



AUSTRALIAN
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
ASSOCIATION

2023 NGA

**OUR COMMUNITIES
OUR FUTURE** ▶▶▶

RESOLUTIONS

13 – 16 JUNE 2023

NATIONAL CONVENTION
CENTRE CANBERRA



2023

MOTIONS

SECTION A

MOTIONS CONSISTENT WITH EXISTING ALGA POLICY

Motion number 1 Brimbank City Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:

- 1. Recognise the importance of Financial Assistance Grants to all councils;**
- 2. Recognise ALGA's long-standing position that the current quantum of the Financial Assistance Grants are well below what is required for councils to effectively deliver a wide range of necessary services; and**
- 3. Increase the pool of funds available for the Financial Assistance Grants so that this equates to at least 1% of Commonwealth tax revenue.**

Motion number 1.1 Redland City Council QLD

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

Motion number 1.2 East Gippsland Shire Council VIC

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 one (1) percent of Commonwealth taxation revenue, to enable a focus on initiatives that support climate change resilient infrastructure and/or renewable energy initiatives.

Motion number 1.3 Newcastle City Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to return funding for local government Financial Assistance Grants to a level equal to 1 percent of Commonwealth Taxation Revenue as a matter of priority and directly to local government.

Motion number 1.4 Tenterfield Shire Council NSW

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

Motion number 1.5 Blacktown City Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to work through the National Cabinet and the Council on Federal Financial Relations to ensure councils receive sufficient revenue to support their future financial sustainability and the wellbeing of their communities.

Motion number 1.6 Central Highlands Regional Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government, via the Productivity Commission to:

1. Review the percentage of Commonwealth revenue allocated to Financial Assistance Grants, noting that:

- a. The local government sector raises or is a recipient (through Financial Assistance Grants) of 3.6% of Australia's total taxation revenue, but is responsible for managing 33% of public non-financial assets; and**
- b. The local government asset management responsibility translates to between \$8.5 billion and \$11.3 billion in capital maintenance and further amounts in operating maintenance per annum, compared to only \$2.9 billion in Financial Assistance Grants received; and release the report to the local government sector.**

The review undertaken by the Productivity Commission should include:

- c. A recommendation to the Australian Government as to the necessary increase in Financial Assistance Grants as a proportion of Commonwealth Revenue from its current historically low base of 0.53%; and**
- d. In addition to a percentage increase, a recommendation that Financial Assistance Grants be indexed annually.**

Motion number 2 Tamworth Regional Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to urgently address the critical shortfall in Financial Assistance Grants to local government, with a particular focus on a significant increase in road funding following the intense climatic and weather events of the past two years.

Motion number 3 Central Highlands Regional Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to assist the local government sector to respond to the aging state of local government infrastructure and the impending infrastructure cliff by:

- 1. Introducing federal funding programs for local government to undertake asset management planning; and**
- 2. Revising the intent of, and associated eligibility criteria within, funding guidelines for untied grant programs such as the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program, to allow local government to apply funding towards projects which are forecast within local government work plans (asset management plans and long-term financial plans).**

Motion number 4 Frankston City Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide overall increased funding to metropolitan and regional councils to manage the current risk of long-term sustainability. The cumulative impact of prolonged rate capping, COVID, construction cost escalations, interest rate rises, cost of living increases and cost shifting from other levels of government places all Victorian councils in an impossible position.

Motion number 5 City of Stonnington Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to greater access to funding of local government to enable the building and/or renewal of necessary infrastructure for local communities.

Motion number 6 Darebin City Council and Kingston City Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to establish a community infrastructure program to:

- 1. Provide funding to local governments in delivering major capital works in the face of significant inflationary pressures and reduced delivery capacity in the market;**
- 2. Drive shared use arrangements of regional (serving multiple municipalities) community, sporting, arts, and cultural facilities across local, state, and federal assets.**

Motion number 7 Brisbane City Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to extend the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCI) Program, or similar program, beyond 30 June 2025.

Motion number 7.1 City of Mount Gambier Council SA

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to commit to sustain the current provision of Roads to Recovery (R2R) and retain the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCI) funding programs to local government.

Motion number 8 Tenterfield Shire Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide grants for local government for asset renewal/infrastructure replacement rather than only new infrastructure/assets.

Motion number 9 East Gippsland Shire Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to support the urgent need to upgrade critical infrastructure to respond to the impacts of climate change through investment in detailed modelling, setting of new design standards and infrastructure upgrades.

Motion number 10 Mornington Peninsula Shire VIC

The National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to invest equitable and recurrent funding for the better delivery of resilience building projects and programs. This would allow councils to more effectively equip local communities affected by the increasing number and severity of natural disasters and to upgrade local infrastructure during reconstruction, so that it can better withstand natural disasters and climate change.

Motion number 10.1 South Gippsland Shire Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to introduce road betterment with disaster funding: That the funding arrangements through Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) for recovery of roads and related infrastructure from natural disasters, allows for the road to be improved to a more resilient standard.

Motion number 11 Huon Valley Council TAS

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide financial support for council projects that pre-emptively safeguard against threat to life and property due to increasing severity and regularity of bushfires, flooding, drought, wind events and coastal erosion.

Motion number 12 Blue Mountains City Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to improve community resilience to natural disasters by significantly increasing investment into the following:

- 1. Planning of public infrastructure that is resilient to and mitigates the impact of future natural disasters;**
- 2. Public infrastructure projects that mitigate the impacts of natural disasters and are more available during and after an emergency; and**
- 3. Broaden the scope and the amount of recovery funding to enable public infrastructure directly affected by disasters to be 'Built Back Better' to withstand future events.**

Motion number 13 Mitchell Shire Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide funding which will actively support a range of new programs, investments, reviews, or other initiatives which aim at increasing a community's resilience to future natural disasters. In part this would also include any requests to review relevant planning or building controls or standards in order to future proof how properties can be built to better alleviate any impacts of a disaster on the structure and its fixtures and fittings. The increased funding should be widely available in order to ensure a diversity of initiatives and outcomes.

Motion number 14 Shoalhaven City Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to include betterment funding in the natural disaster funding arrangements to allow councils to repair or build-back an asset that can better withstand future natural disasters. Alternatively, that the betterment fund become a permanent arrangement to allow councils to take proactive measures regarding resilience.

Motion number 14.1 Macedon Ranges Shire Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:

- 1. Simplify the methodology and data inputs required in Victoria to prove councils' eligibility for disaster recovery funding, bringing it in line with other states and ahead of any national unification of claims processes;**
- 2. Financially support local government to ensure post-disaster funding programs enable betterment to improve assets beyond the previous condition to provide resilience against future damage resulting from disaster events;**

- 3. Financially support local government with an ongoing betterment program to upgrade existing public infrastructure in readiness for increased exposure to future disaster events.**

Motion number 14.2 Brisbane City Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to support betterment funding programs and consider the opportunity for improvements to increase support. This motion proposes an ongoing betterment funding program be implemented to increase the resilience of assets and communities in the event of future natural disasters.

Motion number 15 Berri Barmera Council SA

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to increase the Disaster Ready Fund or establish a country wide Flood Preparedness Fund to support critical infrastructure being upgraded for disaster prevention and preparedness phases before flood strikes.

Motion number 16 Wagga Wagga City Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide funding of immediate and ongoing maintenance of flood prevention infrastructure.

Motion number 17 Greater Bendigo City Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide greater investment in telecommunications and digital connectivity in regional and rural communities to support increasing populations and industries, growth in jobs and investment and remove the technological divide.

Motion number 18 East Arnhem Regional Council NT

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government for tangible action from its response to the 2021 Regional Telecommunications Review and to implement its recommendations, to ensure that the digital divide between Australians living in regional, rural, and remote areas and those living in metropolitan communities is reduced.

Motion number 18.1 Berrigan Shire Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to ensure any future roll out of digital connectivity upgrades ensures rural, regional, and remote communities do not continue to be relegated to the old and outdated delivery models.

Motion number 19 Gunnedah Shire Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to conduct an audit of regional Australia to determine which areas have mobile black spots and which areas do not provide adequate data, so the problem can be identified and fixed.

Motion number 19.1 North Burnett Regional Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to expand the Mobile Black Spot Program funding for regional and remote communities and create an equitable distribution of funding across states.

Motion number 20 Bayside Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide targeted funding to enable local government areas with low levels of public transport infrastructure to install additional bus shelters and bus infrastructure, thus increasing public transport accessibility and better enabling Australia to meet its carbon emission reduction goals.

Motion number 21 Gunnedah Shire Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to increase funding for regional airports.

Motion number 22 Brimbank City Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to establish a policy framework under its Aviation White Paper that outlines a compensation scheme for airport-impacted communities. This should be provided either by means of a noise amelioration program or to owners of dwellings and buildings accommodating sensitive land uses (i.e., schools, places of worship, childcare centres, and hospitals) adversely affected by aircraft noise. Such a compensation scheme aligns with the legislated requirement under the Aircraft Noise Levy Act 1995 which aims to recover the costs incurred in providing noise amelioration programs to airport-impacted communities.

Motion number 23 Blacktown City Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide increased support to councils to address cybersecurity deficiencies as part of our national response to this critical issue.

Motion number 24 Mid-Coast Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to make representations to the Australian Taxation Office to increase the current maximum tax deduction of \$1000 to \$3,000 for the cost of an election campaign for a successful local council candidate.

Motion number 25 Leeton Shire Council NSW

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.

Carried

SECTION B

TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Motion number 26 City of Darwin NT

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to increase the Roads to Recovery funding from \$500 million to \$1 billion and extend the program beyond 30 June 2024.

Carried

Motion number 26.1 Frankston City Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide additional funding to metropolitan and regional councils through a Building Australian Roads Network fund, or expanded Roads to Recovery Program, to address the increasing budget needs for current upgrade and operational issues.

Motion number 26.2 Gunnedah Shire Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide regional councils with an additional one-off Roads to Recovery grant equal to 50% of the annual funding for the maintenance, repair, and renewal of roads.

Motion number 26.3 Flinders Shire Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to allocate special funding packages to fund the betterment of freight routes and key connecting roads in the regional and remote areas to ensure the corridors are resilient to support growth and economic diversification by providing uninterrupted access during the wet and adverse conditions.

