



Regional Capitals Alliance

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Regional Capitals Alliance Western Australian Meeting

Minutes 17th Feb 2022

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Agenda

1 OFFICIAL OPENING

Meeting opened at: 1: 05

2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE

Attendees:

Dennis Wellington	Mayor City of Albany (Chair)
Andrew Sharpe	CEO City of Albany (Secretary)
Sam Mastrolembo	CEO Shire of Broome (Left 2pm)
Jaysen de San Miguel	Mayor City of Bunbury (From 1.20pm)
Malcolm Osborne	CEO City of Bunbury
Mike Archer	CEO City of Busselton
Grant Henley	Mayor City of Busselton
Ian Mickel	Shire President of Esperance
Shane Burge	CEO Shire of Esperance
Shane Van Styn	Mayor City of Greater-Geraldton (Treasurer)
Alex Wiess	A/CEO City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder
Peter Long	Mayor City of Karratha (From 1.45pm)
Chris Adams	CEO City of Karratha
Chris Antonio	Shire President of Northam
Jason Whiteaker	CEO Shire of Northam
Peter Carter	Mayor Town of Port Hedland (From 1.20pm)
Carl Askew	CEO Town of Port Hedland (From 1.20pm)
Paul Rosair	Executive Officer, RCAWA
Jane Lewis	Executive Assistant, RCAWA

Guests:

Karen Chappel	President WALGA
Nic Sloan	CEO WALGA
Tony Brown	Executive Manager Governance and Strategy WALGA
Rachael Sweeney	RCA Executive Officer
Duncan Ord	Greensted Consulting

Apologies:

Ross McKim	CEO City of Greater Geraldton
Harold Tracey	Shire President of Broome
John Bowler	Mayor City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES AND BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Attachment: 1. Outstanding Business Arising Items and Actions Sheet

Resolution:

That the Minutes of the Western Australian Regional Capitals Alliance Meeting held on Thursday, 9th December 2021, be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

Moved : Mike Archer

Seconded : Mal Osborne

Attachment 1: Outstanding Business Arising Items and Actions Sheet

DATE	ITEM	ACTION	STATUS	PRIORITY	COMMENTS
ADMINISTRATION, CORRESPONDENCE, ANNUAL REPORT, GENERAL BUSINESS					
15/11/21	9. RCA Update	The draft RCA Election Statement 2021 is endorsed by the RCAWA	C	3	EA sent email to EO of RCA
15/11/21	8. Formal Presentations	Executive Officer to contact Tristan Prosser, advisor for regionalization project (in Bridget McKenzie's ministerial office)	C	3	Contacted and information sent (see Corro out 17 th Feb 2022)
BENCHMARKING					
15/11/21	10. Benchmarking	Andrew Sharpe to assist with sourcing a replacement for Brian Sharp to deliver future benchmarking services for the Alliance	OG	2	EO met with Jeff Robson. Other business 17/2/2022

DATE	ITEM	ACTION	STATUS	PRIORITY	COMMENTS
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OS=Outstanding
 I=In Progress
 C=Complete
 OG=ON GOING

1=Urgent
 2=high
 3=moderate
 4=Low

* = will be archived and will not show in future reports

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT REVIEW					
15/11/21	16. Other Business	Executive Officer to canvas members in order to write a response to the Local Government Reform	OG	3	Paper 17/2/2022 meeting
CULTURAL HERITAGE BILL					
9/12/21	9. Other Business	The Executive Officer is conduct further research into the implications of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Bill and may engage, in consultation with the secretary, external consultancy services to a maximum of \$3,000.	OG	2	Paper 17/2/2022 meeting
RCAWA HOUSING SOLUTIONS AND ACTION PLAN					
15/11/21	13. Housing Solutions	<p>The Alliance to present the Action Plan to the Minister for Housing's Ministerial subcommittee Pending:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o That the Action Plan be developed as outlined above. o The EO scopes a project outline to engage the services of Elysian Consulting to work with the Alliance to implement priority actions and o The Alliance releases this report publicly with an appropriate media statement 	IP	2	Refer EO report 17/2/2022 for update
MACWA					
9/12/2021	9. Other Business	<p>That the MACWA Awards for 2021 be advertised in February 2022;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Executive Officer canvasses for sponsorship for the three categories • The Award ambassador, Melissa Northcott be remunerated \$500 for travel expenses in 2022 as in previous years. 	IP C C	4	* *

5 CORRESPONDENCE

Date of Report:	17th February 2022
Report Author:	Executive Officer – Paul Rosair
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachment(s)	Attachment 2: D Ord Letter of Engagement Attachment 3: T Prasser; Infrastructure WA

Note, there has been numerous email correspondence between the Executive Officer, Executive Assistant and Ministerial offices, departmental staff and industry bodies which do not form part of this formal correspondence item as they are considered administrative in nature.

Correspondence Out:

Date: 7th January 2022

Attachment 2: Correspondence out – D Ord Letter of Engagement

Duncan Ord
Director Greensted Services
Western Australia

7th January 2022

Dear Duncan,

Following on from our earlier conversations, I am pleased to advise that the RCAWA would like to engage your services to develop a Review Paper of the likely implications of the new Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Bill on RCAWA members.

You will also be required to prepare a Briefing Note for the 17th February 2022 Alliance Meeting outlining any Resolutions that could be submitted to Government to ensure any associated regulations, statutory guidelines and operational policies that are developed minimise the procedural red tape and impact on Local Government approvals and operations.

As discussed, these services will be for the provision of up to 20 hours, at an hourly rate of \$150, totalling \$3,000 (Ex. GST) over a period of 4 weeks, commencing Friday the 7th January 2022.

The tasks will entail, but not be limited to, the following:

- Analysis and review of relevant literature and associated information.
- Engagement with the Executive Officer of RCAWA, the RCAWA and a selection of RCAWA Mayors or CEO/Senior Staff to gather regional perspectives and issues as necessary.
- Identification of actions and initiatives available to RCA members and the State Government to ensure a streamlined implementation of the Bill.
- Prepare a draft Review Paper and Briefing Paper for the Executive Officer's review.

I will supervise the contract, on behalf of the RCAWA and provide part time access to an office (If required), internet and job-related printing facilities as part of this engagement. It is expected that you will apply approximately 20 hours maximum to this engagement.

We welcome you on board and look forward to working with you to assist the Alliance develop this exciting initiative to the benefit all our members state-wide.

I have attached AS 4122-2010 General Conditions of Contract for Consultants which outlines the Alliance Standard conditions for engagement. Please sign this letter and return at your earliest convenience.

Kind regards,



Paul Rosair
Executive Officer
Regional Capitals Alliance WA (RCAWA)
paul@naja.com.au

Duncan Ord
Director
Greensted
ordduncan53@gmail.com

Attachment 3: Correspondence out - T Prasser; Infrastructure WA

Date: 9th January 2022

Tristan Prasser; Infrastructure WA

Dear Tristan,

Further to our earlier discussions and in accordance with the Minister for Regionalisation, Regional Communications and Regional Education announcement on Friday the 12th of November 2021, on behalf of the Regional Capitals Alliance WA, I have collated a series of submissions and documents which may help guide the development of a Regional Cities Growth Policy and Plan to assist the Minister achieving her vision of growing the cities and capitals of regional Australia.

I understand the Minister has tasked your department with identifying a group of regional cities that meet a defined set of criteria based on research that could be future cities of rapid growth:

- Estimated to be more than 25,000 and less than 250,000 people
- At least 90 minutes from a capital city
- Situated in every state and territory in Australia except the ACT.

This will be supported by analysis of 14 factors that indicate which regional centres are performing well, and, with additional investment and coordinated use of policy levers and effort across the Commonwealth, can become significant economic centres. Our alliance believes a number of its members meet these factors which include:

- digital connectivity and consumerism,
- migration from capital cities to regional cities,
- economic self-sufficiency
- diversity of the local economy,
- skills shortage and inequitable job distribution,
- housing affordability and availability,
- shift to work from home,
- transport congestion,
- population – scale and growth,
- human capital/skills/retraining;
- health infrastructure;
- drinking water supplies;
- infrastructure investment;
- future industry potential;
- liveability.

The Minister wants to back those regional cities with pro-active, coordinated and integrated approaches to regional investment that is designed to unlock opportunities critical to securing the nation's economic prosperity. We believe a number of our alliance members are perfectly poised to participate in both the design of such an initiative and also as primary candidates of such a plan. We concur with the Minister's five drivers which will encourage people to move to a regional city, namely:

- The first three are jobs, jobs and jobs. The focus of any serious bid to grow a regional centre has to be about good, well-paid careers for young people and young families.
- The next one is affordability – an affordable house and cost of living.
- And the final one is liveability with all that entails.

I have attached numerous documents which may be useful to you in developing the policy, plan and guidelines necessary for such a program.

