



AUSTRALIAN
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
ASSOCIATION

27th

**National
General
Assembly**

20 – 23 June 2021

CANBERRA

**WORKING TOGETHER
FOR OUR COMMUNITIES**

RESOLUTIONS

1 City of Newcastle, NSW

Carried

That the National General Assembly:

1. Notes with disappointment that Local Government remains unrepresented on the National Cabinet and requests that First Ministers review the decision to exclude Local Government from the national decision-making table;
2. Recognise the importance of having local government representation on National Cabinet and the value of partnerships with councils in achieving the objectives of the National Cabinet and the national reform agenda; and
3. Includes a representative from the Australian Local Government Association on the National Cabinet, to ensure local government's interests are strongly represented at the national level.

2 South Burnett Regional Council, QLD and Shellharbour Council, NSW - Carried

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to restore funding for local government Financial Assistance Grants to a level equal to at least 1% of Commonwealth taxation revenue.

3 Cootamundra Gundagai Regional Council, NSW

Withdrawn

The National General Assembly calls on the federal government to undertake a review of the current financial distribution arrangement of the Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs) with the purpose of developing a formula which will redistribute the funds and increase the amount currently apportioned to regional and rural local government areas across the nation for a fairer share.

3 Forbes Shire Council, NSW

Carried

That this National General Assembly calls on the Federal Government to not vary the financial distribution of Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs) until the FAGs level is increased to 1% of Commonwealth tax revenue.

4 Maroondah City Council, VIC

Carried

That this National General Assembly calls upon the Federal Government to provide a one-off increase in the amount of Financial Assistance Grants made to Local Government for the 2021/22 year in recognition of the substantial costs incurred and revenue losses for all Councils as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the financial impacts of the resultant Federal, State and Territory Government restrictions imposed to mitigate the spread of the disease.

5 Tenterfield Shire Council, NSW

Carried

The National General Assembly call on the Australian Government to provide grant funding to Regional and Rural Councils in advance and not in arrears so as to avoid impacting unfavourably on such Councils' cash flow.

6 Frankston City Council, VIC

Carried

The National General Assembly call on the Australian Government to:

- Increase in real terms its financial assistance to local government to ensure that Councils can continue to provide the necessary financial support to local businesses and the community for its economic recovery in the face of the continuing impacts of COVID-19; and
- Reverse its decision to exclude employees of subsidiary organisations to local government from any future JobKeeper payment support that may be necessary for businesses significantly affected by the coronavirus (COVID-19).

7 Brimbank Shire Council, VIC

Carried

The National General Assembly calls on the Federal Government to partner with respective State and Territory Governments, as well as Local Government Areas (LGAs), to establish and administer dedicated Jobs and Skills Partnerships for LGAs, to help create local job pathways, align and improve employment, skill, and learning outcomes for local communities across Australia in response to COVID-19. Local Jobs and Skills Partnership would be responsible for the review, coordination and monitoring of Federal, State and local government efforts and resources, including social services, libraries and neighbourhood houses, right through to schools, TAFE, and higher education; as to ensure meaningful pathways are identified and created to employment on local infrastructure projects, as well as with relevant industries that require labour and will provide future job opportunities across respective regions.

7A Wyndham City Council, VIC

Carried

That this National General Assembly call on the Federal Government to partner with State and Territory Governments and Local Governments, to roll out nationally a locally coordinated place-based employment services program for disadvantaged job seekers under the New Employment Services Model (NESM), including in particular support for refugees and humanitarian entrants who require Enhanced Services delivered through employment services providers under the NESM.

These national enhanced employment services are proposed to build on the recent Regional Employment Trials, administered by the Federal Department of Education, Skills and Employment, which have shown success in using a place-based approach to draw on local stakeholder expertise in developing employment projects, coordinated by local government.

8 City of Melbourne, VIC

Carried

That the National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to implement a funding program directed through local government to support those in sectors most impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. In seeking support, the NGA advises that the new funding program should:

1. Be separate to, and provide funding above and beyond that offered by, Financial Assistance Grants.
2. Require local government to directly employ local people in the arts, entertainment and events industries, noting these are heavily impacted industries that have been least supported by the JobKeeper program due to a high instance of casual and contract labour, and which have been overlooked by significant stimulus funding from the Commonwealth Government.
3. Recognise the ability of local government to expend stimulus funding efficiently and fairly.
4. Place a focus on the importance of creative practitioners in developing solutions in local communities as part of economic recovery and community development.

