



Events Network meeting: Examining the structure that supports your events

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LGSA calls for feedback on Draft SEPP(Competition)

The Department of Planning (DoP) has placed the Draft State Environmental Planning Policy (Competition) on public exhibition and the Local Government and Shires Association wants your feedback.

Sustainability Tool Selector - Tell us what you think!

Help us improve and further develop the electronic version of the Sustainability Tool Selector by completing a 10 minute questionnaire.

Local Government Association of NSW and the Shires Association of NSW

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Item 5: 2010 Local Government Association Annual Conference

Registration details, a draft program and an information booklet regarding voting, motions and their lodgement will be available online.

Item 6: Last Week for Registration – One Association Convention

Participation in shaping a single Association to represent Local Government in NSW is important and highly encouraged. Register your interest in attending.

Item 7: One week to register for Local Government Web Network Conference!

Secure your tickets to this year's web conference that includes presentations and workshop sessions from some of the leading experts in Australia, as well as government case studies.

Item 8: Plunge in and catch the early bird rate!

Stop drifting with the tide and register for the 2010 LGSA Water Management Conference. Delegates will have the opportunity to explore the largest potable stormwater reuse system in Australia.

Item 9: LG Week: Showcasing Tweed Shire Council

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Has your council made a significant contribution to water safety? Do you know a fantastic swimming teacher? Nominate them for NSW water Safety Awards or NSW AUSTSWIM State Awards.

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The NSW Minister for Ageing has announced that \$175,000 worth of grants are now available to help community organisations and councils fund activities to celebrate 2011 Seniors Week' in March.

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A practical guide for Local Government and sustainability. Come along, get involved and be inspired – this event is not to be missed.

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Highlights from the latest issue of the USSA Newsletter include how to be a more effective change agent and "greening the Lower Georges River".

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Learning

Item 15: Learning Solutions Staff Public Workshops - September 2010

Help your staff become the best they can be. The September program for Learning Solutions Staff Public Workshops is now available. All workshops are located at Learning Solutions Sydney Office.

Item 16: IPA2 Certificate for Public Participation

Learn effective communication and techniques for public participation in Modules 2 & 3 of the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2)

Item 17: learning and Development Network Meeting

A site visit to Campbelltown City Council's (CCC) training facilities, as well as wildlife and workplace safety and updates on the Certificate IV in Training and Assessment are some of the attractions of the next L&D Network Meeting.

Planning

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Awards

Item 1: Award opportunities

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Conferences and Events

Item 2: Upcoming conferences and events

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Grants & Funding

Item 3: Grant and funding opportunities for Local Government

Seniors' Week 2011 grants now available

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General Interest

Item 4: Events Network meeting: Examining the structure that supports your events

Renowned events professional, **Bill O'Toole**, is special guest at this first event network meeting. Hear case studies from three different councils with three very different event staff structures.

Examining the structures that support your event

- A council with no dedicated events team - events are being run through many different departments. Find out what they're implementing to maintain uniformity across their events.
- A council with a "one-person show" - like many smaller councils across the state, one person runs all the events. Hear how they rationalise event workloads and educate their council on budgets and resources.
- A council with an events team – larger councils have a different kind of pressure to deliver on public, civic and corporate events.

Special Guest – **Bill O'Toole**

Having just returned from seven years of work in Khartoum, Entebbe, Kampala, Dubai and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Bill will thrill you with a window into this world of events in these ancient and very modern cultures. Bill went from working on event strategies for Coffs Harbour and Liverpool City Councils to event development for the oil rich Gulf countries and the United Nations.

Join the network

Whether you're in events, marketing, communications, in the Mayor's office or the library - if you're involved in organising council events – then this network is for you!

Visit the new website and sign up to become a member. Current members must also sign up to the new site, as this will take over the current website and members list.

Only NSW Council employees are able to become members. You will have access to members only pages, be able to sign up to attend events, receive updates on industry news and have the opportunity to speak directly with other members in the new Events Network Forum.