In addition, as former Director General of the Western Australian Department of Regional Development, I oversaw a number of Regional Development programs which may have a great deal of relevance and insights to this program, which I'm happy to share, which included the :

- Royalties for Regions
- Pilbara Cities and
- Supertowns programs

I am attaching the following files which I hope will assist in your deliberations - we have other submissions on both Planning and Local Government Act reform, which have some relevance to this topic (which I'm also happy to share if you are interested):

- Senate Enquiry into Regional Inequality 28th May 2018
- Transitioning Regional Economies
- State Infrastructure Strategy 15th September 2021
- RCAWA Investment Framework 27th October 2020
- RCAWA 2020 – 2021 Annual Report 27th November 2021
- RCAWA 2017/18 – 2020/21 Strategic Plan

I am attaching these documents in two emails to ensure they are under your email size limits. Alternatively, I am happy to share a dropbox folder containing them. Finally, we are very keen to be involved in assisting with the development of and participation in the Federal Government's Regional Cities Growth initiative in any way you deem suitable.

Very happy to discuss further when you return from leave,

Kind Regards,

Paul Rosair Executive Officer, Regional Capitals Alliance Western Australia (RCAWA)

Attachments:

RCAWA Strategic Plan
RCAWA 2020-2021 Annual Report
RCEAW SIS Response
RCAWA Investment Framework
Senate Inquiry into Regional Inequality
Transitioning Regional Economies – Summary of Responses

Correspondence In:

Date: 17th January 2022

Attachment 4: Correspondence out - T Prasser; Infrastructure WA

On 17 Jan 2022, at 5:58 am, PRASSER Tristan <Tristan.Prasser@infrastructure.gov.au> wrote:

Dear Paul,

Noting receipt of your docs. I have passed on to the Department to include in their work in the regionalisation space.

Kind regards,

Tristan

Tristan Prasser | Assistant Adviser

Office of Senator the Hon Bridget McKenzie

Minister for Regionalisation, Regional Communications and Regional Education

Minister for Emergency Management and National Recovery and Resilience

Leader of The Nationals in the Senate | Nationals Senator for Victoria

tristan.prasser@infrastructure.gov.au M 0497 710 393

Resolution:

- **That the correspondence be received.**

Moved: Mal Osborne

Seconded: Sam Mastrolemba

6 TREASURER'S REPORT FEBRUARY 2022

Date of Report:	17th February 2022
Author	Mayor – City of Greater Geraldton
Disclosure of Interests:	Nil
Attachments:	5. RCAWA December Profit and Loss Statement 6. RCAWA December Balance Sheet 7. RCAWA December Payable 8. RCAWA December Receivable 9. RCAWA January Profit and Loss Statement 10. RCAWA January Balance Sheet 11. RCAWA January Payable 12. RCAWA January Receivable

Purpose:

To inform the Alliance members of the RCAWA financial situation.

Discussion:

As required

Resolution:

- **That the members receive and note the Treasurer's Report for the periods ending 31st December 2021 and 31st January 2022 and the accompanying financial documents.**

Moved: Shane Van Styn

Seconded: Chris Antonio

Attachment 5: RCAWA December Profit and Loss Statement

4:48 PM

11/01/22

Accrual Basis

WA Regional Capitals Alliance Inc Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual July through December 2021

	Jul - Dec 21	Budget	\$ Over Budget
Income			
Interest Received	2.37	50.00	-47.63
Membership Fee 2021/22	150,000.00	150,000.00	0.00
Total Income	150,002.37	150,050.00	-47.63
Expense			
Accountancy Fees	480.00	1,100.00	-620.00
Administration Costs	9,000.03	18,000.00	-8,999.97
Audit Fees	100.00	900.00	-800.00
Bank Charges	71.12	200.00	-128.88
Donations	500.00	1,500.00	-1,000.00
Executive Support	38,636.35	86,350.00	-47,713.65
Meetings and Functions	0.00	2,000.00	-2,000.00
Projects	8,320.00	33,500.00	-25,180.00
Rent	1,624.98	3,250.00	-1,625.02
Travelling Expenses	1,971.59	3,250.00	-1,278.41
Total Expense	60,704.07	150,050.00	-89,345.93
Net Income	89,298.30	0.00	89,298.30

Attachment 6: December Balance Sheet

4:49 PM

11/01/22

Accrual Basis

WA Regional Capitals Alliance Inc Balance Sheet As of December 31, 2021

	Dec 31, 21
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Chequing/Savings	
WARCA Cheque Account	121,713.65
WARCA Savings Account	47,575.53
Total Chequing/Savings	169,289.18
Accounts Receivable	
Trade Receivables	152.00
Total Accounts Receivable	152.00
Total Current Assets	169,441.18
TOTAL ASSETS	169,441.18
LIABILITIES	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
Trade Creditors	9,286.51
Total Accounts Payable	9,286.51
Other Current Liabilities	
Tax Payable	-3,733.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	-3,733.00
Total Current Liabilities	5,553.51
TOTAL LIABILITIES	5,553.51
NET ASSETS	163,887.67
EQUITY	
Opening Bal Equity	136,570.00
Retained Earnings	-61,980.63
Net Income	89,298.30
TOTAL EQUITY	163,887.67

Attachment 7: December Payable

4:50 PM

11/01/22

**WA Regional Capitals Alliance Inc
A/P Ageing Summary
As of December 31, 2021**

	Current	1 - 30	31 - 60	61 - 90	> 90	TOTAL
Brian Sharp	575.00	2,400.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,975.00
NAJA Business Consulting Services	6,212.51	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,212.51
Pam Weston's Bookkeeping	99.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	99.00
TOTAL	6,886.51	2,400.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9,286.51

Attachment 8: December Receivable

4:49 PM

11/01/22

**WA Regional Capitals Alliance Inc
A/R Ageing Summary
As of December 31, 2021**

	Current	1 - 30	31 - 60	61 - 90	> 90	TOTAL
John Walker	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	76.00	76.00
Peter Carter	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	76.00	76.00
TOTAL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	152.00	152.00

Attachment 9: January Profit and Loss Statement

4:17 PM

03/02/22

Accrual Basis

**WA Regional Capitals Alliance Inc
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual
July 2021 through January 2022**

	Jul 21 - Jan 22	Budget	\$ Over Budget
Income			
Interest Received	2.77	50.00	-47.23
Membership Fee 2021/22	150,000.00	150,000.00	0.00
Total Income	150,002.77	150,050.00	-47.23
Expense			
Accountancy Fees	540.00	1,100.00	-560.00
Administration Costs	9,818.21	18,000.00	-8,181.79
Audit Fees	100.00	900.00	-800.00
Bank Charges	81.12	200.00	-118.88
Donations	500.00	1,500.00	-1,000.00
Executive Support	43,465.90	86,350.00	-42,884.10
Meetings and Functions	0.00	2,000.00	-2,000.00
Projects	8,520.20	33,500.00	-24,979.80
Rent	1,895.81	3,250.00	-1,354.19
Travelling Expenses	1,971.59	3,250.00	-1,278.41
Total Expense	66,892.83	150,050.00	-83,157.17
Net Income	83,109.94	0.00	83,109.94

Attachment 10: January Balance Sheet

4:18 PM
03/02/22
Accrual Basis

**WA Regional Capitals Alliance Inc
Balance Sheet
As of January 31, 2022**

	<u>Jan 31, 22</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Chequing/Savings	
WARCA Cheque Account	112,119.23
WARCA Savings Account	<u>47,575.93</u>
Total Chequing/Savings	159,695.16
Accounts Receivable	
Trade Receivables	<u>152.00</u>
Total Accounts Receivable	<u>152.00</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>159,847.16</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>159,847.16</u></u>
LIABILITIES	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
Trade Creditors	<u>6,498.73</u>
Total Accounts Payable	6,498.73
Other Current Liabilities	
Tax Payable	<u>-4,350.88</u>
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>-4,350.88</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>2,147.85</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u><u>2,147.85</u></u>
NET ASSETS	<u><u>157,699.31</u></u>
EQUITY	
Opening Bal Equity	136,570.00
Retained Earnings	-61,980.63
Net Income	<u>83,109.94</u>
TOTAL EQUITY	<u><u>157,699.31</u></u>

Attachment 11: January Payable

4:17 PM
03/02/22

**WA Regional Capitals Alliance Inc
A/P Ageing Summary
As of January 31, 2022**

	<u>Current</u>	<u>1 - 30</u>	<u>31 - 60</u>	<u>61 - 90</u>	<u>> 90</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Eclipse Design Solutions	0.00	220.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	220.22
NAJA Business Consulting Services	6,212.51	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,212.51
Pam Weston's Bookkeeping	66.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	66.00
TOTAL	<u><u>6,278.51</u></u>	<u><u>220.22</u></u>	<u><u>0.00</u></u>	<u><u>0.00</u></u>	<u><u>0.00</u></u>	<u><u>6,498.73</u></u>

Attachment 12: January Receivable

4:16 PM
03/02/22

WA Regional Capitals Alliance Inc
A/R Ageing Summary
As of January 31, 2022

	<u>Current</u>	<u>1 - 30</u>	<u>31 - 60</u>	<u>61 - 90</u>	<u>> 90</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
John Walker	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	76.00	76.00
Peter Carter	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	76.00	76.00
TOTAL	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>152.00</u>	<u>152.00</u>

7 EXECUTIVE OFFICER TRI-MONTHLY REPORT (November 2021 – January 2022)

Date of Report:	17th February 2022
Report Author:	Executive Officer – Paul Rosair
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachment(s):	13. Executive Officer Tri-Monthly Report – November 2021- January 2022

Purpose:

To update RCAWA on the Executive Officer services provided for the period November 2021 to January 2022 inclusive.

