

Waverley Council NSW

Motion:

Councils call on the State and Commonwealth Governments to provide effective support to Councils dealing with high visitation impacts on iconic Australian destinations by exploring additional funding support and/or revenue raising initiatives that can be used to help meet the costs of servicing visitation and improving the sustainability of these areas.

Action

The Board agreed to refer the motion to Senator the Hon. Simon Birmingham, Minister for Tourism, and the Hon Mark Coulton MP, Minister for Local Government.

City of Onkaparinga SA

Motion:

That Councils call for the mandating of national packaging recyclability and recycling targets for producers and packaging manufacturers, noting the additional pressures councils and the recycling sector will face when the proposed bans on recycling exports commence.

Action:

The Board referred the Motion to the Hon. Sussan Ley MP, Minister for the Environment.

Griffith City Council NSW

Motion:

- (a) That the Federal Government give consideration to the establishment of a permanent fund directed at the maintenance of the security of the irrigation sector in times of drought, or the investment into maintaining and improving the infrastructure supporting the industries and populations which rely on the Murray Darling Basin.
- (b) That the Federal Government undertakes a comprehensive evaluation of future infrastructure investment requirements which secure both the environmental and productive requirements of the Murray Darling Basin for decades to come.
- (c) A sovereign Wealth Fund be established and maintained for addressing these matters.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Keith Pitt MP, Minister for Resources, Water and Northern Australia (as Minister responsible for the Murray Darling Basin).

Newcastle City Council NSW

Motion:

That Councils:

1. Recognise that our national recycling industry is currently under severe strain from the China National Sword policy and a growing priority to increase Australia's recycling rate;
2. Note that Infrastructure Australia recently listed national waste and recycling management as one of five national high priority initiatives; and
3. Call on the Federal Government to develop a national program to assist Councils to combat the challenges Local Government is currently experiencing with recycling management, waste avoidance and resource recovery.

Action

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Sussan Ley MP Minister for the Environment.

Motion:

That Councils:

1. Note that coastal erosion continues to worsen throughout Australia and that following the severe and ongoing coastal erosion occurring at Stockton in the City of Newcastle (CN) Local Government Area, the NSW and Commonwealth Governments recently declared a Natural Disaster at Stockton Beach;
2. Note that the NSW Government has committed \$83.6 million through the Coastal and Estuary Grants Program to provide technical and financial support to local government to help manage the coastal zone, while the Federal Commonwealth Government does not have an existing program of funding available to address coastal erosion;
3. Note that Infrastructure Australia's 2020 Infrastructure Priority List has identified coastal inundation as a High Priority Initiative in response to the issue of rising sea levels over the next 15 years; and
4. Call on the Federal Commonwealth Government to implement a national, cross-jurisdictional approach to coastal erosion.

Action

The Board referred the motion to the Hon. Sussan Ley MP, Minister for the Environment.

Motion:

That Councils:

1. Note that in September 2018, Everymind launched the National Communications Charter: A unified approach to mental health and suicide prevention (The Charter), aimed at assisting governments, organisations, community groups and individuals to play a role in reducing stigma around mental illness and suicide, while also promoting help-seeking behaviour through its guiding principles and messages;
2. Commend Everymind for developing this important tool, and their incredible work to unite organisations across Australia to promote communicating in ways that promote improving our mental health awareness and suicide prevention;

3. Encourage all Councils to sign the National Communications Charter: A unified approach to mental health and suicide prevention; and to commit to reducing stigmatising language and promoting help-seeking and help-offering behaviour in communications material; and
4. Encourage Councils across the nation to take a leadership role.

Action:

The ALGA Board referred the motion to State and Territory Associations for their consideration and action with ALGA to support action through ALGA News.

Motion:

That Councils:

1. Note that in February 2019, City of Newcastle (CN) endorsed the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) Cities Appeal campaign which is aimed at building support and awareness for the Treaty, with 26 local Councils also endorsing this campaign to date;
2. Encourage all local Councils to endorse the ICAN Cities Appeal Campaign; and
3. Write to the Prime Minister and Opposition Leader, urging the Federal Government to sign the 2017 United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

Action:

The ALGA Board noted that several councils put forward very similar motions regarding nuclear weapons but that these were not wholly consistent with the rules for motions published by ALGA. However, the Board agreed to write to the Minister for Foreign Affairs highlighting that Councils are urging the Federal Government to sign the 2017 United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

Randwick City Council NSW

Motion:

Councils call on the Australian Government to:

- a. Recognise the intrinsic value of arts and culture to the Australian community;
- b. Recognise the significant contribution of local government to arts and culture in our communities;
- c. Work with local government to enhance, support and fund arts and culture at a local level; and
- d. Develop federal funding mechanisms to match or exceed spending on the arts by local government authorities.

Action:

The ALGA Board referred the motion to the Hon. Paul Fletcher MP, Minister for the Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts.

Bega Valley Shire Council NSW

Motion:

Councils call on the Federal Government to support and fund relevant Indigenous organisations to work with land management agencies to develop and increase hazard reduction 'cool burns'.

Action:

The ALGA Board referred the motion to the Hon. David Littleproud MP, Minister for Agriculture, Drought and Emergency Management.

Motion:

Councils request the Federal Government to continue funding of the Bushfire and Natural Hazards Cooperative Research Centre.

Action:

The ALGA Board referred the motion to the Hon. David Littleproud MP, Minister for Agriculture, Drought and Emergency Management.

Motion:

That Councils call on the Federal Government to take immediate action to hasten financial relief promised to bushfire effected businesses and individuals.

Action:

The ALGA Board referred the motion to the Hon. David Littleproud MP, Minister for Agriculture, Drought and Emergency Management.

Motion:

That Councils urge the Federal Government to include in the National Waste Policy a timeline to phase out and ban single use plastic bags.

Action:

The ALGA Board referred the motion to the Hon. Sussan Ley MP, Minister for the Environment.

Yarra City VIC

Motion:

Councils call for the development of state and national standards to achieve zero carbon emission buildings.

Action:

The ALGA Board referred the motion to the Hon. Karen Andrews MP, Minister for Industry, Science and Technology.

Motion:

Councils call on the Australian, state and territory governments to:

- a) recognise and treat gambling harm as a public health issue;
- b) acknowledge the link between gambling harm, mental ill-health and other comorbidities, and include it in public and health frameworks and strategies; and
- c) address gambling harm through effective harm minimisation and prevention policies, led by public health professionals.

Action:

The ALGA Board noted the motion and agree to refer it to the Hon. Greg Hunt MP, Minister for Health.

Motion:

That ALGA advocate to the Australian Roads Research Board (ARRB) to develop standards/guidelines on the use of recycled plastics and glass in road base.

Action:

The Board agreed to write to the Australian Roads Research Board to advance this matter.

Motion:

This National General Assembly acknowledges that ICAN was awarded a Nobel Peace Prize in November 2017 for its ground-breaking efforts to achieve the global Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, after the treaty's adoption earlier in 2017 by the United Nations in New York and calls on the Australian Local Government Association to:

- a) publicise to local governments around Australia, the work of the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), founded in Melbourne in 2007.
- b) urge local governments around Australia to ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, joining the 26 Australian Local Governments (including Sydney, Hobart, Yarra, Darebin, Freemantle, Coburn) and over 80 nations around the world who have declared their support for the treaty as the first international legal instrument to comprehensively outlaw nuclear weapons, setting out a pathway for their elimination.
- c) urge the Australian Government to ratify the United Nations Treaty

Action:

The Board noted that several councils put forward very similar motions regarding nuclear weapons but that these were not wholly consistent with the rules for motions published by ALGA. However, the Board agreed to write to the Minister for Foreign Affairs highlighting that Councils are urging the Federal Government to sign the 2017 United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

Motion:

To assist in tackling rising emissions from transport, Councils call on the Federal Government to reverse this rise in the transport sector through:

- a. promotion and support for a shift to electric cars, buses, and trucks, and rail electrification, powered by renewable energy: solar, wind, hydrogen;
- b. adoption of electric vehicle targets & further expanding recharging facilities;
- c. mandatory greenhouse gas emission (GGE) standards for cars and other vehicles;

- d. promotion and support for active transport - walking and cycling.

