



## **Changes to State Government's Affordable Housing SEPP**

The NSW Government has announced changes to the Affordable Housing State Environmental Planning Policy (AHSEPP) on 20 May 2011.

## **Shires Association Conference Sustainability Initiative 2011**

In the interests of the environment and the community, the Shires Association of NSW is encouraging Conference delegates to bring and reuse a virtual satchel to enter the BYO BAG competition.

## **NSW Local Government Week 2011**

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

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

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Level 8, 28 Margaret St  
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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The LGSA invites your council and community to support Local Government (LG) Week in NSW and get behind the theme in 2011 – *Empowering Communities*.

### Item 4: Shires Association Conference Sustainability Initiative 2011

In the interests of the environment and the community, the Shires Association of NSW is encouraging Conference delegates to bring and reuse a virtual satchel to enter the BYO BAG competition.

### Item 5: Local Government Web Network Conference

Get in quick to secure your ticket to the 2011 Local Government Web Network Conference - Early Bird Registrations are now open.

### Item 6: The 15th International Conference for Women Engineers and Scientists (ICWES15)

Celebrating the achievements of Women Engineers and Scientists, the Conference themed Leadership, Innovation, Sustainability, will showcase women leaders in science and engineering from organisations around the world and around Australia.

### Item 7: Rural Press Australian Livestock Markets Association AGM & Conference

Registrations will open soon for this year's Rural Press Australian Livestock Markets Association (ALMA) AGM and Conference – *Nature of the Beast*.

### Item 8: LG Week - Cancer Council Alive & Well Partnership Awards

Nominations are now open for the 2011 Cancer Council Alive and Well Partnership Awards.

### Item 9: Are you up for the Healthy Heart Challenge?

Council staff are encouraged to sign up to Heart Foundation program, The Healthy Heart Challenge

### Item 10: 2011 Local Government Aboriginal Network Conference

Registrations will open soon for this year's Local Government Aboriginal Network Conference, *Working Together*, to be held in Dubbo.

### Item 11: International Conference for Environment Centres and Community Activists

Individuals working on environmental issues in the local community are encouraged to attend the International Conference for Environment Centres and Community Activists.

### Item 12: Sister Cities Australia National Conference 2011

Toowoomba Regional Council has been selected to host this year's Sister Cities Australia National conference.

## Emergency Services

### Item 13: AFAC & Bushfire CRC Conference 2011

The AFAC & Bushfire CRC Conference will address the impacts and challenges for the emergency management sector.

#### **Item 14: Floodplain Risk Management Courses**

The University of Technology Sydney in conjunction with Floodplain Management Authorities (FMA) and NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change are conducting a series of Floodplain Risk Management short courses.

## **Environment**

#### **Item 15: Energy from Waste: Developing an EfW industry in NSW: Symposium**

The Australian Institute of Energy (AIE) is conducting a half day Symposium on Energy from Waste.

#### **Item 16: Contaminated Land Workshop**

Registrations are now open for the 2011 Contaminated Land Workshop to be held in Ballina.

#### **Item 17: Survey regarding forthcoming E-Waste Scheme**

The TV and Computer Industries have developed an online survey for NSW councils currently involved and/or interested in providing EoL TV and computer collection point services for their communities.

## **Finance**

#### **Item 18: LGSA Cost Shifting Survey for 2009/10**

The LGSA are currently undertaking the cost shifting survey for the financial year 2009/10 to be completed online by NSW councils.

## **Learning**

#### **Item 19: Coaching Skills for Leaders and Time Management workshops**

Local Government Learning Solutions is offering two practical and interactive workshops in Wagga Wagga.

#### **Item 20: Drug and Alcohol Awareness workshops**

The programs provide a practical and interactive workshop designed specifically for supervisors and managers.

#### **Item 21: Learning Solutions Staff Public Workshops**

Learning Solutions will be offering some great public staff programs and events in NSW throughout June.

## **Planning**

#### **Item 22: Changes to State Government's Affordable Housing SEPP**

The NSW Government has announced changes to the Affordable Housing State Environmental Planning Policy (AHSEPP) on 20 May 2011.

#### **Item 23: Call for Local Government nominees for the LEP Review Panel**

The Associations have been asked to recommend additional Local Government representatives for the LEP Review Panel. Nominations are now invited.

## **Roads and Transport**

#### **Item 24: National Road Safety Strategy 2011-2020**

The National Road Safety Strategy 2011-2020 was released on 20 May 2011 by the Australian Transport Council (ATC).

## **In the News**

### **Item 25: 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**

#### **LG Week - Cancer Council Alive & Well Partnership Awards**

Nominations are now open for the 2011 Cancer Council Alive and Well Partnership Awards.

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## Conferences and Events

### Item 2: Upcoming conferences and events

#### View upcoming conferences and events relevant to Local Government

##### **Shires Association Conference Sustainability Initiative 2011**

In the interests of the environment and the community, the Shires Association of NSW is encouraging Conference delegates to bring and reuse a virtual satchel to enter the BYO BAG competition.

##### **Local Government Web Network Conference**

Get in quick to secure your ticket to the 2011 Local Government Web Network Conference - Early Bird Registrations are now open.