Motion number 26.4 Newcastle City Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:

- 1. Note the historical under-funding and lack of investment into maintaining our local roads servicing our populations across the country;**
- 2. Note the high level of destruction of local roads across the country as a result of the multiple flood events in 2022, estimated at a total cost of \$3.8 billion;**
- 3. Invest in research and development into more resilient road building materials, techniques, and technologies; and**
- 4. Continue the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program to ensure local government is adequately supported to continue the ongoing maintenance and additional replacement and renewal of the local road network further affected by flooding and like disasters.**

Motion number 27 City of Wanneroo WA

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to;

- 1. Allow Infrastructure Australia to consider business cases submitted by groupings of local governments for the coordinated delivery of priority sporting facilities infrastructure; and**
- 2. Provide an appropriate level of funding to support local governments in the delivery of identified priority sporting facilities.**

Carried

Motion number 28 Whitsunday Regional Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to establish minimum road (quality) standards for the national highway (HWY 1) to improve road safety and to

ensure accessibility is maintained throughout the nation especially during major weather events.

Carried

Motion number 29 Gunnedah Shire Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to delay any cut or suspension of the current fuel excise tax arrangements until such time as a genuine reform package can be legislated to replace the tax with a mechanism which distributes this vital road maintenance funding across all road users regardless of fuel type.

Carried

Motion number 30 Shoalhaven City Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to implement fuel efficiency standards that will secure a pipeline of affordable lower and zero emissions vehicles for Australian communities, councils, and business fleets. These standards must:

1. Be mandatory and deliver at least equivalent settings to those in other major markets to ensure Australia does not stay at the back of the queue for cleaner vehicles;
2. Give Australian drivers more choice and affordability than they have today by bringing a wider range of vehicle types to our shores;
3. Support 100% of new vehicles sold in Australia to become zero emissions as soon as possible - sending a strong market signal that Australian communities, businesses, and government agencies are ready for zero-emission vehicles; and
4. Be reviewed and updated approximately every five years. Technology changes fast and it is imperative we have a continued supply of quality vehicles equivalent to our global peers.

Lost

Motion number 30.1 Lake Macquarie City Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to support local government organisations to access electric vehicles by legislating strong fuel efficiency standards.

Motion number 31 Maribyrnong City Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to work with state and local governments to support the transition of industry, freight, and motor vehicles to low or no emission methods of operation. Including:

- 1. Implementing low emission zones in freight and industry heavy areas, near residential and other sensitive uses;**
- 2. Providing grant programs and funding to support business transition to zero emission methods of operation;**
- 3. Undertaking initiatives to greater separate trucks from where people live and learn;**
- 4. Initiating a heavy vehicle buy-back scheme to incentivise more fuel-efficient heavy vehicles;**
- 5. Greater investment in air quality monitoring stations;**
- 6. Greater investment in active and public transport projects; and**
- 7. Low emission standards for heavy vehicles.**

Lost

Motion number 32 Manningham City Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:

- 1. Develop an electric charging network program whereby critical infrastructure can be installed nationally and efficiently through a single standardised rollout;**
- 2. Provide grant funding and a group of preferred providers to construct and maintain EV charging stations for local governments to draw from as they install chargers as part of this network;**
- 3. Note that local governments are best placed to understand their communities and regions in identifying these locations. Many have already begun installing this infrastructure as the owners of many public car parking locations. However, this can place a significant cost burden on local governments and results in a mishmash of different providers, technologies, payment platforms, and availability of charging stations; and**
- 4. Note the anticipated critical labour needs and ensure there are skills and supplies for timely maintenance and repair of EVC through the appropriate supply chain and training opportunities.**

Carried

Motion number 32.1 City of Whittlesea Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to support the transition to electric vehicles including personal e-mobility devices to help communities transition to lower carbon lifestyles.

Motion number 33 North Sydney Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to issue national standards for electric vehicles to be required to be fitted with some form of audible signal to alert pedestrians to the presence of the vehicle.

Carried

Motion number 34 Mitchell Shire Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to develop, prioritise and appropriately fund major infrastructure for communities in Australia's rapidly growing urban fringe including road, transport, and social infrastructure.

Carried

Motion number 34.1 Baw Baw Shire Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide more critical infrastructure and services for fast-growing peri-urban regions of Australia as it is important that the same amenity and effective connectivity - both digital and transport are readily available to community members that moving from the city into peri-urban communities.

Motion number 34.2 Mornington Peninsula Shire VIC

The National General Assembly calls on the Australian government to support councils to deliver on large infrastructure projects, that will contribute to productive capacity and community wellbeing of local government areas and the broader Australian economy. Councils are in an incredibly challenging position to find projects that are both ready and competitive enough to attract Commonwealth grants and to source funding that is significant enough to support strategic regional projects and call for:

- **Adequate funding for regional projects to the tune of \$50-100million, so projects can be fully funded removing the matched funding obligation placed upon councils**
- **Allowing regional projects to be assessed on their merit and benefits as opposed to comparing them to high profile, metro, politically driven projects**
- **Having a specific category in each funding program for planning (including feasibility, concept and detailed design)**
- **Allowing more flexibility and broadening project scope requirements to fund supporting infrastructure, including amenity blocks, footpaths, carparks and even infrastructure maintenance**
- **Funding projects that are already in the early stages of construction**

- **Allowing adequate time during the grant application process and providing councils with the fund details and criteria, with enough time to prepare the right projects for submission**
- **Allowing more time between milestones and factoring in increasing costs and realistic timelines to deliver given market and supplier conditions.**

Motion number 35 Shoalhaven City Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to support infrastructure such as high-speed rail to support regional growth.

Carried

Motion number 35.1 Wentworth Shire Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide Prime Minister The Hon. Anthony Albanese and The Hon. Catherine King, Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government their position regarding Motion Number 18 from 2017 National General Assembly: That this National General Assembly call on the Australian Government to support and prioritise the transcontinental rail network, so that the potential of inland regional centres can be brought to bear, maximising efficiency in getting people, freight and produce right around the country and beyond as well as directly into the great interior, increasing access to tourist destinations and improving liveability in remote regions.

Motion number 35.2 Wyndham City Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to support closing the gaps in the active transport network through:

- 1. Partnering with councils on council lead projects; and**
- 2. The construction and upgrade of active transport links on federal government land.**

Motion number 36 Bayside Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to invest in more infrastructure for active transport in the 2024 federal budget by providing targeted funding to local governments.

Carried

Motion number 37 City of Launceston Council TAS

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide local government with access to a funding pool which is exclusively dedicated to the construction and/or maintenance of off-road bike and pedestrian pathways.

Carried

Motion number 37.1 Brisbane City Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to facilitate harmonisation of road rules as they apply to personal mobility devices (PMDs) across Australia.

Motion number 38 Brisbane City Council QLD

The National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to review how importation regulations are being enforced in regard to non-compliant personal mobility devices (PMDs) being imported and used in Australia.

Carried

Motion number 39 District Council of Lower Eyre Peninsula SA

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:

- 1. Amend the Aviation Transport Security Amendment (Security Controlled Airports) Regulations 2019 to ensure any port that triggers screening should require all departing passengers be screened, regardless of the service they are using; and**
- 2. Implement ongoing grant funding to regional airports impacted by security screening legislation or revise the national screening funding model in recognition of the inequitable cost imposition on regional airports relating to the operational cost of providing security screening meeting the new federal regulations.**

Carried

Motion number 40 Wagga Wagga City Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:

- 1. Work with the few local councils who still operate airports that are owned by the Australian Government to develop airport masterplans in collaboration with each other, stakeholders, and the local community;**
- 2. Fund all necessary infrastructure agreed to in the masterplans as they are the owners of these assets; and**

3. **Recognise the essential role airports owned by the Australian Government and operated by local governments provide and offer lease arrangements that reflect this essential role.**

Carried

Motion number 41 Broken Hill City Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide funding to financially support local councils in the restoration and remediation of local cemeteries that have been severely damaged from climatic and environmental conditions.

Carried

Motion number 42 North Burnett Regional Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide funding increases towards the construction of new and augmented water infrastructure projects across regional Australia to improve water security and deliver long-term, bulk water sources for regional communities.

Carried

Motion number 42.1 Berrigan Shire Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government and state government water authorities to ensure funding is available for local councils to meet the needs of their communities where water utility supply forms part of their service delivery requirements.

Motion number 42.2 Mornington Peninsula Shire Council VIC

The National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to increase investment in infrastructure to support access to adequate supplies of recycled water, which is central to feed, provide amenity and protect communities against climate change impacts:

Motion number 42.3 Flinders Shire Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to allocate special funding programs to assist regional and remote water service providers in upgrading, renovating, or building new water and wastewater infrastructure in these communities.

Motion number 42.4 Tamworth Regional Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:

- 1. Fund, in conjunction with state government, community education of direct and indirect reuse of effluent;**
- 2. Work with state governments to improve regulation of indirect and direct potable reuse and recycled water for industrial uses, including across jurisdictions; and**
- 3. Fund investigation of methods to better dispose of the waste stream generated by current reverse osmosis water treatment technologies in inland areas.**

Motion number 43 Noosa Shire Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to formulate a national policy on ocean sewerage outfalls that:

- 1. Aims at no new ocean and estuarine sewerage outfalls to be built/developed along the Australian coastline; and**
- 2. Dedicated funding is provided to support local regional governments and wastewater providers with existing ocean and estuarine outfalls, to develop new methods/technologies and make every effort to recycle 100% of all treated wastewater generated within their localities and avoid the need to discharge in the ocean.**

Carried

Motion number 44 South Gippsland Shire Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to develop minimum consultation requirements for projects that achieve Major Project Status: That the Australian Government, in partnership with state and territory governments, develop a community engagement framework, which includes local government authorities, to be imposed on proponents of projects that achieve 'Major Project' status.

Carried

Motion number 45 North Burnett Regional Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to partner with rural and remote local governments to reimplement the rural and remote area television program to ensure the provision of the necessary infrastructure to rural and remote communities to guarantee the provision of free to air television services to all communities.

Carried

Motion number 46 Broken Hill Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to introduce television licence conditions that require regional broadcasters to produce regional news programs.

Carried

FUNDING AND FINANCE

Motion number 47 ALGA Board

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to revise the administrative arrangements for tied grants to local government to allow councils the financial autonomy and flexibility to achieve the objectives of the grants.

Carried

Motion number 47.1 Lithgow City Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to include in its Inquiry processes into Commonwealth grants administration;

- 1. A return to policy driven grant funding programming;**
- 2. Direct outcomes-based funding to local government where possible;**
- 3. Include flexibility to manage the needs for extended timeframes and contingency to manage increasing costs; and**
- 4. Minimisation of red tape.**

Motion number 47.2 Hawkesbury City Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on state and Australian Governments to enact changes to relevant legislation around grant funding, to allow councils to quarantine and utilise a percentage of funds received, to be used for future operating costs, maintenance and renewal of facilities provided by that grant funding.

Motion number 47.3 Tenterfield Shire Council NSW

This 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.

