



## **Concerns with new weed funding program**

The Associations are working with councils, weed authorities, and the NSW Government to ensure that the recently announced new weed funding program is efficient, effective and appropriate. See [item 7](#).

## **Local Government Employment Law Seminar**

The seminar will feature key issues in employment law and is an essential professional development opportunity for general managers, directors, managers, council legal officers, and human resource professionals. See [item 14](#).

## **2010 LGSA Water Management Conference - Call for Papers**

Councils and other stakeholders are invited to forward papers and/or suggestions for the conference program. See [item 19](#).

## **Local Government Association of NSW and the Shires Association of NSW**

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Sydney NSW 2000

## **Email subscription**

Subscribe to receive the Local Government Weekly and media releases directly by email on the LGSA website at: [www.lgsa.org.au/subscribe](http://www.lgsa.org.au/subscribe)

## **Awards**

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## **Conferences and Events**

### **Item 2: Upcoming conferences and events**

View upcoming conference and events relevant to Local Government

## **Grants & Funding**

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View the latest grant and funding opportunities for Local Government

## **Community**

### **Item 4: Call for examples of age friendly environments**

Photos of best practice in age-friendly environments are sought to publish on a web resource that will help councils plan for ageing populations within the new integrated planning and reporting framework.

### **Item 5: ADHC Client and Carer Forums**

Ageing, Disability and Home Care (ADHC) Metro South Region is hosting nine Client & Carer Forums (Information Exchanges) for clients, families and carers in 2010.

### **Item 6: Seniors driving and mobility seminar**

NRMA Motoring and Services invites councils to attend a seminar on 'Seniors – Driving and Mobility Issues' with guest speaker and expert, Elin Schlod Davis – Project Coordinator, American Occupational Therapy Associations Older Driver Initiative.

## **Environment**

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This course is suitable for law enforcement officers/rangers/inspectors in councils and also for parking officers as an opportunity to develop their skills.

### **Item 9: Recent Land and Environment Court Decisions and the Implications for Local Government**

This free lunchtime seminar is coordinated by LGSA and Maddocks and is suitable for councillors and senior council staff.

### **Item 10: Making Consultative Committees More Effective**

This one day workshop is designed to provide participants with an understanding of the roles and responsibilities of consultative committees in Local Government.

### **Item 11: The Councillor Weekend**

The Councillor weekends have been designed to provide councillors with a programme of accredited learning opportunities covering a range of topics.

### **Item 12: Learning Solutions Councillor Professional Development Program**

A range of Councillor Professional Development programs have been scheduled from February to March Sydney.

### **Item 13: Heritage Short Course for Local Government**

Development Approvals: The Heritage Perspective is a must for councillors, directors, planners, building and health inspectors and engineers, and for anyone interested in heritage issues in Local Government.

### **Item 14: Local Government Employment Law Seminar**

The seminar will feature key issues in employment law and is an essential professional development opportunity for general managers, directors, managers, council legal officers, and human resource professionals.

## **Planning**

### **Item 15: Funding under the Metropolitan Greenspace Program**

On 7 February 2010 Premier Kristina Keneally announced the successful projects in the latest round of funding under the Metropolitan Greenspace Program. Nearly \$2.4 million was granted to 17 separate open space and regional trail projects across Sydney.

## **Procurement**

### **Item 16: LGP News – February edition out now**

The latest edition of LGP news is available now.

## **Tourism**

### **Item 17: Only days left to register for the LGSA Tourism Conference**

Don't miss NSW's only Local Government focused tourism conference! Online registration is still open.

## **Water**

### **Item 18: Australian Water Association 2010 NSW Water Industry Awards**

The NSW Water Industry Awards promote the outstanding work achieved by individuals and organisations in the water sector. They also promote water and environmental sciences as a career choice through the student category awards.

### **Item 19: 2010 LGSA Water Management Conference - Call for Papers**

Councils and other stakeholders are invited to forward papers and/or suggestions for the conference program.

## **In the News**

### **Item 20: Media from the LGSA**

View the latest media releases distributed by the LGSA

## Awards

### Item 1: Award opportunities

View the latest Award opportunities for Local Government.

