

2019 Local Government NSW Annual Conference Resolutions

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ASSOCIATION BUSINESS

2 LGNSW Board – LGNSW Fundamental Principles

That the LGNSW Fundamental Principles, as set out below, be re-endorsed:

Economic

- A - Local government must have control of its revenue raising and investment decisions and be fairly funded by the Commonwealth and State/NSW Governments to meet its infrastructure and service responsibilities.
- B - Local government promotes local and regional economic development and employment growth.

Infrastructure

- C - Local government is best placed to plan for, deliver and manage essential local infrastructure.

Planning

- D - Local government is best placed to lead and influence local and regional planning processes according to the needs and expectations of local communities
- E - Our communities' quality of life is a priority of local government planning.

Environment

- F - Local government actions reflect Ecologically Sustainable Development. ESD requires the effective integration of economic, environmental and social considerations in decision making processes and is based on the following principles:
 - Intergenerational equity – today's actions maintain or enhance the environment for future Generations
 - Precautionary principle – prevent environmental degradation and manage and mitigate risk
 - Conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity
 - Improved valuation and pricing of environmental resources – recognising the value of the environment to the community

Social and Community

- G - Local government is committed to the principles of:
 - Equity – fair distribution of resources
 - Rights – equality for all people
 - Access – to services essential to quality of life
 - Participation – of all people in their community
 - Recognition – of the unique place of Aboriginal people in NSW and the right of Aboriginal people to be involved in all decisions affecting Aboriginal communities
 - Health and Safety – for all in the community

Governance

- H - Local government must be constitutionally recognised and respected as an equal sphere of government
- I - Local government is democratically elected to shape, serve and support communities
- J - Local government is committed to the principles of good governance

Accountability

- K - Local government is responsible and accountable to the citizens and the communities it represents, through consultative processes, legislative accountabilities, efficient delivery of services and effective customer service
- L - Local government is recognised as a responsible and place-based employer

DROUGHT

3 Uralla Shire Council – Drought recovery

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW and Federal Government to provide funding to assist communities to deal with the effects of drought locally, and that funding be set aside to assist the community to recover from the drought after the immediate effects have diminished and that recovery coordinators be appointed through the Joint Organisations to facilitate drought recovery.

This issue was also raised by Lachlan Shire and Narromine Shire Councils – see Appendix A

4 LGNSW Board – Water Security

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to develop, in consultation with local government and Aboriginal custodial communities:

1. A comprehensive, integrated and funded emergency plan to address the immediate water supply crisis afflicting NSW towns and communities and a disaster recovery plan for when the drought breaks. These plans should:
 - a) provide greater flexibility, such as allowing temporary transfer of water, where the water does not have current allocations/licensing and it is within the same water source;
 - b) ensure that town water supplies will be secured and maintained; and
 - c) ensure that appropriate consultation is undertaken, when issuing bore licences and other relief measures.
2. Long term (30-40 year) water supply strategies for catchments throughout the State that mitigate the risks from future droughts and the predicted impact of climate change to help ensure population and economic growth targets can be achieved and supported. These strategies should not exclude ambitious infrastructure projects of the scale of the Snowy Mountain Scheme, while storm water harvesting, reuse and recycling and demand management initiatives should feature as key elements of those plans.

This issue was also raised by Bourke Shire, Tamworth Regional, Cabonne Shire, Bellingen Shire, Lachlan Shire, Federation, Orange City, Parkes Shire, Greater Hume Shire, Narromine Shire and Warrumbungle Shire Councils – see Appendix A

4.1 LGNSW Board – Drought Responses

That LGNSW calls for the development and implementation of integrated long term National, State Drought Policies and Plans. Elements of the policy must include:

1. A commitment to provide long term water security and related initiatives such as fodder banks
2. Bringing forward planned water infrastructure projects and identifying new infrastructure projects that will assist in providing long term water security
3. Supports demand managements and water saving initiatives down to the household level
4. Stronger support for emergency responses such as water carting
5. A review of Water Sharing Plans, particularly in relation to need for optimisation of the management of environmental flows
6. Commitment to actively engage councils in development of all policies and plans
7. Provision for funding local government drought coordinators
8. Explicit recognition by the State and Federal Governments that they have a community service obligation (CSO) to subsidise water and sewerage infrastructure and services in small rural and regional communities
9. Increased provision of financial and mental health support for communities impacted by drought (supported by roadshows to make people aware of available assistance).

This issue was also raised by Brewarrina Shire Council – see Appendix A

WASTE AND RECYCLING

5 LGNSW Board – Waste and resource recovery

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to reinvest the waste levy to:

1. Fund regions of councils to develop regional waste plans for the future of waste and resource recovery in their regions, which include infrastructure and circular economy solutions to address the needs of our cities and regions.
2. Fund the delivery of priority infrastructure and other projects, procured by local government, that are needed to deliver the regional-scale plans, particularly where there is market failure identified in the regional plans.
3. Increase local and state government procurement of recycled goods made with domestic content, for example by:
 - a) adopting recycled content targets to help drive demand and provide incentives to deliver on these targets.
 - b) funding further research, development and delivery of recycling technologies and products generated from recyclables, particularly by local or regional councils.
4. Fund and deliver state-wide education campaigns on the importance of recycling to encourage the right way to recycle, the purchase of products with recycled content, as well as promote waste avoidance.
5. Work with the Federal Government to introduce producer responsibility schemes for soft plastics and other emerging problem wastes.

This issue was also raised by Blacktown City, North Sydney, Fairfield City, Inner West, Uralla Shire, Lismore City, Bellingen Shire, Hawkesbury City, Federation, Central Coast, Ku-ring-gai, Orange City, Shoalhaven City, Randwick City and Ryde City Councils – see Appendix A

6 North Sydney Council – Mixed waste organics

That Local Government NSW presses the NSW Government to resolve the current impasse in processing and use of “mixed waste organics”, towards restoration of a sustainable system for use of this product.

7 Federation Council – Waste to energy

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to:

1. Initiate research to determine world best practice in the establishment and management of waste to energy facilities; and
2. Ensure that any approvals granted for any Energy from Waste plant include conditions that adopt world’s best practices in emissions, emissions monitoring and residual waste disposal and incorporate any scientific or technology advances that have an impact on energy-from-waste development, and
3. Incorporate findings on community and environmental impacts on health, safety and the environment into existing or new legislation; and
4. Urgently commit to working with LGNSW and NSW Councils where waste to energy proposals are being considered; and
5. use some of the waste levy funding to facilitate the research and engagement process

8 Federation Council – Trade waste

That the NSW Government engages with local government and relevant State Government agencies, and industry representatives, to develop a strategy to strengthen end point disposal solutions for trade-waste, especially in regional and rural NSW.

9 Wollongong City Council – Building and construction waste management

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to investigate ways of ensuring that waste from building and construction sites is minimised, properly managed, recycled and disposed, with appropriately scaled fines for non-compliance.

IPART – REVIEW OF RATING SYSTEM

10 LGNSW Board – IPART – Review of Rating System

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to:

- a) Open the IPART recommendations on rate exemptions for consultation (Recommendations 14-25). This includes recommendations to remove the rate exemptions for commercial forestry operations, private and commercial leases in national parks and social housing.
- b) Accept and expedite implementation of the recommendations to improve rating flexibility through increased categorisation and sub-categorisation options (Recommendations 29-34).
- c) Adopt the recommendations to introduce Capital Improved Value (CIV) to the NSW rating system as an option available to all councils (Recommendations 1-7).
- d) Adopt the recommendation that growth in rates revenue outside the rate peg be calculated on changes in CIV. This would enable growth in the rate base to keep pace with real growth and the associated increase in demand for council infrastructure and services (Recommendations 1-7).
- e) Reject the IPART recommendations in relation to pensioner rate concessions (Recommendations 26-28).
- f) Accept the recommendation to provide a “catch-up” provision for councils that do not take advantage of the “full percentage increase available to it” to be more flexible. It increases the ability for councils to set rates at a level lower than the permissible maximum if the community experiences a downturn, such as drought. This will remove an unnecessary anomaly (Recommendation 9).
- g) Work closely with local government in reviewing and implementing the supported IPART recommendations.

This issue was also raised by Bega Valley Shire and Bayside Councils – see Appendix A

ECONOMIC

11 Moree Plains Shire Council – Natural disaster funding arrangements

That Local Government NSW 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.

This issue was also raised by Lismore City Council – see Appendix A

12 LGNSW Board – Emergency Services Levy

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to:

1. Commit to the introduction of a broad-based property tax to replace the Emergency Services Levy on both local government and insurance policies; and
2. Work closely with local government in designing and transitioning to a new funding system.

This issue was also raised by Newcastle City, Shellharbour City, City of Canterbury Bankstown, Blue Mountains City, Liverpool City, Kyogle, Uralla Shire, Armidale Regional, Tamworth Regional, Forbes Shire, Greater Hume Shire, Shoalhaven City, Bland Shire Councils – see Appendix A

13 Carrathool Shire Council – Grant funded projects

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW and Federal governments to allow reasonable timeframes for remote councils to submit applications for projects, and reasonable timeframes for project completion.

14 Bourke Shire Council – Budgetary commitment for delivery programs

That the NSW Government be asked to provide a commitment of longer-term funding to councils to allow them to prepare their four Delivery Programs with an increased degree of surety and, importantly, make provision for and undertake appropriate purchases of plant and equipment and ensure the availability of adequate staff resources.

15 Hawkesbury City Council – Announcement of grant funding

That the NSW Local Government Grants Commission moves the announcement date of Local Road and Bridges Grant Funding from September to May each year to enable the proposed income to be incorporated into council operational plans.

16 Wingecarribee Shire Council – Review of grant funding distribution

That the NSW Government:

1. Reviews the methodology used when determining the level of grant funding distributed to councils and that councils be invited to be part of the review process.
2. Consideration of allocations of funding to council on an as needs basis.
3. Consideration be given to reducing the complexity of funding program application processes.