Motion number 47.4 Fraser Coast Regional Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to index current grant approvals to reduce the financial burden on communities from significant cost escalations caused by inflation and adversely impacted supply chains, which have been experienced within the last 12 months.

Motion number 47.5 North Burnett Regional Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide local government communities classified as regional, rural or remote which have limited capacity to raise or increase own source revenue outside current rating streams to have access to federal grant funding with a co- contribution of 10% or less for capital works projects to renew or replace essential water, wastewater, roads and waste management infrastructure.

Motion number 47.6 Kiama Municipal Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to write to all state and federal ministers responsible for local government calling for changes to the funding conditions for all future state and federal government grants to local government for projects above \$250,000, to allow grant funds to be used in the administration and project management of grants.

Motion number 48 Fraser Coast Regional Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to review the assessment criteria for evaluating grant applications to provide priority to those local governments who have both a low SEIFA index and high growth.

Lost

Motion number 49 Ballina Shire Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to promote the enabling of tax-deductible donations from members of the community to local government for a broad range of essential council services.

Lost

Motion number 50 Inner West Council NSW and Randwick City Council

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to work with ALGA and the Australian Banking Association to convince all banks to offer investment products to local government that will not contribute to further climate change. Reasons for this include:

- 1. Local governments across Australia often hold significant funds that have been allocated for future use, but may struggle to identify sustainable and ethical investment options that align with community values and meet permitted forms of investment set by state and territory governments;**
- 2. Many councils are particularly interested in identifying investment opportunities that will not contribute to climate change;**
- 3. In NSW, LGNSW has raised this matter with the NSW Minister for local government, who encouraged councils to prioritise sustainable investments that are in accordance with the NSW Ministerial Investment Order;**
- 4. LGNSW has also written to the Australian Banking Association (ABA) seeking to encourage banks to offer more investment products to councils to meet this objective;**
- 5. The ABA has now sought a meeting with LGNSW which is expected to take place shortly; and**
- 6. Given this is a common issue for councils in all states and territories and that banks operate nationally, ALGA may consider adding their voice to this advocacy.**

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:

- 7. Actively encourage local government super funds to divest from companies engaging in the extraction of fossil fuels, native forest logging, gambling, weapons manufacturers, and tobacco;**
- 8. Take immediate action to ensure the integrity and accountability of carbon offset programs, while supporting and funding councils to directly reduce operational and community emissions through the roll out of local renewable energy infrastructure and other greenhouse gas reducing initiatives; and**
- 9. Ban the practice of 'greenwashing' in local government super funds, ensuring that local government super funds that invest in companies engaging in the extraction of fossil fuels, native forest logging, gambling, weapons manufacturers, and tobacco are not able to promote their funds as being environmentally friendly or ethical investors.**

Lost

Motion number 50.1 Greater Bendigo City Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to promote and incentivise local governments to redirect funds over and above operational cash towards Authorised Deposit-taking Institutions (ADIs) that do not invest in fossil fuel industries. This would enable councils to show leadership by further reducing indirect carbon emissions by giving preference to divestment of these investments (eventually moving towards 100% divestment). It would apply to any company for whom the extraction, production, refining, or distribution of fossil fuels forms a core part of their business strategy.

Motion number 51 Mid-Coast Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to make representations and present a case to a selection of Australian banks whereby a loan offset facility be extended to local councils throughout Australia.

Carried

Motion number 52 Wagga Wagga City Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to clarify Section 11CAA of the Banking Act 1959 to ensure bank deposits cannot be bailed in and assure councils that all Australian bank deposits are secure.

Carried

Motion number 53 Lake Macquarie City Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to facilitate the expansion of salary sacrificing options to council employees by allowing local government to access Fringe Benefits Tax (FBT) exemptions extended to other service organisations.

Carried

Motion number 54 Newcastle City Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:

- 1. Note that in some jurisdictions, councillors, mayors and Lord Mayors are not automatically entitled to the Superannuation Guarantee Contribution, despite councillors in other jurisdictions being paid the appropriate superannuation entitlements;**
- 2. Note that in some jurisdictions, councillors, mayors and Lord Mayors have the option of "opting-in" to receive the Superannuation Guarantee Contribution but**

only following the successful endorsement by that council, allowing the politicisation of the issue;

3. Note that superannuation should be a universal mandatory system to support all workers and taxpayers in Australia; and
4. Rationalise the Superannuation system for local government elected representatives and amend Section 12(9A) of the Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act 1993 to mandate that all councillors across Australia automatically receive the Superannuation Guarantee Contribution.

Carried

Motion number 55 Central Highlands Regional Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to introduce protections which apply to contracts between local government and technology providers with respect to software as a service or software escrow services to address the imbalance in bargaining power and risks to service delivery that unfair contract terms currently present.

Carried

Motion number 56 Ku-ring-gai Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to work with states and territories to reform planning and local government regulations to set development assessment and other fees in line with cost recovery to reduce cross-subsidisation and ease cost pressures on councils.

Carried

Motion number 57 Upper Hunter Shire Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to set local government Financial Assistance Grants to a 3% fixed share of national taxation revenue.

Carried

SKILLS AND WORKFORCE

Motion number 58 Campaspe Shire Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to strategically address local government skills shortages.

Carried

Motion number 59 North Burnett Regional Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to develop innovative programs to attract and incentivise professional, skilled, and unskilled local government workers to regional and remote areas.

Carried

Motion number 59.1 Berrigan Shire Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian and state governments to work with local councils to assist with the identification of existing skills and the types of on-the-job training in local government that might meet micro-credentialing requirements and assist local councils to take up these options at the leading edge.

Motion number 59.2 Wagga Wagga City Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to explore ways to improve Universities' ability to develop and provide quality courses in a timely fashion to address professional shortages in our communities.

Motion number 59.3 North Burnett Regional Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to work with local councils to assist with the identification of existing skill shortages and the types of on-the-job training in water and wastewater treatment that might meet micro-credentialing requirements and assist local councils to take up these options to fortify these essential services.

Motion number 60 Dubbo Regional Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to undertake a scope analysis and develop an action plan for the settlement of skilled and non-skilled migrants in regional areas, including appropriately resourcing settlement support initiatives and services in the regions.

Carried

Motion number 60.1 Leeton Shire Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide financial support directly to regional and rural areas to streamline the delivery of settlement support for new settlers/comers and the retention of workers in our communities.

Motion number 60.2 Surf Coast Shire Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to permanently extend the Working Holiday Maker visa to a 12-month period and give hospitality jobs Specified Worker status to enable such workers to apply for extensions to visas in subsequent years.

Motion number 60.3 Maribyrnong City Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to review entry visa requirements for immigrants seeking to work in the local government sector.

Motion number 61 Central Highlands Regional Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to support regional and local government employees with parenting responsibilities to participate in the workforce, by:

- 1. Working with state governments to introduce nationally an additional public pre-school year and outside school hours care within the public education system;**
- 2. Subject to review of the capacity of public childcare centres by the Productivity Commission, providing targeted capital funding to identified at or nearing capacity areas to construct additional early education and childcare centres to meet community need; and**
- 3. Implementing taxation and educational incentives to address skills shortages and high vacancy rates for early childhood, childcare and outside school hours care educators in regional, rural, and remote Australia.**

Carried

Motion number 62 Central Highlands Regional Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:

- 1. Include water treatment plant and wastewater treatment plant operators (ANZSCO Code 712921) on the Short-term Skilled Occupation List, Regional Occupation List and Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme List; Reflect within the Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO) the**

- requirement for a Certificate III in Water/Wastewater Operations or Water Industry Operations, or equivalent international competency; and
2. Reflect within the Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO) the requirement for a Certificate III in Water/Wastewater Operations or Water Industry Operations, or equivalent international competency.

Carried

Motion number 62.1 North Burnett Regional Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to support increased investment in skills training, supply chain improvements, and initiatives that further fortify the economy and improve Australia's self-sufficiency in treatment and delivery of potable water, wastewater collection and treatment.

Motion number 63 Latrobe City Council TAS

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to work in collaboration with local government to determine a minimum standard of Seasonal Worker Program (SWP) accommodation and to mandate compliance with state, territory, and local government legislation by:

1. **Strengthening the assessment of accommodation approval processes, including third party (LGA) confirmation that the property/building being considered for accommodation is compliant with all the codes administered by the relevant local government Authority including:**
 - a. **Ensuring the property is connected to a reticulated waste treatment system or alternatively, has an approved, suitably sized, functioning, private waste treatment system suitable for the number of SWP participants being accommodated at the site;**
 - b. **Requiring provision of a Plumbing Certificate of Compliance authenticated by the local Plumbing Authority;**
 - c. **Requiring the provision of a Building Certificate of Completion and current Certificate of Occupancy stating the approved maximum number of residents;**
 - d. **Mandating the provision of LGA confirmation that there are no outstanding building code or environmental health violations; and**
 - e. **Requiring an approved standard application under the relevant planning authority, confirming an existing habitable building's suitability as visitor accommodation (in states and territories where applicable).**
2. **Acknowledging and negating the use of individual tenancy agreements to usurp the Australian Government's legal, moral, and ethical responsibilities in relation to the provision of fit for purpose housing for seasonal workers; and**
3. **Incorporating regular monitoring and reporting on the condition and suitability of SWP accommodation in SWP Plans.**

Carried

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Motion number 64 Moreton Bay Regional Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to establish baseline funding for local governments to support disaster response, relief, and recovery operations across Australia.

Carried

Motion number 64.1 Newcastle City Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to urgently increase funding available under the Disaster Ready Fund (DRF) to provide local governments with the resources needed to mitigate the current and longer-term impacts of extreme weather events on local physical and social infrastructure.

Motion number 64.2 Shoalhaven City Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to amend its Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (2018) in order for advance payments to be provided up front for regional and rural councils, and not in arrears, within one month of a declared natural disaster, so as to avoid impacting unfavourably on councils' cash flow.

Motion number 64.3 Campaspe Shire Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to review and strengthen traditional emergency management structures nationally, to be more unified, coordinated, and reflective of current and future community vulnerabilities.

Motion number 64.4 Byron Shire Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to urgently implement the eighty recommendations of the report by the Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements, acknowledging:

- 1. The many extreme climate-related disasters that have occurred since the report of the Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements was tabled in parliament in October 2020;**

2. The unprecedented nature of these disasters and the shortfall in capacity of local government, communities, emergency services and rescue services to respond to them effectively;
3. That communities in rural and regional areas have been most affected by the recent climate related disasters;
4. The extreme lack of resources, funds, equipment and personnel required to respond to such disasters; and
5. That in regional communities it has predominantly fallen to volunteer services to be the frontline responders to disasters and that this is no longer a tenable situation given the increased frequency and intensity of climate-related disaster events.