9 Tenterfield Shire Council, NSW

Carried

The National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to either cease the practice of expecting Council co-contributions when applying for Federal Government Grants or allow Council's in-kind contributions to be eligible as the co-contribution from Councils.

10 Central Highlands Regional Council, QLD

Carried

The National General Assembly calls on the Federal Government to introduce funding opportunities for regional airports to offset reductions in income due to the COVID-19 pandemic to ensure regional communities are not further disadvantaged.

11 Albury City Council, NSW

Carried

The National General Assembly calls on Australian, State and Territory Governments to:

- harmonise legislation, regulation, policies and practices to mitigate the financial and social impacts of anomalies on border communities across the nation, and
- adopt a national approach to management of the COVID-19 pandemic to eliminate the closure of State and Territory borders.

12 Bendigo City Council, VIC

Carried

That this National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to address the economic hardship people in rural and regional areas are experiencing due to the unique combined impacts of COVID-19, unprecedented bushfires, long running drought and/or flooding by providing additional support for recovery.

That this relief include:

- a. Initiatives targeting the tourism and creative industries
- b. an evaluation of and response to the youth and gender impacts of COVID-19
- c. initiatives that will boost jobs and long-term community resilience to climate
- d. restoration of funding for local government Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs) to a level equal to at least 1% of Commonwealth taxation revenue.

13 Shoalhaven City Council, NSW

Lost

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to establish a permanent Disaster Levy as an income tax levy, to establish a funding base to empower Local Government to support our communities with resilience and disaster recovery.

14 Bellingen Shire Council, NSW

Carried

This National General Assembly calls on the Federal Government to release the \$4 billion in unallocated Emergency Response Funds to the 537 State and Territory Local Government Councils across the nation to increase local community capacity to implement sustainable and effective community disaster recovery, preparedness and resilience initiatives.

15 Bega Valley Shire Council, NSW

Carried

That the National General Assembly call on the Federal Government to audit, report on, and hasten financial relief to those who have applied for bushfire relief.

16 Bega Valley Shire Council, NSW

Carried

That this National General Assembly of Local Government call on the Commonwealth and states and Territory Governments to ensure that ALGA, State Associations and local Councils are appropriately represented on advisory groups and projects linked to the new National Resilience, Relief and Recovery Agency being established by the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet to ensure that both local government local and community voices are heard in the important work that will be led by this agency.

17 Nillumbik Shire Council, VIC

Carried

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to work closely with state and local government to develop appropriate implementation frameworks and make available greater funding – either through the extension of its Smart Cities and Suburbs program or a new initiative, to enable local governments and their

communities to implement the latest networking and monitoring technology in their efforts to improve bushfire preparedness and climate resilience.

18 Balonne Shire Council, QLD

Carried

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to include a 'pandemic' under the definition of an 'eligible disaster' under the Disaster Recover Funding Arrangements (DRFA) Guidelines to enable local government costs to be claimed in line with other 'disaster' events.

19 Lake Macquarie City, NSW

Carried

The National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide funding and resources for circular economy capability building and support for the development of Circular Economy Action Plans for local government.

20 Penrith City Council, NSW

Carried

The National General Assembly calls on Australian Government to fund and invite industry and local government representatives to establish a National Waste and Resource Recovery Working Group to develop clear standards and guidelines for the management, storage, and collection of resource recovery material from all development types (residential, commercial, industrial and mixed-use).

21 Shoalhaven City Council, NSW

Carried

This National General Assembly expresses its support for Federal Government investment in a jobs-rich conservation and land management stimulus package as part of the economic response to COVID-19.

22 Maribyrnong City Council, VIC

Carried

That the National General Assembly calls on the Federal Government to provide sector wide non-competitive grants for Local Government to implement Urban Forest Strategies and landscape restoration projects.

23 Lockyer Valley Regional Council, QLD

Carried

That the National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to establish a mechanism to enable the provision of funding and resources to local governments in order for them to review the Environmental Impact Statements of Major Projects assessed in accordance with the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.

24 Mitcham Council, SA

Carried

That the National General Assembly calls on the Federal Government to investigate the environmental impacts of artificial turf and more environmentally appropriate alternatives for sporting surfaces.