17 Forbes Shire Council – Increase in the funds available through FAGs

That the Federal Government increase Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs) funding to 1% of Commonwealth tax revenue, prior to any changes to the formula.

This issue was also raised by Lismore City and Moree Plains Shire Councils – see Appendix A

20 City of Canterbury Bankstown Council – Investing in critical local infrastructure

That:

1. Local Government NSW calls upon the NSW Government to investigate the establishment of a capital investment funding framework for local government, with the view to bringing forward the funding of critical local infrastructure.
2. Such a framework is to also consider the option whereby the NSW Government forward-funds critical local infrastructure listed in Councils' Contributions Plans.

21 Armidale Regional Council – Establishment of regional marketing fund

That:

1. Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government for the immediate creation of a \$5 million per annum Regional Marketing Fund for five years to promote living, working and investing in regional NSW; and
2. The Fund be administered by a representative body of councils with membership to be made up of two from regional cities (population over 25,001), two from coastal cities (population over 25,001), two from provincial centres (population from 10,000 to 25,000) and two from smaller country communities (population up to 10,000).

23 City of Sydney – Principles-based procurement

That Local Government NSW undertakes a review of the legislation and practice that guides local government procurement and prepares a guide for local government on how the existing requirement to obtain 'best value' in the procurement process could incorporate local values and strategic objectives, such as 'buy local', or give adequate consideration to environmental concerns.

24 Armidale Regional Council – Pensioner concessions for low-income renters

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to consider extending pensioner concessions to low-income renters.

25 Hornsby Shire Council – Flexibility in procurement

That Local Government NSW requests the NSW Government to introduce greater flexibility in procurement for local councils and with similar provisions as those available for State Government agencies and the Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) Procurement Innovation Stream, including:

1. For Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), the Procurement Innovation Stream upper limit – change from \$250,000 to \$1 million.
2. For proof of concept or outcomes-based trials, engagement of suppliers (SMEs) through direct negotiation on short-term contracts valued up to the set procurement innovation stream limit. Once a trial is complete, a competitive tender process takes place.
3. Tender threshold for local government of \$250,000 be raised by introducing bands according to council's organisation scale, such as:
 - a) Councils with budget under \$25 million = tender threshold of \$250,000.
 - b) Councils with budget of \$25 million to \$50 million = \$500,000 and so forth.
 - c) Up to the highest maximum threshold comparable to the State Government.

This issue was also raised by Willoughby City and Bayside Councils – see Appendix A

26 Blacktown City Council – Local Infrastructure Growth Scheme guarantee

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to guarantee funding to councils in designated Local Infrastructure Growth Scheme transition areas.

27 Bayside Council – Rates harmonisation for amalgamated councils

That:

1. Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to adopt a process for the harmonisation of rates for amalgamated councils which does not require the new council to harmonise rates within a 12-month period as currently prescribed in the Local Government Act, and
2. Serious consideration be given to the Local Government - Final Report December 2016 of the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal, with a view to addressing the constraints of the limitation of the proposed limit of 10% (plus the rate peg) rates increase in the gradual equalisation process, in the case where the difference in rates are significant in the pre-merger areas.

28 Central Tablelands County Council – Developer contributions for LWUs

That Local Government NSW advocates that local water utilities (LWUs) regulated under the *Water Management Act 2000* be afforded the same flexibility in recovering contributions from developers toward the cost of water and sewer works as applies to metropolitan utilities regulated under the *Water Industry Competition Act 2006*. In particular:

1. LWUs should have the flexibility to recover the cost of existing and new infrastructure (calculated under the utility's Development Servicing Plan):
 - a) entirely from developers of new developments;
 - b) entirely from all existing and new customers; or
 - c) from a combination of both (eg through a cap less than the full developer charge).
2. The manner and extent of the disclosure of any cross-subsidy should be at the discretion of the LWU, in both cases without the LWU being in breach of the Best Practice Guidelines for Water and Sewerage and, therefore, without it impacting on their eligibility for grant funding.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND PLANNING

29 Blue Mountains City Council – Delayed implementation of development consents

That Local Government NSW writes to the NSW Minister for Planning to seek regulatory reform of the NSW planning system to address the delayed implementation of development consents, which currently permit development some 28 or more years after the consent was secured, without obligation to review against contemporary planning and environmental standards or the views of the present community.

30 Port Macquarie-Hastings Council – Addition to Section 5 of the LGNSW Building Regulation and Certification Position Statement

That Local Government NSW amends Section 5 of the Building Regulation and Certification Position Statement (of the LGNSW Policy Platform), by adding the following new clause:

5.7 - More affordable access to the full suite of Australian Standards for the local government sector and requests the NSW Government supports that access.

31 Cumberland Council – NSW Environmental Planning Policy (Educational Establishments and Child Care Facilities) 2017

That Local Government NSW advocates for the NSW Government to review the NSW Environmental Planning Policy (Educational Establishments and Child Care Facilities) 2017 (the Child Care SEPP) and the Child Care Planning Guideline with a view to restoring planning decisions relating to the location, type and design of child care services to local councils.

32 Port Stephens Council – Amendments to derelict building regulation

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to increase councils' legislative powers to manage derelict sites.

This issue was also raised by Moree Plains Shire and Wagga Wagga City Councils – see Appendix A

33 City of Parramatta Council – Cladding on public and privately owned buildings

That Local Government NSW calls on the State and Federal governments to:

- a) Provide support and funding to assist in the reduction of the significant financial stress and risk posed by the non-complaint combustible cladding installed on public and privately owned buildings, but especially to those premises with cladding already installed prior to legislative certification changes now deemed non-compliant due to products with removed certifications, and
- b) Introduce additional measures to implement increased resources to the monitoring and inspecting of cladding imports to ensure they meet the legislative certificate ratings required for installation on buildings.
- c) In the interests of safety, and to provide certainty to homeowners and investors, the NSW government must release the details surrounding the 600 plus high risk buildings already identified as being at risk and at the same time as outlining measures it will take to rectify the combustible cladding problem

This issue was also raised by Ryde City Council – see Appendix A

34 Northern Beaches Council – Return of certification to councils

That:

1. Local Government NSW encourages the NSW Government to conduct a review of its policy that allows private accredited certifiers to issue development certificates.
2. This review strongly consider a gradual return of development certificates, construction certificates and complying development certificates to councils, and that the principal certifying authority for developments are gradually returned to council in the relevant local government area.

This issue was also raised by Inner West and Central Coast Councils – see Appendix A

35 LGNSW Board – Private certification - conflicts of interest

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to identify how it intends to address unresolved conflict-of-interest concerns highlighted in the 2018 Options Paper; and to undertake a review, in consultation with local government, of alternative solutions to address conflicts of interest with private certification. The review should include consideration of:

1. Introducing a system whereby certifiers are allocated from a register rather directly engaged by the applicant or builder;
2. Random appointment of certifiers from a panel or by some other method that significantly reduces the conflict of interest issues inherent in the current system; and
3. Councils having a pool of Certifiers that residents can use, with council retaining overarching control of the process.

This issue was also raised by Lane Cove, Hunters Hill and Orange City Councils – see Appendix A

36 Bayside Council – Fire safety practitioners

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to increase the qualifications for competent fire practitioners and include continual development and training requirements.

37 Bega Valley Shire Council – Consistent definition of tiny houses

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to amend the *Local Government (Manufactured Home Estates, Caravan Parks, Camping Grounds and Moveable Dwellings) Regulation 2005* to include a definition of tiny houses in NSW planning legislation, to offer a flexible, legitimate housing model.

38 LGNSW Board – Review of state policies on housing

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to

1. Review all housing-related State Environmental Planning Policies (SEPP's so they allow for locally based planning to occur in line with the new emphasis on local strategic planning in the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.
2. Urgently progress its comprehensive review of all state policies, giving priority to the following housing related SEPP's (so that local housing solutions aren't undermined):
 - a) State Environment Planning Policy (Affordable Rental Housing 2009)
 - b) State Environment Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008
 - c) Draft State Environmental Planning Policy (Short-term Rental Accommodation) 2019
 - d) State Environment Planning Policy (Sydney Regional Growth Centres) 2006
 - e) State Environmental Planning Policy (Housing for Seniors People with a Disability) 2004

This issue was also raised by Liverpool City, Penrith City, Hunters Hill, Tamworth Regional, Central Coast and Strathfield Councils – see Appendix A

40 Blue Mountains City Council – Strengthening heritage provisions

That Local Government NSW:

1. Writes to the Department of Premier and Cabinet (Heritage Division) to advocate for the provision of stronger powers to State Government and local government agencies, to require that locally listed heritage items meet minimum standards of maintenance and repair; and the power to enforce these requirements; and
2. Recommends to the Department of Premier and Cabinet (Heritage Division) that these minimum standards align with those required for State-listed heritage items under the *Heritage Act 1977*.

41 Wingecarribee Shire Council – Review of developer contributions system

That the NSW Government undertakes an urgent holistic review of the developer contributions system in NSW, with the aim of reducing the financial burden placed on councils in providing infrastructure to support population growth and/or the changing needs of communities throughout NSW.

42 Central Coast Council – Consultant reports

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to introduce a system that guarantees independence and integrity in consultant reporting in the Development Application process, including the following elements:

- a) Councils establish a list of independent consultants, through an EOI process, available to undertake consultant reports needed for development applications including (but not limited to) Environment Impact Statements, Statement of Environment Effects, Traffic Management Reports, engineer reports, and the like.
- b) Councils establish an independent consultancy fund to procure services from independent consultants.
- c) Applicants contribute a fee, payable to the independent consultancy fund, to cover the cost of procuring an independent consultant.
- d) Councils allocate a consultant, from the approved list of consultants, to undertake work required for a development proposal.
- e) Consultant's report to be provided to councils directly to consider as part of the Development Application process.
- f) Introduce an audit system to ensure independence and transparency in the Independent Consultant process.