Action:

The ALGA Board noted the motion agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Michael McCormack MP, Deputy Prime Minister.

Motion:

In line with Federal Government's National Waste Policy and its adoption of a circular economy policy, Councils call on the Federal Government to further develop national standards on products and packaging as part of implementation of its circular economy policy:

- a. mandate a national packaging code for products and packaging with appropriate bin-top colours for recycling;
- b. incentivise the use of reusable packaging in the transportation of products;
- c. discourage over packaging of products;
- d. encourage new national markets for recycled products and for products and packaging that are not currently recycled;
- e. introduce mandatory product stewardship for problematic products and packaging; and
- f. discourage products and packaging that are not able to be recycled or reused and establish a program for these products and packaging to be phased out.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Sussan Ley MP, Minister for the Environment.

Glen Innes Severn Council NSW

Motion:

That Glen Innes Severn Council lobbies ALGA to advocate for the increase of the Financial Assistance Grants (FAG) - General Purpose and Local Roads components from the current percentage of 0.55% of Federal Income Taxation collections, to 0.75% of Federal Income Taxation collections.

Action:

The Board notes the position of Glenn Innes Severn Council that the Financial Assistance Grants be increased to 0.75% of Federal Income Taxation collections and welcomes the support of Council for an increase in the grants.

ALGA's long held position is that the quantum of the grants should be restored to a level equal to at least 1% of Federal Income Taxation revenue, the level which applied in 1996. In recognition of the significant funding increase that would be required, ALGA is currently advocating for a phased increase in the Financial Assistance Grant as follows: an additional \$830 million per annum over two years on top of the base quantum starting from the 2020-21 financial year, followed by an additional \$200m per annum from 2022-23 until 1% of Commonwealth taxation revenue is achieved.

City of Darwin NT

Motion:

That Councils call on the Commonwealth Government to increase the Zone Tax Offset to align with inflation growth since its last review and commit to ongoing indexation in line with CPI to support those living in regional Australia and incentivise people to move to regional Australia to reduce the population pressures in Australia's major cities.

Action:

The ALGA Board agreed to refer the motion to the Treasurer the Hon. Josh Frydenberg MP.

Tenterfield Shire Council NSW

Motion:

That ALGA supports Regional Development Australia Committees (RDAs) in lobbying the NSW State Government and others to develop a funded business case for measures to increase migration from metropolitan and overseas locations to regional communities, where latent infrastructure capacities, employment opportunities, quality of life and reduced costs of living remain undervalued in target markets.

Action:

The Board noted the motion and agreed to refer the matter to LGNSW for their consideration as it relates to lobbying of the NSW Government rather than the Australian Government.

Motion:

Councils call for the State and Federal Governments to increase funding for pasture research to assist in drought proofing Australia.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion the Hon. David Littleproud MP, Minister for Agriculture, Drought and Emergency Management.

Motion:

That Councils call on the Federal Government to support cultural burning on Crown Lands, National Parks and Forestry Corporation held lands in every State of Australia, and the training and employment of indigenous people to carry out this important task.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. David Littleproud MP, Minister for Agriculture, Drought and Emergency Management.

East Arnhem Regional Council NT

Motion:

That Councils call on the Australian Government to commit to the recommendations of the “2018 Regional Telecommunications Review” as published by the Regional Telecommunications Review committee.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Mark Coulton MP, Minister for Regional Communications.

Liverpool City Council NSW

Motion:

That the Councils call on the federal government to enforce national housing development regulations that:

- Limits housing developments to cover no more than 40% of block size in urban Developments excluding secondary developments.

Action:

The Board noted the motion but also noted that land use planning issues fall within the jurisdiction of the state and territory governments not the Australian Government. The Board therefore agreed that this motion should be referred to state and territory local government associations for their consideration.

Motion:

That Councils call for State and Federal funding to provide Koala sanctuary and wildlife animal hospital in the southern end of the Western Sydney Parklands of the Liverpool LGA.

That Councils call on the federal government to provide funding to fast track the Leppington to Western Sydney Airport rail link extension and the Sydney Metro City and South West project from Bankstown to Liverpool as well as funding for the Fifteenth Avenue Rapid Transit Corridor project from Liverpool to Western Sydney Airport.

Action:

The Board noted that both these motions were aimed at asking councils to lobby both the Federal and State Government to support the provision of funding for projects in the Liverpool City Council’s own area. These motions were therefore not consistent with the rules for motions published by ALGA and the Board decided to take no further action on them.

Motion:

That Councils call for a Sustainable Long Term Drought Mitigation Action Plan.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. David Littleproud MP, Minister for Agriculture, Drought and Emergency Management.

Motion:

That Councils advocate for a National Koala Protection Order.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Sussan Ley MP, Minister for the Environment.

Shoalhaven City Council NSW

Motion:

That Councils call upon:

1. The Federal Government to recognise that an increased uptake in walking/hiking in natural areas nationally would result in financial benefits and improved health and wellbeing for Australians as well as enabling greater economic growth, productivity, social and environmental benefits.
2. The Federal Government, in consultation with State, Territory and Local Government authorities, to allocate funding for a fifth round of the Building Better Regions funding (or alternate funding source) to a national infrastructure project to link up the gaps in existing walking paths/trails in both cities and the regions.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Michael McCormack MP, Deputy Prime Minister.

Motion:

Councils call upon:

1. The Hon. Sussan Ley MP to provide a response to the Climate Change Risk to Australia's Built Environment Report.
2. The Hon. Sussan Ley MP to provide an update to on measures to be taken to address the risks to Australian communities which were identified in the report.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Sussan Ley MP, Minister for the Environment.

Motion:

That the National General Assembly calls upon the Federal Government so that:

1. Any Federal Funding earmarked for Royal Commission on Bushfires, be diverted to recovery efforts in bushfire affected communities.
2. Recommendations from the previous 57 formal public inquiries on Bushfires be enacted.

Action:

The Board discussed the issue but noted that the Royal Commission was well underway and that its Letters Patent which sets out its Terms of Reference include the requirement that the Commission would have regard to "the findings and recommendations (including any assessment of the adequacy and extent of their implementation) of other reports and inquiries that you consider relevant, including any available State or

Territory inquiries relating to the 2019-2020 bushfire season, to avoid duplication wherever possible.” Funding for bushfire recovery is a significant issue and the ALGA Board and Secretariat and the relevant state local government associations have been advocating on an ongoing basis that increased funds be made available to local governments to lead recovery in their local area.

Motion:

That Councils commend the Federal Government for Blackspot and Road to Recovery Programs and urge that those valuable programs be continued.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Michael McCormack MP, Deputy Prime Minister.

Motion:

Councils call on the Federal Government to restore the quantum of Financial Assistance Grants to at least 1 per cent of Commonwealth taxation revenue.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Michael McCormack MP, Deputy Prime Minister.

Motion:

Councils call on the Hon Anne Ruston, Federal Minister for Social Security, to implement an increase to ‘Newstart Allowance’ to reflect the rising cost of living.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to Senator the Hon. Anne Ruston, Minister for Social Security.

Wingecarribee Shire Council NSW

Motion:

1. That the Federal Government reviews the methodology used when determining the level of funding distributed to councils and that councils be invited to be part of the review process.
2. to consider an annual allocation of funding to all councils across the Australia to reduce the complexity of funding programs and that this annual allocation should take into consideration the size, population and infrastructure requirements of each council.