Event Network Meeting
Monday 23 August 2010
LGSA offices in Sydney

Program
<http://eventsnetwork.lgsa.org.au/events/2010-07-07/events-network-meeting-invitation-examining-structure-supports-your-events>.

Cost:
Free for NSW LG staff
Includes morning tea & lunch

Events Network
eventsnetwork.lgsa.org.au

Further information
Michelle Muller
LGSA Events Coordinator
02 9242 4031
michelle.muller@lgsa.org.au

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General Interest

Item 5: 2010 Local Government Association Annual Conference

Registration details, a draft program and an information booklet regarding voting, motions and their lodgement will be available online.

Key Dates

9 August

Deadline for motions for inclusion in the business paper. Motions should be set out in the form as per the template which can be found on the Conference website and should be emailed to lgaconference@lgsa.org.au Please request a read receipt for confirmation that your motion was received

30 August

Draft business paper containing all motions received before 9 August 2010 will be available on the Association's website for viewing and comment.

13 September

Final business paper available on the Association's website

11 October

Deadline to advise the Association's of the names of Council's voting delegates

Conference

Sunday 24 - Wednesday 27
October
Albury Entertainment Centre

Registration

www.LGAConference.lgsa.org.au

Further information

Motions: Peter Coulton
02 9242 4030

Program, Accommodation,
Sponsorship: Michelle Muller
events@lgsa.org.au
02 9242 4031.

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General Interest

Item 6: Last Week for Registration - One Association Convention

Participation in shaping a single Association to represent Local Government in NSW is important and highly encouraged. Register your interest.

The Convention

All mayors, councillors and general managers are invited to participate in the formation of One Association to represent local government in NSW.

Voting

Each member council will be permitted one vote for the purposes of the Convention. However, councils are encouraged to send as many non-voting delegates as possible. Non-voting delegates may still participate in the discussions and debate. The majority vote will be represented by 66% of delegates present. Please note that any decisions from the Convention will not be binding on either Association, but will signify a way forward for the Taskforce and the respective Associations to vote on at their respective Conferences.

Online registration now available

Registration deadline is 2 August 2010. The cost to attend the Convention is at a cost recovery basis of \$297. This includes discussion papers, proceedings of the Convention, morning and afternoon teas and lunches on two days and administrative support. The fee does not cover accommodation or any other events held in conjunction with the Convention.

Accommodation

Specially discounted rates have been arranged with the Convention venue, Star City Sydney. These rooms are offered on a first come first serve basis and should be booked by delegates directly. When booking at Star City Sydney, please quote accommodation code: LOC060710.

Discussion Paper

Councils will have received four printed copies of the One Association Taskforce Discussion Paper.

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Convention

16 & 17 August
Star City, Sydney
Registration deadline: 2 August

Cost

\$297.00 (\$267.30 ex GST)

Discussion Paper

One Association website:
www.lgsa.org.au/oneassociation

Further information

Registration & the event:
Karen Rolls: 02 9242 4050;
karen.rolls@lgsa.org.au

All other matters:
Skye Smith: 02 9242 4052;
skye.smith@lgsa.org.au

General Interest

Item 7: One week to register for Local Government Web Network Conference!

Secure your tickets to this year's web conference that includes presentations and workshop sessions from some of the leading experts in Australia, as well as government case studies.

Participants will come away from the conference feeling part of the Local Government web community, having had the opportunity to contribute to discussion and debate. It's also a great opportunity to network with other professionals.

Program and topics

The full program is now available and includes workshops presented by Google as well as case studies from Leeton Shire Council, Tamworth Regional Council, Pittwater Council and Mosman Municipal Council.

Other topics include:

- *How to measure social media effectiveness* with Mandi Bateson.
- Workshops including how to create a digital strategy for your council.
- *CSS3* with Russ Weakley
- *How to manage the impact of the GIPA Act on your website* with Shirley Southgate of the Office of the Information Commissioner.
- *How to create a social media policy for your organisation* with Craig Thomler.