43 Lismore City Council – DA and plan making processes

That Local Government NSW requests that the NSW Government:

1. Undertakes fundamental reform to create one statutory local planning instrument, and to streamline Development Assessment and State Environmental Planning Policies into a single system.
2. Develops a new planning system that has its primary purpose of achieving ecologically sustainable development including climate change, Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander peoples, knowledge and culture, housing diversity, transport networks and infrastructure provision.
3. Embeds the right for community decision-making in strategic planning and development assessment.

44 Kiama Municipal Council – Councils rights to challenge regional planning panels

That Local Government NSW advocates for the NSW Government to review the processes of the regional planning panels, including the current Code of Conduct, with a view to ensuring that, in practice, genuine local representation including councillors on these panels is preserved.

This issue was also raised by Cessnock City Council – see Appendix A

45 Hunters Hill Council – Right of appeal from decisions of the IPC

That Local Government NSW advocates for legislative reform of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, including repeal of section 8.6 (3) (a) of that Act and related regulations to ensure:

- a) that decisions made by the Independent Planning Commission (IPC) are not exempt from judicial appeal following the IPC's holding of a public hearing; and
- b) both merits and judicial appeal rights to courts of appropriate jurisdiction are available to parties affected by decisions of the IPC.

46 Forbes Shire Council – Regional roads and bridges

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to commit to ensuring that councils affected by the Regional Roads Reclassification Review have their RMCC contracts retained in any proposed transfer where those roads are currently managed by the council.

47 Forbes Shire Council – Amendments to Heavy Vehicle National Law

That the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator amends Heavy Vehicle National Law to:

- a) Change the definition of the loading manager from the person who manages or is responsible for the operation of the premises to the person who is managing the loading activity;
- b) Harmonise the legislation, especially as it relates to different mass limits, across jurisdictions; and
- c) Recognise the unique aspects of transporting livestock with regards to animal welfare and volumetric loading for livestock.

48 Lismore City Council – Regional roads funding

That Local Government NSW welcomes the NSW Government's election commitment as outlined below and lobbies for the reviews for implementation to be fast tracked, including:

1. The establishment of a \$500 million Fixing Local Rural and Regional Roads program to assist councils in repairing, maintaining and sealing important local roads;
2. The establishment of a \$500 million Fixing Country Bridges program to replace the worst timber bridges in regional and rural communities;
3. A process to transfer up to 15,000 kilometres of council-owned regional roads across NSW back to the State Government; and
4. The establishment of an independent expert panel to oversee the asset transfer process.

49 Leeton Shire Council – Review of speed limit criteria

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to:

- a) Review the NSW Speed Zoning Guidelines specifically the definition of built up areas to ensure the focus remains on public safety in built-up areas, and
- b) Ensure that the adopted RMS criteria for 50 kilometre per hour zones are uniformly and appropriately applied across NSW without variation in order to preserve their value as a road trauma reduction tool in built-up areas only.

50 Bland Shire Council – Regional roads taskforce

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government so that Local Government NSW has concurrence over the Terms of Reference of the Taskforce being established to identify those roads to be returned to the State Government, along with concurrence of its membership so it consists of experts with local government knowledge and experience.

L2 Glen Innes Severn Council – Maintenance grading - rural roads

That Local Government NSW makes representations to both the Australian and NSW Governments identifying the impending future demands for funding in respect of unsealed road maintenance in rural areas of the State when the current drought finally ends, and further identifies and seeks the provision from Government of additional funding for this purpose, which at this stage is unquantified.

51 Georges River Council – Delivering on the promise of the 30-minute city

To support the delivery of the 30-minute city, the NSW Government acknowledges that the accessibility levels in the Greater Sydney Area (as reported by the Greater Sydney Commission) do not reflect this aim, and the NSW Government reviews infrastructure priorities and looks to decentralise government jobs to specialised centres and support local job creation outside of the three cities to improve the possibility of Greater Sydney becoming a 30-minute city.

52 Hay Shire Council – Electronic water quality and level sensors for river systems

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to install a network of electronic water quality and level sensors throughout NSW river systems to provide accurate real time data on river heights, flows and water quality to government agencies to assist with better management of the systems, especially in times of floods, droughts, algal blooms and low dissolved oxygen levels.

53 Rous County Council – NSW Government's Integrated Mining Policy

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to expand the scope of its Integrated Mining Policy to incorporate water mining (including ground water mining) to ensure effective planning, assessment and regulation of activity in NSW, with particular regard for:

- a) regional water security (water quality and quantity)
- b) environmental and social impact
- c) consultation in decision making.

L3 Brewarrina Shire Council – Membership WaterNSW Board

That Local Government NSW lobbies the Minister for Water to review the membership of the WaterNSW Board to include representation from local government, nominated by LGNSW, of persons with hands on experience in rural communities to represent the interests of rural water suppliers.

54 Kyogle Council – Essential Energy reduced service

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to act to mitigate staff reductions at Essential Energy impacting on rural councils.

This issue was also raised by Bourke Shire and Forbes Shire Councils – see Appendix A

55 LGNSW Board – Crown lands management

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to provide increased assistance to councils to enable them to effectively perform their new roles and responsibilities under the *Crown Lands Management Act (2016)*. Specifically, the Government is requested to:

- a) Fully fund the development and implementation of Plans of Management for Crown Lands Reserves within each local government area;
- b) Extend the 30 June 2021 deadline for councils to prepare the Plans of Management for Council Reserves as required under the new *Crown Land Management Act 2016*;
- c) Fully fund the costs of training staff to assess native title matters associated with management of Crown land and any related costs resulting from the need to engage expert advice and guidance;
- d) Expedite the Crown Land Review Program so that ownership of more land agreed to be primarily of local significance is transferred to councils;
- e) Provide additional funding for the implementation of the *Biosecurity Act 2015* for land being transferred to councils and a statement of Biosecurity Risks be provided to councils prior to the handover; and
- f) Stop charging councils commercial rents for crown land used for council purposes (eg: easements) to enable councils to apply the savings to Crown land management.

This issue was also raised by Blue Mountains City, Kyogle, Wagga Wagga City, Federation, Cowra, Kyogle, Uralla Shire and Central Coast Councils – see Appendix A

56 Central Coast Council – 5G rollout

That Local Government NSW calls on the Federal Government to consult with local government and communities about the rollout of the next generation 5G networks, particularly in the placement of enabling infrastructure.

This issue was also raised by Lismore City Council – see Appendix A

57 City of Parramatta Council – Utility infrastructure

That Local Government NSW:

1. Lobbies the NSW Government and Federal Government to recognise the impact of poor regulation of utility and telecommunications implementation and service augmentation on the streets and footpaths of our cities and towns.
2. Advocates for providing councils a greater voice in the location and management of the impacts of infrastructure elements such as pits, boxes and other elements that disrupt pedestrian flow in the public domain.
3. Strongly advocates for changes to legislation at Federal and State level to enable councils to impose costs on providers who do not pursue common trenching, coordinated augmentation activities and efficient use of footpaths for services.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND EMPLOYMENT

58 LGNSW Board – Skills and education

That LGNSW advocates to the State Government and Federal Government to address the skill shortages and impediments to employment and training by:

- a) Allowing occupational licensing portability by mutually recognising State/Territory based occupational qualifications and licensing for building, construction, and maintenance related services.
- b) Expediting a review of current regional education offerings, this review would identify current and future regional skills shortages based on current State Governments regional investment strategies and State Significant Development and that priority be given to implementation of action from such a review for trade associated pathways that align with regional investment strategies and State Significant Development.
- c) Working with TAFE NSW and registered training organisations to develop and deliver accredited training programs in specialist skill areas such as trade waste.
- d) Reducing or removing the HELP liability for new graduates who secure employment in rural and remote local government areas.
- e) Injecting significant funds into TAFE and the higher education system to redress recent funding cuts and the impacts of TAFE deregulation.

This issue was also raised by Tenterfield Shire, Hunters Hill, Willoughby City, Federation, Narrabri Shire and Lake Macquarie City Councils – see Appendix A

59 Ryde City Council – 10 days domestic violence leave policy

That Local Government NSW:

- a) Endorses the United Services Union campaign for 10 days domestic violence leave for local government employees.
- b) Includes a 10 day domestic violence leave provision in relevant Local Government Awards as soon as possible.

60 Newcastle City Council – Superannuation for councillors

That Local Government NSW:

1. Notes that as a result of Federal and State taxation and local government legislation, elected councillors in NSW are not paid superannuation;
2. Notes research from the Association of Superannuation Funds of Australia that the average superannuation balance for women in 2016 was 40% less than that for men;
3. Notes that requiring the compulsory payment of superannuation to mayors and councillors in NSW would help bridge the superannuation gender gap and assist in attracting more diversity in local government;
4. Notes that at the 2017 Annual Conference, Local Government NSW adopted the following motion: “That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government and Remuneration Tribunal to make it mandatory that councils make superannuation payments to mayors and councillors and that these payments must be in addition to the stipend paid to elected officials. The superannuation payments would be at the Superannuation Guarantee rate, as determined by the Commonwealth and which varies from time to time. Payments would be made to complying superannuation funds.” (2017 LGNSW Annual Conference, Motion No. 80); and
5. Writes to the Federal and State Ministers and Shadow Ministers for Local Government in support of the Local Government NSW motion, requesting amendment to relevant State and Federal legislation requiring councillors to be paid compulsory superannuation, as has been the case since 1991 for all Australians.
6. That the NSW Government engages with councils, and prepares new increased councillor remuneration thresholds for all councils, to more adequately reflect the workload, training and increased representation demanded of councils, especially those in merged councils.

This issue was also raised by Federation Council – see Appendix A

ENVIRONMENTAL

61 Central Darling Shire Council – Menindee Lakes Ramsar listing

That Local Government NSW supports the listing of the Menindee Lakes, or a portion of the lake system, to be listed as a Ramsar site in recognition of its importance in protecting the natural value of the area through provision of a native fish nursery, supporting migratory bird species, and other essential wetland processes.