##### **Rural Press Australian Livestock Markets Association AGM & Conference**

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Registrations will open soon for this year's Local Government Aboriginal Network Conference, *Working Together*, to be held in Dubbo.

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Individuals working on environmental issues in the local community are encouraged to attend the International Conference for Environment Centres and Community Activists.

##### **Sister Cities Australia National Conference 2011**

Toowoomba Regional Council has been selected to host this year's Sister Cities Australia National conference.

##### **AFAC & Bushfire CRC Conference 2011**

The AFAC & Bushfire CRC Conference will address the impacts and challenges for the emergency management sector.

##### **Energy from Waste: Developing an EfW industry in NSW: Symposium**

The Australian Institute of Energy (AIE) is conducting a half day Symposium on Energy from Waste.

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## General Interest

### Item 3: NSW Local Government Week 2011

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

This is a good opportunity to focus on the achievements of your council, the breadth of work undertaken and your council's plans for the future.

LG week is an opportunity for councils to showcase the range of services they provide to their community.

#### **Stuck for ideas?**

Participating in LG Week can be as simple as putting the LG Week logo on your council's website, or as elaborate as putting together a whole program of events and activities.

The LG Week 2011 website provides resources to help you actively promote LG Week to your community through the use of:

- Logos.
- Posters.
- Suggested activities.
- Tips on how to make your LG Week successful.
- See what other councils did last year to give you some great ideas.

#### **Showcasing councils**

Once again, the LG Week homepage is gearing up to showcase one council per week and the great plans they have for LG Week in 2011. Use the *What's On* online form to add your photos and links, and show other councils what great activities you've planned.

Show your community that Local Government provides much more than just rates, roads and rubbish!

**EMPOWERING  
COMMUNITIES**



**LG Week**  
Monday 1 - Sunday 7 August

**LG Week Website**  
[www.LGweek.lgsa.org.au](http://www.LGweek.lgsa.org.au)

**Contact**  
Jann Hing  
02 9242 4031  
[jann.hing@lgsa.org.au](mailto:jann.hing@lgsa.org.au)

**Ref:** R10/0008 JH

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## General Interest

### Item 4: Shires Association Conference Sustainability Initiative 2011

**In the interests of the environment and the community, the Shires Association of NSW is encouraging Conference delegates to bring and reuse a virtual satchel to enter the BYO BAG competition.**

The BYO BAG competition will be judged at the end of the conference for the best 'Sad Bag' (oldest) and the best 'Glad Bag' (decorated) and a prize will be awarded.

The Shires Association has donated the cost of each delegate's satchels to the charity of choice for the year, Stewart House, on the delegate's behalf.

#### **Business Papers**

Business Papers are available online and posted to councils.

#### **Voting Delegates**

Voting cards will be distributed from the registration desk on Monday 30 May at the Conference. Delegates will sign for each card and these **cards are to be returned** at the end of the conference. Please note: if the card is not returned or is lost, your council will be invoiced a replacement fee of \$35.

#### **Conference Dates**

Monday 30 May – Wednesday 1 June

#### **Website**

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

#### **Motions**

Skye Smith  
02 9242 4052

#### **Registration Enquiries**

Karen Rolls  
02 9242 4050

#### **Further Information**

Jann Hing  
02 9242 4031  
[events@lgsa.org.au](mailto:events@lgsa.org.au)

**Ref:** R10/0003 JH

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## General interest

### Item 5: Local Government Web Network Conference

#### Get in quick to secure your ticket to the 2011 Local Government Web Network Conference - Early Bird Registrations are now open.

Some of the highlights at this year's conference will include presentations and workshop sessions from some of the leading experts in Australia, as well as government case studies.

Having had the opportunity to contribute to discussion and debate, as well as networking with other professionals, participants will come away from the conference feeling part of the Local Government web community.

#### Program and topics

The Conference will offer a range in seminars to allow attendees to pick sessions that are best suited to them. It will also include some exciting key note speakers and case studies from NSW councils including Coffs Harbour City Council, Broken Hill City Council and Parramatta City Council.

Other topics include:

- *Does Online Community Engagement work?* with Matthew Crozier.
- *Open Access Policies, Creative Commons and Local Government* with Professor Anne Fitzgerald.
- *Online and On Track: Delivering Solutions for Public Library Clients now and in the Future* with Mylee Joseph.
- *PDF's and Accessibility: Can they really be made accessible?* With Gian Wild.
- *Workshop: An Introduction to CSS3* with Russ Weakley.

Not only will there be many introductory topics that do not require technical knowledge, the Conference will also include higher level sessions covering strategic issues and a broad look at the way the web is heading and what that means for government. There are also technical sessions for those who are involved in building and extending their websites and online applications.