There will be many introductory topics that do not require technical knowledge, as well higher level sessions covering strategy and management issues and a broad look at the direction the web is heading and what that means for government. There are also technical sessions for developers and project managers who are involved in building and extending their websites and online applications.

Conference

19-20 August, 2010
Sydney

Registration

Closes Friday, August 6.
Full conference pass for both days includes dinner and choice of two workshops \$660.00 (inc.GST)
One day conference pass, includes dinner \$357.50 (inc. GST).

Bookings & Website

<http://lgwebnetwork.org/Conferences/2010>

Contact

Reem Abdelaty
02 9242 4000
lgwebnetwork@lgsa.org.au

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General Interest

Item 8: Plunge in and catch the early bird rate!

Stop drifting with the tide and register for the 2010 LGSA Water Management Conference. Delegates will have the opportunity to explore the largest potable stormwater reuse system in Australia.

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 two gigalitres per year, is the largest potable stormwater reuse system in Australia and has won several industry awards.

Delegates will have a close-up look at the many elements of the stormwater harvesting scheme during the site visit on the Monday afternoon.

The site visit will explore in detail the Blackmans Swamp Stormwater Harvesting Scheme and the ozone and biological activated carbon (BAC) filtration process of council's water treatment plant at the following sites:

- Stormwater Harvesting Scheme
Gross pollutant trap
- Stormwater Harvesting Scheme
Harvesting weir and pump station;
- Stormwater Harvesting Scheme
Holding pond, batch ponds and pumping stations
- Water treatment plant
Ozone and BAC filtration process.

Over 18 representative companies will also be on display at the trade exhibition.

The conference is hosted by Orange City Council and sponsored by Country Energy, with Government Partner the NSW Office of Water and Premier Sponsor MWH Australia.



12-14 September 2010
Orange City Council

Earlybird Rate

Before 10 August
\$396

Registration & Further Information

www.waterconference.lgsa.org.au
u

Contact

Michelle Muller, Events
Coordinator: 02 9242 4050
michelle.muller@lgsa.org.au

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General Interest

Item 9: LG Week: Showcasing Tweed Shire Council!

The launch of a new cycleway link, a sneak peek into the lives of "lab rats", the opening of a much anticipated park upgrade and a community event management workshop are just some of the activities happening at Tweed Shire during Local Government Week.

Tweed is offering an event management workshop for their community event organisers as an opportunity for professional development and discussions on Council's festivals and events strategic planning.

The Mayor will officially open the Bray Park Cycleway which features some great engineering and design by Council.

The Tweed Laboratory Centre will conduct tours of their facility, a leader in water and soil analysis, with an opportunity to meet the 'lab rats' (scientists).

Local residents will be attending the opening of the upgrade of Quota Park, which includes a new children's playground, barbeques and landscaping.

Murwillumbah, Tweed Heads and Kingscliff Libraries will hold workshops to introduce blogging and websites such as Facebook, Youtube and Flickr, particularly geared to seniors but anyone can participate in this workshop.

Council's annual family fun day will top off a week of celebration for Local Government Week. Face painting, sports games, jumping castle, climbing wall and Council's heavy equipment display are just some of the attractions. There is also a free art workshop to make clay animals and a free sausage sizzle. Come along and see the wide range of Council services on display and meet the Councillors. Council's nursery is also hosting a free plant giveaway!

To see what else they've planned, visit the LG Week website!

List your Local Government Week activities

You can still add your activities to the website - fill in the form on the What's On page of the website and let us know what you're planning. See the website for hints, suggested activities and what other councils have planned.



Local Government Week 2010

LG Week
2-8 August 2010
www.lgweek.lgsa.org.au

Further Information
Michelle Muller, 02 9242 4031
michelle.muller@lgsa.org.au

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General Interest

Item 10: Enter the 2010 NSW Water Safety Awards

Has your council made a significant contribution to water safety? Do you know a fantastic swimming teacher? Nominate them for NSW Water Safety Awards or NSW AUSTSWIM State Awards.