62 Wollondilly Shire Council – Retention of mature or significant vegetation

That LGNSW lobbies the NSW Government to seek a significant change in policy and legislation to incentivise the retention of mature and significant vegetation in residential zone areas and discourage full vegetation removal on these sites through the Development Application process.

63 Bellingen Shire Council – Biodiversity conservation

1. That Local Government NSW recognises the crisis in biodiversity in NSW and the escalating economic, social and environmental impacts this will have especially in rural and regional areas and request the NSW Government review the cumulative impacts of legislation governing land, water and natural resource management, and acts to ensure the protection of biodiversity, threatened iconic species, water security, native forests and food security throughout NSW.
2. Take immediate steps to amend the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, and relevant State Environmental Planning Policies to ensure that all new development is required to meet the highest environmental standards, and funding sources are made available to local government to address the impact of climate change, including measures to:
 - a) Reduce carbon emissions from building and construction;
 - b) Strengthen energy and water efficiency standards in all new developments beyond those currently provided under the BASIX system;
 - c) Introduce a range of funding mechanisms that would allow local councils to build resilience in their communities;
 - d) Improve energy and water efficiency and to reduce heat stress risk in public housing and all NSW Government owned buildings and offices; and
 - e) Set tree canopy targets for all metropolitan areas with commensurate funding to be provided by the NSW Government to meet those targets.

This issue was also raised by Randwick City Council – see Appendix A

64 Tweed Shire Council – Funding for environmental protection

That Local Government NSW requests the NSW Government to dramatically increase funding for environmental protection to at least 5% of the State Budget in light of current funding levels of \$1,459 million, which equates to only 1.75% of the \$83,300 million 2019/20 operating budget.

65 Liverpool City Council – Clean air

- That Local Government NSW lobbies the State Government requesting changes to legislation that:
- a) Will ensure all facilities at high risk of causing dust pollution must install air monitoring equipment and procedure to capture data on an hourly basis that is to be available to the Environmental Planning Authority and councils upon request with statutory limits that are enforceable through stringent fines or possible closure of operation;
 - b) Federal and State governments ensure that all vehicles imported into Australia meet the highest EU standard.
 - c) Introduce tax initiatives to encourage the up-take of electric powered vehicles in order to phase out the reliance on fossil fuels.

66 Armidale Regional Council – Breaches of national standards

That when official monitoring shows serious breaches of National Standards (e.g. the 31 exceedances of National Air Quality standards in Armidale), Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to provide the necessary resources and assistance to councils to enable them to meet national standards as soon as practicable.

68 Nambucca Shire Council – Asbestos disposal

That in an endeavour to encourage the safe removal and disposal of asbestos, the State Government removes the waste levy on asbestos and requests IPART to review the landfill charges for asbestos across NSW.

69 Warrumbungle Shire Council – Changes to asbestos management in NSW

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to provide portable asbestos disposal facilities (in the form of skip bins or similar) at key council locations in each LGA for use by local residents, to accept plastic wrapped asbestos products that can be relocated to an approved landfill when full, with the costs being borne by the State Government, not councils.

70 Bourke Shire Council – Fire and storm/flood damaged buildings containing asbestos

That the NSW Government be asked to establish a fund similar to that established for the “Mr Fluffy” clean up, whereby abandoned and/damaged homes containing asbestos or other illegal hazardous materials can be demolished and cleared away at no expense to the councils if they are uninsured or the owners have abandoned the premises.

This issue was also raised by Warrumbungle Shire Council – see Appendix A

L1 Forbes Shire Council – Asbestos Flying Squad

That Local Government NSW lobbies the Environment Protection Authority to fund the establishment and operation of an Asbestos Emergency Management Flying Squad (AEMFS). The purpose of the AEMFS is to provide expert advice and guidance to councils when councils are required to manage and/or participate in the clean-up of asbestos following natural disasters. The AEMFS is to consist of a group of suitably experienced and qualified people in asbestos management providing expert guidance to Recovery Committees, Local Emergency Management Officers, and other council staff on the remediation of asbestos contamination or disturbance of any asbestos material, including naturally occurring, during or following a natural disaster or emergency.

71 Blue Mountains City Council – Attaining Carbon Neutral Certification

That councils at the Local Government NSW Annual Conference investigate how councils in NSW can advance the aim of achieving carbon neutrality in as much of the sector as possible.

72 City of Sydney – Financial resilience and risk

That Local Government NSW calls upon the NSW Government to develop an equivalent government framework to enable mandatory reporting of its climate risk exposure in line with the industry-led Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD).

73 Rous County Council – Voluntary house raising

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to review the Voluntary House Raising Scheme total funding pool available for NSW per annum with attention to:

1. Reinstating a local allocation approach based on priority versus a single state-wide funding pool, and
2. Removing the financial barriers impeding landholder access to funding, noting the substantial expense that a landholder must incur to satisfy the mandatory eligibility requirements for funding, specifically, obtaining detailed project cost quotes.

74 Mosman Municipal Council – Encourage uptake of electric vehicles

That Local Government NSW lobbies the Federal Government and NSW Government to encourage the uptake of electric vehicles through appropriate investment, concessions and with legislative support of charging and parking infrastructure in new residential and commercial developments.

This issue was also raised by Shoalhaven City Council – see Appendix A

75 Ryde City Council – Climate emergency

That Local Government NSW, in recognition of the urgent need for climate action, calls upon the NSW Government to:

- a) Join over 900 governments worldwide, including the United Kingdom, the Australian Capital Territory and over 30 Australian councils, in declaring a Climate Emergency;
- b) In a bipartisan manner, make clear, effective and unambiguous steps to avert a climate crisis in NSW.

This issue was also raised by North Sydney, Blue Mountains City, Lismore City, Bellingen Shire and Parkes Shire Councils – see Appendix A

77 City of Sydney – Government accommodation procurement and environmental ratings

That Local Government NSW:

1. Calls upon the Federal and NSW governments to establish a policy that government officers preference hotels holding a third party environmental performance rating or certification for metropolitan based accommodation requirements; and
2. Asks councils to introduce policies to preference hotels holding a third party environmental performance rating or certification for metropolitan based accommodation requirements.

78 Federation Council – Solar farm regulation

That the State Government liaise with the Federal Government and local councils, to have a more strategic approach to the approval of large scale solar farms, and their impact on farm land to be more adequately considered, especially irrigated land, and for improvements to legislation to automatically allow councils to receive development contributions for State approved developments.

This issue was also raised by Uralla Shire and Leeton Shire Councils – see Appendix A

79 Lake Macquarie City Council – Assessing impacts of development on solar energy collectors on neighbouring properties

That Local Government NSW advocates for the State Government to adopt a consistent state-wide policy response for assessing development impacts on neighbouring properties with solar energy collectors (such as photovoltaic (PV) panels and solar hot water systems).

80 Willoughby City Council – Companion animals register

That Local Government NSW make representations to the State Government requesting The Companion Animals Register be modified to include the provision of full names and other identifying data to ensure the accuracy of owner details. This modification would require that any person who owns a companion animal would also provide documentation confirming the accuracy of their recorded details on the register.

81 Tenterfield Shire Council – Increased hazard reduction and water infrastructure

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to request that NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service, NSW Forestry Corporation and NSW Local Land Services, as a duty of care, undertake an increased level of park and forest fire management activities, including increased hazard reduction burns and increased numbers of dams and water infrastructure points for firefighting purposes into the future.

82 Ryde City Council – Proposed changes to the Companion Animals Act 1998

That Local Government NSW:

1. Writes to the NSW Minister for Local Government, proposing the below inclusion to the defences laid out in Section 16(2) of the *Companion Animals Act 1998*: - It is not an offence under this section if the incident occurred: (f) where a dog is behind a physical barrier such as a fence or enclosure and rushes at or harasses a person or animal.
2. Seeks community support by way of a LGNSW generated petition for the proposed changes to the *Companion Animals Act 1998*, as outlined in point 1 above.
3. Upon receipt of at least 10,000 signatories to the petition, presents the petition to a session of the NSW Legislative Assembly for discussion to support the requested changes to the *Companion Animals Act 1998*.

83 Shoalhaven City Council – Confining domestic cats

That the NSW Government changes the Companion Animals Act so that domestic cats are no longer free to wander and are confined to the house of their owner and/or an appropriate meshed cat run.

84 Blacktown City Council – Over population of unwanted cats

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to take the following steps to improve the management of cats:

- a) Prohibit cats from roaming onto public places and private property without the permission of the property owner.
- b) Review the required holding period for unidentified cats (not microchipped) from 7 days to 72 hours.
- c) Ensure consistency between the *Impounding Act 1993* and the *Companion Animals Act 1998*.

SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY

85 Forbes Shire Council – Rural doctor incentives

That a joint task force representing local, State and Federal governments be formed to formulate a model for improving the provision of medical services in rural and regional areas, and funding financial relocation packages for the engagement of doctors in rural towns.

This issue was also raised by Parkes Shire, Leeton Shire, Lachlan Shire and Snowy Valleys Councils – see Appendix A

86 Leeton Shire Council – Forensic pathology (post-mortem examination) services

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to:

- a) Undertake a full investigation into the delays currently experienced by communities in regional, rural and remote areas of NSW in accessing forensic pathology (post-mortem examination) services.
- b) Expand access to forensic pathology (post-mortem examination) services to regional centres outside Newcastle, Sydney and Wollongong.
- c) Review 2016 changes to the provision of forensic pathology (post-mortem examination) services which have contributed to delays in releasing bodies to grieving families.
- d) Improve exposure to the specialty of forensic pathology and death investigation in medical training facilities to help address the shortage of practitioners within the NSW Health system.

87 Ballina Shire Council – Minimising harm resulting from electronic gaming machines

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to have Liquor and Gaming NSW:

1. Undertake increased inspections, monitoring and compliance activity in relation to electronic gaming machines
2. Report the outcomes of this increased activity online via the Liquor and Gaming NSW website on an annual basis to inform local government of the action taken.