#### Conference Dates

Thursday 18 – Friday 19  
August

#### Location

Sydney

#### Cost

Full conference ticket: Both days inc. dinner and workshops - \$660 inc. GST

One day conference ticket: Does not inc. dinner or workshops - \$440 inc. GST

#### Website

<http://lgwebnetwork.org/Conferences/2011>

#### Contact

Reem Abdelaty  
02 9242 4000  
[lgwebnetwork@lgsa.org.au](mailto:lgwebnetwork@lgsa.org.au)

**Ref:** R08/0026 RA

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## General Interest

### Item 6: The 15<sup>th</sup> International Conference for Women Engineers and Scientists (ICWES15)

**Celebrating the achievements of Women Engineers and Scientists, the Conference themed *Leadership, Innovation, Sustainability*, will showcase women leaders in science and engineering from organisations around the world and around Australia.**

Hosted by the National Committee for Women in Engineering, Engineers Australia and the International Network for Women Engineers and Scientists (INWES), the Conference will feature a special session on Women in Local Government.

The Conference will provide women in the engineering and scientific professions with a rare opportunity to meet and listen to many Australian and international leading women scientists and engineers and be inspired by their leadership journeys, their innovations and their recommendations for a sustainable future.

A cross-section of delegates is expected to attend with participation from over 30 countries. The government of South Korea will be supporting the attendance of 30 women scientists and engineers and UNESCO has provided funding for women engineers and scientists from developing countries to attend.

**Conference**

Tuesday 19 – Friday 22 July

**Venue**

Adelaide Convention Centre,  
Adelaide

**Early Bird Registration Due**

Wednesday 1 June

**Website**

[www.icwes15.org](http://www.icwes15.org)

**Ref:** R98/0087

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## General Interest

### Item 7: Rural Press Australian Livestock Markets Association AGM & Conference

**Registrations will open soon for this year's Rural Press Australian Livestock Markets Association (ALMA) AGM and Conference – *Nature of the Beast*.**

This year's ALMA Conference will be held in Dubbo, and is a key event on the Local Government calendar. It provides a forum for the livestock industry across the Nation to share ideas, knowledge and information.

Dubbo City Council proudly boasts the saleyards with the highest combined throughput of sheep and cattle in Australia. It is also home to Fletcher International Exports, which, via its two processing facilities, has the capacity to process 90,000 sheep per week. Fletcher International exports to more than 90 countries across the globe and also operates a railway terminal and export grain business. Roger Fletcher will be addressing the Conference on *World Markets: the future of the food industry and security*.

#### **Conference**

Tuesday 27 - Wednesday 28 July

#### **Location**

Dubbo RSL Club Resort, Dubbo

#### **Registration & accommodation**

[Bradley@ccem.com.au](mailto:Bradley@ccem.com.au)

#### **Further information**

Lana Willetts  
Dubbo City Council  
02 6801 4451

**Ref:** R90/0537

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## General Interest

### Item 8: LG Week - Cancer Council Alive & Well Partnership Awards

#### Nominations are now open for the 2011 Cancer Council Alive and Well Partnership Awards.

As part of Local Government (LG) Week, Cancer Council will be awarding two NSW councils with the Alive & Well Partnership Award - One Award will go to a member of the Shires Association of NSW and one Award will go to a member of the Local Government Association of NSW. Several councils will also receive a 'high commendation' for their efforts.

Councils are able to nominate themselves for an Alive & Well Partnership Award. The awards are an opportunity for Cancer Council to publicly recognise NSW councils for their efforts in fostering healthy local living and reducing the impact of cancer in their communities. Also recognised is the high level of collaboration and support councils have shown towards Cancer Council. The awards provide a good platform to showcase council achievements across the local community.

Past recipients of a Partnership Award include:

- Randwick City Council and Bogan Shire Council (2010).
- Upper Lachlan Shire Council and The Hills Shire Council (2009).
- Manly Council and Deniliquin Council (2008).

**EMPOWERING  
COMMUNITIES**



#### **LG Week**

Monday 1 – Sunday 7 August

#### **LG Week Website**

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

#### **Award Nominations due**

Thursday 16 June

#### **Award announcement**

Wednesday 3 August, LG Week Awards Evening in Sydney.

#### **Nomination Form**

<http://www.cancerCouncil.com.au/editorial.asp?pageid=2787>

#### **General Information**

[www.cancerCouncil.com.au/localgovernment](http://www.cancerCouncil.com.au/localgovernment)

#### **Contact**

Grant Malpas  
Cancer Council NSW  
02 9334 1891  
[localgovernment@nswcc.org.au](mailto:localgovernment@nswcc.org.au)

**Ref:** R10/0006 JH

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## General Interest

### Item 9: Are you up for the Healthy Heart Challenge?

#### Council staff are encouraged to sign up to Heart Foundation program, The Healthy Heart Challenge.

The Heart Foundation Go Red for Women campaign aims to raise awareness of heart disease as the number one killer of Australian women.

As part of this year's campaign, the Heart Foundation is launching a new initiative - the Healthy Heart Challenge - a free, ten week program to help women take control of their heart health.

#### What is the Healthy Heart Challenge

The Healthy Heart Challenge has been designed to provide small, yet realistic, steps to help women build changes into their lifestyle.

Participants must select one of the following six goals:

1. Be active everyday
2. Improve everyday nutrition
3. Increase knowledge of heart health
4. Quit smoking
5. Lower high blood pressure
6. Lower high cholesterol levels

To keep track of progress, participants will receive a link to their online pack, as well as weekly eNewsletters with tips and information to stay motivated.