### **Item 18: Australian Water Association 2010 NSW Water Industry Awards**

The NSW Water Industry Awards promote the outstanding work achieved by individuals and organisations in the water sector. They also promote water and environmental sciences as a career choice through the student category awards.

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## Conferences and Events

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## Grants & Funding

### Item 3: Grant and funding opportunities for Local Government

View the latest grant and funding opportunities for Local Government

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## Community

### Item 4: ADHC Client and Carer Forums

**Ageing, Disability and Home Care (ADHC) Metro South Region is hosting nine Client & Carer Forums (Information Exchanges) for clients, families and carers in 2010.**

These forums provide an opportunity to discuss the delivery of services to older people, people with a disability, their families and carers; and for ADHC to provide an update on regional developments.

Sessions will be held in 9 locations in the Metro South Region, including evening forums to assist those with daytime commitments, two Aboriginal-specific forums across the Metro South Region, and two forums for people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. The feedback report from the last forums is also available upon request.

#### Forum details

##### **Hurstville**

Tuesday, 2 March, 6pm - 8pm , Biddegal Room 2, Club Central Hurstville  
2 Crofts Avenue, Hurstville

##### **Fairfield**

Thursday 4 March, When 11am - 2pm, The Horsley Room, Fairfield RSL Club  
14 Anzac Avenue, Fairfield

##### **Randwick**

Tuesday, 9 March, 10am to 1pm, The Venue, Randwick Labour Club  
135 Alison Road, Randwick

##### **Five Dock**

Monday, 15 March, 11am - 2pm, Where Grand Ballroom, Club Five Dock  
66 Great North Road, Five Dock

##### **Mount Annan**

Monday, 29 March, 6pm to 8pm, The Bowden Centre, Mount Annan Botanical Gardens  
Mount Annan Drive, Mount Annan

File Reference: R96/0126

#### **Registration**

Essential. Contact Clayton

Freeman:

[clayton.freeman@dadhc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:clayton.freeman@dadhc.nsw.gov.au)  
u, 02 9334 3732 or 0458 293 774

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## Community

### Item 5: Seniors driving and mobility seminar

NRMA Motoring and Services invites councils to attend a seminar on 'Seniors – Driving and Mobility Issues' with guest speaker and expert, Elin Schlod Davis – Project Coordinator, American Occupational Therapy Associations Older Driver Initiative.

Her projects focus on the awareness of safety issues for the mobility of seniors.

The seminar will cover:

- Changing demographics, crash statistics; changes to the NSW Licensing System for Older Drivers - testing /assessment.
- The Collaborative Model of driving and the issue of driving and community mobility.
- Changes associated with ageing and their impact on driver safety.
- Matching educational interventions to the regulatory assessment regime.
- Accommodating gradual personal changes.
- The issue of stopping driving.
- Dementia.
- Driving Screening vs. evaluation .
- The role of the community and healthcare. Clarification and differentiation of roles – who are they and what can each bring to the individual, family and the community?
- CarFit – a program which offers the individual education in their vehicle. Involves a classroom session and an outside 'event' where seniors come in their vehicles to have the newly trained technicians run through.

File Reference: R90/1195

#### Key dates / Venues

Wednesday 10 March 2010,  
9:30am until 2:30pm, NRMA Office  
(Level 3, 9A York Street, Sydney)

#### RSVP

Madeleine Carr by 26 Feb

#### Online information

<http://www.mynrma.com.au>

#### Further information

Madeleine Carr  
Policy Analyst - Government  
Relations & Public Policy, NRMA, 02  
9276 7234, 04399 133 251,  
[Madeleine.Carr@mynrma.com.au](mailto:Madeleine.Carr@mynrma.com.au)

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## Community

### Item 6: Call for examples of age friendly environments

**Photos of best practice in age-friendly environments are sought to publish on a web resource that will help councils plan for ageing populations within the new integrated planning and reporting framework.**

The Division of Local Government, Department of Premier and Cabinet, in conjunction with the Associations and the Office for Ageing are developing a web resource to assist councils in planning for ageing populations within the context of the new integrated planning and reporting framework. The Associations are represented on the Steering group for the project and some councils have expressed interest in participating in the Reference Group.