88 Ryde City Council – Changes to the Smoke-free Environment Act 2000

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to make changes to the *Smoke-free Environment Act 2000* to enable local government to issue fines and penalty amounts equivalent to NSW Health for smoking in a smoke-free area.

89 Shellharbour City Council – Information for women candidates at 2020 LG election

That Local Government NSW calls upon the NSW Electoral Commission to include sessions particularly targeted at women at any candidate information forums to be run for the 2020 local government elections.

90 Shellharbour City Council – Local government women's mentoring program

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to introduce a women in local government mentoring program in NSW.

91 Lismore City Council – Increase to Newstart and Youth Allowances

That:

1. Local Government NSW lobbies the Federal and NSW Governments to urgently increase the Newstart and Youth Allowance by a minimum of \$100 per week in order to address low quality of life issues for those on allowances, and their families; and
2. Such an increase would see the economic benefit of disposable income in NSW rise by about \$1.2 billion.

92 Lismore City Council – To establish social justice committees across all councils

That Local Government NSW:

1. Recognises and supports social justice committees across all councils with a specific outcome of meeting the demand for residential rehabilitation services, regional Drug Courts, Youth & Adult Koori Courts and Justice Reinvestment Initiatives.
2. Requests that the NSW Government establish funding across regional NSW for youth detox services and expansion of the Magistrates Early Referral into Treatment (MERIT) program.

93 Blacktown City Council – Dowry abuse as family and domestic violence

That Local Government NSW:

- a) Requests the NSW State Government to amend the *Crimes (Domestic and Personal Violence) Act 2007* to include economic abuse, the definition of which would include dowry abuse.
- b) Requests the NSW State Government to amend existing legislation relating to apprehended violence orders to explicitly recognise dowry abuse as an example of economic abuse.
- c) Advocates for the participation of local government in efforts with stakeholders to develop ongoing education and awareness raising campaigns about economic abuse, including dowry abuse.

This issue was also raised by City of Parramatta and Cumberland Councils – see Appendix A

94 Broken Hill City Council – Volunteer support

That the NSW Government should acknowledge the economic importance of the work of volunteers in keeping essential community services viable, particularly in rural and regional areas by adding a component to the funding supplied to these organisations to assist with the recruitment and ongoing acknowledgment of these volunteers.

95 Hornsby Shire Council – Funding for sportsgrounds, recreational and open spaces

That Local Government NSW requests the NSW Government to deliver refreshed funding approaches for sportsgrounds, sports facilities, recreational and open spaces, including:

- a) Ongoing annual funding program which may involve a new regional funding approach for the metropolitan councils such as a new regional sports and recreation foundation or other coordinated regional funding mechanisms for metropolitan councils on a distinct-regional or district level basis rather than one-off grants on an individual council-basis.
- b) Returning a proportion of the State's Special Infrastructure Contributions or the regional open space fund to the regions where they have been collected.
- c) A State specific acquisition fund to acquire land for sportsgrounds and open spaces.

This issue was also raised by Forbes Shire Council – see Appendix A

96 Cumberland Council – Refugee settlement

That Local Government NSW calls on the Federal Government to urgently review the current restrictive eligibility requirements for the Status Resolution Support Scheme with a view to restoring access to this program to all people seeking asylum until a resolution of their status is complete.

97 Shellharbour City Council – NSW Vivid roadshow

That Local Government NSW:

1. Advocates for an expansion of the successful Vivid Sydney Winter Festival to take it to regional NSW as the "Vivid NSW Roadshow".
2. Approaches Destination NSW, on behalf of interested regional NSW councils that identify themselves to Local Government NSW, with a view to supporting an expanded program in regional areas.
3. Advocates for Destination NSW funding to be distributed to selected regional councils to support the development and implementation of local Vivid events.

98 Bathurst Regional Council – NSW Government - museum strategy

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to devise a museum strategy for NSW with sufficient resources to ensure cultural heritage led vibrancy, collection care and local storytelling initiatives are supported, developed and maintained for communities throughout the State.

This issue was also raised by Albury City and Broken Hill City Councils– see Appendix A

99 Moree Plains Shire Council – Museum firearms permit proposed amendment

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 must be rendered temporarily inoperable.

Due to the historical, cultural significance value of these collections, we call on the NSW State Government to allow for an exemption mechanism for museums from clause 59 4A of the Firearms Regulation Act 2017.

100 Broken Hill City Council – Restoration and remediation of local cemeteries

That the NSW Government considers financially supporting councils for the restoration and remediation of local cemeteries that have been severely damaged from climatic conditions and drought.

101 Cumberland Council – Homelessness

That Local Government NSW advocates for the NSW Government to actively lead and contribute to the implementation of initiatives to combat the homelessness crisis in NSW, including funding for local government to deliver initiatives at the local level.

This issue was also raised by Kyogle and Forbes Shire Councils– see Appendix A

GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

102 Lane Cove Council – Impounding of illegally parked vehicles

That Local Government NSW supports suggested changes to relevant legislation to allow council rangers the authority to have vehicles impounded where they are illegally parked across driveways preventing access. Such legislation is to include safeguards to prevent the misuse of these changes including a requirement that the removal be initiated by an owner of the affected property.

104 Lismore City Council – Amend fees under GIPA Act

That Local Government NSW lobbies the Information Privacy Commissioner for an increase to the processing charges in the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009*, capped at \$60 per hour.

105 Bland Shire Council – Audit risk & improvement committees

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government for the establishment of a separate panel of independent members, with specific local government knowledge, for appointment to local councils Audit, Risk and Improvement Committees.

106 City of Canterbury Bankstown Council – Metro regional partnerships

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to:

1. Develop a NSW Cities-Regions Council Partnership framework.
2. Fund connectivity and technology for regional, rural and remote councils to connect to city councils.

107 Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council – Review of merged councils

That Local Government NSW requests the NSW Government to undertake a review of progress/success of the councils that are the result of the 2016 forced amalgamations.

108 Leeton Shire Council – Sustained support for Joint Organisations

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to:

- a) Follow through on its commitment to work collaboratively with Joint Organisations (JOs) to develop strategic priorities, business plans and action plans in the interests of delivering regional outcomes.
- b) Continue its investment in JO operating costs in order that this State Government initiative can continue to operate sustainably.
- c) Report annually on its engagement with JOs and the results delivered.

This issue was also raised by Albury City, Federation and Shoalhaven City Councils – see Appendix A

109 Nambucca Shire Council – Elimination for the need of a by-election

That Local Government NSW writes to the NSW Minister for Local Government to request an extension of:

- a) Countback provisions to the first 2 years of a council term, and
- b) the Minister's discretion to provide councils with the option of avoiding a by-election for a casual vacancy for the last 2 years of a council term.

110 Newcastle City Council – Local government election costs

That Local Government NSW:

1. Notes the draft report from IPART titled Review Of Local Government Election Cost which includes a proposed 62% increase to the cost of councils holding elections conducted by the NSW Electoral Commission.
2. Notes that IPART has indicated that this would increase the City of Newcastle's costs by more than \$500,000 per election.
3. Notes that IPART believes that 'market competition' is needed to reduce the cost of elections as the NSW Electoral Commission is a 'near monopoly'.
4. Writes to the Premier and NSW Special Minister of State calling for them to intervene and halt the privatisation of democracy, and unjustifiable increases in election costs to ratepayers across NSW.

111 Lane Cove Council – Expenditure caps for local government election campaigns

That Local Government NSW requests the NSW Government to endorse the recommendations made in the "Inquiry into the impact of expenditure caps for local government election campaigns" that was tabled in October 2018.

112 Liverpool City Council – Nominating to become a councillor

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to request changes to the *Local Government Act 1993* in order to ensure that a person wishing to nominate for a particular council area must either be a resident or a ratepayer.

113 Lismore City Council – Online voting and e-democracy

That Local Government NSW requests that the NSW Government:

1. Makes grant funding available for councils to trial online voting and e-democracy platforms to assist in the long term reduction in cost per elector; and
2. Urgently explores the legislative reform required to implement online voting and e-democracy initiatives in local government.

114 City of Parramatta Council – Non-voting at local government elections fine revenue

That Local Government NSW advocates to the NSW Government for the application of the significant fine revenue for non-voting in local government elections to be directly offset against the cost of the elections, applied to the relevant local government area, and not paid into the NSW Government's consolidated revenue fund.

115 Brewarrina Shire Council – Local government elections

That Local Government NSW lobbies the Minister for Local Government to ensure that, irrespective of the outcome of the current review by IPART into the cost of conducting local government elections, the NSW Electoral Commission not be permitted to increase the cost of conducting local government elections for 2020 and all future local government elections by more than the rate cap limit imposed on local government rates.

This issue was also raised by City of Canterbury Bankstown, Lane Cove, Albury City, Hawkesbury City, Shoalhaven City and Armidale Regional Councils – see Appendix A

116 Port Stephens Council – Councillor induction and professional development costs

That Local Government NSW requests the NSW Government fund ongoing councillor professional development costs.

118 Mosman Municipal Council – External audit coordination with internal audit

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Auditor General to modify its auditing practices to reduce duplication between external and internal audits of councils and avoid unnecessary costs.

119 Western Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils – Developing a DCOE to facilitate next generation of local government capabilities

That Local Government NSW advocates for the NSW Government to join with local government to initiate a project that will develop and offer for implementation, the next generation of “best practice” local government capabilities using digital technologies. For the purposes of this motion it is called a Digital Common Operating Environment (DCOE). Specifically, that:

1. A comprehensive suite of specifications be developed for a DCOE that would be appropriate for metropolitan, peri-urban and rural councils.
2. A pilot program be developed to trial the specifications in a representative sample of councils supported by funding from the NSW Government.
3. The NSW Government incentivises take-up of a successful DCOE model by local government by contributing to the capital costs of development and implementation.
4. A program be developed for a DCOE implementation on a council by council basis that incentivises early take up. The incentive would be a contribution from the NSW Government towards the capital costs to implement the DCOE as a priority.