#### How councils can get involved

The Heart Foundation encourages council staff to sign up for the challenge and help spread the word about women and heart disease.

Lismore Mayor Jenny Dowell is a Heart Foundation champion for the challenge and several other councils including Kiama, Kogarah, North Sydney and Lachlan Shire are also getting behind the campaign.

#### Healthy Heart Challenge Begins

Wednesday 1 June

#### Registrations to

[www.goredforwomen.org.au](http://www.goredforwomen.org.au)

1300 36 27 87

#### Further information

Kerry Kalcher

02 9219 2433

[kerry.kalcher@heartfoundation.org.au](mailto:kerry.kalcher@heartfoundation.org.au)

[g.au](http://g.au)

**Ref:** R92/0107

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## General Interest

### Item 10: 2011 Local Government Aboriginal Network Conference

**Registrations will open soon for this year's Local Government Aboriginal Network Conference, *Working Together*, to be held in Dubbo.**

The Conference will be the platform for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal councilors and staff to discuss current and emerging issues facing Aboriginal people in NSW.

It will feature an array of notable guest speakers including the Aboriginal Sector Development Manager with Museums & Galleries NSW, Steve Miller. Steve will speak on *keeping places and beyond; building cultural futures in NSW* and will be looking to engage Local Government in the consultation process in readiness for the summit to be held the following week in Sydney.

The conference is not limited to elected members or staff of councils, and can be attended by any individual who has an interest in developing and enhancing Aboriginal lifestyle, culture and employment opportunities.

**Conference**

Tuesday 13 – Thursday 15  
September

**Location**

Dubbo RSL Club Resort, Dubbo

**Registration &  
Accommodation**

Bradley@ccem.com.au

**Contact**

Lana Willetts  
Dubbo City Council  
02 6801 4451

**Ref:** R90/0893-03 CC

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## General Interest

### Item 11: International Conference for Environment Centres and Community Activists

**Individuals working on environmental issues in the local community are encouraged to attend the International Conference for Environment Centres and Community Activists.**

The Conference, organised by the Manly Environment Centre, will include sessions on running successful campaigns, managing volunteers and getting the community involved.

International thought leaders including US based Colin Beavan (producer of the book and film 'No Impact Man'), UK based Environmental lawyer Polly Higgins and Transition towns founder Polly Higgins are keynote speakers.

The conference will also include expert speakers on ecosystem resilience, the economic value of biodiversity, development versus biodiversity and the latest science on climate change. Hosted at the beautiful North Head Sanctuary at spectacular Manly, this is a Conference for anyone working at the local community level on sustainability issues.

**Conference**

Thursday 8 – Sunday 11  
September

**Location**

North Head Sanctuary, Manly,  
Sydney

**Website**

[www.mec.org.au](http://www.mec.org.au)

**Contact**

Robynne Millward  
Manly Environment Centre  
02 9976 2842  
[Robynne.millward@manly.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Robynne.millward@manly.nsw.gov.au)  
[www.mec.org.au](http://www.mec.org.au)

**Ref:** R90/1138 RV

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## General Interest

### Item 12: Sister Cities Australia National Conference 2011

**Toowoomba Regional Council has been selected to host this year's Sister Cities Australia National conference.**

2011 is a major milestone year in the Sister City relationships for Toowoomba and therefore places a significant importance in hosting the Conference for Toowoomba Regional Council.

This year we celebrate:

- 30 years with Wanganui, New Zealand.
- 20 years with Takatsuki, Japan in November.
- 9 years, with Paju, South Korea.

Australia and South Korea also celebrate 50 years of democratic relations between the two countries. 2011 has been marked as the 'Year of Friendship' between these two countries.

Under the theme of *REFLECT, CELEBRATE, PROSPER*, the Conference creates an excellent opportunity to highlight the rich and varied offerings of the Sister Cities' relationships across the education, business, sporting and cultural arenas; to REFLECT on our relationships, CELEBRATE our Successes and to Plan to PROSPER in the future.

#### Conference Dates

Sunday 14 – Wednesday 17  
August

#### Online Information

<http://www.toowoombaRC.qld.gov.au>

#### Contact

Jennifer Boyd  
Conference Co-Coordinator  
Toowoomba Regional Council  
07 4688 6881  
[jennifer.boyd@toowoombaRC.qld.gov.au](mailto:jennifer.boyd@toowoombaRC.qld.gov.au)

**Ref:** R90/0900

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## Emergency Services

### Item 13: AFAC & Bushfire CRC Conference 2011

**The AFAC & Bushfire CRC Conference will address the impacts and challenges for the emergency management sector.**

The Australasian Fire and Emergency Service Authorities Council (AFAC) are the peak body for public sector fire, land management and emergency service organisations in Australia and New Zealand. The Bushfire CRC is a national research centre developed in partnership with fire and land management agencies and research institutions, including the CSIRO, to reduce bushfire risk to the community.

The Conference will explore challenges for the emergency management sector posed by changes and developments in:

- Technology.
- Communities.
- Environmental Context.
- Interoperability.
- Information management.