25 Maribyrnong City Council, VIC

Carried

That this National General Assembly calls on the Federal Government to:

- formally recognise we are in a state of climate emergency;
- appoint a Minister for Climate Change/Emergency to champion climate change efforts across the country
- establish a National Climate Change Taskforce to enable a whole-of-government approach to climate action
- commit to actively work with Local Government, industry and communities to:
- reduce waste production,
- set a zero emissions target
- support the development of renewable energy industries
- provide incentives to all sectors to change to more efficient technologies
- significantly increase urban vegetation cover and rehabilitate degraded rural environments
- increase support for households to access energy efficient demands

26. Yarra City Council, VIC

Carried

This National General Assembly calls on the Federal Government to establish a funding stream for local governments to support their efforts in climate adaptation and mitigation in their local communities.

27 Paroo Shire Council, QLD

Carried

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to develop a revised Carbon Farming Initiative (Program) that is able to adapt to local community circumstances to maximise its intended benefits and minimise any cumulative and unintended negative consequences.

28 Randwick City Council, NSW

Carried

This National General Assembly of Local Government calls on the Australian Government to:

Support a just transition to an environmentally and socially sustainable economy and society by:

- a. upholding the Sovereignty demands of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people expressing Inherent Custodial Rights to protect land, water, sky, culture and community;
- b. transitioning to net zero emissions by 2050;
- c. developing policies across the economic, environmental, social, education/training and labour portfolios needed to provide an enabling environment for enterprises, workers, investors and consumers to drive the transition towards an environmentally sustainable and inclusive economy and society; and
- d. integrating provisions for a just transition into national plans and policies for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and national environmental and climate change action plans.

29 Lockyer Valley Regional Council, QLD

Carried

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to consider a range of alternate water sources when determining the eligibility of projects under the National Water Infrastructure Development Fund grants scheme in order to ensure water security for communities and industry across Australia.

30 Mildura Rural City Council, VIC

Carried

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government for a review on how low the environmental water allocation became and how we move to rectify this oversight.

31 Central Highlands Regional Council, QLD

Carried

The National General Assembly calls on the Federal and State Governments to provide a funding stream aimed to tackle drought mitigation projects that will also provide positive outcomes for firefighting purposes and managing stock routes.

32 Leeton Shire Council, NSW

Carried

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to protect national food security and the sustainability of regional irrigation communities by:

- acknowledging irrigation communities were purposefully built by governments to feed and drought-proof the nation
- acknowledging the unintended adverse impacts on regional communities of certain water policy decisions and the operation of water trading markets
- acknowledging that the nation's primary producers are adept at using water efficiently and responsibly
- providing enhanced water access for general security water holders in regional communities who depend on the availability of this water for their livelihoods

- ensuring decisions foster diversity in agriculture and value adding industries
- reviewing and adjusting timelines for the completion of Murray-Darling Basin projects and plans such as the Murray-Darling Basin Plan Sustainable Diversion Limit Adjustment Measures (SDLAM) Projects and Water Sharing Plans.

33 Melbourne City Council, VIC

Carried

That the National General Assembly seeks the express support of the Minister for Energy and Emissions Reduction and Treasurer for new resources direct to regional groupings of Councils to implement programs that accelerate renewable energy procurement and energy efficiency upgrade projects, especially those that bring Councils, businesses and other organisations together to collectively work towards achieving zero carbon emissions.

34 Town of Gawler Council, SA

Carried

The National General Assembly calls on the Federal Government to amend the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting (NGER) Framework to establish a legal definition of what is required to buy renewable electricity via the electricity grid and claim 100% renewable electricity use and zero emissions. This will establish market-based accounting for renewable electricity, create a single nationally consistent method that applies to electricity and renewable electricity consumption and prevent double counting for all customers including for councils, seeking legally assured, clearly defined and fairly priced renewable electricity.

35 South Burnett Regional Council, QLD

Carried

That this National General Assembly calls on the Federal Government to consider a consistent National Energy Policy approach and legislation that ensures responsible investment in renewable energy projects.

36 Shoalhaven City Council, NSW

Carried

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide employment opportunities nationwide to support Cultural Burning (Indigenous fire management) as a resilience strategy. This would take the form of a core jobs program, amalgamated with conservation management.

37 Shoalhaven City Council, NSW

Lost

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to enact legislation to:

1. Exempt hazard reduction burns and the construction of APZs (asset protection zones) from any limitations within Acts or Regulations which restrict any authorised authority from doing so.