120 Wagga Wagga City Council – Resourcing Code of Conduct complaints

That Local Government NSW and member councils advocate for a greater investment of resources by the NSW Government into managing Code of Conduct complaints to ensure they are dealt with quickly, efficiently, and effectively.

This issue was also raised by Lane Cove Council – see Appendix A

121 Orange City Council – Review of Code of Conduct

That Local Government NSW calls on the Minister for Local Government to conduct an independent review and audit of all NSW councils’ processes and procedures around the implementation of the Code of Conduct policy and provisions.

122 Shellharbour City Council – Model Code of Conduct for councillors

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Minister for Local Government to have the provisions in the Model Code of Conduct for councillors on gifts and benefits amended so that the token value for gifts and benefits on gifts and benefits valuation of \$50 be removed and replaced with the provisions outlined in section 3 “Gifts” in the Code of Conduct for Members adopted 7 May 2019.

123 MidCoast Council – Returns of interest disclosures

That Local Government NSW:

1. Strongly objects to the requirement for Returns of Interest Disclosures being published on any website as proposed by Information Privacy Commissioner’s draft Guideline.
2. Urges relevant authorities including but not limited to the Office of Local Government/IPC and Ministers to reverse the Information Privacy Commissioner’s requirement to publish Returns of interest Disclosure on any website and ask the Premier to intervene for the protection and safety of councillors and staff.

This issue was also raised by Hornsby Shire and Bayside Councils – see Appendix A

Appendix A – Motions covered by resolutions

Covered by resolution 3

Lachlan Shire Council – Emergency funding for rural landowners

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to provide emergency funding relief to drought affected land and business owners to refund the cost of their general land rates.

Narromine Shire Council – Drought funding council rate rebate scheme

That Local Government NSW lobbies the Federal Government for the reinstatement of the Exceptional Circumstances Scheme along the same lines that it operated prior to abolition, and the NSW Government be called upon to introduce a council rate rebate scheme that is available, on application to those ratepayers who have suffered financial hardship due to drought.

Covered by resolution 4

Bourke Shire Council – Increasing storage to service the Barwon Darling River System

That the NSW Government be encouraged to take a bipartisan approach to identifying options to increasing the level of storage along the Barwon Darling System or able to provide water for the Barwon Darling system to prevent a replication of the significant periods of no flow along the river system.

Bourke Shire Council – Looking at long-term solutions to water supply

That the NSW Government adopt a bipartisan approach looking at opportunities for the ensuring the long term supply of water in Western NSW. These opportunities should not exclude ambitious projects of the scale of the Snowy Mountain Scheme which has reaped considerable benefit for the State.

Tamworth Regional Council – Strategic water infrastructure to secure town water supplies

That Local Government NSW requests the NSW Government to invest in the development of long term (30-40 year) water infrastructure strategy/s for the supply of water to town water supplies across the State to ensure population and economic growth targets can be achieved and supported in both metropolitan and regional/rural areas.

Cabonne Shire Council – Water security

That the NSW Government provides funding and the services of the OEH in partnering with councils from the Macquarie, Lachlan and Belubula river catchments to develop a contemporary strategic plan to meet the short, medium and long term impacts of drought and predicted climate change ensuring sustained water security for the region.

Bellingen Shire Council – Community resilience

That Local Government NSW calls upon the NSW Government to develop a long term strategy for local councils to deal with the ongoing weather patterns associated with our changing climate with the strategy to address research and implementation funding relative to water security, catchment management, community resilience and support to local businesses.

Lachlan Shire Council – Emergency town water supply

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to provide a 100% subsidy for the cost of carting emergency water to drought effected communities.

Federation Council – Water management

That more flexible water management legislation be enacted to allow temporarily transfer of water, in particular water on farms that sits under lakes (private farmland), where the water does not have current allocations/licensing and it is within the same water source.

Orange City Council – Water supply crisis

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to immediately outline a comprehensive and integrated emergency plan to address the current water supply crisis afflicting the state, as well as longer-term plans to drought-proof the state ahead of future droughts, with storm water harvesting and demand management initiatives as key elements of those plans.

Parkes Shire Council – Unprecedented drought

That Local Government NSW seeks the NSW Government's assistance to form multi-agency taskforces to address the ravages of drought in a strategic manner with long-term views, especially in relation to water supplies, climate resilience, financial support and infrastructure.

Greater Hume Shire Council – Increase water capture and storage capacity

That Local Government NSW urges the NSW Government to investigate the concept of diverting coastal rivers inland and other initiatives to increase water storage capacity in NSW.

Narromine Shire Council – Increase in water storage capacity in regional NSW

That:

1. Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government and Federal Government for the immediate increase in water storage capacity in regional NSW dams, for the social, economic and environmental benefits of NSW, particularly regional and rural communities; and
2. The construction of such new facilities (dams) be a priority for the immediate future of NSW.

Warrumbungle Shire Council – Bore water licence notifications

That Local Government NSW lobbies for:

1. More appropriate consultation processes be implemented for WaterNSW when it comes to the consideration of bore water licences; and
2. Due consideration be given for town water supplies when issuing bore licences.

Covered by resolution 4.1

Brewarrina Shire Council – Barwon Darling Water Strategy

That Local Government NSW requests that the Minister for Water expedite the development of a long term strategy that will assist in providing surety of a flow in the Barwon Darling River system and in doing so, also provide long term security of water supply for those towns located along the Barwon Darling River System who are dependent on the river as the sole source of water.

Covered by resolution 5

Blacktown City Council – Waste Less Recycle More – extension of program beyond 2021

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to urgently commence the planning for Waste Less Recycle More 2022-2026 to ensure that there is no delay in providing support and funding to local government and industry at this critical time.

North Sydney Council – Sustainable disposal of household recyclables

That Local Government NSW presses State and Federal Governments to work urgently together and with local government to address the current crisis in sustainable disposal of household recyclables brought about by the recent and continuing steady decline in overseas markets for recyclable product.

Fairfield City Council – Insufficient capacity for Alternative Waste Treatment

That the NSW EPA prioritise the completion of its Draft Waste Resource Recovery Infrastructure Strategy and detail locations and funding for the provision of a number of new Waste and Resource Recovery facilities to meet the pressing waste management needs of the Sydney basin and broader State regional areas.

Fairfield City Council – Greater share of the NSW waste levy for Western Sydney councils

That the State Government hypothecate 50% of the State waste levy to councils in NSW to support the planning, funding and construction of new Waste Resource and Recovery facilities.

Inner West Council – Australian based recycling industry

That Local Government NSW works with the NSW and Federal Governments to immediately develop an Australian-based recycling industry to ensure the safe re-use or disposal of recycled materials in NSW and Australia.

Uralla Shire Council – Resource recovery

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to fund further research into potential safe products that can be generated from recyclables by local or regional councils to reduce the need to send raw materials overseas.

Lismore City Council – 100% waste levy reinvestment into waste initiatives

That the NSW Government demonstrates how it has invested in recycling industries and ensure a greater share of the S88 *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* NSW Waste Levy is reinvested into recycling technologies and;

1. Mandates the reduction in front end waste from food packaging;
2. Mandates closed loop requirements for food manufacturers to manage waste.

Bellingen Shire Council – Waste crisis

That Local Government NSW strongly advocates to the NSW Government to ensure the Waste and Recycling Strategy currently under development recognises the imperative for significant investment in both research and development, and implementation of on-ground infrastructure to enable Australia to respond to the waste crisis and manage its waste in a sustainable manner and that there is no delay in significantly extending and increasing the Waste Less Recycle More funding.

Bellingen Shire Council – Plastic silage

That Local Government NSW undertakes advocacy to both the NSW and Australian governments to fund research and development, as well as investment in infrastructure to address silage waste in a timely way.

Hawkesbury City Council – The development of a long-term waste strategy for metropolitan Sydney

That the NSW Government work with local government in developing an effective, environmentally sustainable, financially transparent and economically driven waste management and resource recovery strategy for the state.

Federation Council – Waste levy

That the State Government commits to a 100% reinvestment of the Waste Levy collected each year into waste minimisation, recycling and resource recovery.

Central Coast Council – State Government waste strategy

That Local Government NSW advocates for the NSW Government to give priority to the development of its proposed 20-year waste strategy to provide strategic direction to local government in the development of local strategies and actions and provide certainty for investment in innovative solutions.

Ku-ring-gai Council – Better waste management - for a better environment

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to prioritise the delivery of waste recovery facilities as key infrastructure for NSW to support a circular economy and minimise landfill.

Orange City Council – Recycling crisis

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to provide a comprehensive report on actions taken over the past 12 months to develop sustainable, long-term solutions to the recycling crisis including initiatives aimed at fostering economically and environmentally sustainable industries that recycle waste in Australia.

Shoalhaven City Council – Front-end packaging research

That State Government allocates Waste Levy funding towards research and development into front-end packaging to reduce land fill.

Randwick City Council – Financially stimulating the emergence of an effective waste recycling industry in NSW

That Local Government NSW continues to note the limited domestic recycling options available in Australia for waste products as a result of the declining international market and responds by liaising with the NSW Government to establish a fair and reasonable formula for the redirection of the Government's share of the domestic waste levy back to Councils to enable Councils to:

- a) Offset the procurement of NSW products manufactured from waste materials;
- b) Maintain momentum in meeting the State Government's increased recycling rates and land fill diversion targets set under its Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2014-2021;
- c) Financially stimulate the establishment of a commercial waste recycling venture in both their own LGAs and through partnerships with other urban, regional and rural Councils; and
- d) Assist rural-based councils in overcoming logistical and transport barriers in the recycling of local industrial and agricultural waste materials.

