



New Shires Association Office Bearers and Executives Elected

The Shires Association of NSW has elected a new President and eight executives at the annual Shires Association Conference in Sydney.

2011 Shires Association Conference – Record of Decisions

The Shires Association Conference Record of Decisions are now available to view online.

Changes to Part 3A – Tell us your views

The LGSA invites comments and feedback from local councils on the State Government's recent announcement to revoke the Part 3A status of a number of residential, commercial, retail and coastal projects.

Local Government Association of NSW and the Shires Association of NSW

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The workshops provide a practical and interactive program designed specifically for supervisors and managers.

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Learning Solutions are offering a range of public staff programs and events scheduled for June and July in NSW.

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The NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet, Division of Local Government has released a discussion paper in relation to a review of the Model Code of Conduct.

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The Premier, Hon Barry O'Farrell MP, outlined coming changes to the Planning Act at the recent Shires Association of NSW Annual Conference in Sydney.

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Awards

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Conferences and Events

Item 2: Upcoming conferences and events

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Become a showcased council for LG Week 2011

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General Interest

Item 3: New Shires Association Office Bearers and Executives Elected

The Shires Association of NSW has elected a new President and eight executives at the annual Shires Association Conference in Sydney.

The Mayor of Bogan Shire Cr Ray Donald, was elected the new President of the Shires Association.

The full list of Office Bearers of the Shires Association for the next two years is:

President

Cr Ray Donald, Bogan Shire Council

Treasurer

Cr Paul Braybrooks OAM, Cootamundra Shire Council

Vice President (Senior)

Cr Adam Marshall, Gunnedah Shire Council

Vice President (Junior)

Cr Janet Hayes, Kempsey Shire Council

Immediate Past President

Cr Bruce Miller, Cowra Shire Council

The following Divisional representatives were elected by the delegates:

A Division - Cr Janet Hayes, Kempsey Shire Council.

B Division - Cr Adam Marshall, Gunnedah Shire Council.

C Division - Cr Rex Wilson OAM, Warren Shire Council.

D Division - Cr Maria Woods, Walcha Council.

E Division - Cr Phyllis Miller OAM, Forbes Shire Council.

F Division - Cr Lindsay Renwick, Deniliquin Council.

G Division - Cr Paul Braybrooks OAM, Cootamundra Shire Council.

H Division - Cr Chris Manchester, Harden Shire Council.

J Division - Cr Ray Longfellow, Central Darling Shire Council.

Further Information

<http://www.lgsa.org.au/www/html/3799-1-june-2011-new-shires-association-office-bearers-and-executives-elected.asp?intSiteID=1>

Ref: R11/0003

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General Interest

Item 4: 2011 RH Dougherty Communication Awards

If your council has created some great communications campaigns, has put on special events, has delved into the digital media world or has a great person working in communications, then now is your opportunity to enter the 2011 RH Dougherty Awards.

Award judges are looking for councils that are leading the way with innovative and unique communication campaigns and strategies. The Awards recognise and encourage greater understanding and accountability by councils to their local communities. Winning projects from previous years are available to view online.

There are three award categories this year:

Outstanding Individual Contribution Award

- New award for 2010.
- Communications and events staff within NSW Councils.
- Must be in their position for no less than two years.
- Can be self-nominated or nominated by another party.

Excellence in Communication Award

- Projects completed in the 2010 calendar year.
- Communications campaigns.
- Public Relations campaigns.
- Special events.

Reporting to Your Community Award

- Projects completed in the 2010 calendar year.
- Annual reports.
- Monthly newsletters.
- Online communication.
- Digital communication.
- Advertising.
- Specialist publications.

Visit the website for judging criteria, tips on preparing your submission and some examples of award winning submissions from last year. Winners will be announced at the Local Government Week Awards Evening, Wednesday 3 August 2011 at The Deckhouse, Clarke Road, Woolwich, Sydney.

RH Dougherty Communication Awards

Wednesday 3 August

Entries Close

Wednesday 15 June

Online Information

www.RHDawards.lgsa.org.au

Further information

Jann Hing

02 9242 4031

jann.hing@lgsa.org.au

Ref: R09/0006 JH

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General Interest

Item 5: Become a showcased council for LG Week 2011

The Local Government (LG) Week homepage is gearing up to showcase the great LG Week plans of one council per week.

The online form is a great resource for NSW Councils to add photos and links to show other councils what great activities are on the agenda for your local community as part of this year's LG Week.

The LGSA invites your council and community to support LG Week in NSW and get behind the theme in 2011 – *Empowering Communities*.

Even if your council hasn't completed all stages of planning, it is not too late to complete the online form, as this is an excellent opportunity to focus on the achievements of your council, the breadth of work undertaken and your council's plans for the future.

Don't forget to enter the RH Dougherty Awards for all your communications projects such as special events, media and public relations campaigns, publications and annual reports. The Awards will be presented in LG Week at the Awards Dinner on Wednesday 3 August.