The web resource is part of the NSW Government's commitment to Towards 2030: planning for our changing populations. The actions addressed by this project are:

- 1.3.6 Work collaboratively with Local Government on a new integrated planning process requiring councils to prepare long term strategic plans which include consideration of the changing population demographic.
- 2.2.3 Encourage social planning and community development initiatives at Local Government level to promote and support formal and informal community networks for all ages, and sustain intergenerational communities.

The Division of Local Government, Department of Premier and Cabinet, is managing the project.

Examples of good practice in design of age-friendly environments are being sought for inclusion in the web resource. The types of areas that might be included are:

- Outdoor spaces and buildings.
- Housing.
- Walkability, transportation and parking.
- Social participation and engagement.
- Community services.

File Reference: R96/0126

#### **Photos due**

Monday 22 February 2010. Please forward photos to, Martin Worthy, DLG:  
[martin.worthy@dlg.nsw.gov.au](mailto:martin.worthy@dlg.nsw.gov.au), 02 4428 4219.

#### **For further information**

Margaret Kay, Senior Policy Officer, Ageing and Disability, LGSA: 02 9242 4082,  
[Margaret.kay@lgsa.org.au](mailto:Margaret.kay@lgsa.org.au)

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## Environment

### Item 7: Concerns with new weed funding program

**The Associations are working with councils, weed authorities, and the NSW Government to ensure that the recently announced new weed funding program is efficient, effective and appropriate.**

In October 2009, the NSW Government launched a new program for funding the management of weeds in NSW. The NSW Weeds Action Program, was developed to deliver the outcomes of the NSW Invasive Species Plan.

The new program was developed by Industry & Investment NSW (previously known as the Department of Primary Industries) and replaces the existing grant funding scheme that supports Local Control Authorities (Local Government) in managing weeds in their local area.

While there are aspects of the program that are widely considered to be positive initiatives, numerous councils have raised concerns about other issues. While the strategic theory of the program is general supported, concerns lie in the administrative and logistical mechanisms for actually implementing the program.

To ensure that these issues are acknowledged at a state level, the Associations have raised them at the NSW Noxious Weeds Advisory Committee (NWAC) for discussion, tabling a series of specific questions on the new program at its meeting in December 2009. Industry and Investment NSW (I&INSW) provided a response to some of these questions in February 2010. The LGSA then reviewed these responses and assessed their value in clarifying our concerns.

With support from other NWAC members, the Associations have since pushed for more extensive consultation with councils by I&INSW over these issues. The Department has agreed to hold a consultation meeting with all Regional Weeds Advisory Committees, NWAC members, and the LGSA in Sydney on 5 March 2010, to answer all questions of concern regarding the implementation of the program.

The Associations' Presidents (Cr Genia McCaffery and Cr Bruce Miller) are also planning to meet with the Minister for Primary Industries, The Hon Steve Whan MP regarding these issues.

The Associations will continue to provide updates to all councils on these issues. If councils have any specific issues that they would like to raise, please contact Geoff Hudson (details above.)

File Reference: R90/0143

#### Online information

[www.lgsa.org.au/NRM](http://www.lgsa.org.au/NRM)

#### For further information

Geoff Hudson, Senior Policy Officer  
NRM 9242 4095,  
[geoff.hudson@lgsa.org.au](mailto:geoff.hudson@lgsa.org.au).

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## Learning

### Item 8: Certificate IV in Local Government (Regulatory Services)

**This course is suitable for law enforcement officers/rangers/inspectors in councils and also for parking officers as an opportunity to develop their skills.**

Local Government Learning Solutions offers 100% Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) for the Certificate IV in Local Government (Regulatory Services) and encourages employees to apply for this service. RPL provides recognition of an employee's current skills and knowledge, as well as reducing the time and costs of the formal training courses.

The Rangers programs are delivered in face to face modules over 14 days plus assessment tasks to ensure that the skills and knowledge are transferred effectively to the council workplace.

During the modules the relevant legislation such as the Companion Animals Act and the Protection of the Environment Act are covered in a comprehensive and practical fashion.

All courses are held in Sydney.

#### 2010 Modules – Dates and location

- 22-25 March, Rangers 3.
- 19-23 April, Rangers 1.
- 17-21 May, Rangers 2.