2. Repeal or create an easement over any section of a National Park where part of the Park falls within a 200m APZ and vest the management of that land in the local Council.
3. Require private land holders (including Aboriginal Land) to create and maintain a parkland-like cleared area of 200m to act as an APZ at the interface with any urban development requiring an APZ.
4. Require any Government Authority who manages forested areas to properly maintain and improve the construction of fire trails.
5. Consider the construction strategic fire breaks though forested areas including National Parks of a similar width to a major electricity easement.

38 Randwick City Council, NSW

Carried

This National General Assembly of Local Government calls on the Australian Government to:

- 1) acknowledge that Local Government across Australia continue to demonstrate strong leadership in support of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples by undertaking a range of actions across the nation such as:
 - a) supporting the Uluru Statement from the Heart which calls on the Australian people to walk with First Nations in a people's movement for Voice, Treaty, Truth.
 - b) by endorsing the Uluru Statement and sharing this support by publicly displaying the Uluru Statement and putting up posters in prominent locations throughout local council areas; and
 - c) encouraging all Councils to register support for the Uluru Statement from the Heart on the website <https://www.1voiceuluru.org/>
- 2) calls on the Australian Government to support Constitutional Recognition for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the key principles of the 'Uluru Statement from the Heart'.

39 Darebin City Council, VIC

Carried

That this National General Assembly call for the establishment of an appropriate advisory structure and/or representative voice to Local Government comprising of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples from across Australia to ensure that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have a say about Councils' decisions that affect them and to guide Councils' broader work relating to First Nations peoples, truth telling, sovereignty, treaty-making and addressing systemic racism.

40 East Arnhem Regional Council, NT

Carried

The National General Assembly (NGA) calls on the Federal, State and Territory Governments to commit to nationally consistent recognition of Indigenous Local Government Councils as an Aboriginal controlled entity across Australia at all levels

of Government. Indigenous Local Government Council being a Local Government Council with a majority representation of both Elected Officials and Constituency of Indigenous Australians.

41 Darwin City Council, NT

Carried

That this National General Assembly

- a) Calls on Australian Local Government Association, as the lead member and advocacy body for Local Government in Australia to develop a Reconciliation Action Plan for the Australian Local Government Association.
- b) Calls on the Australian Government to fund a national Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Awareness and Safety Training Program for all Local Government Elected Members and Council Staff as an act of reconciliation between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the wider Australian community.

42 Newcastle City Council, NSW

Carried

The National General Assembly calls on the Commonwealth Government to:

1. Endorse the 'Racism Not Welcome' campaign, headed up by former Socceroos Captain, SBS commentator and human rights campaigner, Craig Foster, at the national level, as a symbol of Australia's commitment to multiculturalism, inclusivity, and the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
2. Partner with peak national bodies, including the Federation of Ethnic Communities' Councils of Australia, the Refugee Council of Australia, and the Inner West Multicultural Network, to implement the 'Racism Not Welcome' campaign on a national level.

43 Inner West Council, NSW

Carried

The National General Assembly calls on all Councils:

1. To note that the #RacismNotWelcome campaign was created by the Inner West Multicultural Network (IWMN) as a grassroots anti-racism campaign for local Councils and communities to create safe places;
2. To endorse the #RacismNotWelcome campaign; and
3. To write to the Prime Minister and relevant Minister/s to:
 - a. Express grave concern at the rise of racism in Australia;
 - b. Request funding be made available to Councils to support the rollout of the #RacismNotWelcome campaign.

44 Isaac Regional Council, QLD

Carried

That this National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to urgently conduct an Inquiry and engage rural communities to assess the effectiveness of the 2019 Stronger Rural Health Strategy, and in particular, to identify any anomalies in the strategy that are symptomatic of the diversity of rural Australia and its health.

45 Lake Macquarie City Council, NSW

Carried

The National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to investigate and explore a partnership between local government and Headspace National Youth Mental Health Foundation to ensure young people in rural, remote, isolated and public transport-deprived areas gain access to appropriate and relevant youth mental health services.

46 Glen Innes Severn Council, NSW

Carried

The National General Assembly (NGA) calls on the Australian Government to:

1. Formulate a Liveability Plan for Regional Australia and to take immediate action to manage and ultimately eliminate the Mental Health issues currently affecting young people living in Regional Australia.
2. Make a lasting and meaningful commitment to provide sustained financial support to proven intervention services or directly to Councils to assist in local programs or engage external services such as Youth In-search.