Action:

The ALGA Board noted Wingecarribee Shire Council’s motion and understands the desire of some councils to see the methodology for the distribution of the Financial Assistance Grants reviewed. The Board accepts that those councils are active in putting their views directly to the Government but the Board also accepts that ALGA must be bound by the policy positions it has adopted on behalf of the sector as a whole and that the current advocacy of ALGA is focused on seeking a greater percentage of Commonwealth revenue for Financial Assistance Grants. ALGA believes that making a separate call on the Federal Government at this time to review the methodology for the distribution of FAGs would distract from the call for additional funding.

Broken Hill City Council NSW

Motion:

Councils call on the Federal Government to investigate and prepare a public report into the need for the urgent approval and development of new long distance, multi-gigawatt transmission lines and a redesigned grid to cope with the rapid expansion of renewable energy sources feeding into it. The approval process for new transmission lines can average a decade and severely lags behind solar and wind developments which may take one to two years to be finalised. Such development is essential for Australia to reach its zero emission targets by 2050 and to significantly lower energy costs for Australian households and industry.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Angus Taylor MP, Minister for Energy.

Motion:

That NSW Councils be given the opportunity to attend future National General Assemblies of Local Government via videoconference which includes the ability to vote on conference motions.

Action:

Issues around the planning of the 2021 National General Assembly will be considered by the ALGA Board at its Strategic Planning meeting in February 2021. The issue you have raised will be considered by the Board at that time.

Blacktown City Council NSW

Motion:

Councils call on the states and Commonwealth to implement a framework to engage local government in resilience and disaster recovery so it would be a standing procedure whereby the resources of local government can be called upon for disaster recovery

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. David Littleproud MP, Minister for Emergency Management.

Wagga Wagga City Council NSW

Motion:

Advocate to the NSW Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services, the Minister for Transport and Roads and the Shadow Minister for Disability Inclusion, to call upon the State Government to fund adult laydown change facilities along NSW highways.

Advocate for the National Construction Code to include laydown change facilities as a requirement at major highway service centres.

Action:

The Board agreed that as this motion calls primarily for specific NSW action that it would be referred to LGNSW for their consideration and action.

Sydney NSW

Motion:

The National General Assembly calls on the government to sign and ratify the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (the Treaty) on behalf of the Australian people.

The National General Assembly note that the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), originally established in Australia in 2007, were awarded the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize for their ground-breaking efforts to achieve a global treaty for the prohibition of nuclear weapons. The Assembly congratulate ICAN on their historic achievement and contribution toward global nuclear disarmament.

Action:

The ALGA Board noted that several councils put forward very similar motions regarding nuclear weapons but that these were not wholly consistent with the rules for motions published by ALGA. However, the Board agreed to write to the Minister for Foreign Affairs highlighting that Councils are urging the Federal Government to sign the 2017 United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

District Council of Mount Remarkable SA

Motion:

Councils recognise that an increased uptake in walking and cycling nationally would result in financial benefits and improved health and wellbeing for Australians as well as enabling greater economic growth, productivity, social and environmental benefits.

Councils therefore call on the Federal Government to, in consultation with State, Territory and Local Government authorities to allocate funding for a fifth round of the Building Better Regions funding (or alternate funding source) to a national infrastructure project to link up the gaps in existing walking & cycling paths/trails in both cities and the regions

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Michael McCormack MP, Deputy Prime Minister.

Inner West Council NSW

Motion:

That Councils call for the Federal Government to sign and ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to Senator the Hon. Marise Payne, Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Motion:

That Councils:

1. Recognise the vital role of the media in informing communities about the actions of local government and keeping local government open to account;

2. Note the important role that community can and does play at times of emergency, including during the bushfire crisis this summer;
3. Express serious concerns at the closure and diminution of regional and suburban news outlets including television, radio and newspapers; and
4. Call on the Federal Government to increase funding to the Australian Community Radio Network around Australia to support local news programs that focus on local government and local issues.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Paul Fletcher MP, Minister for Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts.

City of Mitcham SA

Motion:

That Councils call on the Federal Government to investigate the environmental impacts of artificial turf and more environmentally appropriate alternatives for sporting surfaces.

Recommendation:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Sussan Ley MP, Minister for the Environment.

Tamworth Regional Council NSW

Motion:

That Councils call on the Commonwealth Government to urgently review the current national approach to the management of natural disasters and catastrophic events to establish a more effective and efficient whole of government response that includes working better with State Government, Territory Government and Local Government.

Action:

The Board noted the motion and agreed to refer it to Hon. David Littleproud MP, Minister for Agriculture, Drought and Emergency Management. The Board also noted that this significant issue is being considered by the National Royal Commission into Natural Disasters which is due to report later in 2020. ALGA and several the state and territory local government associations have made submissions and given evidence to the Royal Commission as have several councils. ALGA will also continue representing the sector at the relevant intergovernmental meetings.

Ballina Shire Council NSW

Motion:

That Councils call on the Australian Government to work in collaboration with councils and the states and territories to develop and implement a national climate change adaptation plan to minimise the destructive impact on our communities of coastal erosion, inundation and other hazards, including extreme weather events and bushfires.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Sussan Ley MP, Minister for the Environment.

Motion:

Councils call on the Federal Government to increase the Newstart, Youth Allowance and related payments by a minimum of \$75 per week.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to Senator the Hon. Anne Ruston, Minister for Families and Social Services

City of Adelaide SA

Motion:

Councils call on the federal government to:

- Support the local government sector to reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- Revise existing disaster resilience strategies to specifically address the increasing, cumulative impacts of climate related disasters/emergencies
- Develop resources for disaster resilience in a changing climate that can be adopted and applied across Australia's emergency management sector and to support local government
- Identify priority areas for climate change focussed disaster resilience effort and investment.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Sussan Ley MP, Minister for the Environment

Motion:

Councils call on the State and Territory Governments to consider inclusionary zoning in planning systems to increase the supply of affordable housing in key local government areas. Increasing affordable housing options in the housing ecosystem can prevent the number of people entering into housing stress and form part of a long term response to reduce the number of people entering into homelessness.

Action:

The Board noted the motion but also noted that land use planning issues fall within the jurisdiction of the state and territory governments not the Australian Government. The Board therefore agreed that this motion should be referred to state and territory local government associations for their consideration.

Motion:

Councils recognise that an increased uptake in walking and cycling nationally would result in financial benefits and improved health and wellbeing for Australians as well as enabling greater economic growth, productivity, social and environmental benefits.

Councils therefore call on the Federal Government to, in consultation with State, Territory and Local Government authorities to allocate funding for a fifth round of the Building Better Regions funding (or

alternate funding source) to a national infrastructure project to link up the gaps in existing walking & cycling paths/trails in both cities and the regions.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Michael McCormack MP, Deputy Prime Minister.

Nillumbik Shire VIC

Motion:

That Councils call on the Australian Government to work closely with state and local government to develop appropriate legislative policy, implementation frameworks and provide direct funding to assist local governments to implement actions, to mitigate potential climate change impacts likely to affect communities, economies and the environment.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Sussan Ley MP, Minister for the Environment.

South Burnett Regional Council QLD

Motion:

Councils call on the Federal Government to restore the Financial Assistance Grants to 1% equivalent of the Commonwealth Taxation revenue.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Michael McCormack MP, Deputy Prime Minister.

Motion:

Councils call on the Federal Government to declare drought events a natural disaster.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. David Littleproud MP, Minister for Agriculture, Drought and Emergency Management

Penrith City Council NSW

Motion:

Councils call on Australian Government to develop and adopt a fire technician course so interested people can gain a qualification.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Karen Andrews MP, Minister for Industry, Science and Technology.