Motion number 65 Shire of Mundaring Council WA

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to urgently provide a sustainable grant funding model that enables local governments to deliver on their shared responsibility for disaster risk reduction, resilience, and recovery. The sustainable grant funding model should be supported by a network of grants officers located in each state local government association to facilitate the development of strategically aligned projects and successful grant applications.

Carried

Motion number 66 Mitchell Shire Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to establish an investigation into the role and effectiveness of the insurance industry in natural disaster recovery, with a view to improving the future outcomes.

Carried

Motion number 66.1 Cabonne Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to fast-track initiatives from the Hazards Insurance Partnership and Strategic Insurance Project, and also urgently investigate a federally funded national disaster insurance scheme to enable residents and businesses in areas impacted by climate change.

Motion number 66.2 Berri Barmera Council SA

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to raise awareness and support advocacy that encourages insurance companies to avoid risk assessments to

properties in flood affected areas. Flood risk is better assessed in regional areas by the characteristics of a site and not a postcode.

Motion number 66.3 East Gippsland Shire Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to support communities affected by the rapid and excessive rise in insurance premiums by requiring insurers to:

1. Not apply a 'postcode' approach when considering the effects of extreme weather events on a particular property. Rather, undertake a risk assessment of each property; and
2. Fully disclose the basis on which insurance decisions are made.

This will ensure undue financial stress from insurance premiums is not placed on affected communities.

Motion number 67 Balonne Shire Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to expedite its current suite of reforms to help reduce insurance costs for homeowners, and in addition:

1. Expand the disaster event re-insurance framework for all small, medium, rural and remote area communities impacted by natural disasters;
2. Provide greater support for mental health services for communities including for emergency services workers as well as climate-specific training for mental health professionals;
3. Increase targeted investment in community resilience building initiatives at the regional level; and
4. Invest in increased and sustained infrastructure betterment funding to local governments.

Carried

Motion number 68 Campaspe Shire Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide a national proactive plan to deliver tailored support & services to vulnerable groups or those who may become vulnerable during natural disasters or emergencies.

Carried

Motion number 69 Central Highlands Regional Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government, via the Bureau of Meteorology to:

1. Assume ownership of the existing Flood and Early Warning Network (network), consistent with Recommendation 1 of the 2022 New South Wales Flood Inquiry;
2. Fund on an ongoing basis renewal and maintenance of the network, taking into account the number of gauges and river sensors within the network and the geographic spread of the network;
3. Enter into contract for service arrangements with interested local governments/statutory bodies to undertake planned and reactive maintenance in relation to the network to ensure an ongoing connection with local disaster response and local hydrological knowledge;
4. Allow local government to co-locate additional early warning infrastructure with existing network infrastructure, where a local disaster management need is identified, on existing network infrastructure; and
5. Adequately resource Bureau of Meteorology technical teams to provide network design, operational support and quality assurance pre-season checks across the flood and early warning network.

Carried

Motion number 69.1 Maribyrnong City Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to work with the state and territory governments to release a flood recovery roadmap outlining next steps, future engagement, and potential policy changes in relation to flood recovery.

Motion number 69.2 Whitsunday Regional Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to identify standard practices and systems for the management of early warning systems, river height gauges, rain gauges etc to ensure that this information is integrated into a national system that is accessible and maintained through local governments at a local level. A harmonisation or standardisation of systems and approaches, similar to that which happened around Workplace Health and Safety may better prepare agencies and local governments for managing disaster events.

By establishing a national approach all local governments may better plan and prepare for disaster events and ensure that information required for decision making is easily attained and can be communicated in a consistent way across state boundaries and jurisdictions.

Motion number 70 Mitchell Shire Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to instigate a national volunteer recruitment campaign to refocus and enhance the surge capacity of Australia's emergency service organisations.

Carried

HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS

Motion number 71 Cabonne Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to fast-track the delivery of its initiatives under its housing reform agenda, including funding to support councils to invest in essential engineering and community infrastructure to support construction.

Carried

Motion number 72 Newcastle City Council NSW and Wyndham City Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:

- 1. Increase funding and investment in public, social and affordable housing;**
- 2. Work with all levels of government to undertake a review of all government-owned property to identify suitable sites for redevelopment as affordable housing;**
- 3. Re-view its National Housing Strategy, including to:**
 - a. Consider regulating rental and land value increases;**
 - b. Consider requirements for affordable housing in all re/development;**
 - c. Review the rates for pensions and government support; and**
 - d. Ensure that all new public, social and affordable housing at a minimum incorporates the new accessibility standards in the National Construction Code; and**
 - e. Review negative gearing and capital gains tax discounts.**
- 4. Create a National Settlement Plan, working in partnership with state, territory and local governments and communities to meet local need, and deliver post-pandemic economic stimulus and;**
- 5. Continue to work with local councils, community groups, and developers to facilitate the construction of affordable social housing close to activity centres and community services.**

Carried

Motion number 72.1 City of Stirling Council WA

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:

- 1. Work with state and territory governments to develop a sustainable national funding model to assist low to moderate income owners to access affordable home**

ownership and affordable rental opportunities in areas close to work, schools and transport;

2. Investigate through the National Housing Supply and Affordability Council innovative opportunities to fund the acquisition of properties for affordable home ownership or affordable rental within private sector developments; and
3. Investigate opportunities to attract and accommodate skilled workers to address labour shortages associated with the delivery of housing.

Motion number 72.2 Glen Eira City Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:

1. Ensure that its \$350 million investment in the National Housing Accord prioritises securing land and constructing housing in municipalities with the highest demand for public, social and affordable housing and lowest percentage of available public, social housing stock; and
2. Deliver a sustainable, long-term pipeline of federal investment in public, social and affordable housing, noting the unmet need for public, social, and affordable housing in Victoria alone has been estimated to be in the order of 75,000 to 100,000 households, while the Australian Government's \$350 million investment in its October 2022-2023 budget will only deliver 10,000 additional homes by 2029.

Motion number 72.3 City of Whittlesea Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to reform the funding models for social and affordable housing and state planning systems to ensure they consistently facilitate new social and affordable housing development.

Motion number 72.4 Wyndham City Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to work with local councils, community groups and developers to facilitate the construct of affordable and social housing close to activity centres and community services.

Carried

Motion number 73 Tweed Shire Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to review the taxation system to incentivise the use of untapped existing accommodation within homes. For example, consideration be given to allowing owner of a principal place of residence to nominate a bedroom for board rental to individuals who qualify for rental assistance and in return that portion of their home remains exempt from Capital Gains Tax and does not

affect their pension should they be a pensioner provided they register their bedroom for accommodation with Centrelink at a discount of 20% to market rent.

Carried

Motion number 74 Shoalhaven City Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to fast-track funding to the states, to enable more financial support to be provided within the state planning framework for frontline homelessness services.

Carried

Motion number 74.1 Logan City Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to work with state and local governments to develop an integrated suite of national, state, and local government policy reforms that incentivise the return of abandoned houses into the housing market.

Motion number 74.2 Wakefield Regional Council SA

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to work with state/territory and local governments across Australia to explore the re-development of existing empty dwellings including residential, retail, and industrial buildings to bridge the gap in the supply of affordable housing for the many Australians experiencing housing stress.

Motion number 75 Frankston City Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to make the following policy reforms to address disadvantage and improve the community wellbeing of our communities:

- 1. Implementation of the recommendations from the Productivity Commission's recent review of the National Housing and Homelessness Agreement to ensure a fairer and more effective access to affordable housing and housing assistance, particularly for lower income households;**
- 2. Immediate implementation of Recommendation 9.2 to review the Commonwealth Rent Assistance program to better support lower income households in rental stress and at risk of homelessness;**

3. Implementation of programs to increase the supply of new and appropriate emergency and crisis accommodation places, focusing on women over the age of 55, young people and models that allow for short-to-medium term stay; and
4. Increasing funding for Emergency Relief services to enable adequate response for lower income households and people experiencing homelessness.

Carried

Motion number 76 City of Darwin NT

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to allocate additional funding towards affordable housing and emergency crisis accommodation for people at risk and who are vulnerable to changes in social and economic circumstances.

Carried

Motion number 76.1 Whitsunday Regional Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to extend the deadline for the operation of the National Rental Affordability Scheme (NRAS) to allow communities to plan for the future in managing the current circumstances being exacerbated by the national accommodation shortages across the majority of Australia.

Motion number 76.2 Knox City Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to further address the increasing levels of homelessness through extending programs and funding that will also support social and affordable housing options.

Motion number 76.3 Redland City Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to address housing pressures including social housing and homelessness support.

Motion number 77 North Sydney Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to continue support delivery of diverse and affordable housing across metropolitan, regional and rural communities to address the housing crisis and provide for inter-generational equity. That the Australian Government partner with local government to identify opportunities for delivery of such housing across the nation.

Carried

Motion number 77.1 Stonnington City Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to develop a white paper on the existing and emerging models of social and affordable housing and their appropriateness for specific spatial, social, and economic context.

Motion number 77.2 Berrigan Shire Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian and state and territory governments to work with rural and regional councils and community housing providers on the place-based supply, including financing, and construction of medium to long-term secure tenure rental housing designed for key workers otherwise excluded from home ownership due to their economic circumstances.

Motion number 77.3 Leeton Shire Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to prioritise financial assistance for housing initiatives in rural Australia.

Motion number 78 Flinders Shire Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to allocate special housing initiatives or programs valued at least \$50,000 to encourage housing investments in rural and remote communities. The program should be open to building new homes, purchasing existing homes, or substantially renovating homes they own. The funding should encourage both investors and first-home buyers.

Carried

Motion number 79 South Burnett Regional Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to implement initiatives and taxation reforms that encourage private investment in increasing housing stocks in regional areas.