Background:

The attached report provides information about the services provided, activities undertaken and time allocation over the past three months.

Discussion:

As required.

Link to Strategic Directions:

Advocacy and policy Influence
Partnership and collaboration
Representation

Budget Implications:

As per 2021/22 approved RCAWA budget.

Resolution:

- **That the information be received**

Moved: Mike Archer

Seconded: Ian Mickel

Attachment 13: Executive Officer Tri-Monthly Report – Nov 2021/Jan 2022

Executive Officer RCAWA
Tri - Monthly Report



Prepared for RCAWA

November 2021 – January 2022



naja

Business Consulting Services

ABN 42 759 221 541

1. OVERVIEW

Over the past three months the Executive Officer (EO) has had meetings with key government, industry, business, community groups, political stakeholders and alliance members (one-on-one and as a group). On behalf of the group, the EO has been working on the following:

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021:

The Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021 (ACHA) is a new Act replacing the existing Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972 (AHA) through two-year transitional arrangements.

At the December 2021 Alliance meeting it was agreed that the CEO engage the services of a consultant to prepare a briefing paper on the new legislation and the potential consequences of the act on the Regional Cities. Duncan Ord, a former senior public servant, with considerable knowledge and experience in this field, was subsequently engaged to undertake this work.

A paper with recommendations has been developed for consideration at the February 2022 alliance meeting. The EO has also subsequently met with WALGA CEO and staff to discuss how best to work together on a coordinated response to the Department to ensure a streamlined implementation of the Act, via regulation, is achieved with as little additional cost and red tape as possible.

Local Government Reform Agenda and Review of Local Government Act 1995:

The Executive Officer reviewed the 65 Reform Recommendations made by the David Michael review panel and developed a consolidated position on behalf of the Alliance about its stance. An Agenda item was tabled to discuss this matter at the April 2021 meeting. It was decided that Local Government “Renovation” would be better terminology to describe the Alliance’s stance on Local Government Reform.

Subsequently, a delegation of Alliance members met with the Minister in June 2021, to ascertain his position on reforming the sector before deciding a pathway forward, if any.

The Alliance needs to discuss what more action it wants the EO to take in relation to this matter, meanwhile the EO met with Executive Directors, Erin Gauntlet and Tim Fraser from the Department of Local Government to discuss how the Alliance can be involved moving forward. The EO was informed that the alliance should consider identifying and trialling an “innovative service delivery model” with the support of the Minister and the Department.

The EO has reached out to the new Director General of DLGSCI on a number of occasions, seeking a meeting to provide an overview and update of the Alliance and its activities.

The Government has now announced reform measures to the Local Government Act which were discussed in general business at the November meeting. It was decided a consensus submission be prepared on behalf of the alliance, collating all members responses.

A submission has been prepared as a response to the reform measures after collating and consolidating members responses. This matter will be considered at the February 2022 meeting.

Performing Arts and Entertainment Centres Review

The Regional Capitals Performing Arts and Entertainment Centres play a critical role in supporting the vibrancy of our communities, those who live within the city and those for whom the city is a services centre. The COVID pandemic has decimated the Arts sector and placed significant financial pressure on the viability of Performing Arts infrastructure and operations.

The Alliance had placed a review of the performance of / and operating models of these centres on its work program some time back and it is now timely to raise this action again so as to prepare the Alliance for post COVID recovery and potential negotiations with the State Government for increased financial support as part of ongoing PEAC funding arrangements.

The EO has drafted a scope of works to conduct a review of Performing Arts and Entertainment Centres models and costs in determining an optimal model for the future.

RCAWA Benchmarking Framework:

The Executive Officer has completed his work with the research officer to oversee the enhancement of the Benchmark framework and peer reviewed the updated Corporate Benchmarking Report for the 2019-2020 / 2020-2021 financial years incl. 2022 budget data.

Following the tabling of these reports in February 2021 and December 2022 the framework continues to be enhanced with feedback from the group. This has included measuring State and Federal Government services such as Health, Education, Housing, Policing and Social Services. Displaying results by residents in addition to ratepayers has also been incorporated.

A paper was tabled at the August meeting to canvass members on what additional indicators could be considered and measured as part of the 2020/2021 benchmarking exercise. As a consequence, the EO and Research Officer canvassed alliance members widely to determine a consensus on what parameters should be included. Views varied considerably across members, and this combined with the difficulty in accessing the raw data necessary has resulted in a reduced, high-level set of data, to be incorporated into this year's benchmarking exercise. A paper was tabled at the November meeting and considered as a result.

With Brain Sharp no longer available to support the benchmarking project the EO is exploring options to continue with the program's support, including speaking to Jeff Robson as an alternative consultant to manage the strategic elements and analysis of the results with NAJA Business Consulting Services supporting the back-end collation and data entry.

MACWA Awards:

The MACWA awards were successfully run again in 2021, thanks to the major contribution from Jane Lewis, MACWA Ambassador Melissa Northcott, judges and all sponsors. The awards culminated in a presentation by the Alliance Chair and Sponsors to all award winners at the WALGA AGM on Tuesday 7th September 2021. A summary paper was presented at the November alliance meeting in Kalgoorlie.

The 2022 Awards are about to commence, and the Executive Assistant is working towards a launch soon. All sponsors have recommitted to supporting the 2022 awards once again.

RCAWA Housing solutions and action plan:

A situational analysis was both tabled with the Minister and at the Broome meeting in June 2021.

As a result of the Minister's positive engagement and as resolved at the June meeting, the EO drafted a scope of works to undertake the development of a housing issues and solutions plan. Subsequently, Greg Cash was engaged to assist the EO with this work. The EO met several times with Greg, refining the scope, guiding Greg and reviewing his work. A report was completed and was tabled at the November meeting for Alliance consideration and discussed with the Minister for Regional Development, who suggested that we work with the Regional Development Commissions, via WARDA, in pursuing the recommendations in the report.

After meeting with the Minister for Housing it was suggested by him that the Housing Action Plan be tabled before the Ministerial Sub Committee on Housing.

The EO also met with Mike Rowe, Director General Department of Communities in July 2021 and discussed how best to engage with the Department in the development of the action plan. Mike suggested we work with Mark Brydon (formerly Department of Finance), who has taken on the role of Executive Director Housing as the best officer to work with. Mike then subsequently addressed the Alliance August 2021 meeting

The EO met briefly again with the Minister who repeated his keenness to see the housing solutions and action plan at an upcoming Ministerial Sub Committee meeting.

The EO has been in regular contact with Mark Brydon, Sub Committee Executive Officer and subsequently Emma Colombera from the Minister's Office and a presentation to the Ministerial Sub Committee is now scheduled for the April 2022 meeting.

A RCAWA Housing Solutions and Action Plan was developed and was be tabled at the November meeting for discussion. The EO has subsequently presented the report to the Minister for Housing's Office and to the WARDA RDC CEOs on December 9, 2021 and Shelter WA – the report has now been circulated to all parties and subsequently WALGA.

RCAWA Research Project:

An Agenda item to discuss this matter was tabled at the April 2021 meeting which sought guidance from members. The Executive Officer and Research Officer, investigated research topics to support the Alliance's objectives, projects and its focus for future activities. The initial areas for this work included – this remains work in progress:

- Researching State and Federal services, such as Health, Education, Housing, Policing and Social Services (This will be included in benchmarking model)
- Regional Capitals vs. Metropolitan Councils – Is there a level playing field
- Are Regional Capitals demonstrably capable
- Justification of Regional Capitals unique prospects
- Impacts and opportunities from the COVID-19 pandemic
- Review of University of WA's past research

Reviews and Submissions

EO continues to also monitor progress after the Alliance made submissions for the following.

- A) Streamlining WA – State Government initiative, B) Service Priority Review – C) Public Library System - D) Review of Heritage Act 1990 - E) Local Government Act - F) Planning Reform - G) Productivity Commission Report – watching brief and liaison with appropriate stakeholders as required - H) EPBC Act Review - Completed I) Aboriginal Heritage Act – J) Regional Airline Airfares Review – K) Infrastructure Western Australia (IWA) State Infrastructure Strategy submission. L) Ministerial Executive Council Electoral Reform Submission. M) Local government Reform. N) 2021 Regional Telecommunications Review.

Research Officer’s Work Program:

The Executive Officer has finalised the Research Officer’s work program and is negotiating with a potential replacement. An outline of the completed program is tabled below.

Brian Sharp
Regional Capitals Alliance
2021 Benchmarking Report Timeline

	Legend						
		Any Time					
		Specific Time					
	August	September	October	November	December	January	February
1 Existing Benchmarks							
Prepare Templates and Master File							
Distribute Templates							
Councils Collect Data							
Collate and Analyse Data							
Complete Report							
Table Report							
Follow Up Work - TBD							
2 Additional Benchmarks							
Agree New Benchmarks							
Identify Data Sources							
Collect Data - Councils or Research Officer							
Analyse Data and Complete Report							
Table Report							
Follow Up Work - TBD							

Actions and Business Arising:

Continuous updating of all Actions and Business Arising from RCWA.

Stakeholder Engagement: Regular meetings with relevant stakeholders as per Section 3.