The NSW Water Safety Awards recognises individuals and organisations who have contributed to water safety over the past year.

- Community Education Program Of The Year
- The Ministers Award for the Most Significant Contribution to Water Safety by an Individual
- The Ministers Award for the Most Significant Contribution to Water Safety by an Organisation
- Most Significant Contribution to Water Safety with a focus on an under-represented group
- Outstanding Media Service To Water Safety
- Rescue of the Year
- Research Project of the Year
- Volunteer Lifesaver or Professional Lifeguard of the Year
- Water Safety Event of the Year

2010 Water Safety Awards & NSW AUSTSWIM Awards

Thursday 30 September, 7pm
Le Montage Conference Centre,
Lilyfield

Nominations

Close 5pm, Friday, 3 September

Applications and Booking

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

Winners of the 2011 NSW AUSTSWIM State Awards will also be recognised at the same event. The AUSTSWIM awards have six award categories that focus on individuals or organisations who have made a significant contribution to learn to swim and water safety in NSW.

- NSW AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety Award
- NSW AUSTSWIM Teacher of Infant and Preschool Aquatics Award
- NSW AUSTSWIM Teacher of People with a Disability Award
- NSW Presenter of the Year Award
- NSW AUSTSWIM Swimming and Water Safety School of the Year Award
- NSW Most Outstanding Contribution to AUSTSWIM Award

Recipients of the NSW AUSTSWIM State Awards are automatically nominated for the AUSTSWIM National Awards in their respective categories in 2011.

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Community

Item 11: Seniors' Week 2011 grants now available

The NSW Minister for Ageing has announced that \$175,000 worth of grants are now available to help community organisations and councils fund activities to celebrate 2011 Seniors' Week in March.

During Seniors' Week this year, 321 organisations received grant funding for activities and events ranging from art workshops and fitness classes to photography and computer courses.

These events provide older people with opportunities to engage in cultural and social activities and also promote the achievement of older people to the wider community.

Grants Program

Opens 2 August
Closes 27 August

Seniors' Week

20-27 March 2011

www.nswseniorsweek.com.au

Further information

Seniors' Information Service
From Monday, August 2
13 12 44

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Environment

Item 12: Sustainable Councils 2010 Conference

A practical guide for Local Government and sustainability. Come along, get involved and be inspired – this event is not to be missed.

Sustainable Councils 2010 will be co-located with the EcoGen 2010 Conference. LGSA is pleased to support the event and has negotiated a reduced rate for councils wanting to attend.

2010 Conference

6–7 September 2010
Sydney Convention and Exhibition
Centre Darling Harbour

Further information

www.sustainablecouncils.com.au

Item 13: Urban Sustainability Support Alliance (USSA) Newsletter

Highlights from the latest issue of the USSA Newsletter include how to be a more effective change agent and “greening the Lower Georges River”.

Other highlights include Mentoring At Work – Reflections from Skye Rose and Wyong Shire Council – Local Government Excellence in Environment Awards Winners

Has your council got a sustainability story to share? The newsletter showcases councils implementing sustainability projects. Let us know and you could be in our next issue.

USSA Newsletter

<http://www.lgsa-plus.net.au/www/html/2317-ussa-newsletter.asp>

Further information

Robbie Beale
USSA Senior Project Officer
02 9242 4056
robbie.beale@lgsa.org.au

Item 14: Sustainability Tool Selector - Tell us what you think!

Help us improve and further develop the electronic version of the Sustainability Tool Selector by completing a 10 minute questionnaire.

The *Sustainability Tool Selector: A Guide for Local Government* was designed to save councils time spent researching sustainability tools and help reduce confusion about their differences.

The Tool Selector was developed by the Institute of Sustainable Futures at the University of Technology Sydney on behalf of the USSA. It was distributed to 83 councils at workshops during March and April this year and has recently been posted to all other NSW councils. It is also available electronically (see fact box).