Carried

Motion number 80 Tweed Shire Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to reduce the impact on housing affordability and housing availability attributable to the commercialisation of housing by way of short-term holiday letting (STHL);

- 1. Reviews tax laws to ensure that taxation of commercialised tourism housing is transparent and enforceable on the property owner;**
- 2. Reviews tax laws to ensure that taxation on commercial platforms operating as booking agents for property owners is transparent and enforceable, so that the cost of combating the impacts on housing affordability and accessibility arising from STHL, at a state and local government level, is offset by those providing the STHL services;**
- 3. Allocates appropriate resources to tackle the spatial land distribution and permissibility of STHL at a local government level to reduce the incidence and severity of STHL impacts in vulnerable housing areas or markets where housing affordability and accessibility is at a critical level.**

Carried

Motion number 81 Newcastle City Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:

- 1. Note that sexual, domestic, and family violence is the single largest driver of homelessness for women and children;**
- 2. Note that this crisis is exacerbated by limited (and in many cases, no) temporary accommodation, or 'affordable housing' in Australia, intersects with other welfare needs and complexities, and can be exacerbated by the disparate, prohibitive, and unreasonable requirements and regulations of state and territory governments;**
- 3. Note that local domestic and family violence and homelessness services and refuges are at the frontline of this crisis, and in crisis themselves at capacity, underfunded, and overworked;**
- 4. Ensure that all victim-survivors of domestic and family violence have access to a safe home, no matter their gender, age, background, or income, by:**
 - a. Developing a national domestic and family violence framework and domestic and family violence housing assistance programme;**
 - b. Working with state and territory governments to deliver consistent, safe, and appropriate transitional and ongoing housing and support services for every person woman, man, and child experiencing and recovering from sexual, domestic, and family violence;**
 - c. Immediately funding the public housing dwellings needed to house the tens of thousands of people on wait lists (inclusive of both 'priority' and other);**
 - d. Immediately increasing the provision of transitional housing to meet the needs of every client presenting at DVF & homelessness services;**
 - e. Working with DVF & Homelessness services to understand the needs for women to immediately access safe and secure temporary accommodation, to improve the legal and/or regulatory framework for women experiencing**

domestic and family violence in accessing temporary accommodation (TA);
and

- f. Extend the national 'Stop it at the Start' programme by working with services and organisations to identify problem behaviours and working with schools and sporting clubs to increase respectful behaviours in youth to reduce domestic violence; to drive a long-term, whole-of-government and community approach to reduce domestic and family violence and to provide necessary housing and support.

Carried

CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENERGY

Motion number 82 Central Highlands Regional Council and Rockhampton Regional Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to support the local government sector to transition to net zero emissions through the provision of targeted operational and capital grants programs that enable local government to;

- 1. Undertake corporate baseline emissions inventory and mapping; and**
- 2. Invest in operational and capital projects which address identified emissions reduction priorities.**

Carried

Motion number 82.1 Logan City Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to develop guidelines for local governments for calculating their organisational carbon footprint using appropriate greenhouse accounting methodologies. Guidance is particularly sought in the areas of:

- 1. Defining local government organisational boundaries, and**
- 2. Providing a consistent approach and methodology for the inclusion or exclusion of scope three emissions and emission conversion factors.**

Motion number 82.2 Darebin City Council and Kingston City Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:

- 1. Partner with local government and invest in climate resilience projects; and**
- 2. Provide funding for a community climate resilience fund, to increase resilience of Australian local government infrastructure and services, and their communities, to the impacts of climate change.**

Motion number 83 Gladstone Regional Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to establish a regional transition authority to:

1. Coordinate across all levels of government, industry and community, the transition of the energy sector and resource dependent regions, to renewable energy;
2. Undertake planning that informs effective policies to improve coordination, clarity and mitigate disruptions; and
3. Support regions to strengthen existing long-term industries and seize a range of economic opportunities.

Carried

Motion number 83.1 Gladstone Regional Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to establish a dedicated fund to:

1. Provide support for communities and regions to transition to renewable energy and a net zero carbon economy;
2. Support other regional economic and community development opportunities as part of the great energy transition; and
3. Provide fiscal stability and long-term sustainability to support inter-generational equity in regions.

Motion number 83.2 Gladstone Regional Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide local government funding to support council's operational and capital expenses in implementing climate adaptation and carbon offset and mitigation initiatives to:

1. Move towards net zero emissions;
2. Minimise the impacts on climate change in our communities; and
3. Minimise and offset emissions across council operations.

Motion number 84 Balonne Shire Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to establish a dedicated funding program and other resources to support councils transition to net zero emissions by 2050.

Carried

Motion number 84.1 Isaac Regional Council QLD & Central Highlands Regional Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to establish a net zero regional transformation/transition authority at a national level, which works with equivalent bodies at a state level, with statutory powers and offices located within impacted regions, to:

- 1. Deliver economic modelling and socio-economic impact analysis to determine the impact on coal mining regions and regions producing energy from coal (economic and social) with the move away from fossil fuels;**
- 2. Undertake economic and social transition planning which:**
 - a. Identifies economic diversification opportunities, projects, and actions to enable economic diversification, including development of enabling infrastructure;**
 - b. Identifies both short-term and long-term government support required to support the transformation and maintain essential;**
 - c. social, health and transport services during and post-transition;**
 - d. Ensures the continued and long-term liveability and social sustainability of the regions;**
- 3. Manage funding and investments for projects and programs within impacted regions to address outcomes from economic and social transition planning, including seizing economic opportunities;**
- 4. Work across agencies to coordinate big picture government thinking, including coordinating resources and planning and facilitating effective policy changes and changes to regulatory frameworks to enable coordination, clarity, and mitigation of disruptions to impacted communities;**
- 5. Implement or facilitate elements of the various government plans; and**
- 6. Work with bodies established by the state government, including through National Cabinet.**

Motion number 84.2 South Burnett Regional Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to support local government representation on economic transformation authority/relevant body in relation to climate change/decarbonisation.

Motion number 85 Nillumbik Shire Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:

- 1. Ensure the national energy electricity grid can support our ambitious net zero targets which require rapid transition to all-electric homes, transport and industry based on renewable energy; and**

2. **Legislate ambitious climate targets that align with meeting international Paris Agreement Protocols to keep warming below 2°C global temperature rise. That is, setting net zero emissions for Australia by 2035 in collaboration with local government emissions targets.**

Carried

Motion number 85.1 Yarra City Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to outline how it will work with local governments to achieve its carbon emissions reduction targets under the Paris Agreement including:

1. **How emission reductions achieved through local government investments and actions are included in the national reporting;**
2. **How the regulatory, policy and other barriers to local governments taking decisive action to reduce emissions may be removed or reduced by the federal government; and**
3. **What sources of federal funding will be available to local government in partnership with the federal government to reduce emissions and achieve our national goals.**

Motion number 85.2 Banyule City Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide for an ongoing funding allocation to retrofit existing leisure centres and community facilities to be carbon neutral.

Motion number 85.3 Greater Dandenong City Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to outline how it will work with local governments to achieve its carbon emissions reduction targets under the Paris Agreement including:

1. **How emissions are reduced through local government investments and actions measured and reported in the national reporting;**
2. **How barriers (policy, regulatory and funding) to local governments taking decisive action to reduce emissions will be identified and reduced by the federal government; and**
3. **What sources of federal funding will be available to local government in partnership with the federal government to reduce emissions and achieve our national goals.**

Motion number 85.4 Newcastle City Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:

- 1. Acknowledge over one hundred local councils, including Newcastle, representing nine million Australians (as well as over two thousand jurisdictions worldwide) have declared a climate and biodiversity emergency, acknowledging that urgent collaborative action at all levels of government is necessary to protect our environment and community for future generations;**
- 2. Consider the banning of gas from all new housing developments;**
- 3. Consider assisting households and business to make the switch from existing gas-fuelled items to electrification;**
- 4. Continue its important work to urgently develop a gas decarbonisation roadmap for the electrification of local communities, setting business, industry, and households up to be resilient and sustainable in a decarbonising world, while safeguarding jobs in important manufacturing industries.**

Motion number 85.5 City of Sydney Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:

- 1. Recognise local governments are on the front line of the climate transition and that climate related floods and bushfires have left many councils with huge damage to roads and other infrastructure;**
- 2. Recognise that thriving in the new economy requires communities to adapt to a changing climate, rapidly cut emissions, as well as educating local communities about the impacts and causes of climate change;**
- 3. Encourage low emissions consumption nationally through public information campaigns, Australian Consumer Law, the Greenhouse and Energy Minimum Standards Act 2012 (Cth) (GEMS Act) or other relevant Commonwealth powers; and**
- 4. Open a fund to allow councils to sponsor community, education, sporting, and cultural groups that currently take funding from the coal, petroleum, or gas industry.**

Motion number 86 North Sydney Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to partner with local government via grants and education campaigns to actively assist communities to electrification in order to meet Net Zero targets.

Carried

Motion number 86.1 Cumberland Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:

- 1. Work closely with the local government sector to ensure community led responses for the reduction of carbon emissions and promotion of clean energy sources; and**
- 2. Implement measures to improve the affordability of batteries, solar banks, and electric vehicles so they can be adopted at a faster rate within the community.**

Motion number 86.2 Greater Dandenong City Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to join with all councils across Australia to recognise the disproportional impacts of climate change on disadvantaged and marginalised communities and advocates to both state and federal governments for greater support for climate resilience and social justice work across these communities.

Motion number 87 City of Onkaparinga Council SA

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to make a strong national commitment to coastal adaptation planning, funding, hazard data collection and analysis, and coordinated action to mitigate the increasing risks of predicted sea level rises and more regular and intense storm surges.

Carried

Motion number 88 Cabonne Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to urgently implement the objectives of the National Climate Resilience and Adaptation Strategy.

Carried

Motion number 89 Moyne Shire Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to establish national wind farm development guidelines including provisions that infrastructure to support renewable energy transmission be developed using existing easements, be located where practicable underground and require co-location of connecting lines to reduce the impact on agriculture, the visual landscape, recognise risks of bushfire and protect amenity.

Carried

Motion number 90 Town of Gawler Council SA

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to support councils through the Clean Energy Regulator (CER) in the development of local government specific guidance for 100 kW to 5MW solar power and battery storage systems to produce and consume larger amounts of renewable electricity, store renewable electricity, and share and trade surplus renewable electricity via the grid to serve the needs of councils and their communities.

Carried

Motion number 91 Balonne Shire Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to introduce legislation and supporting policy which requires proponents of renewable energy projects to make a local benefit contribution to the communities in which these projects are located through the following measures:

- 1. Mandatory notification process to local government for all renewable energy projects occurring within their area;**
- 2. Robust community engagement frameworks which are inclusive of councils, community organisations and local leaders;**
- 3. A community contribution fee, based on capacity, for all renewable energy projects to support better community outcomes; and**
- 4. Access to Renewable Project Decommission Bonds in order to protect prime agricultural land and support better decommissioning of projects at an acceptable standard for the community.**

Carried

Motion number 92 North Sydney Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide grant assistance to councils to target increasing urban forest and tree canopy cover to address urban heat island effect, provide habitat and address net zero emissions targets.

Carried

Motion number 93 Gunnedah Shire Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to remove restrictions preventing the development of Nuclear Energy as a viable option in the production of base load electricity following the decommissioning of coal fired power stations throughout Australia.

