

WALGA Quarterly Overview Report

Q1 January – March 2018



Shire of Irwin

This is your Council's WALGA Quarterly Report for the January to March 2018 quarter.

The Quarterly Reports aim to outline and capture the interactions and activities of your Council with the Association.

These reports will help demonstrate how WALGA can contribute to Members' operations and our progress towards achieving Council-specific and sector-wide advocacy goals.

We hope that the reports will continue to be a starting point for ongoing conversations between your Local Government and WALGA.

MEMBER SERVICES



7 Members from the Shire of Irwin attended WALGA Training this quarter.



21 Number of times Employee Relations advice was provided to the Shire of Irwin.



1 Number of times Recruitment advice was provided to the Shire of Irwin.



3 Number of times Preferred Supplier Arrangement (PSA) advice was provided to the Shire of Irwin.

The Shire of Irwin participated in the following Client Reference Groups this quarter:

- Hazardous and Emergency Event Services

SECTOR ADVOCACY

DATABASE OF SHARED SERVICE ARRANGEMENTS

As part of its role to support the capacity building of Local Governments, WALGA is developing a database of shared service arrangements.

This database will include a range of template resources and tools to assist Local Governments review or establish shared services.

WALGA sought feedback from all Chief Executive Officers through a survey seeking information about existing shared services and requesting

confidential copies of any governance documents that support these services. These documents will help WALGA develop a range of template resources and tools.

The Shire of Irwin completed the survey.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

WALGA has recently commenced a project to support Local Government economic development activities. The project aims to develop a practical framework to assist Local Governments across the State in the implementation of their economic development strategies and activities, and to ascertain ongoing alignment with contemporary practice.

To ensure the framework is relevant and meets the needs of all Local Governments, the project is being guided by a reference group.

In coming months, WALGA will be undertaking research and collecting data to help inform the project and identify the best way that it can support the sector in this area.

OFF-ROAD VEHICLE RESEARCH

Off-road vehicles have been an issue for Local Governments for decades with Members highlighting their concerns around safety, and the social, economic and environmental costs to communities.

WALGA conducted a survey to collect data to inform a paper for State Council decision.

The Shire of Irwin completed the survey.

PLASTIC BAG BAN

The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation released a discussion paper on the Plastic Bag Ban on Wednesday, 20 December 2017.

WALGA invited Members to provide their feedback on the discussion paper. After incorporation of the feedback from the sector and consideration by the Municipal Waste Advisory Council, an Association submission was provided to the Department on Wednesday, 28 February.

CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY STATEMENT REVIEW

WALGA is reviewing the existing policy statement on climate change, endorsed by State Council in 2009.

Following on from a discussion paper WALGA released in November 2017, WALGA has now produced a draft revised climate change policy statement released for comment.

After input has been received and considered, the draft policy statement will be submitted to State Council for its approval or comment. If endorsed by State Council, it will provide the basis for

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WALGA's climate change advocacy plan, which will be developed in consultation with the sector and further detail how WALGA will promote and advocate for Local Governments' key climate change priorities over the next few years. The Shire of Irwin has not yet provided feedback on the draft policy statement. Submissions are open until Tuesday, 24 April.

ROADWISE ACTIVITIES



4 Number of RoadWise activities conducted in the Shire of Irwin this quarter.

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

LOCAL WASTE MANAGEMENT FOR EMERGENCY EVENTS

WALGA staff presented at the Northern Country Zone meeting on Waste Management and Emergency Events, as well as a general update on waste management issues.



1 Local Government Officer from the Shire of Irwin attended.

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED?

SUPPORT FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT BUDGETS

It's that time of year where Local Governments are developing their budgets for the coming financial year. To ensure that finances are managed responsibly and the burden on ratepayers is minimised, it is important that Councils have an understanding of the economic environment to identify likely trends in revenue and demand for services, and to recognise risks that may prevent the projected budget outcome from being achieved.

To assist Councils with their budget preparation activities, WALGA has provided all Elected Members with a special edition of its Economic Briefing publication. This includes statistics and forecasts for the WA economy in the coming year, as well as insights into cost pressure and funding opportunities. WALGA has also provided a summary document containing information on key financial management topics including Long Term Financial Planning, Financial Indicators and Use of Debt.

CONTACTS

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