Conference key speakers include:

- **Ben Self** - Digital (Social) media expert from the US who led Barrack Obama's successful presidential campaign in 2008.
- **Sir Ken Knight** - Fire and emergency management expert from UK and special advisor to Home Security Office UK.
- **Prof Mary O'Kane** - NSW Chief Scientist and Scientific Engineer.
- **Prof. Jose Torero** - Director of the BRE Centre for Fire Safety Engineering and Head of the Institute for Infrastructure and Environment at the University of Edinburgh.
- **Mr. Gregory Lo** - Director of Fire Services Hong Kong.
- **Lee Johnson** - Queensland Fire Services (President of AFAC).
- **Greg Mullins** - Commissioner Fire and Rescue NSW.
- **Mike Hall** - CEO and National Commander of NZ Fire Service
- **Mark Crossweller** - Commissioner ACT Emergency Services Agency.

Additionally, a number of other Australian, NZ and International experts and researchers will discuss topics varying from leadership, experience from Christchurch, social media, prescribed burning, leadership resilience, weather projections, spatial technology, bushfire survival and resource planning.

**Early Bird Registrations Due**  
Thursday 30 June

**Conference**

Monday 29 August - Thursday 1 September

**Venue**

Sydney Convention & Exhibition Centre,  
Darling Harbour, Sydney

**Online information**

<http://www.afac2011.org/>

**Ref:** R90/0753 LG

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## Emergency Services

### Item 14: Floodplain Risk Management Courses

**The University of Technology Sydney in conjunction with Floodplain Management Authorities (FMA) and NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change are conducting a series of Floodplain Risk Management short courses.**

The Floodplain Risk Management courses give an excellent opportunity for capacity building for planners, engineers, elected Local Government representatives, and representatives on Floodplain Risk Management Committees.

#### **Introduction to Floodplain Risk Management**

- How FRM is undertaken in NSW and the roles of the relevant government agencies.
- The principles of FRM and the desired outcomes of FRM projects.
- Developing and implementing FRM. Specifying and managing flood studies, FRM studies and plans.
- More effective involvement and engagement in the FRM process.
- Short introduction to hydraulic and hydrological modelling in FRM.

#### **Managing Flood Risk to Existing Properties**

- Roles of FRM studies and plans in managing risk to existing development.
- FRM issues for existing development.
- Full range of practical FRM options and associated decision making and implementation issues.
- Determining the appropriate option for a particular situation.
- The impacts works can have upon the environment and other management objectives and how these can be considered.
- Approvals necessary for mitigation work projects.
- Continuing flood risk and how to manage this risk.
- Implementation of management plans.

#### **Effective Consideration of Flood Risk in Land Use Planning**

- Managing risk to future properties and associated duty of care issues.
- The role of management studies and plans in managing risk to future property.
- The current legislation and policy framework.
- Managing flood risk strategically.
- Manage risk to future development.
- Continuing flood risk and how to manage this risk.
- Effectively implement recommendations.
- You can choose to complete the short courses with or without assessment.

#### **Introduction to Floodplain Risk Management**

Thursday 4 – Friday 5 August

#### **Managing Flood Risk to Existing Properties**

Thursday 15 – Friday 16th September

#### **Effective Consideration of Flood Risk in Land Use Planning**

Thursday 13 – Friday 14th October

#### **Venue**

Faculty of Engineering, University of Technology Sydney, Broadway, Sydney

#### **Cost**

\$500 (unassessed)

\$550 (assessed)

#### **Online information**

<http://www.eng.uts.edu.au/courses/short/water/floodplain.html>

**Ref:** R90/0497 LG

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## Environment

### Item 15: Energy from Waste: Developing an EfW industry in NSW: Symposium

**The Australian Institute of Energy (AIE) is conducting a half day Symposium on Energy from Waste.**

In March 2011, the former NSW Government released "Reducing Waste: Implementation Strategy 2011-2015" in which it committed to engage with stakeholders in:

*"Preparing a new waste-to-energy policy for stakeholder consultation by 31 December 2011, which reflects the importance of striking a balance to encourage recycling where life cycle assessment demonstrates a benefit, but allows for the thermal processing of waste for energy where a better overall environmental outcome can be achieved."*

The Symposium aims to initiate discussion on this issue through the following:

- Present facts on global trends in energy from waste.
- Present the case for generating energy from waste in an energy grid context.
- Stimulate debate on EfW industry development

#### **Symposium**

12pm – 5.45pm,  
Monday 20 June

#### **Venue**

The Hamilton Room, Trade & Investment Centre, Department of Trade & Investment, Regional Infrastructure & Services, Level 47, MLC Building, 19 Martin Place, Sydney

#### **Website**

[www.aie.org.au/syd](http://www.aie.org.au/syd)

#### **Further information**

Gwen Cant  
02 9683 6306  
[syd@aie.org.au](mailto:syd@aie.org.au)

**Ref:** R90/1138 RV

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## Environment

### Item 16: Contaminated Land Workshop

#### Registrations are now open for the 2011 Contaminated Land Workshop to be held in Ballina.

The Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) in co-operation with the LGSA and Ballina Shire Council is conducting a workshop designed for council environmental and planning officers to:

- Improve council officer's knowledge on contaminated land management.
- Outline recent changes to contaminated land legislation.
- Improve communication and co-operation between levels of government.
- Exchange information between councils and DECCW on issues of concern.