It helps council staff with evaluation, decision making, developing performance indicators and tracking sustainability progress at an organisational and project level. The Tool Selector includes: Business Excellence Framework; EMS and the ISO 14001 Standard; Global Reporting Initiative Framework; Sustainability Health Check; TechnologyOne Performance Planning; Outcome Hierarchy Framework; Ryde Project Sustainability Assessment; SSROC Sustainability Guidelines; Sustainability Advantage; Sustainable Choice. Case studies, workshop presentations, including footage of Allan Jones' inspirational keynote address at the Sydney launch, are now available from USSA website in the “Professional Development” section.

USSA website

<http://www.lgsa.org.au/USSA>

Tool Selector

<http://www.lgsa-plus.net.au/www/html/3386-organisational-change.asp#anchor3209>

Survey

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/OKWVQR2>

Survey Closes

Friday 6 August.

Further Information

Niki Carey
02 9242 4159
niki.carey@lgsa.org.au

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Learning

Item 15: Learning Solutions Staff Public Workshops – September 2010

Help your staff become the best they can be. The September program for Learning Solutions Staff Public Workshops is now available. All workshops are located at Learning Solutions Sydney Office.

Mediation Training for HR Managers

1-2 September

Selection and Recruitment Skills for LG Managers

1 September

Customer Care Professionalism

7 September

Getting there First – Managing Staff with Stress Responses

7 September

Assertive Skills

8 September

English Grammar & Punctuation

9 September

Dynamic Presentation Skills

15 September

Finance for Non-Finance Managers

16 September

Revisiting Change

21 September

Making Consultative Committees More Effective

23 September

Springboard – Program Three – Day 1

24 September

Leadership Skills for Aspiring Women

28 September

Conflict Resolution

30 September

Registrations

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

Contact

Ruth Niemczyk

Learning Solutions

02 9242 4180

ruth.niemczyk@lgsa.org.au

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Learning

Item 16: IPA2 Certificate for Public Participation

Learn effective communication and techniques for public participation in Modules 2 & 3 of the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2)

This course is well recognised amongst the community of public participation professionals in Australia and New Zealand and many other countries including USA, Canada and the UK. Note: *Planning for Effective Public Participation is a prerequisite for other IAP2 Certificate training.*

Effective Communication for Public Participation Module 2

Participants gain an understanding of the essentials of risk communication, making effective written and verbal presentations and working with the media.

Interactive exercises and practical tips allow participants to put these skills into immediate use.

Participants will take home a comprehensive student manual and IAP2's Program Planning Tool.

Techniques for Effective Public Participation Module 3

Try out or observe World Cafe, Interviews, Resolving Conversations, Citizens' Jury and Advisory Groups in action.

This two-day module in IAP2's Certificate Program in Public Participation provides an introduction to more than 20 practical tools and techniques used at all five levels of IAP2's Public Participation Spectrum and around the globe. Learn how to create effective forums for dialogue and how to avoid the many problems encountered in traditional public meetings.

Module 3 is suitable for beginning to intermediate level practitioners and those who want a review of basic group process techniques.

Students leave this module armed with a detailed student manual covering the course materials and IAP2 Tip sheets offering practical advice for selecting, using and evaluating a broad range of public participation activities.

Facilitator: Margaret Harvie, Plan Com Consulting P/L, is an accredited International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) trainer. Margaret has extensive local, national and overseas experience including experience in community development with Indigenous communities in Queensland.

IAP2

Sydney

Module 2 – Monday 18 October 2010

Module 3 – 19 & 20 October 2010

Cost

Module 2 -\$550 inclusive of GST

Module 3 -\$880 inclusive of GST for the two day public program

Registrations

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

Further information

<http://www.lgsa.org.au/www/html/2244-course-outlines.asp>

Contact

Learning Solutions

02 9242 4181

learning@lgsa.org.au

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Learning

Item 17: Learning and Development Network Meeting

A site visit to Campbelltown City Council's (CCC) training facilities, as well as wildlife and workplace safety and updates on the Certificate IV in Training and Assessment are some of the attractions of the next L&D Network Meeting.