**EMPOWERING
COMMUNITIES**



LG Week

Monday 1 – Sunday 7 August

LG Week website

www.LGweek.lgsa.org.au

Further Information

Jann Hing

02 9242 4031

jann.hing@lgsa.org.au

Ref: R09/0006 JH

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General Interest

Item 6: 2011 Shires Association Conference – Record of Decisions

The Shires Association Conference Record of Decisions are now available to view online.

The Record of Decisions are now available to view in draft format on the Shires Association Conference website.

Shires Conference Website

<http://www.lgsa-plus.net.au/www/html/3657-motions-and-business-papers.asp>

Contact

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skye.smith@lgsa.org.au

Ref: R11/0003 SS

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Learning

Item 7: Drug and Alcohol Awareness Workshops for Supervisors and Managers

The workshops provide a practical and interactive program designed specifically for supervisors and managers.

It will assist attendees to build the confidence to manage workplace performance issues that may be associated with drugs and alcohol.

The use of illicit drugs and the inappropriate use of alcohol, prescription and non-prescription drugs have been recognised to contribute to cause serious and adverse effects on a person's health, safety and job performance.

Awareness of the issues associated with the use of alcohol and drugs together with the application of effective and appropriate interventions can assist Supervisors and Managers to meet their duty of care responsibilities in providing a safe and healthy workplace.

Dates and Locations

Wednesday 31 August	Sydney
Wednesday 14 September	Wagga
Wednesday 21 September	Lismore
Wednesday 12 October	Dubbo

Cost

1 day workshop \$495 inc. GST

Registrations

<http://www.lgsa.org.au/www/html/152-courses-for-staff.asp>

Contact

Jennifer Fanning
Learning Solutions
02 9242 4181
learning@lgsa.org.au

Ref: I98/0012 DR

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Learning

Item 8: Personal and Executive Assistants' Annual Conference

Registrations are still open for this year's Conference - Empowering PA/EAs in Local Government.

This annual event provides the opportunity to enhance the professionalism and strategic awareness of PA/EAs. Participants will enjoy the chance to share experiences in a stimulating environment where networking with counterparts from other NSW Councils is encouraged.

Key themes include:

- Being Proactive and Innovative.
- Personal Drive and Motivation.
- Influencing, building Rapport and investing in Relationships.
- Empowering yourself to be Healthy.

Keynote speakers include:

- Sam Cawthorn, dinner guest speaker.
- Norm Turkington, Norman Turkington & Associates Pty Ltd.
- Colleen Wilson-Lord OAM, Healthy Lifestyle Health Promotion Services.
- Darryl Rubiolo, Manager, Local Government Learning Solutions.

Delegates will have the choice of two interactive workshops.

Senior staff are encouraged to support their EA/PAs and other interested administrative staff to attend this important professional development event.

Dates

Friday 10 June

Location

Amora Hotel, Jamison Street, Sydney

Cost

\$550 inc. GST for Conference and Conference Dinner (evening of Thursday 9 June)

Registrations

<https://lgsa.wufoo.com/forms/personal-executive-assistants-annual-conference>

Contact

Chrissie Gordon-Wells
Learning Solutions
02 9242 4081
learning@lgsa.org.au

Ref: I98/0012 DR

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Learning

Item 9: Learning Solutions Staff Public Workshops

Learning Solutions are offering a range of public staff programs and events scheduled for June and July in NSW.

The great benefits of attending Local Government oriented workshops is that they provide the opportunity to network and share ideas with people from other NSW Councils, allowing you to take this valuable experience back to your own council.

Making Consultative Committees More Effective

Tuesday 14 June – Sydney.

Thursday 21 July – Port Macquarie.

Verbal Judo for Contact Professionals

Wednesday 15 June – Sydney.

Mentoring Skills for Managers

Friday 17 June – Sydney.

Time Management

Wednesday 22 June - Wagga Wagga.

Coaching Skills for Council Leaders

Thursday 23 June - Wagga Wagga.

Personal Safety – Conflict Resolution

Monday 4 July – Sydney.

Preventing Bullying and Harassment

Wednesday 20 July – Port Macquarie.

Creative Training Skills

Friday 22 July – Sydney.

Workforce Planning

Monday 25 – Tuesday 26 July – Narrandera.

Advanced Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (GIPA)

Tuesday 26 July – Sydney.

Local Government Award History and Interpretation

Wednesday 27 July – Sydney.

Introduction to Project Management

Friday 29 July – Sydney.

Registrations

<http://www.lgsa.org.au/www/html/421-public-staff-course-registration-form.asp?intSiteID=1>

Contact

Jennifer Fanning
Learning Solutions
02 9242 4181
learning@lgsa.org.au

Ref: I98/0012 DR

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Legal

Item 10: Review of Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils – Request for submissions on discussion paper.

The NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet, Division of Local Government has released a discussion paper in relation to a review of the Model Code of Conduct.

The LGSA will be preparing a submission and are seeking feedback from all councils to form the basis of the submission.

All councils are encouraged to provide the Associations with their views on the operation of the Model Code and feedback is required either by mail or by email to the LGSA's Legal Officer.