#### Program

Speakers from government agencies and environmental consultancies will discuss the following topics:

- Contaminated land concepts and site assessment.
- Legislative framework governing contaminated Land in NSW.
- The planning system and land contamination.
- Contaminated sites and Local Government.
- Waste disposal, storage and management of contaminated materials.
- The Underground Petroleum Storage System Regulation 2008.

There is no attendance fee for council officers, however, numbers will be limited to a maximum of 30 participants.

#### Workshop

9am - 4pm, Thursday 23 June

#### Venue

Ballina Community Services Centre

#### Registrations

[sarah.roseby@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:sarah.roseby@environment.nsw.gov.au)

#### Contact

Sarah Roseby, OEH  
9995 5772

[sarah.roseby@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:sarah.roseby@environment.nsw.gov.au)

**Ref:** R90/0897 RV

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## Environment

### Item 17: Survey regarding forthcoming E-Waste Scheme

**The TV and Computer Industries have developed an online survey for NSW councils currently involved in and/or interested in providing EoL TV and computer collection point services for their communities.**

In 2009, all Federal, State and Territory Governments agreed that televisions and computers would be the first products regulated under proposed product stewardship legislation. The Product Stewardship Bill is currently before Parliament and may be passed by the end of the winter sitting (July 2011). The Federal Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities is currently preparing Regulations to underpin arrangements for the collection and recycling of end-of-life (EoL) TVs and computers under the National Television and Computer Product Stewardship Scheme.

The two peak industry bodies representing the TV and computer industries (PSA and AIIA) have been planning and designing a national collection, recycling and community education service that will be enabled by the proposed Product Stewardship legislation and associated regulations.

Industry is seeking to work with individual Councils, regional waste groups, State Local Government Associations, charitable recyclers, and other organisations to establish the national network of drop-off points to provide convenient TV and computer recycling services to the community.

The TV and Computer industries are especially interested in partnering with councils and other organisations that are able and prepared to establish or upgrade existing facilities to incorporate a TV and computer drop-off point that will meet the Interim Standard for Collecting, Transporting and Recycling EoL TVs and Computers.

#### **Purpose of the Request for Information online survey - collection points**

The survey provides a direct opportunity for organisations currently involved in and/or interested in providing EoL TV and computer collection point services to the PSO, to inform industry of your activities.

Council responses will be used to help TV and computer industry groups with further planning of the national TV and computer Product Stewardship service. It will help industry to identify councils and other organisations that are interested in engaging with industry as potential drop-off and access point partners.

#### **LGSA's Policy for council involvement in e-waste Scheme**

The Associations are aware that many councils already have e-waste collection arrangements in place, in some cases at considerable cost. As the proposed national scheme is an Extended Producer Responsibility Scheme, based on the principle of Industry responsibility, the Associations have developed a policy position on Local Government engagement (currently draft, to be endorsed at the LGSA's Executives in early June).

#### **Survey Due**

Thursday 16 June

#### **Online information**

<http://www.environment.gov.au/settlements/waste/ewaste/index.html>

#### **Survey**

[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/collection\\_recycling\\_tvs\\_computers](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/collection_recycling_tvs_computers)

#### **Further information**

John Gertsaki

PSA

03 9412 5113

[johng@productstewardship.asn.au](mailto:johng@productstewardship.asn.au)

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#### **Views on the draft LGSA policy to**

Robert Verhey

Strategy Manager-Environment

[Robert.verhey@lgsa.org.au](mailto:Robert.verhey@lgsa.org.au)

**Ref:** R90/0568 RV

The policy is as follows:

- Local councils may wish to consider assisting Industry to meet the targets under the E-Waste scheme by providing access to existing collection schemes / collection points.
- LGSA considers that councils should be reimbursed for any costs associated with their involvement. This may include (but is not necessarily restricted to):
  - Collection facility establishment or upgrades to meet interim standards.
  - Training of council staff.
  - Additional human resource requirements where these are directly associated with the scheme.
  - Signage.
  - Education or advertising / communications in local media.
- Councils may also wish to negotiate a commercial arrangement with the Industry whereby they are paid a fee per unit for their services as a collection point provider.
- Kerbside collection by councils is not recommended, as industry has indicated that it will not pay for any costs of collection incurred prior to the arrival of computers and televisions at the collection points. Mindful of this, community drop-off facilities are a preferred model.

In the LGSA's view this would bring the forthcoming TV/Computer scheme into line with other similar programs like DrumMuster and Mobile Muster.

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## Finance

### Item 18: LGSA Cost Shifting Survey for 2009/10

**The LGSA are currently undertaking the cost shifting survey for the financial year 2009/10 to be completed online by NSW councils.**

As recommended by the Independent Inquiry into the Financial Sustainability of NSW Local Government, the LGSA undertake an annual cost shifting survey of NSW councils to help quantify the actual amount of cost shifting in NSW. This year's survey, covering the financial year 2009/10, is now available on the Strengthening Local Government website and the LGSA strongly encourage all councils to complete it.