Ryde NSW

Motion:

That ALGA:-

- a. Write to all Energy companies currently proposing fracking in the Northern Territory (NT):-
 - i. Noting that many Councils in Australia have Power Purchase Agreements with them.
 - ii. Noting that many Councils have endorsed and must uphold - among other things: Climate Emergency Declarations, Net zero emissions targets, resolutions to divest from Fossil fuels and developed Reconciliation Action Plans.
 - iii. Expressing our support for the traditional owners and communities in the NT, who have expressed their strong opposition to fracking due to the threat it poses to the climate, to their lands, waters, and rights.
 - iv. Requesting that Energy companies cease all plans to conduct fracking in the NT and due to its impact on climate, communities, water, and environment and commit to further investment in environmentally sustainable renewable energy projects.

- b. Forward a copy of the correspondence to all Australian Ministers for Local Government, Energy and Environment.

Action:

The Board discussed the motion and noting that there is no agreed national position among councils on fracking decided not to take any further action on the motion. The Board noted that individual councils like Ryde Council held strong views on the issue and were free to make their own representations to the Australian Government and the Northern Territory Government.

55 | Frankston City VIC

Motion:

Councils call on the Australian, State and Territory Governments to ban political donations from any gambling license holder, including Board or committee members of an organisation with a gambling license, or their peak bodies.

Action:

The Board discussed the motion and agree to refer it to State and Territory Associations for their action as appropriate given that gambling is a state rather than Commonwealth issue.

Motion:

The National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to work with the relevant State Governments to ensure a consistent, national-wide approach in supporting first time home buyers by fully exempting first home buyers from paying stamp duty regardless of the location or the price of the property.

The current approach in applying Stamp Duty to first home buyers is presently inconsistent between Australian States and countries, such as the United Kingdom which offers this exemption to encourage greater housing affordability for first-time home buyers.

Population increase combined with a lack of suitable new dwellings for families is likely to create strong long-term growth in house prices - raising fears this could spark an 'unaffordability' crisis.

Action:

The Board discussed the motion noting that stamp duty for first home buyers is determined by State/Territory Governments. The Board agreed to refer the motion to state/territory local government associations for their consideration.

Motion:

The National General Assembly calls on the ALGA National Conference to advocate to the Federal Treasurer, and Federal Shadow Treasurer, to consider the creation of a tax rebate for self-funded retirees that can be used to offset any tax liability they may incur.

Given the inability of self-funded retirees to access most state and federal concession schemes, this proposal will reward self-funded retirees who do not receive specific tax or rate relief. Many tax-funded retirees make financial sacrifices to ensure they are adequately prepared for retirement. By doing this, they take a significant strain off the public social security system. Therefore, self-funded retirees should be recompensed.

Action:

The Board noted the motion but decided to take no further action as the issue of tax rebates for self-funded retirees was not a local government issue on which there was a clear shared position among councils.

Motion:

Councils call on the Minister for Environment to commission a study to determine the most effective forms of herbicide for widespread use in common public recreational spaces such as playgrounds and parks.

The requested research is to give consideration to mediums and/or products that could form the basis for a 'best practice' approach for local governments throughout Australia in respect to herbicide usage.

Potential research could explore mediums and products:

- that do not expose the public to harmful health conditions (ie. cancer inducing elements);
- are economically cost-effective;
- have low impact on natural surroundings and the environment; and
- exhibit measurable effectiveness.

In the event such research ensues, it is further requested that local government sectors be properly consulted.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Sussan Ley MP, Minister for the Environment.

Canterbury Bankstown Council NSW

Motion:

Councils call on the Federal Government to recognise the Climate Emergency in Australia that has been acknowledged by 94 Councils to date and provide leadership and funding opportunities to assist Councils in meeting their greenhouse gas emission targets through effective mitigation and adaptation strategies and setting tighter targets with stricter time frames under new action rather than relying on complete historical savings.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Sussan Ley MP, Minister for the Environment.

Motion:

That Councils call on the Federal Government to extend a Statutory Government (copyright) licence to local government authorities in respect of planning functions, as is the case with State and Federal Governments.

If local government is to play the role of facilitator of public participation in the development application and planning proposal process, then by extension, the reproduction of documents and their availability online is a must.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Christian Porter MP, Attorney-General.

Moree Plains Shire Council NSW

Motion:

That the NGA call on the Federal Government to provide sustainable funding that will allow Councils to strategically plan for the maintenance, to all-weather standard local roads, that form essential 'first and last mile' links in modern logistics chains for agriculture and other time-sensitive goods. Further, that such funding be based on the productivity benefits of improved logistics together with an assessment of the benefits of a shift to rail, in particular to the Inland Rail project.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer this motion to the Hon. Michael McCormack MP, Deputy Prime Minister.

Motion:

That ALGA makes representations to the NSW and Federal Treasurers regarding concerns over current and potential future natural disaster funding arrangements. In particular:

- a. The definition of a natural disaster should be linked to the capacity of a community to recover from an event, rather than a definition of 'serious disruption';
- b. That funding be directed to outcomes that are more resilient to future natural disasters so that community betterment is achieved;
- c. That no further cost shifting occur to local government, noting proposals to increase the level of contribution that councils are required to make;
- d. Relief funding recognises the needs of business, in particular small business, to require support to recover from a range of natural disasters; and
- e. That support be provided post-disaster to improve community social and economic resilience to future events.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. David Littleproud MP, Minister for Agriculture, Drought and Emergency Management

Motion:

That representations be made to the Insurance Council of Australia to request that their membership provide as a standard part of building insurance policies cover for site clearance in the absence of proposed reconstruction of a building.

Action:

The Board agreed to write to the Insurance Council of Australia.

Motion:

That:

1. Council membership should be accessible to the broadest demographic possible.
2. Councillors be allowed to attend and participate from authorised facilities via video link in authorised locations remote from the council chambers.

Recommendation:

The Board agreed to refer this motion to LGNSW for their consideration as it is a state-based issue – related in part to state legislation.

Motion:

The State Government be requested to lobby the Federal Government to introduce taxation benefits applicable to primary produces available to rural and remote small business whose majority of turnover is from the primary producer sector.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer this motion to LGNSW for their consideration as it is a state-based motion.

Motion:

That Local Government NSW requests the NSW Minister for Police and Emergency Services to preserve the historic value of museum collections by amending Clause 59 (4) (A) of the Firearms Regulation 2017. The amendment should remove the condition that museums must render pistols and prohibitive firearms permanently inoperable and instead state that these firearms should be rendered temporarily inoperable.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer this motion to LGNSW for their consideration as it is a state-based motion related to NSW regulations.

Motion:

The State Government request the NSW Rural Fire Service introduce a system of reward for NSW SES and NSW Rural Fire Service Volunteers through discounts given by Corporate and Small Business within NSW. The organisations issue plastic Identification Cards so as to allow volunteers, to be able to identify themselves, to access discounts from such organisations when travelling on holidays or for personnel reasons. The word, VOLUNTEER, be displayed on the Identification Cards and uniforms.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer this motion to LGNSW for their consideration as it is a state-based motion.

Motion:

That the Association continue to lobby for:

1. The overall Financial Assistance Grants allocation be restored to its original rate of 1% of GDP; and
2. A higher proportion of Financial Assistance Grants being distributed to regional areas through increasing the weighting given to:
 - a. Areas of high primary production;
 - b. Roads of demonstrated economic benefit, in particular to facilitate Inland Rail access; and
 - c. Areas with difficult road construction conditions.