File Reference: I98/0012:RN

#### Cost

Rangers 1 and 2 is \$1,420 inclusive of GST

Rangers 3 is \$1,165 inclusive of GST

#### Registrations

<http://www.lgsa.org.au/www/html/150-learning-solutions.asp>

#### Further Information

Learning Solutions: 02 9242 4181,  
[learning@lgsa.org.au](mailto:learning@lgsa.org.au)

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## Learning

### Item 9: Recent Land and Environment Court Decisions and the Implications for Local Government

**This free lunchtime seminar is coordinated by LGSA and Maddocks and is suitable for councillors and senior council staff.**

The NSW Land and Environment Court (L&E Court) deals with land, planning and environment law matters relevant to Local Government practice. By providing an alternative vehicle for environmental protection, the L&E Court often produces landmark cases and cases establishing planning principles.

The seminar will address recent L&E Court decisions and the implications for Local Government, particularly exploring issues including:

- Retail centre decisions
- Climate change decisions
- Recent planning principles
- Section 34 conferences (mediation).

The presenters will be Stan Kondilios, Partner, Maddocks and Prue Burns, Partner, Maddocks.

Registrations are essential since numbers are limited. A confirmation letter will be faxed with details of the venue.

File Reference: I98/0012:RN

#### **Date and Time**

Friday 5 March 2010, 12pm to 2pm

#### **Location**

Local Government Learning Centre, 28 Margaret Street, Sydney

#### **Registrations**

[learning@lgsa.org.au](mailto:learning@lgsa.org.au)

#### **Further Information**

Learning Solutions: 02 9242 4181 or [learning@lgsa.org.au](mailto:learning@lgsa.org.au)

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## Learning

### Item 10: Making Consultative Committees More Effective

**This one day workshop is designed to provide participants with an understanding of the roles and responsibilities of consultative committees in Local Government.**

The workshop aims to refresh your understanding of the consultative process, ensure correct processes are implemented and give inexperienced participants increased confidence in their ability to participate and present a case or conduct meetings.

By the end of the course, participants will be able to:

- describe the changing face of local government;
- review service delivery and issues councils face;
- understand roles, rights and duties of the members and the decision making process;
- understand award/legislative changes and affected workplace structures and allied documents;
- understand the structure of effective and productive meetings;
- display improved skills in dealing with people and situations using more effective communication techniques;
- implement positive consultative processes in working together and dealing with conflict and negativity in meetings;
- conduct and participate in meetings correctly using effective decision making, consensus and time saving techniques; and
- follow up meetings and implement actions.

#### **Date and Time**

Tuesday 23 March, 9am to 4.30pm

#### **Location**

Bob Osborne Skills Centre, Wagga Wagga

#### **Cost**

\$462 per person inclusive of GST

#### **Registrations**

[learning@lgsa.org.au](mailto:learning@lgsa.org.au)

#### **Further Information**

Learning Solutions: 02 9242 4181,  
[learning@lgsa.org.au](mailto:learning@lgsa.org.au)

File Reference: I98/0012:RN

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## Learning

### Item 11: The Councillor Weekend

The Councillor weekends have been designed to provide councillors with a programme of accredited learning opportunities covering a range of topics.

It is recognised that many councillors face constraints in travelling long distances for one day training courses, but may be able to set aside time to do an accelerated learning program of mini skills courses over two days.

The Councillor Weekend will explore the principles of Strategic Planning and Asset Management for Councillors, Meeting and Chairing Skills for Councillors, and an Open Forum to discuss important issues and trends.

The facilitators are:

Simon Jacobs            Principal, Corporate Planning and Development

David Clark             Consultant

Allen Mapstone        Consultant, Jeff Roorda & Associates

Darryl Rubiolo         Senior Learning and Development Consultant, Local Government Learning Solutions

Jennifer Dennis        Policy Officer, Planning, LGSA

Councillor Weekends in 2010 have been designed to cater for both new and experienced councillors over the Friday/Saturday period.