2 DETAILS OF TRI-MONTHLY ACTIONS

KEY OBJECTIVES		OVERVIEW OF TRI-MONTHLY ACTIONS
ADVOCACY & POLICY INFLUENCE	Preparation of Submissions and Delegations	<p>Has worked on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Government Reform IWA State Infrastructure Strategy Submission Infrastructure WA – Briefing Sessions on IF Planning Reform Local Government Act Review
	Advocacy on Key Issues	Nil
ADVOCACY & POLICY INFLUENCE	Development of Policy Position Papers	<p>Developing an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Action Impacts paper</p> <p>Drafting a scope of works for a review of Performing Arts and Entertainment Centres models and costs in determining an optimal model for the future</p> <p>Developing a Housing Issues Solutions and Action Plan on behalf of the Alliance.</p> <p>Reviewing the Federal Election 2022 flyer for distribution in the new year</p> <p>Working with Alliance members to develop a position on Local Government Structural Reform. The matter was discussed and debated at the February 2021 Strategic Workshop and again in April 2021. In light of meeting with the Minister it has yet to be decided what further action, if any, the EO will undertake in regards to this issue.</p> <p>Reviewing the Infrastructure WA State Infrastructure Strategy to determine and prepared a submission on behalf of the alliance as a result.</p>
PARTNERSHIP & COLLABORATION	Investment Framework	The IF document continues to be distributed to external stakeholders.
	COVID-19	The EO maintaining a watching brief and liaises with Jodi Cant as necessary and will raise issues and opportunities as they arise.
	Communications Support	EO, Secretary and EA continuing to implement actions contained within the Communications Plan.
	Strategic Planning Workshop	Standing item at August meeting with last workshop session held on Friday 18 th February 2021 at the City of Perth. It should be noted that 21/22 is the final year of the current strategic plan so a strategy to review the plan will be prepared.
	RCAWA Meetings and Reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CEO Ring Around Wednesday 10th November 2021 RCAWA Meeting City of Kalgoorlie Boulder 15th August 2021 Secretariate and EO meeting 6th December 2021 RCAWA AGM and Meeting Zoom 9th December 2021 CEO Ring Around Thursday 10th February 2022

3 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

STAKEHOLDERS	DATE	KEY MEETING OUTCOMES
Dennis Wellington: <i>Mayor CoA and Chair RCAWA</i>	November 2021 – January 2022	Regularly discussed and sought guidance on strategic RCAWA matters
Andrew Sharpe: <i>CEO CoA and Secretary RCAWA</i>	November 2021 – January 2022	Regularly discussed and sought guidance on strategic RCAWA matters
Jane Lewis: <i>Principal Redit</i>	November 2021 – January 2022	Regularly discussed and sought guidance on strategic RCAWA matters
Brian Sharp: <i>Research Officer RCAWA</i>	November 2021 - December 2021	Regularly supervised and discussed work program
Michelle McKenzie: <i>CEO Shelter WA</i> Rhiannon Bristow- Stagg: <i>Research Officer Shelter WA</i>	5 th November 2021	Provided overview the peak body Shelter WA of the Housing Solutions and Actions Plan review and gained their input. Agreed to share the report once sanctioned by RCAWA and approved by Minister's office for release
Greg Cash: <i>Principal Elysian Consulting</i>	5 th November 2021	Discussed the Housing Solutions and Actions Plan review status and provided guidance and direction as necessary.
Hon Nola Marino MLA: <i>Assistant Minister for Regional Development and Territories</i>	7 th November 2021	Discussed a range of pertinent RCAWA issues including status and focus of BBRF round 6. Discussed the new Regional Cities plan and invited Nola to our November 2022 meeting in Kalgoorlie.
Lee Fradd: <i>CEO – Parks and Leisure WA</i>	9 th November 2021	Met on an unrelated matter but took the opportunity to provide Leith with an overview of RCAWA.
Alex Wiese: <i>Acting CEO City of Kalgoorlie Boulder</i> John Bowler: <i>Mayor City of Kalgoorlie Boulder</i>	10 th November 2021	Discussed the upcoming meeting of RCAWA to be held in Kalgoorlie to coincide with the SEGRA conference and local arrangements.
Candy Choo: <i>CEO LG Professionals</i>	12 th November 2021	Discussed LG Professional's stance on the proposed LG Reform actions as part of preparing RCAWA's submission.
Cath Hart: <i>Executive Director Housing Industry Association HIA</i>	11 th November 2021	Provided overview to the peak body HIA of the Housing Solutions and Actions Plan review and gained their input.
Hon Neil Thompson: <i>Shadow Minister for Planning; Lands; Heritage</i>	22 nd November 2021	Brief discussion on the new Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act and its potential ramifications for Local Government.
Tim Fraser and Erin Gauntlet: <i>Executive Directors, Department of Local Government Sport and Cultural Industries</i>	26 th November 2021	Discussed Local Government Reform submission and innovative ways and models for service delivery and procurement in regional Western Australia. They are keen to support a pilot any potential models.
Shane Van Styn: <i>Mayor City of Greater Geraldton</i>	29 th November 2021	Discussed RCAWA Treasurer role and confirmed Shane was happy to commit to re-election in that role.
Anne: <i>Market Force</i>	29 th November 2021	Undertook a satisfaction survey of the services WALGA provide.
Tristian Prasser: <i>Assistant Advisor to Brigid McKenzie</i>	6 th December 2021	Off the back of Nola Marino's suggestion, the EO briefed Mr Prasser on the RCAWA and its role and priorities. Discussed the newly announced Federal Regional Cities program and RCAWA's potential involvement. The EO committed to send Tristian the full suite of RCAWA submissions and reports relevant to the program.

STAKEHOLDERS	DATE	KEY MEETING OUTCOMES
Liz Ritchie: <i>CEO RAI Institute</i>	6 th December 2021	Discussed RCAWA and potential involvement in the “Move to More” program.
WARDA Meeting: <i>RDC CEO’s Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development</i>	9 th December 2021	With Greg Cash presented the Housing Solutions and Action plan to RDC CEO’s and discussed how we can work with them to implement the recommendations.
Sarah Stevens: <i>Director, Executive Services Office Director General Department of Communities</i>	17 th December 2021	Discussed the Housing Solutions Action Plan and how best to work with the Department to implement the recommendations and actions. Also received a commitment from the Department to support the MACWA awards again.
Emma Colombera: <i>Principal Policy Officer Minister for Housing: Lands; Local Government</i> Mark Brydon: <i>Director, Department of Communities</i>	20 th December 2021	Presented, with Greg Cash, the housing solutions action plan and discussed how best to work with the Minister and Department in implementing the recommendations. Also discussed presenting to the Ministerial Committee on housing in April 2022.
Duncan Ord: <i>Consultant and Former Director General Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries</i>	7 th January 2022	Meeting with Duncan to discuss draft and methodology and identify opportunities to be explored review of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act and sign a letter of engagement
Shanaeya Sherdiwala: <i>Director Corporate Services Department of Premier and Cabinet</i>	12 th January 2022	Discussed the latest on Service Delivery reform of State Government and impact on Regional WA
Duncan Ord: <i>Consultant and Former Director General Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries</i>	12 th January 2022	Meeting with Duncan to discuss Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act review and scope out a potential Performing Arts and Entertainment Centres review. and sign a letter of engagement
Hon Neil Thompson: <i>Shadow Minister for Planning; Lands; Heritage</i>	16 th January 2022	Discussion on the new Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act and its potential ramifications for Local Government.
Mike Archer: <i>CEO City of Busselton</i>	21 st January 2022	Discussed a potential review of the management models and costs of Performing Arts and Entertainment centres
Rebecca Stephens MLA: <i>Member of Albany</i>	8 th September 2021	Discussed potential April 2022 Alliance meeting being held at Parliament House and logistics associated with it.

4 TIME ALLOCATION SUMMARY

Time allocation summary: Executive Officer

CONTRACT YEAR	BUDGETED TOTAL ANNUAL CONTRACT HRS	TOTAL BILLED HRS AND TOTAL ACTUAL HRS	YTD TOTAL BILLED HRS AND YTD TOTAL ACTUAL HRS
May 2018 – January 2022 Total Reconciliation	1,495 hrs	Total Billed 1,495.00 hrs Total Actual 1,517.25 hrs	N/A
May 2018 - April 2019 (Inc.) Completed	400 hrs	Total billed hours for April 2019 35 hrs. (35.5 hrs. actual)	400 hrs billed (408.5 hrs actual)
May 2019 - April 2020 (Inc.) Completed	400 hrs	Total billed hours for April 2020 35 hrs. (48 hrs. actual)	400 hrs billed (433 hrs actual)
May 2020 - April 2021 (Inc.) Completed	400 hrs	Total billed hours for April 2021 35 hrs. (41.5 hrs. actual)	400 hrs billed (389.5 hrs actual)
May 2021-April 2022 (Inc.) In Progress	400 hrs	Total billed hours for November 2021, December 2021 and January 2022 85 hrs (88.75 hrs actual)	295 hrs billed (286.25 hrs actual)

Time allocation summary: Executive Assistant

CONTRACT YEAR	BUDGETED TOTAL ANNUAL CONTRACT HRS	TOTAL BILLED HRS AND TOTAL ACTUAL HRS	YTD TOTAL BILLED HRS AND YTD TOTAL ACTUAL HRS
May 2020 – Jan 2022 Total Reconciliation	570 hrs	Total Billed 570 hrs Total Actual 592.75 hrs	N/A
May 2020 - April 2021 (Inc.) Completed	330 hrs	Total billed hours for April 2021 30 hrs. (23.5 hrs actual)	330 hrs billed (316.25 hrs actual)
May 2021 - April 2022 (Inc.) In Progress	330 hrs	Total billed hours for November 2021, December 2021 and January 2022 60 hrs (86.5 hrs actual)	240 hrs billed (276.5 hrs actual)

8 FORMAL PRESENTATIONS

Date of Report:	17th February 2022
Report Author:	Executive Officer, Paul Rosair
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachment(s)	Nil

Purpose:

The Alliance to receive presentations from key stakeholders.

