	Action	Status	Comment
4.7	Forums	Waste	On-going	Contact has been made with the CEO KESAB to progress this initiative.

1.7 Report Title: **Deferred / Adjourned Items Nil**

2 PRESENTATIONS / PETITIONS / DEPUTATIONS

2.1 Brett Mattson and Archie Hooper (Airgentic - AI Citizen Service)

Background

Brett Matson (CEO) and Archie Hooper of Airgentic have been working with Mt Remarkable Council to assist them in applying a type of artificial intelligence to optimise workflows at the council, which has resulted in savings on staff time and resourcing. This presentation is to provide Northern & Yorke member councils with more information, as to whether this type of facility would also be of use to council operations.

3 REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

Report title: **Audit & Risk Management Committee minutes**

Item No: **3.1**

Date of Meeting: **28th May 2025**

Author: **N&YLGA CEO Bridget Ransome**

1. REPORT PURPOSE

To provide the board with a copy of the minutes from N&YLGA Committees.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That the Northern and Yorke Local Government Association receives and notes the Audit and Risk Management Committee draft minutes of 28th May 2025.

3. BACKGROUND

The N&YLGA Charter provides for the establishment of committees. The Chair of the Audit & Risk Management Committee provides the draft minutes of their meeting held on the 28th May 2025 and the draft minutes of this meeting are also provided for the information of the Board (Attachment B).

N&YLGA Management Reports and Bank Reconciliation Reports are provided for June and July 2025 as Attachment C and D respectively.

Report title: **2025 Small Town Re-Invention Conference**

Item No: **3.2**

Date of Meeting: **29th August 2025**

Author: **N&YLGA CEO Bridget Ransome**

1. REPORT PURPOSE

This report provides a brief update in relation to the 2025 Small Town Re-Invention Conference.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That the Northern & Yorke Local Government Association notes the report.

3. BACKGROUND

The 2025 Small Town Reinvention Conference runs from 22nd to 25th September 2025 at the Kapunda Football Club, Hill Street, Kapunda, SA. The cost is \$990 (incl. GST), covering all sessions, meals, and materials. Optional masterclasses will be held on 22nd September. Accommodation and travel are not included in the registration fee.

Register

Registrations are now open for the conference at this link: [National Small Town Reinvention Conference | Bank Of Ideas](#)

N&YLGA is a silver sponsor of this year's conference as was agreed at the N&YLGA Board Meeting on 21st February 2025, to the value of \$2,000.

Report title: Media Training for Mayors and CEOs

Item No: 3.4

Date of Meeting: 29th August 2025

Author: N&YLGA CEO Bridget Ransome

4. REPORT PURPOSE

This report provides a brief update in relation to the Media Training recently conducted for Mayors and CEOs in the Northern & Yorke region.

5. RECOMMENDATION

That the Northern & Yorke Local Government Association notes the report.

6. BACKGROUND

Media Training is an essential skill, especially for Mayors and CEOs as they are regularly required to respond to the media on behalf of a range of issues. The training provided by journalist and media personality Graeme Goodings was delivered on 13th and 14th August 2025 at the Adelaide Plains Council Chamber.

Participants included:

- Mayor Leon Stephens (Port Pirie)
- Mayor Stephen McCarthy (Mt Remarkable)
- Mayor Bill Close (Light Council)
- Mayor Bill Gebhardt (Goyder Council)

- Martin Borgas (CEO, Mt Remarkable)
- David Paton (Acting Mayor, Adelaide Plains Council)
- Richard Dodson (CEO, Light Council)
- David Stobbe (CEO, Clare & Gilbert Valleys Council).

All participants prepared a presentation to camera and also were interviewed in an impromptu format. Graeme Goodings has followed up with each participant providing individualised feedback. He has also sent through his presentation slides and a complimentary e:book on public speaking, which has now been distributed to participants, and for the information of those mayor and CEOs that were unable to attend the training at this time.