The Liveability Plan should urgently address the following significant issues, which are being felt so extensively throughout Regional Australia:

- Healthcare;
- Mental Health;
- Connectivity;
- Housing Availability;
- Traineeships and Apprenticeships for youth.
- The expansion and assistance with Renewable Energy projects, which will inject significant employment into Regional Australia.

47 Blacktown City Council, NSW

Carried

The National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to ensure that:

1. local government receives an appropriate and equitable share of Federal arts and cultural funding
2. local councils are recognised as arts organisations and made eligible to apply for all funding opportunities.

To support this campaign, the National General urges councils across Australia to adapt the ALGA arts and culture position statement and assist with joint advocacy.

48 Penrith City Council, NSW

Carried

The National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to continue to invest in arts and culture stimulus programs (including capital investments) to ensure this sector of the economy can rebuild and that investments reach local communities.

49 Broken Hill City Council, NSW

Carried

That the Federal Government provides funding for the development of state and territory wide Museum Strategies and provide sufficient resources to ensure cultural heritage led vibrancy, collection care and local storytelling initiatives are supported, developed and maintained for communities throughout the nation.

50 Leeton Shire Council, NSW

Carried

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to improve the welfare of migrants and resolve the labour shortages affecting businesses and industries in rural and regional Australia by:

1. Revising the visa regime to grant work rights to all bridging visa holders
2. Granting amnesty to undocumented workers, specifically undocumented farm workers.

51 Tweed Shire Council, NSW

Carried

The National General Assembly calls on the Federal Government to provide a significant and transformational funding stream for regenerative landscape management as an economic stimulus and job creator, that is easily accessible for rural landholders (including consideration of US and EU models of farm payments) to maintain and restore rural lands and provide the large scale change that is required to mitigate the increasing natural disasters that Australia is experiencing with Climate Change.

52 Yarra City Council, VIC

Carried

That this Assembly resolves that:

- a) the Federal Government's revised rate of the Jobseeker payment of \$44 per day is considered inadequate and will result in millions of Australian citizens being unnecessarily trapped in poverty as after 25 years with no increase to the incomes of unemployed Australians an increase of just \$3.57 per day above the previous rate of the Newstart payment is insufficient;

- b) it supports the demands from the Australian Council of Social Service (ACOSS) “Raise the Rate for Good” campaign for:
 - I. an increase to the base rate of JobSeeker Payment by at least \$25 a day, and ensure everyone receives at least \$65 a day;
 - II. ongoing indexation of payments in line with wage movements at least twice per year; and
 - III. establishment of a Social Security Commission to advise the Parliament on the ongoing adequacy of income support payments; and
- c) member Councils be encouraged to register as Organisational Supporters of the ACOSS “Raise the Rate for Good” campaign

53 Maribyrnong City Council, VIC

Carried

That this National General Assembly call on the Federal Government to fund a permanent and ongoing increase to the JobSeeker Payment and Youth Allowance to above the poverty line.

54 Brimbank City Council, VIC

Carried

The National General Assembly calls on the Federal Government to retain and expand the JobKeeper and JobSeeker Programs, to support ongoing response and recovery efforts to the COVID-19 Pandemic throughout local communities for at least the duration of 2021.

55 Lockyer Valley Regional Council, QLD

Carried

The National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide support for the concept of a universal entitlement to aged care that recognises the preference of many community members to stay in their own home and in their own regions. This support should ensure an equitable standard of aged care support across the nation.

56 Central Highlands Regional Council, QLD

Carried

The National General Assembly calls on the Federal Government to collaboratively develop relevant models of aged care for rural and remote areas.

57 Maribyrnong City Council, VIC

Carried

That the National General Assembly calls on the Federal Government to have the Aged Care Amendment (Staffing Ratios Disclosure) Bill 2019 re-presented & brought into legislation.

58 City of Boroondara, VIC**Carried**

The National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to maintain the current volunteer management activity (VMA) funding arrangements for all volunteer support agencies and to increase the allocation in the next Federal Budget, as volunteering is key to keeping people feeling connected and supplied with essential services and critical support, particularly vulnerable, isolated and disengaged residents, at a time of high unemployment.

59 Liverpool City Council, NSW**Lost**

That the National General Assembly call on the Federal Government for a national consultation process involving all levels of government, that will provide the opportunity to re-assess and implement new planning controls that will ensure the delivery of future Pandemic Safe Housing and Development.