The results of the survey will form the basis for a research report which will be publicly available. The survey will support the argument for the practice of cost shifting to end and for the NSW Government to enter into an intergovernmental agreement with NSW Local Government to clarify roles and responsibilities of both levels of government. The survey will also assist in monitoring compliance with the national intergovernmental agreement as well as any potential intergovernmental agreement with the NSW Government.

In 2006, the Independent Inquiry into the Financial Sustainability of NSW Local Government confirmed that both the State and Australian Government often transfer responsibilities onto Local Government without arranging for adequate funding to fulfil these responsibilities (cost shifting). The inquiry recognised that more "hard data" about cost shifting was needed to support any argument for that practice to end and commissioned a cost shifting survey with a representative sample of 19 NSW councils. The survey indicated that the total burden of cost shifting may amount to approximately \$430 million per annum (financial year 2004/05). The Inquiry recommended that the LGSA build on its work and undertake an annual survey of all councils to establish the total amount of cost shifting onto NSW Local Government (recommendation 4).

Results from subsequent surveys undertaken by the Associations confirm that cost shifting continues to place a significant burden on councils' financial situation and, despite the recognition of cost shifting and its adverse impacts on Local Government, remains at a high level. Indicative figures show that cost shifting on to NSW Local Government amounts to around 6 per cent of councils' total income before capital amounts; i.e. about \$380 million in the financial year 2005/06, \$412 million in 2006/07, \$431 million in 2007/08, and \$440 million in 2008/09. The amount of cost shifting in 2008/09 of \$440 million almost equals the estimated annual infrastructure renewal gap of \$500 million per annum as identified by the Independent Inquiry into Financial Sustainability of NSW Local Government.

The current survey for the financial year 2009/10 is available online. The survey asks councils to estimate the cost associated with more than 20 identified cost shifting examples and provides the option to add further examples. Completion of the survey is due on 17 June 2011. This should provide sufficient time for the collation of the complex data required to complete the survey.

#### **Cost Shifting Survey closes**

Friday 17 June

#### **Website**

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

#### **Contact**

Sascha Moege  
Senior Policy Officer, Policy and  
Communication  
[sascha.moege@lgsa.org.au](mailto:sascha.moege@lgsa.org.au)

02 9242 4045

**Ref:** R06/0023 SM

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## Learning

### Item 19: Coaching Skills for Leaders and Time Management workshops

**Local Government Learning Solutions is offering two practical and interactive workshops in Wagga Wagga.**

#### **Coaching Skills for Leaders**

Coaching is an essential skill for today's leaders. Learn or improve your ability to teach staff new skills, as well as how to coach in career planning and raising performances, at this one day workshop.

#### **Time Management**

If you ever say "I was given a book on time management but haven't had time to read it," then this highly practical workshop is for you. Participants on the Time Management workshop will walk away with a ready to use tool kit of contemporary time management skills and practices.

#### **Workshops**

Wednesday 22 and Thursday 23 June

#### **Location**

Wagga Wagga

#### **Cost**

1 x one day workshop  
\$495 (inc.GST)

Special Discount:

\$396 (inc. GST) per workshop, if you book participants on both workshops.

#### **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](mailto:learning@lgsa.org.au)

**Ref:** I98/0012 DR

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## Learning

### Item 20: Drug and Alcohol Awareness workshops

#### The programs provide a practical and interactive workshop 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.

It is recognised that the use of illicit drugs and the inappropriate use of alcohol, prescription and non-prescription drugs can have 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 and 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 27 July	Dubbo
Wednesday 10 August	Lismore
Wednesday 31 August	Sydney
Wednesday 14 September	Wagga

#### Cost

1 day workshop \$396 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](mailto:learning@lgsa.org.au)

**Ref:** I98/0012 DR

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## Learning

### Item 21: Learning Solutions Staff Public Workshops

**Learning Solutions will be offering some great public staff programs and events in NSW throughout June.**

One of the great benefits of attending a Learning Solutions Local Government oriented workshop is that attendees are able to network and share ideas with people from many other councils, bringing that experience back to their own council.

#### **Making Consultative Committees More Effective**

Tuesday 14 June

#### **Verbal Judo for Contact Professionals**

Wednesday 15 June

#### **Mentoring Skills for Managers**

Friday 17 June

#### **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](mailto:learning@lgsa.org.au)

**Ref:** I98/0012 DR

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## Planning

### Item 22: Changes to State Government's Affordable Housing SEPP

**The NSW Government has announced changes to the Affordable Housing State Environmental Planning Policy (AHSEPP) on 20 May 2011.**

Under the immediate changes to the policy, villa, townhouse and residential flat developments (which are proposed by the private sector and contain an element of affordable housing), will no longer allow low-density residential areas where this development type is prohibited by the local planning instrument.

Other changes mean that where these forms of development are permissible in the local area, they will need to meet tougher public transport access and local character compatibility tests and satisfy higher parking standards.