Background:

Leading up to this meeting, Alliance members were canvassed about issues pertinent to the portfolios of the presenters: a consolidated list is provided in the discussion and has been forwarded to the relevant presenters as appropriate.

Discussion:

Thursday 17th February 2022

1:30-2:00

Cr Karen Chappel;	President WALGA
Nic Sloan;	CEO WALGA
Tony Brown;	Executive Manager Governance and Strategy WALGA

Topics: WALGA Update
WALGA COVID-19 preparation update
Local Government Reform
Aboriginal Heritage Act position

2:00 -2:15

Rachael Sweeney; RCA Executive Officer

Topics: RCA update

2:20 – 2:40

Duncan Ord; Greensted Consulting

Topics: Aboriginal Heritage Act paper
Cultural and Entertainment paper

Resolution: Nil

9 RCA UPDATE

Date of Report:	17th February 2022
Report Author:	Grant Henley, Mayor City of Busselton
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachment(s)	NIL

Purpose:

To provide an overview of items and issues from RCA which pertain to RCAWA business and to canvass Alliance members as to matters which they believe are warranted to raise with RCA.

Discussion:

Rachael Sweeney, RCA Executive Officer and Grant Henley to provide an RCA update

Link to Strategic Directions:

Partnership and collaboration
Representation

Budget Implications: Nil

Resolution: Nil

10 ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE BILL 2021

Date of Report:	17th February 2022
Report Author:	Paul Rosair, Executive Officer and Duncan Ord, Greensted Consulting,
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachment(s)	14. Short Summary Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Bill 2021 Tiered Assessment Process (separately attached) 15. Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021 Briefing Paper (separately attached), 16. Draft Letter to DPLH

Purpose:

To update the Alliance on the passing of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021 and the transitional arrangements that will apply during its implementation.

Background:

The Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021 (ACHA) is a new Act replacing the existing Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972 (AHA) through two-year transitional arrangements.

At the December 2021 Alliance meeting it was agreed to engage a consultant to prepare a briefing paper on the new legislation and the potential consequences of the act on the Regional Cities. Duncan Ord, a former senior public servant, with considerable knowledge and experience in this field, was subsequently engaged to undertake this work.

Discussion

The Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021 Briefing paper has now been developed and is attached for consideration by Alliance members.

The paper identifies that the Act significantly expands the scope of Aboriginal cultural heritage covered by State legislation including heritage found in Cultural landscapes, State waters, and contemporary social, spiritual, historical, scientific, or aesthetic cultural values. This expansion recognises the value Aboriginal Culture and Heritage represents to the whole community and to contemporary Australian identity.

The paper acknowledges that the passing of the Act provides an opportunity to increase protection for Aboriginal Cultural Heritage and to empower local Aboriginal people to actively maintain and preserve this heritage for the benefit of the whole community. To do this, significant effort will need to be applied to the mapping of Aboriginal cultural values so that the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Directory will become a single point of truth that underpins an effective and efficient land development approvals system and supports the recognition of Aboriginal heritage values.

The Paper notes the shift of custodianship of Aboriginal Cultural heritage from State instrumentalities to Aboriginal people and, where so determined, to Native Title body corporates. The State does recognise the funding obligation that remains with the State for Heritage preservation, administration and approvals and establishes funding mechanisms including powers to levy fees, consolidated account funding and hypothecated compensation funds. The appointment and employment of Heritage inspectors is also a State responsibility under the Department of Planning Heritage and Lands.

The paper outlines the role of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Council as the principal approvals authority and the Local Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Services (LACHS) that will support management of cultural heritage protected areas, places and objects and facilitate engagement between landholders and heritage knowledge holders on any potential impact on heritage by activities or development. It is potentially open for Local Government to host the LACHS on suitably agreed terms.

Of most significance to Local Government is the introduction of a three-tiered approval system to allow proponents to determine how proposed activities may be authorised and managed to avoid or minimise risk of harm to Aboriginal cultural heritage. The system includes exempt activities which are limited to residential land under 1100sqm, the authorising of consent permits and cultural heritage management plans and Heritage conservation agreements. Regulations will set standards for due diligence, consultation, informed consent, impact avoidance, fees and charges and compensation.

The Act includes head powers that require regulations, guidelines, and codes of practice to be drafted to enable implementation and these will be critical to Local Government as both a landholder and as an approvals authority who might be engaged through administration and regulation under the compliance functions under the act.

In addition, the paper outlines the following potential consequences to Local Government of the new legislation.

- The Act provides for an expansion of Aboriginal Heritage Protected areas, these could include land currently held as reserves by Local Government. Aboriginal people, not Government or its agencies, are to manage these protected areas.
- Local Government will need to meet the reasonable costs of consultation and agreement making with the LACHS.
- It is likely that regional capitals, within the existing State ILUA agreements, will have a single regional corporation acting as the LACHS. Other capitals may have multiple determinations within their Shires and will likely need to work with multiple LACHS.
- Aboriginal Cultural Heritage permits, and plans may increase costs of development due to increased consultation and monitoring or agreed off-set arrangements.
- Potential increased liability under the act for unintentional impacts by local government or their contractors.
- Local Government might need to meet the cost of compensation for impacts on cultural heritage that arise from developments that impact a cultural landscape. For example,

a recreation ground within a reserve area, beach access roads and car parks close to dunes, boat ramps etc.

- Contemporary Aboriginal cultural heritage is likely to include buildings and other public and private infrastructure such as missions, hostels, sports grounds, and public health buildings not previously protected under the AHA.
- Local Government will need to disclose to the ACH Council their knowledge of Aboriginal heritage places. This information may be held in heritage surveys previously undertaken by council.
- Local Government will need to disclose to the ACH Council their knowledge of collections of objects of potential Aboriginal heritage value. These may be held in libraries or community museums.

As an approvals authority

- Regulations under the act may require local government to ensure ACH due diligence has been undertaken prior to a development approval being granted. This would be similar to the BAL rating requirement.
- *A dial before you dig* style of service will be developed by the Department for Planning, Lands and Heritage based on Landholder address data. This may not apply to non-residential property potentially increasing scope for Local Government to have to do its own due diligence on development applications.
- Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Heritage inspectors will have significant powers to review the activities of local government and potentially to use local Government resources in undertaking their duties.
- Local Government will be a stakeholder in Ministerial decisions on Aboriginal Heritage protection decisions potentially creating divisions within the community.

Transitional Arrangements:

The new laws came into operation on 22 December 2021 and allowed for the existing Aboriginal Heritage Act (AHA) 1972 approval processes to continue for the period required to draft the regulations, key documentation and tiers of activity and have them passed by Parliament. The AHA has been amended to limit new Section 18 approvals to five years and existing Section 18 approvals to Ten years if the development has not progressed. The AHA will be repealed once the regulations are in effect. It is anticipated the transitional arrangements will be in place for between 18 months to 2 years.

It is recommended that the Paper be used to:

- Engage RCA member's staff in discussion about local implications of the new legislation.
- Guide the collective efforts of the RCA in engagement with the State Government; and
- Provide context to discussions with Aboriginal community leaders on Heritage protection.

The EO has subsequently met with WALGA CEO and staff to discuss how best to work together on a coordinated response to the Department to ensure a streamlined implementation of the Act, via regulation, is achieved with as little additional cost and red tape as possible.

The following Strategies and Actions are presented for the consideration of Alliance members.

Next Steps:

Informal discussion with the Department indicates that the Government is still open to consider further exemptions from the approvals process for activities undertaken consistent with the Planning and Development Act. This implies Local Government will be a key consultation stakeholder during the development of the regulations and guidelines.

The Department has been funded to develop a *Dial before you dig* style of web portal to allow landholders easy access to the information held on the ACH Directory. It would be advantageous that the Regional Capitals seek State support to map Aboriginal Cultural Heritage places and landscapes that have yet to be recorded in the existing Heritage register of sites.

The Regional Capitals have excellent relationships with local traditional owners and elders and could build on that relationship by proactively engaging the Aboriginal community on the new Act and the development of the LACHS.

Budget Implications:

As per 2021/22 approved RCWA budget.