60 Brimbank City Council, VIC**Carried**

The National General Assembly calls on the Federal Government to invest in social and affordable housing, working in partnership with state, territory and local governments to meet local demand and deliver post-pandemic economic stimulus.

61 Darebin City Council, VIC, Fremantle City Council, WA, Mount Isa City Council, QLD, Randwick City Council, NSW, City of West Torrens, SA **Carried**

The National General Assembly calls on The Australian Government to sign and ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

62 Orange City Council, NSW**Carried**

The National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to take action to make local communities and workplaces safer and more inclusive for women, including by:

- fully responding to the 55 recommendations in the Australian Human Rights Commission's Respect@Work report of the National Inquiry into Sexual Harassment in Australian Workplaces 2020
- lifting public funding for the prevention of gendered violence to world's best practice
- working with State and Territory Governments to introduce legislation to promote gender equality and require gender equity audits of government practices at all levels of government.

63 Isaac Regional Council, QLD**Carried**

That this National General Assembly of Local Government calls on the Australian Government to urgently implement Recommendations 1 and 2 of The Senate Economics Reference Committee December 2020 Final Report on the Inquiry into the indicators of, and impact of, regional inequality in Australia.

Recommendation 1 recommends the Australian Government fundamentally re-examine its regional infrastructure spending plan and make an expanded infrastructure programme the basis for its stimulus plan for Australia's economic recovery from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

Recommendation 2 recommends, in order to achieve the most appropriate response for regional investment, the Australian Government undertake a series of round table consultations with:

- Commonwealth departments and agencies;
- State and local governments;
- Regional associations; and
- Community organisations.

64 Shoalhaven City Council, NSW**Carried**

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to undertake a nationwide educative project on cybersecurity, in particular to help protect vulnerable members of our community against online fraud.

65 Orange City Council, NSW**Carried**

The National General Assembly recognises the significant value to Australian society of regional TV news bulletins; and calls on the Australian Government to review and implement changes to relevant legislation to ensure commercial regional broadcasters are required to produce significant local bulletins.

66 Shoalhaven City Council, NSW**Carried**

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to implement a formal transparent framework of contacts for Local Government to liaise effectively with Federal Government partners.

67 Broken Hill City Council, NSW**Carried**

That the Federal Government provides funding to financially support local councils in the restoration and remediation of local cemeteries that have been severely damaged from climatic conditions and drought.

68 Tenterfield Shire Council, NSW**Carried**

The National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide grant funding to assist Councils deal with the costs incurred in correcting historical errors in mapping of actual roads so that ratepayers do not have to meet these costs.

69 Newcastle City Council, NSW**Carried**

That the National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:

1. Note that in some jurisdictions, Councillors, Mayors and Lord Mayors are not entitled to the Superannuation Guarantee Contribution, despite Councillors being paid the appropriate superannuation entitlements in other jurisdictions;
2. Note that this sets a poor community standard and sends the wrong message to the community, given that superannuation should be a universal system to support all workers in Australia; and
3. Rationalise the Superannuation system for elected representatives from the local government level and ensure that all Councillors across Australia receive the Superannuation Guarantee Contribution.

70 Litchfield Council, NT**Carried**

The National Assembly calls on the Commonwealth Government to facilitate the harmonisation of Long Service Leave (LSL) laws in Australia which would provide all States and Territories with a consistent set of LSL laws. This regulatory inconsistency should be addressed through an intergovernmental agreement vis-a-vis Work Health and Safety laws, to enable governments from each State and Territory and the Commonwealth to formally commit to the harmonisation of LSL laws. The intention is to harmonise these laws (including the Regulations that underpin them) to deliver the same LSL entitlements to all Australians.

71 Leeton Shire Council, NSW**Carried**

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to hold a referendum to amend the Constitution to recognise local government as an important, legitimate and essential element in Australia's system of government.

72 Mildura Rural City Council, VIC**Carried**

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to both increase Financial Assistance Grants overall, and address the rural and metropolitan rates divide that results in an imbalance in the capacity of rural councils to service communities and rural ratepayers to service rates.

Amendment by City of Melbourne agreed.

73 Mitchell Shire Council, VIC**Carried**

That the National General Assembly advocate to the Federal Government, and in particular the Minister for Local Government, for an increase in the Financial Assistance Grants to support local governments to deliver a range of services including roads maintenance.

74 Wakefield Regional Council, SA**Carried**

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to work with state/territory Local Government Grants Commissions across Australia, to ensure the allocation of federal road funding is distributed to local governments in accordance with the National Principles of horizontal equalisation as required by the Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995.