Motion:

That the National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to request that the Productivity Commission formally enquire into the current allocation mechanism and total quantum of Federal Financial Assistance Grants. The suggested terms of reference of the enquiry are to include, but not limited to:

- the categories of Councils and whether these adequately reflect the variations across Councils,
- the degree to which the current grant formulae correctly represents the differing capacities of Councils to deliver services
- Whether the overall quantum of the grants is sufficient to ensure the long term financial sustainability of local government.

Action:

The ALGA Board noted Moree Plains Shire Council's motions and welcomes Council's support for an increase in the quantum of the Financial Assistance Grants. A number of councils submitted motions calling for the restoration of the FAGs to a level equal to at least 1% of Commonwealth Taxation revenue and the Board has agreed to write to the Deputy Prime Minister conveying these views.

With regard to other parts of Council's motions on Financial Assistance Grants, the Board understands the desire of some councils to see the methodology for the distribution of the Financial Assistance Grants changed and/or reviewed. The Board accepts that those councils are active in putting their views directly to the Government but the Board also accepts that ALGA must be bound by the policy positions it has adopted on behalf of the sector as a whole and that the current advocacy of ALGA is focused on seeking a greater percentage of Commonwealth revenue for Financial Assistance Grants. ALGA believes that making a separate call on the Federal Government at this time to review or change the methodology for the distribution of FAGs would distract from the call for additional funding.

Albury City Council NSW

Motion:

Councils advocate to the Federal Government that the current Federal/State disaster arrangements be reviewed to assess:

- The need to ensure that disaster recovery places most emphasis on infrastructure that improves flood resilience as compared to simple replacement of the infrastructure in place at the time of the flood;
- The appropriateness of the current cost thresholds which trigger disaster arrangements and the degree to which these amounts are manageable by local government;
- The role of the insurance industry in sending price signals, but also the impacts of those price signals on insurance affordability for existing landholders.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. David Littleproud MP, Minister for Emergency Management

Mid-Coast Council NSW

Motion:

That ALGA

1. Objects to the requirement for Disclosure of Interest Returns of Councillors and Designated Persons in New South Wales being published on any website as proposed by the New South Wales Information Privacy Commissioner's Guideline 1.
2. Lobbies for a standard disclosure of interest return to apply equally to all levels of government.
3. Lobbies the relevant authorities to reverse the decision to publish Disclosure of Interest Returns of Councillors and Designated Persons on any website for the protection and safety of councillors and staff.

Action:

The Board noted Council's motion but also noted that the issue related to new South Wales and therefore agreed to refer the motion to LGNSW for their consideration.

City of Marion SA

Motion:

That the National General Assembly call on the State Local Government Associations to take the lead on managing industrial relations and negotiate 4 Enterprise Bargaining Agreements (EBA) per State. These agreements would be:

- 1 EBA for indoor staff ie ASU for Metropolitan Councils;
- 1 EBA for outdoor staff ie AWU for Metropolitan Councils;
- 1 EBA for indoor staff ie ASU for Rural Councils;
- 1 EBA for outdoor staff ie AWU for Rural Councils

Action:

The Board noted the motion and agreed to refer it to State and Territory Associations for their action as appropriate

Logan City Council QLD

Motion:

Councils call on the Australian Government to investigate opportunities for place-based social investment and service integration reforms that reflect the collective impact model, in an effort to tackle complex social issues in Australia.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to Senator the Hon. Anne Ruston, Minister for Social Services.

Motion:

Councils call on the Australian Government to review the EPBC Offset Policy applicable for each State and/or Territory in an effort to prioritise offset delivery within the same local government and/or region and to combat climate change.

Action:

The Board agrees to refer the motion to the Hon. Sussan Ley MP, Minister for the Environment.

Alpine Shire VIC

Motion:

The National General Assembly calls on the Federal Government to:

- a. Endorse the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) Cities Appeal which seeks support for the adoption of the United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.
- b. Sign and ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons without delay.

Action:

The ALGA Board noted that several councils put forward very similar motions regarding nuclear weapons but that these were not wholly consistent with the rules for motions published by ALGA. However, the Board agreed to write to the Minister for Foreign Affairs highlighting that Councils are urging the Federal Government to sign the 2017 United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

District Council of Streaky Bay SA

Motion:

That subsidies be provided to low income community members, particularly those in community and low cost housing, to allow them access to renewable energies.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Angus Taylor MP, Minister for Energy

Motion:

That rural and remote Councils of Australia are provided infrastructure, or alternate systems, that enable the adoption of renewable energies in larger numbers.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Angus Taylor MP, Minister for Energy.

Motion:

That Research and Development Funding be made available to take advantage of Australia's unique opportunities to explore new and developing agricultural opportunities, including seaweed farming, equal access to genetically modified species of grain and vegetable products etc to meet the increasing food supply needs of the Asian market.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. David Littleproud MP, Minister for Agriculture.

Motion:

That further funding be allocated to rural and remote Councils to address upgrade of aerodrome facilities to support linkages between larger international ports and rural and remote areas.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Michael McCormack MP, Deputy Prime Minister.

Motion:

That partnering arrangements in rural and remote areas provide access to whole of life infrastructure options and planning and zoning requirements are designed to more easily accommodate these requirements.

The Board are uncertain of the intent of this motion. They recommend that it be redrafted to propose a clear action for the government and outcome and be resubmitted in 2021. The ALGA or LGASA Secretariat can assist with refining the motion.

Motion:

That a way to facilitate effective communications between states, including Local Councils, during national crises be developed to ensure a single point of truth is possible for all responding and affected agencies.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to LGASA and WALGA as the background information provided with the motion led the Board to believe this is primarily a matter about State Government issues between SA and WA. A refined motion could be submitted in 2021 to make this more nationally focussed.

Parkes Shire Council NSW

Motion:

That Councils call on the Federal and State Governments to;

Encourage all levels of government to work collaboratively to establish new models and incentive plans/packages to attract and retain a sustainable health workforce for regional, rural and remote areas.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Mark Coulton MP, Minister for Regional Health.

Motion:

Councils call on the Federal and State Governments to;
Continue and expand the aid to farmers and business affected by the current and continuing drought.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. David Littleproud MP, Minister for Drought.

Livingstone Shire Council QLD

Motion:

That Councils call on the Federal Government to require the Department of Defence to pay applicable rates and charges to the relevant Local Government Council on land owned by the department that was previously privately owned to reduce the financial pressure on the balance of the rateable properties within local government areas.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Josh Frydenberg MP, Treasurer.

Maribyrnong City VIC

Motion:

Councils call on the State Government/Federal Government to sponsor, promote and support visual and public art projects in local government areas, across Australia, through a public funding or grants opportunity that highlight the impacts and challenges of climate change as it is now effecting communities at a local level.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Sussan Ley MP, Minister for the Environment.

Motion:

Councils call on the Federal Government to formally recognise we are in a state of climate emergency and actively work with Local Government, industry and communities to reduce waste production, set a zero emission targets, support the development of renewable energy industries, incentivise all sectors to change to more efficient technologies, significantly increase urban vegetation cover, and increase support for households to access energy efficient upgrades.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Sussan Ley MP, Minister for the Environment.

Motion:

The National General Assembly calls on Local Governments throughout Australia to:

- mobilise community information and discussions on aged care facility staffing ratios;
- actively promote information, opinions, discussion through social media; and
- deploy proactive political advocacy strategies with local communities to call on the Federal Government to have the Aged Care Amendment (Staffing Ratios Disclosure) Bill 2019 re-presented & brought into legislation.

Action:

The Board discussed the motion and agreed to refer the motion to State and Territory Associations for their consideration and action as appropriate. Most state associations (in the jurisdictions where councils deliver aged care) indicated that they have no policy on aged care staffing ratios and further research would need to be undertaken to determine what costs councils may need to bear on council operated facilities.