4 REPORTS FOR DECISION

Report Title: N&YLGA Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2021-2026

Item No: 4.1

Date of Meeting: 29th August 2025

Author: N&YLGA CEO Bridget Ransome

1. REPORT PURPOSE

The N&YLG Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2021-2026 (Attachment E) is listed in the Annual Business Plan 2025-2026 for review and update, as a key action for the Northern & Yorke Local Government Association.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That the N&YLGA Board approves the updating of the N&YLGA Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2021-2026 to be carried out by Rawtec Pty Ltd; to a value of \$17,920 ex GST. As per the proposal from Rawtec Pty Ltd dated 18th August 2025 (Attachment F)

3. BACKGROUND

The N&YLGA Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2021-2026 was originally commissioned by the board to be carried out by Rawtec. This strategy was prompted in 2021 by the then Legatus Group of councils to assist with future actions regarding Waste Management for Regional Local Governments in SA. The Legatus Group identified a series of targeted projects that leverage advocacy and collaboration activities to deliver targeted outcomes for the region and as such commissioned the Legatus Group Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2021-2026 and its Action Plan. The strategy is now due for a review and to be updated to reflect progress against actions and to identify activities going forward for the benefit of Northern & Yorke local government councils.

4. RELEVANT CORE STRATEGIES/POLICIES

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS As per proposal fee.

5. MOTIONS and QUESTIONS

The Chairman requested any items for motions or questions from member councils.

5.1 Motions with Notice

Report Title: Chief Executive Officer, Northern & Yorke Local Government Association Employment Contract

Item No: 5.1

Date of Meeting: 29th August 2025

Author: Mayor Sue Scarman

1. REPORT PURPOSE

This report seeks a decision of the following, that in consideration of the performance by the CEO Bridget Ransome since her commencement in the role for Northern & Yorke LGA on 25th November 2024 that her employment contract be approved to move from the current 0.8FTE to a full time 1.0FTE.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That the N&YLGA Board approve the change in employment contract for Bridget Ransome, CEO of Northern & Yorke LGA from 0.8FTE to 1.0FTE, effective from 1st September 2025 so that she can fully carry out the duties required of this role for the Northern & Yorke Local Government Association Member Councils.

3. BACKGROUND

Since her appointment as CEO to the Northern & Yorke LGA, Bridget has taken on the requirements of the role with a focus on adding value to member councils. She has reviewed internal operating procedures of the association and has improved the way in which the association continues to be managed. Other initiatives have included the following:

- Updated and changed the financial services operator for the association, which has led to improved and smoother financial operations
- Currently reviewing all policies, procedures and updating them and creating an operational manual for the association
- Reviewed all contractors providing services to the association and rectified where over-charging was occurring
- Met all reporting and governance requirements for board, advisory committees and regular SAROC meetings
- Introduced an electronic e:news which is now being copied by other LGAs
- Formulated an expansive advocacy plan, which is also now being copied by other LGAs
- Formulated a Communications Plan for the region including an update of brand, website and social media which has commenced (again being copied by other LGAs)
- Provided media training to Mayors and CEOs
- Encouraged our Sponsorship of the Small-Town Reinvention conference and she will be an MC for part of the conference this September
- Applied for and secured the following grants:
 - \$47,300 for 1:1 business advisory service for drought impacted businesses
 - \$40,000 for projects: Waste webinar series, Get Home Safe Foundation, and Yorke Peninsula community township plans for 4 townships impacted by Algal Bloom

- \$11,000 for Northern Areas Council to provide business mentoring to local businesses impacted by the closure of Golden North
- Provided Round 2 support for the SLRP, including scoring grants and updating grant information to finalise applications which has resulted in \$6.5m of road projects for the region.
- Applied for and secured \$38,500 for Regional Childcare Desert Advocacy Project to further the advocacy work done by 23 councils within the Grey electorate.

Recently the CEO was asked to also take on investment attraction initiatives in partnership with the RDA Yorke and Mid North, which includes the creation of an investment attraction plan for the whole region. Along with other projects including the Waste & Resource Recovery Strategy review and supporting our communities impacted by Algal Bloom, drought and business closures it is unrealistic for us to continue to expect Bridget to work on a 0.8FTE basis. I am aware that she is also accruing significant TOIL hours which is now at a total of 55 hours.