Lost

Motion number 94 Leeton Shire Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to partner with state and territory governments to provide greater assistance with energy expenditure in rural, regional, and remote Australia, including regulating the energy market and improving the financial criteria of grants to make them more achievable for local government to deliver projects.

Carried

COMMUNITY WELLBEING

Motion number 95 Brimbank City Council VIC

This National General Assembly acknowledges the Australian Government's support of constitutional recognition for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders through a Voice to Parliament and recognises what the Uluru Statement and the Voice to Parliament will mean for Australia's First Nations peoples and the broader Australian community.

Carried

Motion number 95.1 City of Holdfast Bay SA

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to note the local government sector's respectful support for the wishes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders in relation to the voice to parliament;

1. Provide resources and support to councils to actively pursue and promote community dialogue with their Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities;
2. Meet the requests of the Uluru Statement from the Heart;
3. Ensure the adoption of an anti-racism policy in every federal agency, in line with the work being done by the Australian Human Rights Commission; and
4. Encourage all state and territory governments to adopt anti-racism policies across all agencies.

Motion number 95.2 Merri-bek City Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to acknowledge the gift of the Uluru Statement from the Heart given by our First Nations communities and so ensuring:

1. A strong campaign is delivered to amend the national constitution establishing an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voice to parliament and the executive

government on matters relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, and;

2. 'Makarrata Commission' to supervise a process of agreement-making and truth-telling between governments and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Motion number 95.3 Newcastle City Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to continue to demonstrate strong leadership in support of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples by supporting constitutional recognition for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, implementing the 'Uluru Statement from the Heart,' and pursuing a national referendum regarding the Indigenous voice to parliament in the following terms:

"Do you support an alteration to the constitution that establishes an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voice?"

Motion number 95.4 Maribyrnong City Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to better acknowledge First Nation people's experience of January 26, including considering changing the date of Australia's national day and better inclusion of First Nations history in citizenship tests.

Motion number 96 Leeton Shire Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to urgently address the health services crisis in rural Australia and to strengthen/support rural health delivery by:

1. Fast-tracking work visas for doctors, nurses, and allied health workers;
2. Eliminating unnecessary obstacles to doctor eligibility to work in Australia; and
3. Proactively concierging expressions of interest from international doctors who want to work in rural Australia.

Carried

Motion number 96.1 Campaspe Shire Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide long term investment for programming and services to improve the health and wellbeing outcomes for communities in regional areas.

Motion number 96.2 Shire of Morawa Council WA

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to urgently address critical shortages of general practitioners in outer metropolitan, regional, rural, and remote Australia and that the interim report of the Senate Community Affairs References Committee inquiry into the provision of general practitioner and related primary health services to outer metropolitan, rural, and regional Australians, tabled in April 2022 be referred to this parliament.

Motion number 97 South Burnett Regional Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to conduct an enquiry into the primary health care crisis and specifically the decline in the number of general practitioners.

Carried

Motion number 97.1 Forbes Shire Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to extend the HELP for rural doctors and nurse practitioners initiative to all health professionals and teachers who commit to working in rural, remote, or very remote communities.

Motion number 97.2 Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to fast track overseas trained doctors to the regions.

Motion number 97.3 Tenterfield Shire Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to increase priority to visa application processing for rural and regional health and education professional (currently fast tracking these for the cities within 25 days, but for rural and regional areas 18 months).

Motion number 97.4 Shire of Toodyay Council WA

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:

1. Urgently address critical shortages of general practitioners in regional, rural, and remote Australia;
2. Refer the report of the Senate Community Affairs References Committee inquiry into the provision of general practitioner and related primary health services to

outer metropolitan, rural, and regional Australians, tabled in April 2022, to this parliament; and

3. Determine a maximum subsidy amount to be paid by local governments for the provision of general practitioners to halt the increasing burden on regional, rural, and remote Australian communities.

Motion number 98 City of Bayswater Council WA

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to support the ongoing financial sustainability of local governments by appropriately funding their delivery of infant immunisations to the community.

Carried

Motion number 99 Cardinia Shire Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to conduct a review into the funding mechanism that addresses financial vulnerability and wellbeing nationally and establish a dedicated fund that councils can access to address the financial vulnerability and wellbeing within communities.

Carried

Motion number 100 Shoalhaven City Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to work with state governments on a new approach to addressing the inadequate provision and access to mental health and wellbeing services between those living in regional/rural Australia versus those living in metropolitan areas, particularly for young people.

Carried

Motion number 101 Derwent Valley Council TAS

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to ensure adequate and accessible funding and a nationwide delivery plan for mental health services to persons living in regional and remote areas of Australia.

Carried

Motion number 102 Nillumbik Shire Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide funding for the delivery of flexible and dynamic youth outreach and support services for young people aged 12-25 years.

Carried

Motion number 103 City of Onkaparinga Council SA

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to address legacy issues in aged care/in-home support services offered through Commonwealth Home Support Programme that cause confusion for users and providers of the service, and that fail to deliver practical supports in the home to older people when they need it.

Carried

Motion number 103.1 City of Whittlesea Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:

- 1. Ensure providers have access to block/flexible funding to provide timely access to service as part of the in-home aged care program; and**
- 2. Establish a framework and provide appropriate incentives for providers to take on a lead role for care management (care partner).**

Motion number 104 Cumberland Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:

- 1. Build an affordable, accessible, high quality, universal early education system; and**
- 2. Undertake a broad consultation process with local government organisations in relation to this.**

Carried

Motion number 105 Berrigan Shire Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government and state governments to fund and support the delivery of such educational models as Country Universities Centres throughout regional and rural areas.

Carried

Motion number 105.1 Hay Shire Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to support the establishment of Country University Centres (CUC's) in regional and rural Australia.

Motion number 105.2 Isaac Regional Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to further expand its support for the Regional University Centres Program to strengthen and expand the program to ensure Regional University Centres can be established in key areas where there are fundamental needs. This includes increasing the funding allocated and number of grant places available in the program.

Motion number 106 Brisbane City Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide funding to local governments to prevent drownings. In addition to...

- 1. Include the local government sector in its Australian Water Safety Strategy**
- 2. Provide funding to local governments to prevent drownings in swimming pools and waterways**
- 3. Run a national, multilingual campaign highlighting the dangers of swimming in inland rivers and waterways**

Carried

Motion number 106.1 Cumberland Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:

- 1. Include the local government sector in its Australian Water Safety Strategy partnership;**
- 2. Provide access and equity by funding local council programs to support and develop swimming, water safety and lifesaving skills in our local swimming pools.**

Motion number 106.2 Hawkesbury City Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to run a multilingual national campaign highlighting the dangers of swimming in inland rivers and waterways and commits to funding local councils to improve signage and conduct water safety campaigns.

Motion number 107 Greater Dandenong City Council VIC & Kingston City Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:

- 1. Acknowledge and welcome the federal government's pathway to permanency for over 19,000 Temporary Protection Visas and Safe Haven Enterprise Visas holders;**
- 2. Acknowledge the contrasting federal government policy towards the remaining 12,000 people who have been failed by, or are still subjected to the Fast Track Refugee Status Determination (RSD) process;**
- 3. Acknowledge Greater Dandenong City Council as secretariat of the local government Mayoral Taskforce Supporting People Seeking Asylum on behalf of the following councils that are members:**
 - a. Executive Members Brimbank City Council, Casey City Council, Darebin City Council, Hobsons Bay City Council, Hume City Council, Kingston City Council, Monash City Council, Merri-bek City Council, Yarra City Council;**
 - b. General Members Ballarat City Council, Banyule City Council, Bendigo City Council, Blue Mountains City Council, Canterbury Bankstown City Council, Cardinia Shire Council, Hawkesbury City Council, Inner West City Council, Leeton Shire Council, Maribyrnong City Council, Melbourne City Council, Moonee Valley City Council, Nillumbik Shire Council, Port Phillip City Council, Randwick City Council, Wagga City Council, Whittlesea City Council, Wyndham City Council; and**
Supporter Councils Bass Coast Shire Council, Greater Geelong City Council, Hobart City Council, Launceston City Council, Macedon Ranges Shire Council, Maroondah City Council, Mornington Peninsula Shire Council, Borough of Queenscliffe, Wellington Shire Council, and Whitehorse City Council; and
- 4. Apply a consistent approach and to:**
 - a. Replace the existing Fast Track system with a single Refugee Status Determination RSD process and an independent, timely and fair merits review; and**
 - b. Continue to invest resources to urgently clear the backlog of asylum applications/appeals in order to create an efficient system.**

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:

- 1. Acknowledge and welcome the federal government's pathway to permanency for over 19,000 Temporary Protection Visas and Safe Haven Enterprise Visas holders;**
- 2. Acknowledge the contrasting federal government policy towards the remaining 12,000 people who have been failed by, or are still subjected to the Fast Track Refugee Status Determination (RSD) process;**
- 3. Acknowledge Greater Dandenong City Council as secretariat of the local government Mayoral Taskforce Supporting People Seeking Asylum on behalf of the following councils that are members:**
 - a. Executive Members Brimbank City Council, Casey City Council, Darebin City Council, Hobsons Bay City Council, Hume City Council, Kingston City Council, Monash City Council, Merri-bek City Council, Yarra City Council;**

- b. **General Members Ballarat City Council, Banyule City Council, Bendigo City Council, Blue Mountains City Council, Canterbury Bankstown City Council, Cardinia Shire Council, Hawkesbury City Council, Inner West City Council, Leeton Shire Council, Maribyrnong City Council, Melbourne City Council, Moonee Valley City Council, Nillumbik Shire Council, Port Phillip City Council, Randwick City Council, Wagga City Council, Whittlesea City Council, Wyndham City Council; and
Supporter Councils Bass Coast Shire Council, Greater Geelong City Council, Hobart City Council, Launceston City Council, Macedon Ranges Shire Council, Maroondah City Council, Mornington Peninsula Shire Council, Borough of Queenscliffe, Wellington Shire Council, and Whitehorse City Council; and**
- 4. Apply a consistent approach and to:**
- a. **Replace the existing Fast Track system with a single Refugee Status Determination RSD process and an independent, timely and fair merits review; and**
 - b. **Continue to invest resources to urgently clear the backlog of asylum applications/appeals in order to create an efficient system.**
 - c. **implement a process of review for asylum cases failed under the Fast Track system.**

Carried

Motion number 107.1 Merri-bek City Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to support the Back Your Neighbour campaign by the Mayoral Taskforce Supporting People Seeking Asylum and:

- 1. Invest resources to urgently clear the backlog of asylum applications/appeals in order to create an efficient system; and**
- 2. Provide consistent access to Medicare, income support, employment support, mental health, NDIS, and other vital services, including revised eligibility for SRSS support; and**
- 3. Ensure people seeking asylum have work and study rights, including access to local fees for university and TAFE; and**
- 4. Replace the existing 'Fast Track' system with a single Refugee Status Determination process and an independent, timely and fair merits review.**

Motion number 108 Banyule City Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to prepare a strategy that provides for a resilient and sustainable national food secure Australia, able to provide for access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food to its entire population at all times.