Resolution:

- **That RCWA seek to be engaged by the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH) as a key stakeholder in the consultation phase of the development of the regulations and other documentation that gives effect to the Act.**
- **That RCWA advocate for Regulations to allow for a single Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Plan to be applied to all land areas and activities within a city or shire boundary.**
- **That RCWA request DPLH to provide any cost modelling undertaken on consultation fees, permit fees and impact compensation, that might apply to Local Government activities, to assist with strategic budgeting as required under the Local Government Act.**
- **That RCWA requests priority be given to the establishment of the Local Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Services (LACHS) in Regional Capitals jurisdictions.**
- **That RCWA authorise the EO to write to the Acting Director General of DPLH seeking ongoing engagement during implementation of the Act.**
- **Funds of up to \$2,000 be used to further contract Duncan Ord to work with the Executive Officer in carrying out the above tasks.**

Moved: Grant Henley

Seconded: Mal Osborne

Attachment 14. Short Summary Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Bill 2021 Tiered Assessment Process (separately attached)

Attachment 15. Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021 Briefing Paper (separately attached)

Attachment 16. Draft Letter to DPLH

Mr Paul Rosair
Executive Officer
Regional Cities Alliance WA

Anthony Kannis;
Director General.
Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage
140 William Street Perth
6000

Dear Anthony,

Aboriginal Heritage Act 2021

I am writing on behalf of the Regional Cities Alliance WA (RCAWA) to congratulate the Department on the assent of the new Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021 and to offer our support in the development of the regulations, key documentation and tiers of activity required for implementation.

RCAWA recognises the Act significantly expands the scope of Aboriginal cultural heritage and acknowledges the value Aboriginal Culture and Heritage represents to the whole community and to contemporary Australian identity. We seek to be proactive in having the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Directory populated so that the ongoing development of our regional cities can progress with certainty and in full respect of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage values.

The RCAWA would like to be considered as a key stakeholder during the transitional phase of the Act and would value being included in consultation on the development of the regulations, the ACH Directory, the Local Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Services, tiers of activity and potential exemptions.

In assessing the implications of the new legislation, it appears Local Government may be exposed to increased compliance costs for our own development and works programs and we would appreciate receiving any cost modelling that would facilitate our strategic budgeting processes.

RCAWA have authorised me, executive officer for the RCAWA, to invite you or a nominated officer to attend next RCAWA meeting in April 2022 so that we can gain a better understanding of the priorities for implementation and opportunities for early support of our local Aboriginal traditional owners who will be assuming greater responsibility for heritage protection in the future. They have also requested I meet with you as soon as possible to discuss engagement in the Act implementation process.

Yours Sincerely

Mr Paul Rosair

Cc Vaughan Davies Assistant Director General

11 REGIONAL PERFORMING ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT CENTRES REVIEW

Date of Report:	17th February 2022
Report Author:	Paul Rosair, Executive Officer
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachment(s)	Nil

Purpose:

To update the Alliance on progressing a review of the operational performance and future direction/models for Regional Cities Performing Arts and Entertainment Centres (PAEC) across the Alliance membership.

Background:

The Regional Capitals Performing Arts and Entertainment Centres play a critical role in supporting the vibrancy of the community, those who live within the city and those for whom the city is a services centre. The COVID pandemic has decimated the Arts sector and placed significant financial pressure on the viability of Performing arts infrastructure throughout Australia.

The Alliance had placed a review of the performance of / and operating model of these centres on its work program some time back and it is now timely to raise this action again so as to prepare the Alliance for post COVID recovery and potential negotiations with the State Government for increased financial support as part of ongoing PEAC funding arrangements.

Discussion:

Regional Performing Arts and Entertainment Centres have been a feature of the development of our cities as a representation of cultural identity and growing sophistication as Town halls did in previous centuries. The centres serve many interests from providing pure entertainment, education opportunities, childhood development, cultural expression, a home for community arts groups and the more traditional role of the Town Hall as a meeting, conference spaces and civic centres.

The capital to build these centres has been provided by Local Government and State Government in the main, with more recent Commonwealth contributions through Regional Infrastructure funding. Many of these projects have been linked to the electoral cycle placing pressure on design and functionality to serve Iconic objectives as well as those of their intended users.

The building of PEACs began with Geraldton in the late 70's and has progressed to include Kalgoorlie, Bunbury, Mandurah, Albany, Karratha with smaller centres in Hedland, Esperance, Carnarvon and Broome and a planned cultural space in Busselton.

Experience has shown that these types of assets have 100-year lifespans with the constant need for maintenance, capital renewal and refurbishment. Traditionally the State has made no provision for contributions to a capital works programs leaving the burden to fall on Local Government. In 2012 the National Party made an election commitment to provide capital funds for technical upgrades and this was delivered over the next five years before being discontinued by the McGowan Government in 2017.

The Operating Business model for the centres is based on the premise that earned income will not be sufficient to meet the capital costs of the asset nor in most cases to meet the overheads of maintaining and operating the building and its programs. The gap between earned revenue and fixed costs rises as buildings age, energy prices escalate, labour costs increase, and family discretionary spending is consumed by the digital entertainment age.

The State and Commonwealth Governments recognise the relative disadvantage of regional centres and offer touring funding assistance that offsets logistics costs for producers mostly in the not-for-profit arts sector. However commercial producers are more likely to tour with revenue generating content and these have been particularly impacted by COVID and may seek to limit their risks in the years ahead placing regional centres under even greater financial pressure. Few Local Governments have the funding available or the appetite to invest in productions or concerts on a share of box office basis. This often leads venues being dark despite high fixed costs and diminishing audiences. In the case of Albany and Kalgoorlie the State makes some contribution to operating costs creating inequities across the overall model.

Supporting the Regional Centres is Circuit West a Not-for-Profit body which acts as a peak body to facilitate capacity building of centre managers, coordinate touring and programming and advocating to funding bodies on behalf of the network. This network includes many spaces and places located in small Local Government areas. Country Arts WA is also a Not for Profit supporting regional arts practitioners. These State Government funded entities are long standing but have not been able to address the strategic issue of Art Centre viability.

Proposed review:

It is proposed the Alliance commission a review of their Performing arts and entertainment and centres to answer the following questions:

- What is the trajectory of the performance of WA Performing Arts and Entertainment Centres over the past 5 -10 years?
- What are the demographics of users including visitors to the centre from other LGA's?
- How does this compare with centres in other jurisdictions, through PAC (Performing Arts Centres Association Australia)?

- Does the Asset management plan allow for ongoing transformation of the infrastructure to meet public demand and support productivity technologies and what role should the state play as a funding partner?
- How does the business model of each centre compare and are there best practice models?
- What is the relative contribution between the State, Federal and Local Government to the operating costs of the centres and their programs? How does this compare with inner city metropolitan Councils (i.e., is it a “level playing field”)?
- What impact will the COVID pandemic likely have on capital and operational costs and arts programs and touring? In particular air conditioning systems etc etc.
- What opportunities are there for cooperation and cost sharing between WA centres (i.e., central ticketing hubs, marketing and programming)?
- What opportunity is there to increase net revenue?
- What additional services can be provided by the centres to increase public value and community benefit?
- What is the ideal mix of venues around the State to create a viable touring and production circuit that will allow regional venues to support their own arts communities with increased employment and opportunity?

The review will be prepared in full consultation with Regional Capitals Alliance members and developed on an available options basis. The review will include consultation with the State and Federal arts funding agencies to incorporate current policy settings and potential for policy revisions. Local arts consultation will be guided by the relevant CEO.

Any reviews or business cases of Performing Arts Centres undertaken over the past 10 years by participating LGA's will be assessed by the consultant as part of a literature review.

The consultant will need to be supported by the RCAWA Executive by preparing, conducting and analysing surveys and results, collecting and collating background data and analysing financial information (currently outside scope of existing Executive services contract).

The Executive Officer will project manage and oversee the contract under his current contractual arrangements.

Next Steps

The Executive Officer will prepare Terms of Reference (TOR) for the review and identify a suitable consultant to lead the work for reporting by the end of the December quarter 2022.

Upon final agreement of the TOR, by the Executive Officer, in concert with the CEO group, the consultant will be contracted and requested to provide an update of the work at the April 2022 Alliance meeting.

Budget Implications:

To be considered with the 2021/22 approved RCAWA projects budget.

Resolution:

- That the RCAWA authorises the Executive Officer to prepare Terms of Reference for a Review of the Regional Performing Arts and Entertainment Centres.
- That the RCAWA authorises the Executive Officer, in consultation with the CEOs, to identify a suitable consultant to lead the review.
- That RCAWA sets aside between **\$confidential** (depending on final scope) from the approved projects item of the 2021-22 budget to undertake the review. **This matter was discussed under Confidential cover**

Moved: Mal Osborne

Seconded: Jason Whittaker

13 LG REFORM SUBMISSION

Date of Report:	17th February 2022
Report Author:	Executive Officer and Research Officer
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachment(s)	17 Collated Local Government Reform* 18 Local Government Reform - Summary of Proposed Reform* 19 Local Government Review Panel final report* 20 Draft Submission* 21 Draft Letter

***Attachments sent separately**

Purpose:

To formulate an agreed response by the Alliance on the major Local Government Reforms put forth by the State Government and prepare a draft submission for consideration by members.

Background:

The State Government has announced the most significant package of major reforms for WA local government since the Local Government Act of 1995.

At the December 2021 Alliance meeting it was agreed for RCAWA CEO, Paul Rosair, would gather responses from members and collate them into a single document that summarises a shared position of the Alliance. The shared view of the Alliance is to be presented in either a new document or added in the 'Comments' section of the Summary of Proposed Reforms document and submitted to State Government no later than 5pm on Friday 25th February.

Discussion

The Collated Local Government Reform spreadsheet has now been developed and is attached for consideration by Alliance members.