East Gippsland Shire VIC

Motion:

Councils call on the Federal Government to expand and increase the funding of the Roads of Strategic Importance initiative (ROSI) by focusing on rural regions hit by the 2019/2020 bushfires and floods. This funding will enable fire and flood ravaged communities to upgrade freight and road corridors to fund bridge and culvert upgrades, road sealing, strengthening and widening, creating a more reliable and safer road network and facilitate tourism opportunities which will assist the economic recovery of fire and flood ravaged rural communities. This will assist Council's work with isolated communities. East Gippsland Shire

Council nominates the Princes Highway as roads of strategic importance that require that should be the focus of this funding.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Michael McCormack MP, Deputy Prime Minister.

Motion:

Councils call on the Federal Government to require Telecommunication companies to ensure their infrastructure is fire resistant and provides a regular maintenance routine to minimize the risk of infrastructure loss during critical risk events such as fire, flood or weather incidents.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. David Littleproud MP, Minister for Emergency Management.

Motion:

Councils call on the Federal Government to require Telecommunication companies to provide infrastructure and communication devices that are resilient and reliable in high risk areas. So that all communities across Australia have access to NBN satellite infrastructure to access news and other critical information in times of high risk such as fire, flood and other weather-related events.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Paul Fletcher MP, Minister for Communications.

Bass Coast Shire VIC

Motion:

Councils call on the Australian Government to commit to increased action to address the growing problem of homelessness in rural and regional Australia; specifically to fund the development of localised strategic plans and audits so that States can allocate Housing funds based on needs analysis and strategic direction.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Michael Sukkar MP, Minister for Housing.

Motion:

Councils call on the Australian Government to develop a revised Climate Change Policy, which includes a national framework regarding asset protection, planning controls and erosion mitigation, and the establishment of national funding programs available directly to Local Governments to assist with both preventative and reactive measures to deal with the environmental impacts of Climate Change.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Sussan Ley MP, Minister for the Environment.

Motion:

Councils call on the Australian Government to review the exemption of commercial activities from paying local government authority rates. Current exemption categories include private schools, universities, private schools, RSL gaming venues, mining, and commercial activities on crown land. These exemptions place an unnecessary burden on all other rateable properties across Australia.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Josh Frydenberg MP, Treasurer.

Benalla Rural City VIC

Motion:

Nuclear weapons pose an unacceptable threat to people everywhere. That is why the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) was adopted in July 2017 by 122 member states of the United Nations.

The TPNW is the first treaty to comprehensively outlaw nuclear weapons, setting out a pathway for their total elimination.

Nuclear dangers are increasing worldwide, and with more than 13,500 nuclear weapons still in existence the prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons is a humanitarian imperative.

That councils urge the Australian Government to sign and ratify the United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

Action:

The Board noted that several councils put forward very similar motions regarding nuclear weapons but that these were not wholly consistent with the rules for motions published by ALGA. However, the Board agreed to write to the Minister for Foreign Affairs highlighting that Councils are urging the Federal Government to sign the 2017 United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

Litchfield Council NT

Motion:

Councils call on the Federal Government to provide increased funding towards reducing the amount of 'fuel loads' throughout the natural environment to specifically, but not exclusively, combat the spread of Gamba Grass (*Andropogon gayanus*) which is an Australian Government weed of National Significance and a declared weed in Western Australia, Northern Territory and Queensland.

Action:

The Board agreef to refer the motion to the Hon. David Littleproud MP, Minister for Emergency Services.

Wollongong City Council NSW

Motion:

Councils call on the Commonwealth Government to:

1. Liaise with State and Territory Governments to recognise the need for coordination of services and utilities to mitigate damage to community assets such as roads, footpaths and cycleways.
2. Amend legislation accordingly to mitigate costs on local government arising from the installation and maintenance of services and utilities.
3. Amend legislation to ensure works are reinstated to a like-for-like standard.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Paul Fletcher MP, Minister for Communications.

Orange City Council NSW

Motion:

Councils call on the Federal Government to investigate where and how Australia's water resources can be sustainably developed including the construction of more water storage dams to ensure regional water supply is more resilient during periods of extreme dry weather and drought.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Keith Pitt MP, Minister for Resources, Water and Northern Australia.

Albury City Council NSW

Motion:

Councils call on the Federal Government to broaden and strengthen Australia's product stewardship schemes so that a much wider range of products are covered, including textiles, electronics and consumer goods, which will stop the costs of disposing of goods being born by everyone in the community and instead mean that companies responsible for producing the goods are responsible for their disposal costs

- a. Set targets and legislation to phase out the use of new materials for use in products and packaging in Australia (except for essential needs such as some medical uses)
- b. Ban the import and production of hard-to-recycle materials (except for essential needs such as some medical uses).
- c. Ensure that there are effective standards for the quality of recycled materials used in Australia.
- d. Set high minimum recycled content procurement targets in all levels of government

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Sussan Ley MP, Minister for the Environment

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Motion:

That the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly.

1. Calls on the federal government to accept its obligations as a member of the international community and treat asylum seekers with compassion, care and dignity.
2. Release all refugee and asylum seekers being held in immigration detention into the Australian community, so they can live without harm and fear as part of the broader community while applications are being processed.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Peter Dutton MP, Minister for Immigration.

Motion:

That the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly Support the Australian Human Rights Commission's call for a National Charter of Human Rights.

Action:

The Board noted the motion and Council's interest in this issue but agreed to take no further action as they felt this was not a local government issue on which councils in general had adopted a position.

Boroondara City VIC

Motion:

Councils call on the Australian Government to commit to ongoing funding for year-before-school kindergarten (4 year old preschool/kindergarten), recognising the importance of early education in the same way primary and secondary school education is funded in an ongoing manner.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Dan Tehan MP, Minister for Education.

Motion:

Councils call on the Australian Government to:

Increase funding to the States for the adequate provision of public and social housing to address the crisis in homelessness and the demand for social housing.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Michael Sukkar MP, Minister for Housing.

Motion:

Councils call on the Australian Government to provide ongoing funding to the States to further develop resources in all Local Government Authorities to ensure consistency of resourcing for emergency management related activities (planning, preparation, response and recovery).

Action:

The ALGA Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. David Littleproud MP, Minister for Emergency Management.

Brimbank City VIC

Motion:

Councils call on the Australian Government to engage with and support the Local Government Mayoral Taskforce for People Seeking Asylum, to develop a Newly Arrived Migrant, Asylum Seeker and Refugee Action Plan. The new Action Plan should seek to better coordinate federal, state, and local government policy, resources and networks in welcoming and supporting newly arrived migrants and asylum seekers, including through increased Federal Government funding for asylum seeker support services.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Peter Dutton MP, Minister for Immigration.

Motion:

Councils, recognising the impact of gambling harm on local communities around Australia, call on the Federal Government to introduce more stringent classification of video games that include loot boxes or similar items, to reduce the harm that arises from the convergence of gaming and gambling, and the consequent normalisation of gambling. That this National General Assembly also calls on the Federal Government to close existing loopholes which enable gambling advertisements to be broadcast on television and radio during children's viewing and listening hours.

Action:

The Board noted the motion was debated at the 2019 NGA. It was carried and a letter was sent to Minister Fletcher and no response was received. The Board has agreed to write a follow up letter to the Hon. Paul Fletcher MP, Minister for Communications.

Motion:

Councils call on the Federal Government to work with State and Territory Governments, and local government sector to establish a "Land Contamination National Framework", that should assess the extent of known and potentially contaminated land legacy issues associated with aviation sites, defence sites, industrial sites, operating and closed landfills, including soil, water and vapour issues, and recognises:

- a. The roles and responsibilities that federal, state, territory, council and nongovernment entities played in land contamination issues
- b. The historic environmental inequity respective regions have experienced in terms of contamination, health and wellbeing
- c. Develop a new and "Environment Equity Package" to respond to land contamination issues across Australia which supports communities

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Sussan Ley MP, Minister for the Environment

Motion:

Councils call on the Australian Government to acknowledge that as Australia's population grows, demand for citizenship ceremonies is increasing, with growing costs to Councils, following the Department of Home Affairs indication that Citizenship Ceremonies should take place within 3 months of an applicant being approved.