Ryde City Council – Soft plastic recycling

That Local Government NSW writes to:

1. The NSW Minister for Environment and Heritage requesting that the Government focuses on:
 - a) Building and operating or facilitating the development of new soft plastic recycling facilities in NSW.
 - b) Working with start-ups on the development of new sustainable materials manufacturing in NSW.
 - c) Developing materials procurement targets to help drive demand for recycled products and provide funding for Local Government to implement these targets.
2. Federal Waste Reduction Minister advocating for the development of product stewardship in order to reduce the volume of soft plastic packaging being sold in NSW.

Ryde City Council – Recycled content legislation for producers of single use plastics

That Local Government NSW advocates for 'mandated recycling content' legislation for appropriate industries to be introduced into law within this term of Government.

Covered by resolution 10

Bega Valley Shire Council – State and Federal Government rate payments

That Local Government NSW advocates that both NSW and Federal government owned land be liable to pay rates as is required of private land owners, with that income to be added to existing rate income of councils.

Bayside Council – Basis for setting rates

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to review the bases for setting council rates, with a view to introducing Capital Improved Value (CIV) as the basis for setting rates in metropolitan councils, rather than the Unimproved Value (UV) method.

Covered by resolution 11

Lismore City Council – Natural disaster relief & recovery

That Local Government NSW requests the Federal and NSW governments:

1. Adopt a "fund first, justify later" policy to natural disaster responses up to an approved limit for individuals and councils involving a one off on-site audit of council instead of providing vast quantities of data to multiple state government departments;
2. Establish a single point of contact with Government for councils and a streamlined NDRRA process that avoids duplication and ensures all claims are assessed within three months of lodgement;
3. Provide for greater transparency of decision-making when claims are refused and a better mechanism for independent review of claims;
4. Review the funding arrangements for collection of debris from non-residential rated urban areas to enable recovery of the costs to councils for cleaning up the inevitable rubbish and debris thrown out by businesses in commercial areas.

Covered by resolution 12

Newcastle City Council – Emergency Services Levy

That Local Government NSW:

1. Notes that without consultation the NSW Government has implemented a scheme to fund better workers' compensation for the State's firefighters by implementing a new program that charges local governments an increased Emergency Services Levy (ESL);
2. Reaffirms our commitment to working with the NSW Government to significantly modifying the ESL to ensure it is transparent, equitable and accountable;
3. Writes to the Premier calling on the NSW Government to cover the initial additional \$19 million increase to local governments for the first year and then for NSW Government to work with NSW local governments to redesign the funding mechanism for the scheme to ensure fairness into the future.

Shellharbour City Council – State Government cost shifting - Emergency Services Levy

That Local Government NSW calls upon the NSW Government to listen to the concerns of local governments regarding the funding of Emergency Services Levy and commits to fund the additional \$14 million cost for 2019/20 from its own existing reserves and work with local government and emergency services to find a better and fairer path forward.

City of Canterbury Bankstown Council – Emergency Services Levy

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to:

1. Fund the first 12 months of the additional costs of the Emergency Services Levy.
2. Work with local government to ensure the implementation of any increase in required funding be fairer, more transparent, equitable and accountable into the future.

Blue Mountains City Council – Increases in Emergency Services Levy

That Local Government NSW:

1. Continues to advocate that the NSW Government fund the initial \$19 million increase to local government Emergency Service Levy contributions for the 2019-20 financial year; and
2. Advocates that the NSW Government works with councils to redesign the funding mechanism for the scheme to ensure fairness into the future.

Liverpool City Council – Emergency Services Levy

That Local Government NSW calls upon the NSW Government to:

- a) Fund the initial additional \$19 million increase to local governments in the first year; and
- b) Work with NSW local governments to redesign the funding mechanism and implementation of the scheme to ensure fairness for councils and communities into the future.

Kyogle Council – Emergency Services Levy

The Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to fund the initial rise in the Emergency Services Levy to allow for the consultation promised but not undertaken.

Kyogle Council – Recurrent emergency services insurance funding

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to engage with all NSW councils to identify the most appropriate way forward in providing the necessary insurance for emergency services personnel without further cost shifting of a State funding responsibility to local government.

Uralla Shire Council – Emergency Services Levy

That Local Government NSW expresses the extreme dissatisfaction of NSW councils regarding the 2019/20 Emergency Services Levy increase and that future increases be limited by the NSW Government's Rates Cap increase and consider the long-term financial sustainability of local government in NSW and their ability to meet such demands within their current budgets.

Armidale Regional Council – Emergency Services Levy

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to reverse the increases in the Emergency Services Levy imposed on councils.

Tamworth Regional Council – Emergency Services Levy

That Local Government NSW again requests the NSW Government to take full responsibility for the ongoing funding for the delivery of all emergency services, along with responsibility for all associated assets, and remove this unfair financial burden from local government.

Forbes Shire Council – Property-based levy for emergency services

That the NSW Government once again consider the introduction of the property-based Fire and Emergency Services Levy.

Greater Hume Shire Council – Emergency Services Property Levy

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to recommence the introduction of a property based Emergency Services Property Levy as a separate and identifiable line item on the Annual Rates and Charges Notice.

Shoalhaven City Council – Emergency Services Levy

That the State Government:

1. Stages the impost of the increases to the Emergency Services Levy to local government over a number of years.
2. Requests that the IPART factor the increase in the Emergency Services Levy into its determinations with respect to Rate Pegging.

Bland Shire Council – Increase in the Emergency Services Levy

That Local Government NSW continues to lobby the NSW Government opposing the increase in the Emergency Services Levy, being payable by local councils, despite the NSW Government's offer to pay the first 12 months.

Covered by resolution 17

Lismore City Council – Distribution of Financial Assistance Grants

That Local Government NSW encourages all NSW councils to proactively support the Australian Local Government Associations national campaign – A Fairer Share – seeking the Federal Government to restore the national value of Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs) funding to an amount equal to at least 1% of Commonwealth taxation revenue.

Moree Plains Shire Council – Restore the overall FAG allocation to 1%

That Local Government NSW continues to lobby for the overall FAGs allocation to be restored to its original rate of 1% of GDP.

Covered by resolution 25

Willoughby City Council – Flexibility in procurement

That Local Government NSW requests the NSW Government to cater for contemporary practices by introducing greater flexibility in procurement for local councils through adopting similar provisions as those available for State Government agencies, including:

- Adopt the Procurement Innovation Stream model of supporting Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), to engage SME suppliers through direct negotiation on short-term contracts to test the capability of goods and services to meet current and emerging business needs valued up to \$1 million for innovative solutions or outcomes-based trials.

Bayside Council – Tendering thresholds

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to review the tendering thresholds specified in Section 55 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, with a view to moving from a current model of setting a common threshold for all councils, to a more flexible model of thresholds based on the size of council. For example, as grouped by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal in their determinations.

Covered by resolution 32

Moree Plains Shire Council – Insurance and burned out houses

That Local Government NSW makes representations to the Insurance Council of Australia to request that its membership provides as a standard part of building insurance policies cover for site clearance in the absence of proposed reconstruction of a building.

Wagga Wagga City Council – Management of dilapidated buildings

That Local Government NSW and member councils advocate for the better ability to manage dilapidated buildings.

Covered by resolution 33

Ryde City Council – Combustible cladding

That Local Government NSW, in the interests of public safety and certainty, calls upon the NSW Government to publicly release details of the more than 600 “high-risk” buildings that contain combustible cladding.

Covered by resolution 34

Inner West Council – Phase out the use of private certifiers

That Local Government NSW calls upon the NSW Government to phase out the use of private certifiers over the next three years and return certification to local government to eliminate the conflict of interest inherent in private certification of development.

Central Coast Council – Review of private certification

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to:

- a) Amend current legislation to return the function of building certification to councils on a fee for service basis.
- b) Release a consultation paper, on returning building certification functions to councils, by June 2020 for implementation by June 2021.
- c) Work with the building industry to transition to the new regime.

Covered by resolution 35

Lane Cove Council – Building and Development Certifiers Bill 2018

That Local Government NSW requests the NSW Government to:

1. Finalise the Building and Development Certifiers Bill, which has not progressed since September 2018.
2. Select as the preferred method of selection of Private Certifiers, whereby respective councils have a pool of Certifiers that residents can utilise, with council retaining overarching control of the process.

Hunters Hill Council – Reform of complying development certification

That Local Government NSW writes to and engages with the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, advocating reform of Complying Development and the role of Private Certifiers, consistently with the recommendations of Michael Lambert’s Independent Review of the Building Professionals Act 2005, including:

1. Legislative amendments to include a consolidated statement of the role and functions of certifiers;

2. Development of protocols governing the relationship between private certifiers and councils, including roles and responsibilities with respect to compliance and enforcement that will allow councils to intervene promptly as required;
3. Empowering councils to refer Complying Development Certificates ('CDCs') where there are questions about genuine compliance to a statutory body for prompt reassessment to avoid the cost of litigation in the Land and Environment Court, which under s 4.31 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act is currently the only means by which a CDC can be declared invalid;
4. Empowering private certifiers to issue Compliance Orders to allow prompt rectification of non-complying work;
5. Establishing a publicly accessible electronic filing system for all certifiers, holding information on all building projects, including: drawings and other material submitted with an application for a CDC, certificates issued, inspection reports and all supporting material for any assessments to ensure these functions are performed with full transparency;
6. Removing the commercial nexus between developers and certifiers by introducing a system whereby certifiers are allocated from a register rather than directly engaged by the applicant or builder; and
7. Providing additional funding to local government that appropriately recognises the compliance and enforcement work it performs.

Orange City Council – Building regulation - private certifiers

That Local Government NSW acknowledges the proposed reforms by the NSW Government to building regulation but argues that:

- a) They do not go far enough,
- b) Additional reforms are needed to prevent builders from choosing their own certifiers, and
- c) Private certifiers should be appointed randomly from a panel or by some other method that significantly reduces the conflict of interest issues inherent in the current system.

Covered by resolution 38

Liverpool City Council – Controls for boarding houses

That Local Government NSW calls upon the NSW Government for an amendment to the *Standard Instrument (Local Environmental Plans) Order 2006* to allow council to determine whether boarding houses are a permissible land use in certain residential zones.