The Local Government Reform Act identifies areas of significant problems that are within a local government, with six major themes being the basis of attention:

1. Earlier intervention, effective regulation, and stronger penalties
2. Reducing red tape, increasing consistency and simplicity
3. Greater transparency and accountability
4. Stronger local democracy and community engagement
5. Clear roles and responsibilities
6. Improved financial management and reporting

The ambition of the State Government is to allow the Act to provide local governments with *new intermediate powers for intervention which will increase the number of tools available to more quickly address internal problems and dysfunction.*

The proposed system for early intervention is based on similar legislation that is present in other jurisdictions, such as Victoria and Queensland.

The responses of the Members have been made cognisant of the request of WALGA, and as such, some comments refer to the comments made in the WALGA issued document ‘*WALGA Advocacy Positions and Recommendations*’

It is noted that the reform is endeavouring to deliver on the following key elements:

- Clear Legislative Intent
- An Agile System
- Inclusive Local Democracy
- Smart Planning and Efficient Service Delivery
- Enhanced Accountability, Self-Regulation and Integrity

However, this phase of the reform process appears to be focusing on more operational/regulatory matters, with the risk of introducing more administration and red tape.

The Alliance is keen to participate in the next phase of legislative reform, focusing on innovation and the development of Agile Systems and service delivery models.

The Alliance would be very keen to develop and pilot innovative local service delivery models for regional WA as part of this next phase of the reform agenda.

Summary of Member Responses:

Responses were received by nine (9) of the Alliance members, which broadly supported the proposed reforms. Comments and responses have been made for every reform in the six (6) areas, which can be found in the attached documents.

From within the responses, the following proposed reforms were highlighted by Members as either un-supported or requiring more clarification to be acceptable, the rest of the reform recommendations were fully supported ‘as is’ by Alliance members:

2.1 Resource Sharing – Supportive

Reform supported by the majority of Members, with comments being made on a variety of properties:

- Sharing simple resources such as library services is acceptable, however senior employees being shared can cause increased resourcing costs, staff management issues and potential conflicts of interest;
- There needs to be an incentive made to the local governments that are willing to share their CEO

2.4 Streamline Local Laws – Supportive

Reform supported by all Members, with comments on the introduced proposal of review of local laws every 15 years. The introduction of an enforced period in which local laws are to be reviewed can be seen to cause more confusion. When Councils implement new local laws, a self-imposed timeframe can be put in-place in which is needs to be revisited and reviewed.

3.1 Recordings and Live-Streaming of All Council Meetings - Supportive

The idea of the reform supported by the majority of Members, with some numbers already recording and live-streaming Council meetings. However, it is believed that it should be within the individual Councils power to have the ultimate decision on whether to record and livestream meetings.

Concerns include the stifling of debate due to live-streaming, as unlike State and Federal politicians, Councillors do not have any form of parliamentary privilege protecting them, as well as additional costs surrounding the installation, maintenance and IT support required with operation. Internet and Bandwidth issues are also listed as factors.

Details on minimum standard required for recordings needs to be made.

3.3 Clearer Guidance for Meeting Items that may be Confidential – Supportive

Reform is supported by all members, with the following comments being made:

- There needs to be a greater distinction between confidential motions and confidential minutes;
- There is displeasure in the Inspector having the power to veto matters that may be classed as confidential.
 - Matters that are dealt with behind closed doors are still subject to Standing Orders, so is there a reason behind mandating the recording of these items?

3.5 CEO KPI's to be published – Supportive

Members are supportive of the publishing of the KPI's that are relevant to the Local Government's strategic direction, transparency is welcome. Publishing all CEO KPI's can have adverse results on the inner workings of a Local Government in terms of a cohesive workspace, in relation to confidential matters made between employer and employee.

4.1 Community and Stakeholder Engagement Charters – Supportive

Reform is supported by members with the following comments:

- Needs to be ensured that there is not an increase in red tape as a result;
- Extensive community and stakeholder consultation can be costly and time consuming;
- Rather than introduce the requirement for a community engagement charter, require a community engagement policy to include engagement principles and a public participation spectrum

4.2 Ratepayer Satisfaction Surveys (Band 1 and 2 local governments only)

Supported with 1 proviso, see attached document for comments.

4.3 Introduction of Preferential Voting – Not supportive

Reform is not supported by Members, with entirety wanting to retain the current first past the post system as it is quicker as well as easier to ascertain and explain results.

With the current system of holding 50% of the election process every two (2) years, it allows for continuity in Councils and the opportunity for experienced Councillors to mentor newly Elected Members.

With preferential voting there is also the chance of encouraging alliances between candidates and increased party politics. Under preferential voting the election process can be manipulated through these alliances.

4.4 Public Vote to Elect the Mayor and President – Mixed

Reform received mixed reviews from Members, with those Local Governments that are already having public voted Mayors in support, whilst those who have Mayors elected by Councillors being against.

Members that are against the reform believe that there is no obvious evidence present that having a publicly elected Mayor provides higher success, whilst it runs the risk of greater disunity and dysfunctionality between Members.

It is recommended that Local Governments maintain having the choice in how their Mayor is elected.

4.5 Tiered Limits on the Number of Councillors – Not Supportive

Reform is not supported by the majority of members, with the overall reasoning being that it should be up to each Local Government to decide. Implementing such broad stipulations over a wide area can lead to troubles with outlying Local Governments.

If the proposed reform was implemented there are concerns with smaller Local Governments being able to achieve Quorum or absolute majorities with just 5 Councillors.

By restricting the number of Councillors allowed in a Local Government it can increase the workload on those remaining, whilst also restricting the probability of diversification and representation of minority groups within Councillors.

If the reform is to be made, it is suggested that council bands and geographical location should also be a contributing factor in the number of Councillors, not just population. Allowing this change, alongside including more than 3 tiered limits, would target the main issues raised.

5.3 Council Communication Agreements

Supported with 1 proviso, see attached document for comments.

5.4 Local Governments May Pay Superannuation Contributions for Elected Members – Supportive

Reform is supported by Members, however there are some concerns/clarifications requested surrounding the payments:

- Clarification on whether superannuation contributions will be included in the current salaries and allowances threshold, or would they be increased to accommodate the new payments?
- With Elected Members being provided superannuation contributions, this blurs the line between Employees and Elected Members

5.6 Standardised Election Caretaker period

Supported with 1 proviso, see attached document for comments.

6.2 Simplify Strategic and Financial Planning – Supportive

Reform is supported by Members, with belief that the current legislation being somewhat vague regarding Integrated Planning and Reporting (IPR). With the new reform, greater clarity on IPR requirements, mandated reporting around the IPR framework and a level of flexibility with setting minimum standards and guidelines need to be included.

Comments on what currently is being used to rate Local Governments “Financial Health” needs to be reviewed and refined.

6.6 Audit Committees – Not Supportive

Reform is not supported by Members, with the difficulty of locating and securing Independent members for an Audit Committee being a major roadblock whilst also introducing an extra cost to rate payers.

Financial management is a major responsibility of the Councillors, so introducing a reform requiring independent auditors and chair implies that Local Governments can’t be trusted to fulfil the role.

The Office of Audit General provides the independent oversight of the sector, and has the knowledge required to understand the uniqueness of Local Government accounting, so it is hard to see how any additional value can be provided.

In agreement that Audit Committees need to be proactive in the management of risk for the organisation.

6.7 Building Upgrade Finance – Mixed

Reform gained mixed responses, the reasons behind those that are not in support are listed below:

- Why would the third-party not proceed with getting a loan from a bank, yet finance through a Local Government?
- Why would Treasury Corp not do this?
- Non-financing sector lending has a medium level of vulnerability to financial crime and fraud
 - Financial risks would need to be appropriately managed
- Belief that this is a role for State or Federal Governments, not Local.

Link to strategic Direction:

Partnership and collaboration

Representation

Budget Implications: Nil

Resolution:

- **The Alliance submits the attached response to the State Government Reform Paper**

Moved: Mal Osborne

Seconded: Alex Weise

14 AROUND-THE-GROUNDS

Date of Report:	17th February 2022
Report Author:	Executive Officer, Paul Rosair
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachment(s)	Nil

Purpose:

For Alliance members to share information that may have an impact on other regional capitals either in the form of a collaborative opportunity, a win or a warning.

Background:

At the 18th February 2021, Alliance members showed an interest in incorporating an around-the-grounds item into future meetings. A resolution was passed at the April meeting that the format of the around-the-grounds item will be 2-3 minutes per capital per meeting for a maximum total of 30 minutes. If members wish to pursue a topic in more detail, they can pursue it out of session or raise it as an agenda item for the next meeting.

Discussion:

As required.

Link to strategic Direction:

Partnership and collaboration

Budget Implications: Nil

Resolution: Nil

Action: EO to consult with CEOs and write a collective letter to the Premier and Minister regarding concern over Local Government Special Electors meetings. To be circulated to members before sending.

15 RCAWA STRATEGIC PLANNING

Date of Report:	17th February 2022
Report Author:	Executive Officer, Paul Rosair
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachment(s)	Nil

Purpose:

Alliance to continue implementing items from the RCAWA Strategic Planning Workshop.