Carried

Motion number 109 Knox City Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to review the citizenship ceremony process and provide a dedicated funding program to support the ongoing delivery of ceremonies that is currently conducted by a majority of local government councils on behalf of the Australian Government.

Carried

Motion number 110 Forbes Shire Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to extend financial support for students undertaking tertiary study in the health and education sectors.

Carried

Motion number 110.1 South Burnett Regional Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to increase university numbers for general practitioners.

Motion number 111 Forbes Shire Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to develop a nation-wide teacher registration program.

Carried

Motion number 112 Manningham City Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on Australian Government to address Australia's world-highest gambling losses per capita, and the intolerable harm \$25 billion of annual losses inflict on Australians, local communities and local and regional health and municipal service providers by:

1. Introducing a new dedicated federal gambling regulator, which includes a mandate to implement and oversee a broad tobacco-style ban on gambling advertising;
2. Legislating for the complete removal of cash from Australia's fleet of 200,000 poker machines as a national anti-money laundering measure in light of last year's NSW Crime Commission report revealing widespread money laundering across NSW

poker machines where criminal money launderers can still load up to \$10,000 in cash into a single machine;

3. Establishing a national ACT-style buyback and retirement of poker machine licenses with an initial budget allocation of \$500 million and make it conditional on the state and territory governments and the participating clubs, pubs and casinos agreeing to permanently retire the licenses and remove the attached machines from their venues;
4. Negotiating a moratorium agreement with the Northern Territory government to cease issuing any new low tax digital bookmaking licenses to foreign-owned gambling operators such as Sportsbet, Bet365, Ladbrokes and Betr and instead transfer online gambling licensing and regulation to a new federal Regulator;
5. Legislating to the effect that federally registered political parties are ineligible for federal per-vote political funding if they, or any of their state affiliates, own and operate poker machine venues; and
6. Removing the DGR status of any church or charity which continues to directly own and operate licensed gambling entities, such as poker machine clubs.

Carried

Motion number 113 Brimbank City Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:

1. Ban all forms of gambling advertisements on broadcast and online platforms during live sports events; and
2. Significantly reduce the frequency of gambling advertising when live sports events are not being broadcast.

Carried

Motion number 114 South Burnett Regional Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to advocate for increased funding for all areas of domestic violence with a specific emphasis in rural, regional, and remote areas.

Carried

Motion number 115 Northern Midlands Council TAS

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to implement a policy change to redress the imbalance of sport and recreation funding between high performance and community based, grassroot initiatives that have the potential to

significantly improve health outcomes for all Australians, regardless of their ability or background.

Carried

Motion number 116 Tamworth Regional Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to recognise the significant contribution made by volunteers across Australia in all spheres of life and the value this contribution makes to local communities. In recognising this contribution, the National General Assembly acknowledges that volunteers are a significant unpaid resource that delivers services that smaller councils and communities would struggle to replace with paid labour.

Carried

Motion number 117 South Burnett Regional Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to advocate for increased support for the Medicare rebate for private purposes.

Carried

Motion number 118 Hepburn Shire Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to support the 2026 Census topic review being conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics and recommends adding the topics of gender, variations of sex characteristics and sexual orientation to help the information collected in the Census remain relevant and strengthen community support for the Census.

Carried

Motion number 119 Penrith City Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to continue to explore tri-government regional partnership opportunities, particularly with councils in growth corridors such as Western Sydney. Through the implementation of city-shaping partnerships, there is an opportunity for the Australian Government to reinforce their commitment to authentic tri-government cooperation and strengthen the local government's role in implementation of regional change.

Carried

Motion number 120 Tamworth Regional Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to fast track the implementation of the Growing Regions Program so that projects previously submitted under the Building Better Regions Fund (BBRF) can be progressed.

Withdrawn

Motion number 121 Canterbury Bankstown Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:

1. Re-introduce an updated Regional Employment Development Scheme (RED scheme) with the creation of special purpose grants to support local government contribute to infrastructure and regional development goals;
2. Further in support of the above, an increase to the Financial Assistance Grants be provided to local councils to a minimum of one percent of Commonwealth taxation revenue, so councils could focus on key disciplines such as town planning, engineering that will assist in creating a more sustainable community.

Carried

Motion number 122 East Arnhem Regional Council NT

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide appropriate funding for Australia Post services in regional and remote Australia.

Carried

Motion number 123 Snowy Valleys Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to set in place appropriate legislation to ensure access to 'face to face' financial transactions through banks and/or building society branches in rural and regional areas across Australia.

Carried

Motion number 124 Murweh Shire Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to call on the immediate cessation of the Carbon Transport and Storage Corporation (CTSCo) Project and further, request state and federal governments to work collaboratively to protect the Great Artesian Basin for regional communities, as it is the only reliable source of fresh water for much of inland Australia.

Carried

Motion number 125 Nillumbik Shire Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide immediate short term, adequate funding to support the spike in Regional Assessment Services.

Carried

CIRCULAR ECONOMY

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:

- 1. Co-invest in new major regional waste facilities to help attract and build new markets;**
- 2. Increase Investment to support Australia's transition to a circular economy in order to reduce waste, improve the recovery of precious resources, and create new jobs;**
- 3. Turn off the 'tap' of waste by requiring and creating incentives for higher use of recycled materials and by phasing out problematic and unnecessary waste;**
- 4. Expand the product stewardship schemes and introduce a new materials levy to drive industry change;**
- 5. Ban the import and production of hard-to-recycle materials (except for essential needs such as some medical uses);**
- 6. Prioritise job creation and industry transition through the circular economy;**
- 7. Fund technology and research that leads to an advanced domestic circular economy sector and positions Australia as a leading expert in this new economic sector; and**
- 8. Partner with local government to help guide and inform federal policy and investment decisions around supporting circular economy, recycling, product packaging and waste reform opportunities.**
- 9. Support a global agreement to end plastic pollution by 2040, including mandating binding targets to phase out plastic waste products.**
- 10. Establish mandatory soft plastic recycling targets;**
- 11. Place a levy on production and consumption of polymer plastic made from fossil fuel and particularly for single use and packaging;**
- 12. Use of the levy to support urgent establishment of plastic recycling research and facilities; and**
- 13. Mandate government institution use of recycled plastic procurement for single use plastics and packaging.**

Carried

Motion number 126.1 Monash City Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to implement the actions below in order to achieve a massive improvement in Australia's plastics recycling rates (from 16% / 4% towards the 80% goal set in the National Waste Policy Action Plan) and achieve this in a timely manner. To that effect, ALGA requests that the Australian Government:

- 1. Creates a permanent body consisting of federal and state ministers (or their representatives) responsible for plastic waste management and committing to it meeting at least quarterly and once a year holding a Summit along the lines of the 2020 Summit involving all levels of government (fed-state-local) and key representatives of the plastic recycling and packaging industries. Its aim will be to ensure a uniform approach (including legislation) around Australia governing all aspects of plastic waste management, including (but not limited to):**
 - a. A tax on plastic packaging (see point two below);**
 - b. Financial incentives for industry to build and run plastics recycling plant (see point two below);**
 - c. Investment in plastic recycling infrastructure (i.e., capital available to the recycling industry) and by taking a national view attracting companies capable of delivering very large-scale processing plant);**
 - d. Processes for collecting plastic waste including soft plastics;**
 - e. Commitment to buy products made from recycled plastics (and other recycled materials), such as those made by Replas, whenever possible;**
 - f. Commitment to use recycled materials as part of larger constructions in particular roads where a significant proportion can be sourced from recycled materials; and**
 - g. Container deposit schemes.**
- 2. In collaboration with the states, introduce a tax on plastic packaging. This could take the form of a bulk tax similar to the UK levied at the manufacturing / import stage (per tonne) or a per item tax levied at the retail level (say 10c per plastic package by the supermarkets). The funds raised would be used exclusively to fund plastic recycling (possibly similar to the UK model guaranteeing a price for materials generated by the recycling process and ready to be used in the production of new packaging);**
- 3. In collaboration with the states and research bodies such as the CSIRO develop guidelines on the efficacy of different alternate (to plastic) packaging materials, for food in particular. By establishing what alternate materials may be available, their properties (in particular their ability to be composted or recycled and how effective they are in prolonging the shelf life of foods) the packaging and food industries may be encouraged to move to a non-plastic alternative. At present the use and availability of alternatives lies with a number of very small companies offering innovative solutions, some of which look promising if they could be scaled up.**

Motion number 126.2 Sunshine Coast Regional Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to introduce new, more aggressive regulations that set a minimum standard for sustainable packaging and waste responsibilities for all manufacturers, supported by appropriate market incentives to motivate compliance with these standards.

Motion number 126.3 Mitchell Shire Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to support the establishment of markets nationally to support a local circular economy that prioritises reuse of our precious resources.

Motion number 126.4 Merri-bek City Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:

1. Investigate opportunities to reduce packaging across the whole economy as it moves to a circular economy, using the Internationally recognised zero waste hierarchy (Zero Waste Hierarchy of Highest and Best Use 8.0 - Zero Waste International Alliance (zwia.org))
2. Introduce a mandatory product stewardship scheme for packaging, including soft plastics;
3. Urgently investigate options for onshore-based soft plastics recycling and manufacturing, including industry best practice and government-led options; and
4. Standardise the soft plastic varieties in use across Australia to ensure consistent standards, simplifying the recycling process; and
5. Investigate safe storage facilities of soft plastics.

Motion number 126.5 Glen Eira City Council VIC

Noting the challenges local governments across Australia face in sourcing recycled materials for use in public infrastructure and assets, due to a shortage of waste infrastructure and affordability, this National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:

1. Set national targets for the use of recycled content in the construction of public infrastructure; and
2. Significantly increase its current \$250 million investment in the Recycling Modernisation Fund, with a focus on boosting market capability to process and manufacture recycled materials.

Motion number 126.6 Yarra City Council VIC

1. This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:

- a. Support the development of a circular economy and take real action to reduce waste by committing to a national ban on food waste to landfill and agreeing to implement stricter national sustainable packaging standards;
- b. Invest in infrastructure to support the development of robust end markets to truly transition to a circular economy. This includes providing increased funding to industry and local government for local repair and processing solutions, sector innovation and market development.