File Reference: R95/0084:RN

#### Date and Location

Friday 12 March to Saturday 13 March 2009, Sydney

#### Cost

\$880 inclusive of GST for workshops, manuals, refreshments and dinner on the Friday evening

#### Registrations

<http://www.lgsa.org.au/www/html/151-courses-for-councillors.asp>

#### Further information

Ruth Niemczyk, Learning Solutions  
[ruth.niemczyk@lgsa.org.au](mailto:ruth.niemczyk@lgsa.org.au)

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## Learning

### Item 12: Learning Solutions Councillor Professional Development Program

A range of Councillor Professional Development programs have been scheduled from February to March Sydney.

#### Workshop and Date:

- Planning Legislation Skills & Knowledge, Friday 26 February
- Initiating Change for Councillors, Thursday 4 March
- Media Fundamentals, Monday 8 March
- Councillor Weekend, Friday 12 March to Saturday 13 March
- The Effective Chair in Local Government, Monday 15 March\*
- Financial Skills for Councillors, Friday 19 March
- Connecting with the Community, Friday 26 March

\*Evening module

File Reference: R95/0084:RN

#### Cost

Most modules are \$495 inclusive of GST per course. Media Fundamentals is \$594 inclusive of GST. Evening modules are \$330 inclusive of GST. The Councillor Weekend is \$880 inclusive of GST.

#### Registrations

Please fax a registration form to 02 9242 4188 or email [learning@learning.org.au](mailto:learning@learning.org.au)

#### Further information

Ruth Niemczyk, Learning Solutions  
[ruth.niemczyk@lgsa.org.au](mailto:ruth.niemczyk@lgsa.org.au)

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## Learning

### Item 13: Heritage Short Course for Local Government

**Development Approvals: The Heritage Perspective is a must for councillors, directors, planners, building and health inspectors and engineers, and for anyone interested in heritage issues in Local Government.**

Topics include:

- The Development Assessment Environment.
- Conducting an Informed Assessment.
- Conservation Area Management.
- Assessment Criteria.
- Heritage Conservation Principles - The Burra Charter.

A site visit is also arranged as part of the workshop.

Presenter: David Logan of Godden Mackay Logan, Heritage Consultants

File Reference: I98/10012:RN

#### **Date and Time**

Thursday 18 March, 9am to 4.30pm

#### **Location**

Local Government Learning Centre, Sydney

#### **Cost**

\$462 per person inclusive of GST

#### **Registrations**

[learning@lgsa.org.au](mailto:learning@lgsa.org.au)

#### **Further Information**

Learning Solutions: 02 9242 4181,  
[learning@lgsa.org.au](mailto:learning@lgsa.org.au)

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## Learning

### Item 14: Local Government Employment Law Seminar

The seminar will feature key issues in employment law and is an essential professional development opportunity for general managers, directors, managers, council legal officers, and human resource professionals.

In recent years there has been a considerable amount of legislative change in employment law. The pace of the changes have left many people feeling overwhelmed and in some cases has resulted in managers overlooking basic principles of industrial relations and employment law, including in relation to the management of injured workers. Accordingly, at this year's Employment Law Seminar we have chosen the title 'Getting on with the job.'

#### Key Themes

- The NSW State Industrial Relations System.
- Federal Employment Laws that apply to State System Employers.
- What You Need to Know about Employment Contracts.
- Electronic Media and the Workplace.
- Model OH&S Legislation.
- HR Management of Ill and Injured workers –What does the Case Law Say?
- Legal Aspects of Performance Management.
- Year in Review.

#### Keynote Speakers

- the Honourable John Robertson, NSW Minister for Industrial Relations, MLC;
- Mark Sullivan and Neil Napper, Partners, Lander & Rogers Lawyers;
- Paul Cutrone, Partner, Sparke Helmore Lawyers;
- Rod Marshall, Solicitor and Senior Associate, Fisher, Cartwright Berriman Workplace Lawyers & Consultants;
- Stephen Marriott, Solicitor, Moray & Agnew Solicitors;
- Erin Wilson, Associate, Maddocks; and
- Aaron Allegretto, Solicitor and Senior Industrial Officer, LGSA.