Feedback Due

Friday 1 July

Website

www.dlg.nsw.gov.au

Contact

Frank Loveridge
LGSA Legal Officer
9242 4125
frank.loveridge@lgsa.org.au

Ref: R90/0014-06 FL

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Planning

Item 11: Changes to Joint Regional Planning Panels under consideration

The Premier, Hon Barry O'Farrell MP, outlined coming changes to the Planning Act at the recent Shires Association of NSW Annual Conference in Sydney.

Comments Forum

<http://planningnetwork.lgsa.org.au>

Ref: R04/0066 JD

The Premier, Hon Barry O'Farrell MP took the opportunity to outline certain planning changes that had been made and were under consideration. The new Government has already undertaken changes to how Part 3A projects will be assessed and determined, as well as changes to the Affordable Rental Housing SEPP – both outlined in previous Local Government Weekly items. He reiterated his Government's intention to review the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act*. In addition, the Premier also flagged that the Government was considering making changes to Joint Regional Planning Panels (JRPPs).

The intent of the changes to Joint Regional Planning Panels, the Minister said, was to 'democratise these panels'.

The Minister for Local Government, Hon Donald Page MP, later clarified that the Government was considering changing the proportion of local to state representatives on JRPPs to favour local representation. Currently there are three state representatives and two local nominees. In addition, the Minister suggested that the process of appointing the Chair of these Panels may be also reviewed to take into consideration advice from Local Government.

The recent Planning Circular, PS11-014, outlining current changes to Part 3A projects, indicated that the threshold for development that is referred to a JRPP is being examined so that only genuinely regionally significant development is referred to a JRPP. The Planning Circular is at <http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=X5I0k8RQKPE%3d&tabid=81&language=en-AU>

Given that the membership and threshold of applications that can be referred to a JRPP are under consideration, it is timely for the Associations to provide a response to the State Government. To assist the Associations with representations, we would like to hear about councils' experience with JRPPs and any issues that have arisen that need to be addressed. There is now an opportunity to provide feedback on the current operation of the JRPPs that may assist the development of a better model in the interim period before the complete review of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act*.

Go to our Forum on the LGSA Planning Network site and let us know your views.

Please visit our new 'LG Planning Network' web site to share experiences and views on Joint Regional Planning Panels.

Councillors and staff can become registered users on the 'LG Planning Network' web site and are encouraged to use the site as a tool to exchange ideas and resources on current planning matters. A council email address is required. Registered members can access the Forum section on the web site to participate in online discussions with other registered users on planning matters.

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Planning

Item 12: Changes to Part 3A – Tell us your views

The LGSA invites comments and feedback from local councils on the State Government's recent announcement to revoke the Part 3A status of a number of residential, commercial, retail and coastal projects.

The transitional arrangements announced by the Minister for Planning on 13 May 2011 will see a significant number (estimated at 63) of residential, commercial, retail and coastal projects removed from the Part 3A assessment system and handed back to local councils for assessment. About 100 other residential, retail, commercial and coastal projects will continue under Part 3A pending its legislative repeal, as they have substantially progressed within the existing assessment process.

Please visit our new 'LG Planning Network' web site for more information about the changes to Part 3A. Councils are asked to share their experiences and expectations as they deal with any newly lodged applications (<http://planningnetwork.lgsa.org.au/blog/part-3a-projects-handed-back-councils>).

Councillors and staff can become registered users on the 'LG Planning Network' website and are encouraged to use the site as a tool to exchange ideas and resources on current planning matters such as the changes to Part 3A. A council email address is required. Registered members can access the Forum section on the web site to participate in online discussions with other registered users on planning matters.

LG Planning Network

<http://planningnetwork.lgsa.org.au/blog/part-3a-projects-handed-back-councils>)

Department of Planning and Infrastructure website

<http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/DevelopmentAssessments/Majorprojectassessments/tabid/203/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

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In the News

Item 13: Media from the LGSA

View the latest media releases distributed by the LGSA

NSW Ministers' promises at Shires Conference tick all the boxes

1 June 2011

<http://www.lgsa.org.au/www/html/3798-1-june-2011-nsw-ministers-promises-at-shires-conference-tick-all-the-boxes-.asp?intSiteID=1>

A review of the Local Government Act 1993, allowing councils to explore running Local Government elections, as well as a promise to address cost-shifting and rate pegging, are just some of the many commitments made by the O'Farrell Government today at the Shires Association Annual Conference.

New Shires Association Office Bearers and Executives elected

1 June 2011

<http://www.lgsa.org.au/www/html/3799-1-june-2011-new-shires-association-office-bearers-and-executives-elected.asp?intSiteID=1>

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Mayor of Bogan Shire elected Shires Association President

31 May 2011

<http://www.lgsa.org.au/www/html/3800-31-may-2011-mayor-of-bogan-shire-elected-shires-association-president.asp?intSiteID=1>

The Mayor of Bogan Shire, Cr Ray Donald, has today been elected as the new President of the Shires Association of NSW. Members voted today at the Association's annual conference in Sydney.

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