75 Liverpool City Council, NSW**Carried**

The National General Assembly request that the Federal Government investigate a forward funding acquisition scheme that will enable local governments to provide infrastructure supporting the development of national assets; and that the investigation also consider funding opportunities through a value capture process or increased funds generated in the existing tax regime due to higher land values and transaction volumes associated with areas of major infrastructure delivery.

76 Penrith City Council, NSW**Carried**

The National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to invest in nation building projects where it can be established, they will facilitate better road and transport connections between cities and with regions around Australia. The criteria for these projects should be based on the economic opportunities they create for freight and passenger movement, migration, service provision and business support, as these are known to contribute best to our national productivity. This motion has been developed in collaboration with the Lachlan Shire Council and will be submitted jointly.

77 Central Highlands Regional Council, QLD**Carried**

The National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to implement a centrally funded aviation security mechanism that includes all airports providing domestic flights.

78 Broken Hill City Council, NSW**Carried**

That the Federal Government ensures an adequate provision of charging points for electric vehicles in regional areas in order that regional areas are not deprived of the opportunity to purchase vehicles and also to ensure that people living in metropolitan areas can travel to regional and remote areas. Once the use of electric vehicles

gains momentum, regional Australia should not miss out on tourism due to not having adequate charging bays.

79 Mitchell Shire Council, VIC

Carried

That the National General Assembly call on the Federal and State Government to:

- Develop a clear long-term investment pathway for major social infrastructure and accompanying health, community and educational services in outer urban growth areas
- Call for an equitable and consistent allocation of funding announcements that focuses on emerging communities in outer urban growth areas
- Prioritise the planning and early funded delivery of community services and infrastructure in emerging communities, in order to avoid the costly, and often inadequate, retrofitting of emerging communities.

80 Bega Valley Shire Council, NSW

Carried

That the National General Assembly urges the Environment Minister to better monitor and enforce relevant company membership of the Australian Packaging Covenant Organisation.

81 Shellharbour Council, NSW

Carried

That this National General Assembly of Local Government call on the Federal Government and Opposition to commit to net zero carbon emissions by 2050 in line with the 2015 Paris Agreement.

82 Central Highlands Regional Council, QLD

Carried

The National General Assembly calls on the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) to take the lead in maintaining and providing assets for flood modelling / forecasting purposes in regional areas.

83 South Burnett Regional Council, QLD

Carried

That this National Assembly calls on the Federal Government to fund ABC transmission black spot sites to ensure coverage for all communities in the event of Natural Disaster.

84 Parkes Shire Council, NSW

Carried

The National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to initiate a "Natural Disaster Preventative Measures Fund" to provide financial assistance to Local Government for planning mitigation strategies for extreme natural disaster events.

85 Shoalhaven City Council, NSW**Carried**

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to accept and implement the recommendations of the Royal Commission on National Natural Disasters pertaining to an enhanced role for the Commonwealth in coordinating the established levels of state, territory and local council response, and affording Commonwealth assistance as requested by established local and state authorities. This will ensure a national response to emergencies that will facilitate our communities' resilience following disasters.

86 Central Highlands Regional Council, QLD**Carried**

The National General Assembly calls on the federal government to commit increased funding to proportionately enhance regional connectivity to the digital economy.

87 Tamworth Regional Council, NSW**Carried**

That the National General Assembly calls on the Federal Government to investigate the failings of the National Broadband Network in rural and regional Australia and the exorbitant cost of connection for some businesses and residents.

88 Hobart City Council, TAS**Carried**

The National General Assembly calls upon the Australian Government to ensure a fair balance is made between the requirements of telecommunications carriers to roll out 5G technology and the protection of public spaces from undesirable infrastructure proliferation as has occurred in other jurisdictions.

89 Cowra Shire Council, NSW**Carried**

That this National General Assembly of Local Government calls on the Federal Government to institute discussions with all telecommunications providers, as a matter of priority, with a view to rapidly bringing services in regional and rural areas of Australia up to standards comparable with those in metropolitan areas.

90 Tamworth Regional Council, NSW**Carried**

That the National General Assembly calls on the Federal Government to ensure the current review of the National Medical Workforce Strategy, and in particular how a "District of Workforce Shortage" is determined when allocating Medicare Provider Numbers, provides flexibility and opportunities for Medical Practitioners and Specialists to relocate to regional and rural communities so that they are not disadvantaged in the delivery of adequate and essential medical services.