The National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide Councils with increased funding, resources and support to hold Ceremonies in a reasonable timeframe that meet demand.

The National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to facilitate, fund, support and encourage region wide Citizenship Ceremonies amongst Council regions across the country, as a way to assist Councils to deliver Ceremonies in a reasonable timeframe that meet demand.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Peter Dutton MP, Minister for Immigration and Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs.

Motion:

Councils call on the Federal Government to provide increased and ongoing funding certainty around girls and women sport and recreation grants in a fair and transparent way.

Councils call on the Federal Government, through Sport Australia, to work with all Local Government Areas (LGAs) around developing and committing to a fair and transparent funding pipeline that upgrades all community sport and recreation facilities to become female friendly compliant across Australia.

Councils call on the Federal Government through the Department of Education, and Sport Australia, to develop a nationwide Education-Sport Strategy that opens up school facilities outside hours for girls and women's sport.

Councils call on the Federal Government to consider identifying and funding for Regional Women in Sport Hubs.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Richard Colbeck, Minister for Youth and Sport and Senator the Hon. Marise Payne, Minister for Women.

Motion:

Councils call on the Federal Government to:

- Provide increased support to the local government sector to encourage and inspire more women to consider nominating in Local Government Elections.
- To engage the Local Government sector to develop a comprehensive and integrated long term Girls and Women Community Leadership Strategy.

Action:

The Board agree to refer the motion to the Senator Hon. Marise Payne, Minister for Women.

Mitchell Shire VIC

Motion:

Councils call on the Federal Government, and in particular the Minister for Local Government, for an increase in the Financial Assistance Grants to support local governments to deliver a range of services including roads maintenance.

Action:

The ALGA Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Mark Coulton MP, Minister for Local Government.

Motion:

Councils call for a thorough review and re-evaluation of current practices regarding the integrated approach to the planning for and management of the risks associated with fire events, including consideration of the interface between urban communities and highly vegetated areas.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. David Littleproud MP, Minister for Emergency Management.

Motion:

Councils call on the Federal and State Governments to increase funding for appropriate and accessible mental health services particularly within growth and interface areas.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Greg Hunt MP, Minister for Health.

Motion:

Councils call on the Federal Government to strengthen and support recycling and reprocessing markets in Australia onshore.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Sussan Ley MP, Minister for the Environment.

Motion:

Councils call on the Federal and State Governments for increased funding to plan for and ease congestion in and across growth areas.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Michael McCormack MP, Deputy Prime Minister.

Alexandrina Council SA

Motion:

Councils call on the Australian Government to ensure the agricultural productivity target is supported by a research program and/or incentives to develop innovative strategies for achieving that target in a water constrained future, including via the use of alternative water sources other than the Murray Darling Basin.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. David Littleproud MP, Minister for Agriculture

Banyule City VIC

Motion:

Councils call on the Federal Government to seek action to remove redundant aerial service authority cables in road reserves to improve visual impact.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Paul Fletcher MP, Minister for Communications.

Willoughby City Council NSW

Motion:

Councils call on State and Federal Governments to provide funding to stimulate transition to underground power supply.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Angus Taylor MP, Minister for Energy and Emissions Reduction.

Motion:

Councils call on the Australian Government to support the National Strategy for Climate Change and Health.

Action:

The Board noted the motion but agreed but that it was not consistent with the rules for motions published by ALGA in that it sought to advance the cause of a third party – namely the Coalition for Health and Climate and consequently is not consistent with the rules outlined in the discussion paper. On that basis the Board agreed to take no further action.

Central Highlands Regional Council QLD

Motion:

Councils call on the State/Commonwealth Governments to make funding available to develop innovative solutions for alternative water sources to provide for water security.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Keith Pitt MP, Minister for Resources, Water and Northern Australia.

Motion:

Councils call on the Federal Government to collaboratively develop relevant models of aged care for rural and remote areas.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Richard Colbeck MP, Minister for Aged Care.

Motion:

Councils call on the Federal Government to establish National Data Standards to enable more efficient and effective reporting of local government data and to ensure that comparisons can be made on the same data assumptions across all states and councils.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Mark Coulton MP, Minister for Local Government

Moreland City VIC

Motion:

Councils call on The Australian Government to:

- Commit to the creation of a Federal public transport funding stream for the states.
- Invest in research to build technologies in the area of low and zero carbon public transport infrastructure for Australian cities and towns.
- Commit to Australian built public transport rolling stock and associated infrastructure.
- Jointly fund rail infrastructure and bus acquisition programs with the states.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Michael McCormack MP, Deputy Prime Minister.

Motion:

The National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:

Sign and ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons which proposes a clear action and outcome.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to Senator the Hon. Marise Payne, Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Motion:

Councils call on the Australian Government to:

- Review legislation, policies and building codes to increase accessibility for people with a disability, focusing on the retail sector;
- Strengthen the Disability Discrimination Act by compelling businesses to comply with the legislation as opposed to it being triggered by a change of use, refurbishment or complaint. Reliance on advocacy, complaint-based legislation and building codes does little to improve accessibility;
- Support businesses through awareness raising and resources to be more accessible;
- Uphold Article 9 of the Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, so all people with a disability have the right to freedom of movement and equal access to all aspects of social, commercial and community life;
- Promote the economic and employment benefits for better accessibility in the retail sector.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Stuart Robert MP, Minister for the NDIS.

Bayside Council NSW

Motion:

Bayside Council NSW calls on the Federal Government to remove its support for Mega Cruise Ship Terminal in Botany Bay at Yarra Bay/Molineux Point.

Action:

The Board noted the motion and Council's strong interest in this project but also noted that this is a specific project in Botany Bay and therefore not a national issue. The motion is therefore not consistent with the rules for NGA motions and the Board decided to take no further action on the motion.

Leeton Shire Council NSW

Motion:

Councils call on the Australian Government to develop and implement a weed management plan to protect agricultural land from this well established and widespread weed species incursion in order to maintain the productivity of agricultural land and ensure the sustainability of regional communities by acknowledging that :

- I. FleaBane Conzuya Species is widespread across agricultural land and is having a negative impact on the productivity of agricultural land
- II. FleaBane is resistant to standard and registered herbicides including Glyphosate

- III. limited state or federal funding is provided for the control of the FleaBane under the Biosecurity Act through the General Biosecurity Duty.
- IV. NSW Government Weed Action plan is focused on new and emerging weed varieties, and so Fleabane management is excluded from funding.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Sussan Ley MP, Minister for the Environment.

Motion:

Councils call on the Australian Government to dedicate funds to increase drug and alcohol treatment and rehabilitation options in rural and regional areas, as a matter of priority.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Mark Coulton MP, Minister for Regional Health.

Motion:

Councils call on the Australian Government to support the goals of 2030 Roadmap Australian Agriculture's Plan for a \$100 billion industry but make a principle-based commitment nationally to ensure the plan is realistic, optimises water use and supports existing regional and rural communities and industries by maintaining agricultural diversity that builds resilience into our economies and helps rural communities thrive.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. David Littleproud MP, Minister for Agriculture.

Motion:

Councils call 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.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Mark Coulton MP, Minister for Local Government.