Local Government Learning Solutions provides a free quarterly L&D network meeting to assist those responsible for training in councils to keep up their own professional development.

The meeting will cover:

- **Learning at Campbelltown City Council** – Jason Spurway will take you through how CCC's learning calendar is set up, how they manage the system, what soft skills and eLearning programs are available to CCC staff, and how they select the programs they offer. Council Reports – share your training stories with other networkers
- **Fire Safety at Campbelltown City Council** - how they select, train and use fire control equipment for different classes of fire at work & home – Barry Faint, Campbelltown City Council.
- **Wildlife and Workplace Safety** – Craig Adams, Director of SSSafe will teach, delight and definitely entertain you with this unique OH & S session.
- **Update about the Certificate IV in Training and Assessment (Upgrade to the TAE)** presented by Kerri Blackstone, MCI International
- **Council reports** – hear what other councils are doing in the training arena.

This meeting is highly recommended as a professional development activity for anyone with training responsibilities in council. Certificates of Attendance will be awarded to attendees to use as evidence of your continuing professional development.

L&D Network Meeting

Monday 30 August
9.30am – 3pm

Campbelltown City Council,
Executive Committee Room,
Broughton St, Campbelltown

Registration

For catering purposes please
RSVP by 23 August

Contact

Chrissie Gordon Wells
Learning Solutions
02 92424081 or
learning@lgsa.org.au

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Planning

Item 18: LGSA calls for feedback on Draft SEPP(Competition)

The Department of Planning (DoP) has placed the Draft State Environmental Planning Policy (Competition) on public exhibition and the Local Government and Shires Association wants your feedback.

This Draft SEPP (Competition) has been prepared by the Department to improve clarity on how 'competition' is to be considered, or not considered, within the planning system.

The DoP states that the purpose of the draft SEPP is to ensure that:

- the commercial viability of a proposed development may not be taken into consideration by a consent authority, usually the local council, when determining development applications.
- the likely impact of a proposed development on the commercial viability of other individual businesses may also not be considered; except
- if the proposed development is likely to have an overall adverse impact on the extent and adequacy of local community services and facilities, taking into account those to be provided by the proposed development itself; and
- any restrictions in local planning instruments on the number of a particular type of retail store in an area, or the distance between stores of the same type, will have no effect.

The Associations welcome your feedback on whether:

- such a SEPP on competition is needed; and
- the wording provides direction and improved clarity to assist councils in making land use decisions.

We would also appreciate comment on how this SEPP, if adopted, would apply:

- to the development assessment process; and
- the rezoning of land for commercial purposes.

The wording of the SEPP is open to interpretation and your experience with 'on the ground' applications would greatly assist the Associations in providing feedback to the Department of Planning from the sector.

Submissions

Due 26 August 2010.

Draft SEPP

<http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/DevelopmentAssessments/Onexhibition/OnexhibitionDraftpoliciesandplansetc/tabid/212/language/en-AU/Default.aspx>

Further information

Department of Planning

t: 1300 305 695

f: 02 9228 6555

information@planning.nsw.gov.au

LGSA Contact

Jennifer Dennis

LGSA Planning Policy Officer

Jennifer.dennis@lgsa.org.au

02 9242 4094

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In the News

Item 19: Media Release

Picture worth a thousand words in any language July 26, 2010

Afghani, Bhutanese and Somali communities will soon be given a more prominent voice thanks to a unique council and community partnership that highlights a range of health and well-being issues through photography.

The Local Government and Shires Associations of NSW announced three councils that will pilot the Photovoice initiative as part of today's NSW Multicultural Health Week (MCHW) launch in Sydney - Griffith City Council (Afghani community), Albury City Council (Bhutanese) and Auburn City Council (Somali).

View full media release at: <http://www.lgsa.org.au/www/html/3416-26-july-2010-picture-worth-a-thousand-words-in-any-language.asp?intSiteID=1>

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