91 Leeton Shire Council, NSW

Carried

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to dedicate funds to increase drug and alcohol treatment and rehabilitation options in rural and regional areas as a matter of priority.

92 Parkes Shire Council, NSW

Carried

The National General Assembly calls on the State and Federal Governments to invest further in social and affordable housing.

93 Moreland City Council, VIC

Carried

The National General Assembly calls on the Federal Government to take action to strengthen the delivery of social and affordable housing across Australia by:

- Matching the direct funding being put forward by the States and Territories in Australia which are investing in social and affordable housing.
- Preparing a National Housing Strategy.

94 Darebin City Council, VIC

Carried

The National General Assembly calls on the Federal Government to take action to strengthen the delivery of social and affordable housing across Australia by:

- Preparing a National Housing Strategy
- The National Housing Strategy to encourage nationally consistent approaches to State and Territory Planning legislation to facilitate Inclusionary Zoning for Affordable Housing, as a tool that can be utilised by Governments and metropolitan

and growth Councils (and any Councils where they so choose) to require affordable housing contributions as part of private development.

95 Byron Shire Council, NSW

Carried

The National General Assembly asks that all levels of government work together to investigate ways of making the delivery of affordable and accessible housing easier. We ask that the Federal Government consider:

- a) investing more money into social housing,
- b) reviewing the impact of current tax arrangements like negative gearing on housing affordability,
- c) reviewing the effectiveness of rental assistance in its current form,
- d) increasing the grant percentage of the National Housing and Infrastructure Finance Corporation finance from 20% to 50% to local councils,

- e) implement a national RAPID program, supported by state and local governments to address homelessness,
- f) where appropriate, donating crown land to be used for the provision of social and affordable housing,
- g) changing policy and regulatory settings to better support and fund councils in addressing the affordable and accessible housing crisis in the Northern Rivers Region and other areas throughout the country. This could include enabling controls on existing housing that is kept empty for visitor accommodation, for example in Byron Shire, where approximately half the residential rental stock, over 3,500 properties, are listed, 80% whole houses and most are available year round for short term holiday letting,
- h) exploring supporting councils to directly facilitate development through planning, the provision of land and financial levels such as subsidies.

96 Liverpool City Council, NSW

Carried

That the National General Assembly calls on the Federal Government to recommit to genuine partnership between three levels of Government in the City Deal model, and commit resources to progress stalled negotiations; reconcile real progress against planned outcomes such as in the Western Sydney City Deal; and leverage the learnings from the current City Deals to inform improved and replicable models for future Deals.

97 Northern Midlands Council, TAS

Carried

The National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to consider the implementation of additional Regional Deals throughout the country.

98 Salisbury City Council, SA

Carried

The National General Assembly calls on the Federal Government to provide funding support to Councils across Australia for conducting citizenship ceremonies that have become a significant cost burden to local communities for undertaking a role on behalf of the Commonwealth of Australia.

99 Darebin City Council, VIC

Carried

The National General Assembly calls on the Australian Local Government Association to establish an advisory structure or mechanism formed with people with expertise from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds to inform its work relating to cultural diversity and inclusion and have a say about decisions that affect them and guide Councils' broader work relating to multicultural communities.

100 Wattle Range Council, SA**Lost**

The National General Assembly calls on the Australian Taxation Office to consider introducing a unique tax-free threshold for elected member allowances of \$50,000.

101 City of Canterbury Bankstown, NSW**Carried**

That this National General Assembly call on the Federal Government to reverse its 2014/15 decision to withdraw funding to pensioners and reinstate the 5% contribution towards the pensioner rate rebate.

102 Leeton Shire Council, NSW**Carried**

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to develop and implement a weed management plan to protect agricultural land from incursions of well-established weeds such as Fleabane (*Conyza* spp.) and Silverleaf Nightshade (*Solanum elaeagnifolium*) in order to maintain the productivity of agricultural land and ensure the sustainability of regional communities by acknowledging that:

- Some well-established weeds are resistant to standard registered herbicides including Glyphosate
- Limited state and federal funding is provided for the control of such weeds under the Biosecurity Act 2015 through the General Biosecurity Duty
- the NSW Government Weed Action plan is focused on new and emerging weed varieties. Many weeds do not meet this criterion and therefore attract no State or Federal funding for their management.