Motion:

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

- acknowledging irrigation communities were purposefully built by governments to feed and drought proof the nation
- acknowledging the unintended adverse impacts on regional communities as a result of certain water policy decisions and the operation of water trading markets
- acknowledging that the nation's primary producers are adept at using water efficiently and responsibly through on-farm practices and infrastructure
- providing enhanced water access for general security water holders in regional communities who depend on the availability of this water for their livelihoods and employment
- ensuring decisions foster diversity in agriculture and value adding industries as diversity is our strength and builds resilience in our communities and economies

Action:

The Board discussed the motion and agreed to refer it to Hon. David Littleproud MP, Minister for Agriculture and the Hon. Keith Pitt MP, Minister for Resources, Water and Northern Australia (as Minister responsible for the Murray Darling Basin). The Board also suggest that given the importance of this issue that the Council resubmit it for debate at the 2021 National General Assembly.

City of Palmerston NT

Motion:

Councils call on the Australian Government to utilise its powers under section 51 of the Australian Constitution to ensure that all remote and regional areas of Australia have access to alternative, robust and reliable telecommunications separate to the services provided by Telstra.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Mark Coultan MP, Minister for Regional Communications.

Gwydir Shire Council NSW

Motion:

Councils seek an urgent review of the existing Federal Native Title provisions relating to the approval processes required regarding public infrastructure projects in order to develop a timely resolution process that does not unreasonably delay important projects.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Christian Porter MP, Attorney General.

Motion:

That the National General Assembly advises the Federal Government that it endorses a reduction of the population component of the Financial Assistance Grant from 30% to 15% in Section 6.2 (b) of the Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995.

Action:

The ALGA Board noted Gwydir Shire Council's motion and understands the desire of some councils to see the methodology for the distribution of the Financial Assistance Grants changed. The Board accepts that those councils are active in putting their views directly to the Government but the Board also accepts that ALGA must be bound by the policy positions it has adopted on behalf of the sector as a whole and that the current advocacy of ALGA is focused on seeking a greater percentage of Commonwealth revenue for Financial Assistance Grants. ALGA believes that making a separate call on the Federal Government at this time to change the methodology for the distribution of FAGs would distract from the call for additional funding.

Blue Mountains City Council NSW

Motion:

Councils call on the Australian Commonwealth Government to declare a climate change emergency and include a climate change impact fund in the annual budget.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Sussan Ley MP, Minister for the Environment.

Motion:

Councils call on the Council of Australian Governments to convene an urgent meeting to:

1. Determine and implement practical steps to minimise the impact of extreme weather events like the recent bushfire events that have ravaged the south-eastern half of the continent, storm surges and coastal erosion that threatens the heavily populated areas of Australia and tropical cyclones, flooding and droughts.
2. Determine and implement practical steps to:
 - a. reduce; and
 - b. drawdown carbon pollution going into the atmosphere through a collaborative partnership between all 3 levels of government, state, federal and state based Local Government Associations; and
3. Plan and coordinate infrastructure upgrades and connectivity that will contribute to lowering emissions and protecting communities from extreme weather events.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Angus Taylor MP, Minister for Energy and Emissions reduction.

Macedon Ranges Shire VIC

Motion:

Councils call upon the Australian Government to provide financial and resource support to allow local councils to undertake preparedness activities, implement mitigation measures and develop flexible recovery programs in relation to significant adverse weather events and natural disasters. This support would ensure that planning and preparation at the local level is able to anticipate what is needed, respond to and recover from current and future natural disaster situations. Preparation and responses within this planning need to be led by local government to focus on local risk mitigation, with assistance being provided by the Federal government, in coordination with the State and Territory governments and peak local government bodies, in each state or territory.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. David Littleproud MP, Minister for Emergency Management.

Motion:

Councils call upon the Australian Government to work with local, state and territory governments and private businesses and investors to provide increased policy and financial support to the manufacturing industry within Australia to be able to make use of resources recovered from kerbside collections, construction and demolition, and commercial and industrial processes.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer it to the Hon. Sussan Ley MP, Minister for the Environment.

Motion:

Councils call on the Australian Government to ban all fragmentable polypropylene products such as "oxo-biodegradable" and "enzyme mediated polyethylene" (collectively called fragmentable polyethylene) from import, manufacturing and use in Australia.

Action:

The Board agreed to write to the Hon. Sussan Ley MP, Minister for the Environment

City of Fremantle WA

Motion:

Councils urge the Australian Government to sign and ratify the United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to Senator the Hon. Marise Payne, Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Brisbane City Council QLD

Motion:

Federal funding to local government for delivery and management of infrastructure

Councils call on the Australian Government to increase the opportunities and levels of funding provided to local government for the delivery and management of transport infrastructure to local communities.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Michael McCormack MP, Deputy Prime Minister.

Motion:

Federal funding for infrastructure asset data collection and management

Councils call on the Australian Government to provide funding for local governments to audit and maintain data on their infrastructure asset base.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Mark Coultan MP, Minister for Local Government.

Wattle Range Council SA

Motion:

Councils call on the Australian Federal Government to pursue the enhancement of NBN services to rural and remote Australia.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Mark Coultan MP, Minister for Regional Communications.

Gunnedah Shire Council NSW

Motion:

1. Councils call upon the Commonwealth Government to establish a funding stream to be administered through the respective States and Territories for the sole purpose of Councils to undertake comprehensive study of bush fire risk to habited towns, villages and communities throughout their respective Local Government areas.
2. That, further funding is to be available to enable mitigation measures to identified bush fire risks.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. David Littleproud MP, Minister for Emergency Management

Motion:

1. That, the National General Assembly calls upon the Commonwealth Government to ensure that the Federal Financial Assistance Grants (FAGS) to Local Government be restored to the level of 1% of total Taxation Revenue.
2. That, the increased Revenue to be distributed through the States and Territories Grants Commission's is only eligible to the Local Roads Component.

Action:

The ALGA Board noted Gunnedah Shire Council's motions and welcomes Council's support for an increase in the quantum of the Financial Assistance Grants. A number of councils submitted motions calling for the restoration of the FAGs to a level equal to at least 1% of Commonwealth Taxation revenue and the Board has agreed to write to the Deputy Prime Minister conveying these views.

With regard to other parts of Council's motion on Financial Assistant Grants, the Board understands the desire of some councils to see the methodology for the distribution of the Financial Assistance Grants changed and/or reviewed. The Board accepts that those councils are active in putting their views directly to the Government but the Board also accepts that ALGA must be bound by the policy positions it has adopted

on behalf of the sector as a whole and that the current advocacy of ALGA is focused on seeking a greater percentage of Commonwealth revenue for Financial Assistance Grants. ALGA believes that making a separate call on the Federal Government at this time to review or change the methodology for the distribution of FAGs would distract from the call for additional funding.

Motion:

1. That, the National General Assembly calls upon the Commonwealth Government to mandate that a percent no less than 20% of funds committed to New South Wales TAFE support rural Institutes to allow apprenticeship courses to be run with no minimum student requirements.
2. That, the National General Assembly calls upon the Commonwealth Government to mandate that New South Wales TAFE allows composite classes within apprenticeship courses to be run in Rural Institutes.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to LGNSW for their consideration as it is not a national issue as it relates to TAFE NSW and state government funding allocations and policies.

City of Whittlesea VIC

Motion:

Councils call on the Australian Government to ban all forms of sports gambling advertisements on broadcast and online platforms.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Paul Fletcher MP, Minister for Communications.

Motion:

Councils call on the Australian Government to reinstate the National Rental Affordability Scheme.

Action:

The Board agreed to refer it to the Hon. Michael Sukkar MP, Minister for Housing.

Adelaide Plains Council

Motion:

Councils call on the Australian Government to review the current responsibility for managing Australian national rail corridors, including, but not limited to, undertaking a review of the Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC) Charter with a view to mitigate the risks to public safety (including fire and flood).

Action:

The Board agreed to refer the motion to the Hon. Michael McCormack MP, Deputy Prime Minister.