File Reference: I98/0012:RN

#### Date and Time

Thursday 20 May 2010, 9am to 4.45 pm

#### Location

Menzies Hotel, Sydney

#### Cost

Early Bird: \$396 per person inclusive of GST (register by 21 April)

\$451 per person inclusive of GST

#### Registrations

[learning@lgsa.org.au](mailto:learning@lgsa.org.au)

#### Further Information

Learning Solutions on 02 9242 4181 or [learning@lgsa.org.au](mailto:learning@lgsa.org.au)

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## Planning

### Item 15: Funding under the Metropolitan Greenspace Program

**On 7 February 2010 Premier Kristina Keneally announced the successful projects in the latest round of funding under the Metropolitan Greenspace Program. Nearly \$2.4 million was granted to 17 separate open space and regional trail projects across Sydney.**

The program provides grants for the planning and embellishment of regional open space in the greater metropolitan Sydney region.

In implementing the program, the Department of Planning works closely with councils to plan and improve regionally significant green space, including parks, trails and reserves.

Since 1990, the program has provided over \$27 million to more than 490 projects in partnership with Local Government. The program allocates \$2.4 million annually to councils on a dollar-for-dollar match funding basis. The program is seen as seed funding and on average every \$1 from the Department is leveraged to gain the value of \$4-\$10 for a project.

The Program also promotes the development of recreation trails across the Sydney region with a focus on implementing the priorities of the Regional Recreation Trails Framework. This achieved by partnering with Local Government to improve regionally significant open space.

#### **To apply for grants in 2010**

The Annual workshop on how to apply for a grant will be held on 15 March 2010. The Application Forms and Guidelines will be available on that date. See details above.

File Reference: R96/0008.jd

#### **Workshop date**

15 March 2010

#### **Online information**

[Metropolitan Greenspace Program](#)

#### **Further information**

Metro Open Space Strategy –  
Metropolitan Greenspace Program,  
NSW Department of Planning, 02  
9860 1534, 02 9895 7711,  
[greenspace@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:greenspace@planning.nsw.gov.au)

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## Procurement

### Item 16: LGP News – February edition out now

This edition includes:

- 2009 LGP Rebate Refunds
- LGP Electricity Update
- Current Contracts
- New Contract - LGP1208 Engineering, Planning and Development and Community Professional Consulting Services
- New Contract - LGP309 RFID Systems
- Contract Extension
- Current Tenders
- What's Going on with LGP Approved Contractors
- IPWEA Regional Conferences
- LGP Purchasing Network
- Phrase of the Month.

#### Newsletter

<http://www.lgp.org.au/resources/documents/LGPNewsFeb10.pdf>

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## Tourism

### Item 17: Only days left to register for the LGSA Tourism Conference

**Don't miss NSW's only Local Government focused tourism conference! Online registration is still open.**

Back by popular demand, the conference workshop session will test your problem solving skills. Based on the site visit to the Cowra POW (Prisoner of War) Campsite and the Manly Quarantine Station case study, delegates will be asked to split into three groups to come up with practical solutions:

- Scenario 1: Marketing strategy and collaboration, facilitated by Ms Jan Strom of Southern Cross University.
- Scenario 2: Funding and stakeholder partnerships, facilitated by Mr John Larkin of Aurora Research .
- Scenario 3: Community involvement and infrastructure, facilitated by Mr Tony Boland of Orange City Council.

Delegates can choose what scenario to work on when registering for the conference. Please visit the Tourism Conference website for the latest information, including the program.

The 2010 NSW Tourism Conference is partnered by Tourism New South Wales, supported by the Tourism Industry Council, with Cowra Guardian and CountryLink as Premier Sponsors.

R09/0005: MM

#### **Register**

[www.TourismConference.lgsa.org.au](http://www.TourismConference.lgsa.org.au)

#### **Registration closes**

23 February 2010

#### **Date**

10-12 March 2010

#### **Location and Host**

Cowra Civic Centre, Cowra Shire Council

#### **Further information**

Karen Rolls:

[events@lgsa.org.au](mailto:events@lgsa.org.au), 02 9242 4050

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## Water

### Item 18: Australian Water Association 2010 NSW Water Industry Awards

The NSW Water Industry Awards promote the outstanding work achieved by individuals and organisations in the water sector. They also promote water and environmental sciences as a career choice through the student category awards.

The awards are an opportunity for individuals and organisations (whether AWA members or not) to be recognised for innovation and excellence in the technology, business and delivery of their water sector projects. For example last year, Orange City Council won a major award for its work on stormwater reuse.

