

## Local Government Councillor Advisory Network (LG-CAN) February meeting minutes

### 1. Welcome and introductions

Attendees: Cr Marg Attley, Mayor Harry Westerndorp, Cr Lisa Hollingsworth, Cr Anna Chen, Cr Henry Barlow

Apologies: Mayor Lucinda Congreve, Cr Jackie Fristacky, Cr Simon Crawford

Introduction from VLGA CEO, Kathryn Arndt – thanks for coming, new initiative to increase engagement.

Anna Chen – Manningham (Deputy Mayor)

- MTF, Executive Committee of the Eastern Transport Coalition. Passionate about public transport.

Marg Attley – Mansfield (President of the VLGA)

- Regional and rural Victoria

Harry Westerndorp – Mansfield (Mayor)

- Financial sustainability of small rural shires with large outgoing costs (e.g. roads etc)
- Grants and funding concerns v needs

Lisa Hollingsworth – Boorondara

- Passion for rural, regional and metropolitan. All-inclusive/all-abilities access. Waste crisis.

Henry Barlow – Wyndham

- Extensive involvement in local government. Broad range of interests and passions including VLGA success. Interaction between councillors and CEOs - delegation. Community adviser role.

### 2. Draft terms of reference

- **Amendment under 'Membership'**: That councillors can resign from the Network at any time by providing due notice.
- **Amendment under 'Membership'**: 'Members of the Network may invite councillors from member and non-member councils to participate in individual meetings with the approval of other Network members.'
- **Amendment under 'Meetings and Events'**: 'The convenor may invite guest speakers/subject matter experts to selected meetings, including councillor officers.'
- **Amendment under 'Meetings and Events'**: from 'chaired' to 'facilitated'
- **The Network members endorsed the draft terms of reference on a consensus basis.**

### **3. Major themes**

Lobby for review of the Planning and Environment Act (1987)

- Focus on planning and housing for growth and liveability.
- Increased focus on infrastructure planning
- Councils

Transport infrastructure

- Focus on rural as well as regional.
- Bus connectivity (as per 2014 VAGO report on Coordinating Public Transport)
- Cycling infrastructure: (10% of state budget, requires further research).
- Accessible tram stops and bus shelters
- Electric vehicle charging points – lobbying government to support

Transport service

- Planning services for population growth.
- Minimum service standards (e.g. frequency)
- Mandating services to major activity centres

Recycling and a circular economy

- Waste management
- Supporting actions for a circular economy

Decentralisation

- Innovation around telecommuting for regional and rural development. Regional business hubs
- Rural and regional working with interface councils to look at decentralisation
- Service addition – internet, community services, identifying and then filling the gaps
- Fast trains out of regional cities

### **4. Current VLGA activities**

- Deborah gave report on Local Women Leading Change and Treaty LTA.

### **5. Next steps**

- VLGA to circulate updated Terms of Reference
- VLGA to circulate minutes of meeting
- VLGA to circulate 2014 VAGO report on Coordinating Public Transport
- VLGA to prepare a lobbying platform for 2019

### **6. Date of next meeting**

Friday May 24 11:30 am to 2:00 pm.

7. Other business

8. Meeting close