In addition to these immediate changes, the Government proposes to set up a taskforce to develop a new State planning policy for affordable housing. The task force will comprise representatives from the Department of Planning and Infrastructure, social housing experts, community housing providers, key Local Government representatives and other relevant government agencies.

The State Government also announced that it will be working with councils to develop Affordable Housing Choice Strategies to reflect their local housing needs and development characteristics.

**Department of Planning and Infrastructure Website**

<http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/PlansforAction/Affordablerentalhousing/tabid/313/language/en-AU/Default.aspx>

**Feedback to**

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

**Ref:** R96/0115 JP

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## Planning

### Item 23: Call for Local Government nominees to join the LEP Review Panel

**The Associations have been asked to recommend additional Local Government representatives for the LEP Review Panel. Nominations are now invited.**

The Department of Planning and Infrastructure developed the LEP Review Panel five years ago to assist the Department in assessing planning proposals.

The Panel plays an important role in providing independent advice to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure on the application of the gateway test to individual planning applications. This advice includes:

- Which planning proposals should be supported.
- Whether changes need to be made to the proposals and whether additional planning studies are required to justify the proposal.
- The appropriate process that should be adopted as the applications progress from a planning proposal to the stage of a Draft LEP. This advice includes the agency engagement considered necessary and the length of time the proposal needs to be placed on public exhibition.

The Department has found the advice from Local Government nominees valuable in providing the Local Government perspective to the work of the panel. The Associations have recommended that the Department expand their pool of Local Government representatives to spread the workload and involve more Local Government practitioners in the process.

The Associations are calling for nominations for these voluntary positions. It is expected that two to four nominees will be appointed. The work schedule is variable.

Applicants need to be a Local Government planning practitioner at a senior level and have worked in Local Government for more than five years. The nomination must also be supported by council. Qualified candidates from rural and regional NSW are encouraged to nominate.

It is important to note that the Associations' role in this process is to collate a list of suitable candidates for the role. The Department will make the appointments to the position and brief the new panel members.

#### LEP Review Panel Nominations Due

Friday 10 June

#### Nominations and CVs to

Jenny Dennis

[jennifer.dennis@lgsa.org.au](mailto:jennifer.dennis@lgsa.org.au)

#### Website

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

#### Further Information

Jenny Dennis

Planning Officer

02 9242 4094

[jennifer.dennis@lgsa.org.au](mailto:jennifer.dennis@lgsa.org.au)

**Ref:** R04/0066 JD

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## Roads and Transport

### Item 24: National Road Safety Strategy 2011-2020

**The National Road Safety Strategy 2011-2020 was released on 20 May 2011 by the Australian Transport Council (ATC).**

The Strategy is based on Safe System principles and is framed by the guiding vision that no person should be killed or seriously injured on Australia's roads. As a step towards this long-term vision, the strategy presents a 10-year plan to reduce the annual numbers of both deaths and serious injuries on Australian roads by at least 30 per cent. It was developed following a comprehensive consultation process, with submissions received from a range of stakeholders including the LGSA and ALGA.

The strategy outlines broad directions for the future of Australian road safety, planned initiatives for the first three years and a range of options for further consideration as the strategy progresses.

The initiatives and options are set out in four key areas:

- Safe Roads.
- Safe Speeds.
- Safe Vehicles.
- Safe People.

Agreed first steps include:

- Ensuring all new road projects apply Safe System principles.
- Modifying infrastructure funding guidelines to increase the safety benefits resulting from road programs.
- Using national guidelines to assess speed limits on higher-risk roads.
- Developing a national public information campaign about the community safety benefits that would result from improved compliance with speed limits.
- Strengthen the deterrence effects of random breath testing programs (RBT) and random roadside drug testing programs.
- Requiring all government fleets to implement nationally-agreed fleet purchasing policies and encourage adoption by other fleet operators.
- Expanding the Australian New Car Assessment Program (ANCAP) to increase the coverage of crash test results across the full range of new vehicles on the Australian market.

The strategy is an initiative of the ATC and is available from the Council's website.

#### **The Strategy and further information**

[http://www.infrastructure.gov.au/roads/safety/national\\_road\\_safety\\_strategy/index.aspx](http://www.infrastructure.gov.au/roads/safety/national_road_safety_strategy/index.aspx)

#### **The Minister's media release**

[http://www.minister.infrastructure.gov.au/aa/releases/2011/May/AA084\\_2011.htm](http://www.minister.infrastructure.gov.au/aa/releases/2011/May/AA084_2011.htm)

**Ref:** R90/1244 RC

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## **In the News**

### **Item 25: Media from the LGSA**

**View the latest media releases distributed by the LGSA**

#### **New chapter for council collaboration on libraries applauded**

27 May 2011

<http://www.lgsa.org.au/www/html/3794-27-may-2011-new-chapter-for-council-collaboration-on-libraries-applauded.asp?intSiteID=1>

The Local Government and Shires Associations of NSW (LGSA) have thrown their support behind the Library Amendment Bill 2011 introduced into the NSW Parliament on Tuesday by the NSW Minister for the Arts, George Souris MP.

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