Along with the prestige of being recognised 'the best in NSW', winners of the NSW Water Industry Awards will automatically be entered into the equivalent AWA National Award category.

The NSW Branch will be honoured again with The Peter Cullen Post Graduate Scholarship being awarded by the Hon Phillip Costa, Minister for Water at the NSW Water Industry Awards Night. Representatives from funding bodies, the Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists along with Peter Cullen's family members will be attending this event.

#### Awards:

- NSW Program Innovation Award (Previously Water Environment Merit Award -WEMA).
- NSW Infrastructure Project Innovation Award (Previously the NSW Water Construction Award).
- NSW Water Research Merit Award.
- NSW Water Professional of the Year Award.
- NSW Young Water Professional of the Year Award.
- NSW Undergraduate Water Prize.

#### Closing date

30 March 2010

#### Award information

<http://www.awa.asn.au/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Awards2&Template=/CM/HTMLDisplay.cfm&ContentID=15215>

#### Online information

[http://www.awa.asn.au/nsw/awards\\_contact](http://www.awa.asn.au/nsw/awards_contact)

#### Further information

Despina Hasapis, NSW Branch Manager: [dhasapis@awa.asn.au](mailto:dhasapis@awa.asn.au), 02 9436 0055

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## Water

### Item 19: 2010 LGSA Water Management Conference - Call for Papers

Councils and other stakeholders are invited to forward papers and/or suggestions for the conference program.

In particular, papers are invited on the main topics planned for the conference, including:

- Water conservation, demand management and alternative water supply options for towns. Eg the conference will showcase Orange City Council's Blackmans Swamp Stormwater Harvesting Scheme as a new and innovative approach to augmenting water supply through capturing urban stormwater flows. The scheme, which is capable of capturing approximately 2 GL/year, is the largest potable stormwater reuse system in Australia and has won several industry awards.
- Review of regulatory and institutional arrangement for local water utilities in regional NSW, particularly implementing regional water supply solutions to improve town water security. The conference will continue to discuss the outcomes on the NSW Government's Inquiry into Local Water Utilities.
- Increase water availability/security in inland NSW – potential for inter-catchment transfers and inland water diversion.

Papers/suggestions should include:

- A brief outline of the issue/main focus of your paper/suggestion;
- The preferred format for its inclusion in the program (conference paper, presentation, display, workshop topic);
- Possible presenter/s and a brief bio (50 words maximum); and
- The type of outcome that could be expected by conference delegates.

Please note that the LGSA do not accept presentations which are solely commercial in nature.

### Conference Background

The LGSA Water Management Conference is an annual event that provides Local Government with a broad range of information on water management and issues associated with water supply and sewerage services provided by water utilities.

The conference is an opportunity for councillors, Local Government professionals, government representatives and the broader industry to tackle key water management issues and discuss emerging issues in the water portfolio from a Local Government perspective.

R900/0027: SM

#### Closing date for papers

16 April 2010

#### Email papers to

Sascha Moege (details below)

#### Conference date and venue

13-14 September 2010, Orange  
(Evening welcome reception on Sunday, 12 September 2010)

#### Online information

[www.waterconference.lgsa.org.au](http://www.waterconference.lgsa.org.au)  
Includes the latest information as well as the opportunity to subscribe to a conference email newsletter.

#### For further information

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## In the News

### Item 20: Media from the LGSA

View the latest media releases distributed by the LGSA

#### **Christie Report will help answer Sydney transport woes**

Tuesday 16 February, 2010

<http://www.lgsa.org.au/www/default.asp?intSiteID=1&guiValue=C5E30FEA-D5E7-4888-9384-CD6BDDD945E1>

Local Government has welcomed the recommendations of the Christie Report, saying it's a well-developed, sensible and equitable transport plan for Sydney.

#### **Rate cap too low, needs to go**

Monday 15 February, 2010

<http://www.lgsa.org.au/www/default.asp?intSiteID=1&guiValue=760CD504-9665-4124-8380-7010FAA3CF75>

Communities across NSW are at risk of losing vital services and facilities due to a State Government decision to reduce the rate cap to only 2.6%.

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