With N&YLGA being the largest association in South Australia, we are expecting our CEO to work on a part-time basis, whilst the CEOs of both Eyre Peninsula and Murraylands are both employed full-time and with less member councils to support. I believe it is incumbent upon us to ensure that our CEO has the capacity to carry out her duties without part-time restrictions.

We hired Bridget to advocate for us and judging by this list of activities she has taken on I believe, well and truly she accepted our challenge, and she should be rewarded for the good work she is doing on our behalf both in time and remuneration.

4. RELEVANT CORE STRATEGIES/POLICIES

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The financial implications of any change in the CEOs contract, can be provided by the LGA Financial Services Provider.

5.2 Motions without notice

5.3 Questions with notice

Nil

5.4 Question without notice

6 MEMBERS' COMMUNICATION

Report Title: Chairperson's Report August 2025

Item No: 6.1

Date of Meeting: 29th August 2025

Author: Mayor Rodney Reid Chairperson of N&Y LGA

1. REPORT PURPOSE

To provide information on key meetings/functions that Mayor Reid as Chairperson of N&YLGA has attended during the current reporting period. The detail is in summary format only.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That the chairperson's report for 29th August 2025, be received and noted.

3. REPORT

N&Y LGA Chairperson's Report			
Date	Location	Purpose	Comments
2025/05/30	Balaklava	N&YLGA Executive Meeting	
2025/06/05	Orroroo	N&YLGA Dinner	
2025/06/06	Orroroo	N&YLGA Meeting	
2025/06/18	Adelaide	Murray Darling Association	N&YLGA CEO Bridget Ransome and I met with Mark Lamb CEO of the Murray Darling Association and Cr Andrew Tilley of Mitcham Council re membership of the Association by N&YLGA member councils. I invited Mark to pass on any information to Bridget for circulation and also the possibility of him speaking at a N&YLGA meeting.
2025/06/19	Clare	Regional Alliance Meeting	
2025/06/25	Canberra	ALGA Conference	This year N&YLGA encouraged CEO Bridget Ransome to attend ALGA and to prepare an executive summary of the conference to be distributed to all member councils.
2025/06/26	Canberra	ALGA Conference	
2025/06/27	Canberra	Heather Holmes Ross President of the LGA SA Board.	I raised my concerns with the President of the LGA SA Board re concerns about the lack of information being shared to member councils about the resignation of CEO Clinton Jury. I indicated that I had been monitoring the LGASA website checking for agendas or minutes of the Board. Heather indicated that the board had not met yet. Mayor Roslyn Talbot was present as well.
2025/06/27	Canberra	ALGA Conference	

2025/06/27	Canberra	Letter to 3 SAROC Members	I wrote a letter to 3 members of the SAROC re my concerns about the lack of communication from, the transparency and the actions of the LGA Board and the LGA SA President in relation to the resignation of Clinton Jury as CEO of the LGA SA. I could not understand how the board was only meeting on the Monday to appoint an acting interim CEO to commence on Wednesday morning.
2025/07/01	Zoom	SAROC and GAROC Forum	I participated in the State Waste Strategy Consultation zoom meeting for all members of GAROC and SAROC. This forum was led by Josh Wheeler and members of Green Industries South Australia.
2025/07/24	Adelaide	SAROC	
2025/07/24	Tanunda	Mayors and CEOs forum dinner	This dinner and forum were organised by the LGA SA.
2025/07/25	Tanunda	Mayors and CEOs forum	
2025/07/29	Zoom	N&YLGA Executive with RDA reps	This meeting was to discuss possible future advocacy with the state government re: incentives for major businesses with large workforces locating in the N&Y region.
2025/08/14	Balaklava	N&YLGA Audit and Risk Committee Meeting	

Regular communication with CEO Bridget Ransome through emails and phone calls.

4. RELEVANT CORE STRATEGIES/POLICIES

N/A

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

6. RISK ASSESSMENT

Nil

7. ATTACHMENTS

Nil

6.2 MEMBERS' UPDATES

7 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

8 CLOSE / DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Northern & Yorke Local Government Association Ordinary Meeting is scheduled for Friday, 28th November 2025 at 10.30 am hosted by Barunga West Council. (Venue to be advised).