Background:

In 2017 a high-level Strategic Plan was developed to guide the Alliance actions from 2017/18 - 2021/22. It outlined the vision, focus and priorities and explained “what we do” and “how we work”. This Strategic Plan has been circulated to nearly every Minister and Director General in WA, a number of Federal Ministers and Politicians and has been discussed with a myriad of Government Agencies, industry bodies and associations. Following on from this, a Strategic Planning workshop was held on 7th August 2020 in which members made decisions regarding key stakeholders and focus areas going forward. Subsequently, another workshop was held in February 2021 at the City of Perth to refine priorities.

Discussion:

As a result of the workshop, key focus areas and stakeholders were identified. The following Strategic Planning Document has been updated and will be used to assist discussion and delegation of actions at strategic planning meetings.

- It should be recognised that key stakeholders should be aligned with the focus areas chosen by the members and that the list may evolve in line with project priorities.
- Due to the recent election and Cabinet shuffle, the key stakeholder list has also been adjusted to reflect the current person responsible for the identified portfolios of interest. Members are asked to consider if the State Government Stakeholder list reflects the priorities of the Alliance.
- Completed Items and stakeholders that have addressed the members have been removed

FOCUS AREAS	ACTION TAKEN/REQUIRED	NOTES/ KEY STAKEHOLDERS
Research	Housing project Complete Cultural, Performing Arts and Entertainment Centres Strategy to be commenced	Alliance members, EO, Duncan Ord
Advocacy and communications strategy	Alliance needs to develop a strategic approach to its future engagement with WALGA.	Not resolved
Benchmarking and baselining	Ongoing. Item under General Business 17th February 2022	Brian Sharp
Federal election strategy	Item under General Business 17th February 2022	Alliance members, EO
MACWA	2021-22 Nominations to be invited in Feb - March 2022 for July submission	WALGA, Department of Communities, RCWA
State aviation strategy	No further action at this point.	
STATE GOVERNMENT STAKEHOLDERS	LATEST CONTACT	NOTES
Mark McGowan; Premier; Treasurer; Minister for Public Sector Management; Federal- State Relations	10 April 2021	Letter sent – congratulations on election and meeting invite.
Mia Davies; Leader of the Nationals WA Leader of the Opposition	15 Jan 2021	Email sent and phone call received regarding Infrastructure Framework announcement. Letter received. EO met with Josh Nyman twice and has had conversations with Mia Davies.
Roger Cook; Deputy Premier; Minister for Health; Medical Research; State Development, Jobs and Trade; Science	3 Dec 2020	EO spoke with the Minister and invited him to attend Alliance meeting and he informally accepted. Email with 2021 meeting dates to follow – EO to follow up.
Donald (Don) Punch Minister for Disability Services; Fisheries; Innovation and ICT; Seniors and Ageing	May 2021	Email sent 31st May 2021. The Executive Office met with Minister Punch on the 9 th August.
Michael Barnes; Under Treasurer	In progress	EO to contact the Under Treasurer and arrange meeting and RCWA attendance.
Paul Papalia; Minister for Police; Road Safety; Defence Industry; Veterans	In progress	EO in regular contact to endeavour to get the Minister to future meeting.
Dr Antonio (Tony) De Paulo Buti; Minister for Finance; Lands; Sports and Recreation; Citizenship and Multicultural Interests	In progress	Letter sent 10 th September- no response
Rita Saffioti; Minister for Transport; Planning; Ports	3 Dec 2020	EO spoke with the Minister and invited her to attend Alliance meeting and she informally accepted. Email with 2021/22 meeting dates to follow.

INDUSTRY/ASSOC. STAKEHOLDERS	LATEST CONTACT	NOTES
Chamber of Minerals and Energy	4 Dec 2020	EO met with Warren Pearce, CEO Association of Mining and Exploration Companies (AMEC). EO to follow up future meeting attendance with Paul Everingham, CEO
Mining companies – Rio, FMG, Hancock Prospecting	14 Dec 2020	Meeting held with Katherine Savage, Government Relations Manager, Hancock Prospecting at Pivot in the Park offices. EO contacted Andrew Forrest to update him on RCWA matters and subsequently met with the FMG CIO, John Hartman from the Fortescue Tattarang Group.
CBH	In progress	
Airlines – Qantas, Virgin and Rex	In progress	
Brendon Hammond	30 Jan 2021	EO has made contact.
2022 Meeting Dates	Location	Notes
17 th February 6 th and 7 th April 16 th June 18 th and 19 th August 20 th and 21 st October 15 th December	Zoom Perth Zoom Perth Busselton Zoom	Parliament meetings Meeting and Strategic Planning Regional meeting and tour

Link to strategic Direction:

Partnership and collaboration
Advocacy
Representation

Resolution: Nil

16 OTHER BUSINESS

ITEM
<p>Strategic Planning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The EO is seeking interest from Alliance members to nominate a staff member(s) as a staff development opportunity to work with the EO in developing the new 2022/23 – 2026/27 Strategic Plan. With the intention of preparing an outline of the process at the April meeting. <p>Action: EA to email Alliance members seeking expressions of interest from interested staff as a development opportunity, working with the EO, in revising and updating the 2022/2023 Strategic Plan.</p>
<p>Benchmarking:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> With Brain Sharp no longer available to support the benchmarking project the EO is exploring options to continue with the program’s support, including speaking to Jeff Robson as an alternative consultant to manage the strategic elements and analysis of the results with NAJA Business Consulting Services supporting the back-end collation and data entry, within the existing \$15,000 p.a. approved budget. The EO is seeking support for this approach. Alternatively, the Alliance members may consider providing this service, as previously was undertaken by the City of Albany. <p>Action: EO to include provision of benchmarking data collection and initial high-level reporting within his new 2022/2024 contract proposal. The Alliance members to decide at a later time whether or not to engage additional support for a more in-depth analysis of the information.</p>
<p>EO Contract:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members to note the current EO and EA two-year term contracts are in place until 30th April 2022. A renewal proposal will be circulated out of session to members for consideration prior to the April 6th, 2022, meeting, where it will be considered. NB: EO and EA left the room whilst this matter was discussed. <p>Action: EO to prepare a \$100K (GST excl.) proposal to be negotiated out of session by the Chair and Secretary whereby NAJA Business Consulting Services provides services inclusive of EO, EA and Benchmarking data collection and high-level reporting.</p>

Federal Election Strategy

- Members to discuss what approach, if any, they want to take as an Alliance to the lead up to the 2022 Federal election. The 2019 Federal election Alliance flyer could be revamped and sent out to all sitting members and candidates with a covering letter on behalf of the Chair, leading up to the election.
- Once again, the EO is also happy to work with a nominated staff member(s) from the Alliance to involve them in the process as a developmental opportunity.

Action: EO to take appropriate action to update the Federal Election Flyer, reflecting RCAs Federal Election material including new items such as Covid and Housing. EO to again explore staff development opportunities for this activity.

Budget implications: Limited costs for graphic design

AGENDA FOR GROWTH

Regional Capitals in the National Interest

RED TAPE	EMPLOYMENT	TOURISM	INFRASTRUCTURE
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reform Local Government for better regional decision making. 2. Streamline land tenure and native title processes. 3. Integrate project approvals. A single integrated land, planning, environment and development system. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support skilled migration into regional capitals to match skill-based needs. 2. Reform FBT in remote regional Australia to incentivise work and living regionally. 3. Develop a National Settlement Strategy that focuses on regional capitals. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide more support to promote iconic attractions in regional capitals. 2. Reduce cost of regional airfares. 3. Build better collaboration between regional capitals and Tourism Australia. 4. Build tourism related infrastructure and facilities. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fast track regional capitals funding deals. 2. Adopt the Regional Framework approach. 3. Include regional capitals in National Energy Policy discussions. 4. Establish arts and cultural facilities funding program.

REGIONAL CAPITALS ALLIANCE WESTERN AUSTRALIA: A BREAKDOWN

<p>“The combined value of trade exports from and through Western Australia’s regional centres has consistently performed above expectations.”</p>	<p>POPULATION 250,000 50% of WA’s Regional Population</p>	<p>GROSS REGIONAL PRODUCT \$33BILLION 13% of WA’s GSP</p>	<p>PORT PRODUCTION \$71 BILLION 74% of WA’s total exports</p>	<p>TOURISM \$2+ BILLION 18% of WA’s Economy</p>	<p>EMPLOYMENT 11% of WA’s Employment</p>
	<p>\$365K AVERAGE HOUSE PRICE Significantly below the national average house price of \$571k</p>			<p>\$4 BILLION AGRICULTURE 14% of WA’s economy</p>	

Sources: Australian Bureau of Statistics; ABS Census Data 2016; REMPLAN; Tourism Research Australia (International, Domestic, Overnight and Domestic Day); and CoreLogic.

ITEM

2022 Meeting Schedule

6th April: 2pm onwards and 7th April 9 am-12.30 pm:
Perth Parliament meetings on the 6th – update to be provided dependent on Parliament sittings and the Covid situation. 7th April will be at the City of Perth.

16th June: 2-5pm Zoom

18th August: 2pm onward and 19th August 9am-12.30pm:
Perth Meeting / Strategic Planning (***Possibly Optus Stadium***)

20th pm and 21st October am: Busselton Regional meeting and tour

15th December: 2-5pm Zoom

Discussion:

As required

Resolution: Nil

MEETING CLOSED: 3:10