2. This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government and Australian Food and Grocery Council to:

- a. Mandate and improve producer pay product stewardship scheme for difficult materials and designing problematic and unnecessary materials out of the system;
- b. Ensure that the governance of a mandated stewardship scheme is structured as a true partnership between local, state, and federal government and does not shift the cost and risk to councils.

Motion number 126.7 Shoalhaven City Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to collapse soft plastics funding by fast tracking localised projects to combat this and within the strategy include the money taxed to be returned to local government entities tasked with full-life cycle waste management.

Motion number 126.8 Woollahra Municipal Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:

1. Seek an immediate interim solution to the collection, storage, and management of soft plastics;
2. Seek a long-term sustainable solution to soft plastics collection, recycling, and reprocessing;
3. Support a commitment to ensuring one hundred per cent of plastic packaging is recyclable, reusable, or compostable by 2025;
4. Support a global agreement to end plastic pollution by 2040, including mandating binding targets and design standards to phase out plastic waste products; and
5. Commit funding to support local government in managing soft plastics.

Motion number 126.9 Break O'Day Council TAS

An EPR policy for soft plastics would align with the Government's commitment to reducing plastic pollution and promoting a more circular economy. It would require producers to take responsibility for the environmental impact of their products,

incentivise innovation and investment in sustainable business models, and create economic and social benefits for communities.

Motion number 126.10 Orange City Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to urgently implement programs and policies that support local councils across Australia to provide soft plastics recycling services to residents and businesses, and support manufacturers to reduce or eliminate soft plastics from their product packaging.

Motion number 127 Town of Bassendean Council WA

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to commit to appropriate funding mechanisms for the establishment of Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) processing facilities, nationally; as an undertaking to co-partner with local governments and their regional associations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from landfills, closing the loop on a priority waste stream and progressing healthy soils initiatives.

Carried

Motion number 128 Murweh Shire Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to continue lobbying the federal government to impose a levy on all tyres imported or produced in Australia and highlights the failure of the Tyre Stewardship program. Further, the National General Assembly devises a mechanism to assist with the increased cost of tyre disposals under the state governments waste management. The levy should go directly to the local government

Lost

Motion number 129 Murweh Shire Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to advocate for a solution to the disposal of solar panels. This could include reclamation, recycling, and implementation of a levy mechanism for solar panels to ensure better waste disposal and explore manufacturers liability for the photovoltaic (PV)panels to encourage sustainable management and work with government for industry wide solutions.

Carried

ENVIRONMENT AND BIODIVERSITY

Motion number 130 East Gippsland Shire Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to adequately resource the implementation of the recommendations in the State of the Environment Report to ensure that matters of national environmental significance in Australia can be appropriately managed.

Carried

Motion number 131 East Gippsland Shire Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to review the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 so that it is more effectively applied without unintended consequences.

Carried

Motion number 132 Nillumbik Shire Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide direct support to local government in our important work to protect and manage unique plants, animals, and habitats and to manage the threatening processes that negatively impact our biodiversity by:

1. Providing adequate and long-term grant funding for on-ground action, monitoring and collaboration to enable landscape-scale biodiversity outcomes across all land tenures;
2. Supporting opportunities to increase and diversify environmental management and restoration employment; and
3. Supporting local government programs that promote a stronger connection between people and nature, improve the way nature is cared for, and build and share knowledge.

Carried

Motion number 133 Yarra City Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to develop and communicate a plan for including the contributions of local government in meeting its targets as expected under the new Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework adopted in Montreal in December 2020.

Carried

Motion number 134 Hawkesbury City Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to improve the coordination across state borders of biosecurity management and commit to mandatory consultation with local government agencies regarding, risk, spread and containment of invasive species.

Carried

Motion number 135 Shoalhaven City Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide increased funding to support on-the-ground council activities aimed at protecting our local koala population, including:

1. Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC) strengthening and direct linkage to State Biodiversity Legislation; and
2. Ecosystem preservation measures empowered at a regional and local scale.

Carried

Motion number 135.1 Redland City Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to consult with and empower local governments, through funding, to deliver on-ground activities that achieve the goals, objectives, and strategies of the National Recovery Plan for the Koala, *Phascolarctos cinereus* (combined populations of Queensland, New South Wales, and the Australian Capital Territory).

Motion number 136 Whitsunday Regional Council QLD

That this National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to develop with the state governments a damage mitigation permit process so that flying fox species which have a Queensland Nature Conservation Act Status of 'Least Concern' can be relocated from urban areas where they are creating a significant nuisance.

Carried

Motion number 137 Broken Hill City Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide funding for regional councils to implement fruit fly exclusion zones and install infrastructure to help reduce the spread of fruit fly.

Carried

Motion number 138 Tweed Shire Council NSW

The National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to allocate substantial increased funding for weed control given that this is a major contributor to biodiversity loss.

Carried

Motion number 139 Break O'Day Council TAS

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to create a new version of the Green Army Program to support environmental protection and conservation.

Carried

DIGITAL AND CYBER SECURITY

Motion number 140 Cardinia Shire Council, Kingston City Council and Darebin City Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to advocate on behalf of candidates and councillors for additional resources and powers, inclusive of increased penalties, for the eSafety Commissioner and other relevant bodies to address online bullying, harassment and trolling of candidates and councillors on social media platforms, including but not limited to:

- 1. Expanding the authority of the eSafety Commissioner to remove abuse on online service provider platforms which would either fall under the current threshold of content with the 'intent of causing serious harm' or under a new threshold of unintentionally causing serious harm;**
- 2. Work with local governments to develop specific support and social media management programs available for candidates and councillors through the eSafetywomen program in the lead up to the next elections across Australia.**

Carried

Motion number 141 Wagga Wagga City Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to support local governments to improve and upgrade their cybersecurity and Information Technology capacity.

Carried

Motion number 141.1 Canterbury Bankstown Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to amend the Australian Cyber Security Centre (ACSC) Network Partner criteria to include local councils as a government agency which will allow local councils to join the ACSC Network Partnership Program, thus increasing cyber resilience of the sector.

Motion number 141.2 Moreton Bay Regional Council QLD

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to fund the establishment of a collaborative Security Operations Centre (SOC) Model.

Motion number 141.3 Knox City Council VIC

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to practically invest in cyber security for local governments, including; an independent fully funded & operationally connected network of Regional Security Operations Centres, a Security Information and Event Management (SIEM) solution and a shared network of capable cyber experts.

ARTS AND CULTURE

Motion number 142 Shoalhaven City Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to make a long-term investment in its new cultural policy Review to better build the health of our people and our economy and to increase needs-based funding for the construction of and upgrades to arts, culture, and community infrastructure.

Carried

Motion number 143 Hobart City Council TAS

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to develop a National Heritage Design Guide to support local governments to encourage conservation for the

reuse and repurpose of heritage buildings for commercial and residential use, to adapt to a changing climate, and to be more sustainable and future ready.

Carried

Motion number 144 Parramatta City Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to;

1. Investigate and implement technological options for Australian Government departments to receive feedback and submissions to proposals, plans and programs in alternate formats including audio recording or transcription recording and;
2. Investigate these alternate options to improve the accessibility and inclusiveness of engagement and consultation conducted by Australian Government departments, for the benefit of culturally and linguistically diverse community members, and people living with disability, who may experience limitations and difficulties with writing or making submissions.

Carried

Motion number 145 Broken Hill City Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to immediately stop the National Library of Australia's plans to charge increased subscription fees to council run public libraries so that public libraries can continue contributing and accessing Australia's national database and archives, Trove. That the Australian Government further ensures that this indispensable resource is adequately funded to enable further preservation of Australia's historical records.

Carried

Motion number 145.1 Albury City Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to make available sustainable funding to ensure the continuation of free access to the Trove national database and upgrade of the digital archive systems of Trove.

Motion number 145.2 Kiama Municipal Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to write to the Hon. Tony Burke, Federal Minister for the Arts and the Hon. Paul Fletcher, Shadow Minister for Science, and the Arts, calling for sustainable funding to ensure the continuation of free access to the Trove national database and upgrade of the digital archive systems of Trove.

Motion number 145.3 Woollahra Municipal Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to commit to funding the operations, maintenance and development of Trove and its digital infrastructure on a long term and recurrent basis.

Motion number 145.4 Blue Mountains City Council NSW

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to immediately stop the National Library of Australia's plans to charge increased subscription fees to council-run public libraries to contribute to and access Australia's national data-base and archive Trove.

Communique

National General Assembly 2023

Over 1,100 local government leaders from across Australia gathered in Canberra from 13 – 15 June for the 29th National General Assembly of Local Government (NGA) to share innovations to support the public good and to speak to the Federal Government with one voice.

We acknowledged the Ngunnawal people as traditional custodians of the ACT and recognised any other people or families with connection to the lands of the ACT and region. The Assembly paid its respects to their elders past, present and emerging, and acknowledged the vital and ongoing contributions First Nations peoples continue to make to our nation.

Opening the NGA, the Governor-General, His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley thanked and acknowledged local governments for their dedication and work for local communities especially responding to natural disasters. His words, noting councils were the level of government that looked communities in the eye, resonated with delegates.

Delegates reaffirmed their commitment to work in partnership with the Federal Government for the public good, while at the same time addressing the local and regional challenges faced by communities across the nation.

We welcomed and thanked the many federal members of parliament who attended and Spoke at the NGA or associated events, including the Hon Catherine King, the Hon Kristy McBain, the Hon Peter Dutton and the Hon Darren Chester.

Councils also welcomed His Excellency, Vasyl Myroshnychenko, Ukraine Ambassador, who provided an update on the Ukrainian people's progress to protect their national sovereignty; and welcomed and encouraged sister city arrangements between Australian and Ukrainian regions.

In response to ALGA's advocacy, councils thanked the Federal Government for its re-establishment of the Australian Council of Local Government (ACLG) which will be held on Friday 16 June 2023. The ACLG was first established in 2008 as a physical and symbolic acknowledgment of the respect and mutual interest of both levels of government and need to work together.

This year's Assembly program included consideration of 260 notices of motions submitted by councils. These motions identify opportunities where a strong partnership between the Federal Government and local government can progress our mutual policy interests, and the ALGA Board will now consider these in forming its policy positions and federal advocacy.

These motions included solutions to address the financial sustainability of councils, climate change adaptation and renewable energy, improved transport and communications, improved natural disaster preparedness and management, Closing the Gap and the Voice, enhancing the circular economy and improving housing and homelessness outcomes through partnerships.

On behalf of Australia's 537 local governments, the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) will continue to work with the Federal Government to deliver better outcomes for all Australian communities.

Mover: Tea Tree Gully

Secunder: Kempsey

Carried