Penrith City Council – Exemption - boarding house provisions

That Local Government NSW writes to the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces requesting that Division 3 Boarding Houses of the Affordable Rental Housing SEPP 2009 be amended to allow councils to be exempt from this division under the policy.

Hunters Hill Council – Local application of Housing Codes

1. That Local Government NSW writes to and engages with the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, advocating that:
 - a) Legislation be amended as required to allow Local Environmental Plans (LEPs) to:
 - (i) Exclude the operation Parts 3, and 3B of the State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008 ('Codes SEPP') from application in parts of the Local Government Area (LGA) to which the LEP applies; and
 - (ii) Apply controls in addition to the controls of the relevant Code in parts of the LGA in which Parts 3 or 3B of the Codes SEPP are to apply.
 - b) Deferral of the Codes SEPP Part 3B Low Rise Medium Density Housing Code continue at least until there has been a reasonable opportunity for:
 - (i) Councils to review their LEPs and prepare planning proposals to give effect to their Local Strategic Planning Statements; and
 - (ii) Local plan-making authorities to amend councils' LEPs in line with councils' planning proposals.
2. To avoid doubt, with regard to 1(a) above, it is intended that controls in LEPs would not permit complying development where it is excluded by Part 1 Division 2 of the Codes SEPP.

Tamworth Regional Council – Low Rise Medium Density Housing Code

That Local Government NSW requests the NSW Government to provide extended deferral of the Low Rise Medium Density Housing Code until councils have completed Local Housing Strategies, Local Strategic Planning Statements and Local Environmental Plans at the least to December 2021.

Central Coast Council – Short Term Rental Accommodation

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to:

- a) Allow all local government areas to prepare their own Planning Proposals to manage short term rental accommodation needs in their areas.
- b) Investigate and consult with councils regarding new powers for councils to manage complaints and other issues relating to the operation of short term rental accommodation.

Strathfield Council – Affordable rental housing

That the NSW Government amends the *Affordable Housing SEPP 2009* to require all owners of affordable rental housing units provided within a residential unit development to submit to their consenting council an annual independent audit report, prepared by a professional planner accredited by the Planning Institute of Australia, certifying ongoing compliance with the conditions of consent, verify the number of affordable units relating to the affordable rental units within the approved complex.

Covered by resolution 44

Cessnock City Council – Review of Code of Conduct - Regional Planning Panels

That the Minister for Planning, Secretary of NSW Planning and Environment and the Director Regions - Hunter NSW Planning and Environment undertake an urgent review of the current Code of Conduct for the Regional Planning Panels with a view to seeking:

- a) Consistency with the revised model Code of Conduct for councils in NSW, which already effectively manages conflict of interest provisions for elected councillors and staff in all their official capacities;
- b) Removing and/or amending provisions under Section 3.19(b) of the Code of Conduct for Regional Planning Panels, which effectively prevent local councillor members of the Regional Planning Panel from voting on development applications on land in their LGAs if those councillors also voted on the rezoning of the same land, among other matters.

Covered by resolution 54

Bourke Shire Council – Bourke electricity supply infrastructure

That the NSW Government and Essential Energy be asked to ensure that the crucial electricity supply to the Western section of the State is adequately maintained and improved to ensure an ongoing availability of a reliable electricity supply and the ability for infrastructure to be able to feed electricity back into the grid should the establishment of solar farms be considered in these areas.

Forbes Shire Council – Redistribution of Essential Energy roles to improve services

That Essential Energy needs to redistribute its remaining workforce in regional areas to cover the customer requests that will be left unserved by the 180 jobs planned to be lost.

Covered by resolution 55

Blue Mountains City Council – Management of Crown Land

That Local Government NSW seeks that the NSW Government fully fund costs associated with:

1. The transfer of management of Crown lands to local councils, including the costs of developing and implementing Plans of Management for Crown Lands Reserves within each LGA; and
2. Training of staff to assess native title matters associated with management of Crown Land.

Kyogle Council – Crown land, forests, parks fuel load reduction

That Local Government NSW requests the NSW Government to set upper limits on fuel loads in all Crown land forests, including State Forests and National Parks, and mandates hazard reduction programs to achieve these

Wagga Wagga City Council – Commercial rates for Crown land

That Local Government NSW and member councils advocate that the NSW Government stop charging local councils commercial rates for Crown land for council purposes (eg: easements) where there is a significant benefit to the community.

Federation Council – Crown lands

That the NSW Government accelerates the Crown Land Review Program and allow a more efficient process for transfer of current Crown land to freehold land.

Cowra Council – Crown lands cost burden

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to provide additional funding to councils to comply with the cost burden, tight timeframe and shortfall in resources imposed on councils to prepare the Plans of Management for Council Reserves as required under the new *Crown Land Management Act 2016*.

Kyogle Council – Degradation of Crown lands weeds and Bell Mynar

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to commit adequate resources to arrest and repair the degradation of Crown lands' native forests caused by weed infestations and Bell Mynar associated dieback.

Uralla Shire Council – Biosecurity Act

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government for additional funding for the implementation of the *Biosecurity Act 2015* for land being transferred to councils and a statement of biosecurity risks be provided to councils prior to the handover.

Central Coast Council – Plans of management for Crown Land

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to

- a) Extend the 30 June 2021 deadline for councils to complete of Plans of Management (PoMs) required under the *Crown Land Management Act 2016* (NSW).
- b) Consult with councils on a new deadline for the completion of PoMs.
- c) Provide criteria and templates to councils to enable completion of PoMs.

Covered by resolution 56

Lismore City Council – 5G technology

That Local Government NSW requests the NSW Government to:

- a) Conduct a review of the cumulative impacts of microwave frequency technologies of 'small cell installations' on residential communities and identifies who holds responsibility for monitoring cumulative impacts, in light of the findings from this review.
- b) Consider the appropriate planning process for the installation of small cells.

Covered by resolution 58

Tenterfield Shire Council – HELP debt reduction

That Local Government NSW seeks support from the Australian Local Government Association to lobby the Federal Government for a further review of the Higher Education Loan Program (HELP), including, inter alia, the possible reduction or removal of the HELP liability for new graduates who secure employment in rural council areas.

Hunters Hill Council – Project management

That Local Government NSW assists councils by developing a program to enhance council project practitioners' capability and competency in project management and delivery.

Willoughby City Council – Occupational licencing portability

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to:

1. Implement a scheme with other Australian states and territories to allow for occupational licensing portability by mutually recognising state/territory based occupational qualifications and licensing for building, construction, and maintenance related services such as electricians, builders, plumbers, fitters, mechanics and any other relevant skills or trades.
2. In the event that such a mutual recognition scheme is not forthcoming in a timely manner, that the NSW Government implements a unilateral recognition of occupational qualifications and licensing from other states and territories for building, construction, and maintenance related services such as electricians, builders, plumbers, fitters, mechanics and any other relevant skills or trades.

Federation Council – Trade waste

That the NSW Government engages with local government, relevant State Government regulatory agencies, and educational agencies such as NSW TAFE and other non-government registered training organisations, to develop an accredited qualification for the management of trade-waste.

Narrabri Shire Council – Regional education pathways

1. That Local Government NSW:
 - a) Strongly supports the establishment of regional education pathways.
 - b) Lobbies the NSW Government and TAFE NSW to expedite a review of current regional education offerings; such a review would identify current and future regional skills shortages based on the current State Government's regional investment strategies and State Significant Development.
2. That priority be given to implementation of actions from such a review, for trade associated pathways that align with the State Government's regional investment strategies and State Significant Development.

Lake Macquarie City Council – Higher education outcomes in regional, rural and remote NSW

That Local Government NSW advocates to the State and Federal governments, as well as higher education providers, the need for improved access to higher education providers in regional, rural and remote Australia.

Covered by resolution 60

Federation Council – Council categories

That the NSW Government determines new categories to reflect councils of a size that is between the current rural, and regional-rural status, to more adequately compensate those councillors in larger geographical councils that may not have a 20,000 population.

Federation Council – Councillor remuneration

That the NSW Government engages with councils, and prepares new increased councillor remuneration thresholds for all councils, to more adequately reflect the workload, training and increased representation demanded of councils, especially those in merged councils.

Covered by resolution 63

Randwick City Council – Climate change and planning in NSW

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to:

1. Declare a climate and biodiversity emergency;
2. Take immediate steps to amend the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, and relevant State Environmental Planning Policies to ensure that all new development is required to meet the highest environmental standards, and funding sources are made available to local government to address the impact of climate change, including measures to:
 - f) Reduce carbon emissions from building and construction;
 - g) Strengthen energy and water efficiency standards in all new developments beyond those currently provided under the BASIX system;
 - h) Introduce a range of funding mechanisms that would allow local councils to build resilience in their communities;
 - i) Improve energy and water efficiency and to reduce heat stress risk in public housing and all NSW Government owned buildings and offices; and
 - j) Set tree canopy targets for all metropolitan areas with commensurate funding to be provided by the NSW Government to meet those targets.
3. That Local Government NSW calls on all NSW councils to take whatever steps they can, within the existing planning laws, to implement these changes in their local planning regimes wherever practicable.

Covered by resolution 70

Warrumbungle Shire Council – Clean up fire damaged houses containing friable asbestos

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to provide councils with greater powers under the Local Government Act to act in a quicker manner to clean up fire damaged houses containing friable asbestos, particularly when the material is still damp (from water) or immediately after spraying with PVA to limit risk of airborne fibres escaping from the site, with all clean-up costs borne by the NSW Government.

Covered by resolution 74

Shoalhaven City Council – Electric vehicle charging stations

That the NSW Government leads the strategic rollout of electric vehicle charging stations across the State.

Covered by resolution 75

North Sydney Council – Climate emergency

That Local Government NSW considers the following resolution of Council:

That Council:

- a) Prepare a report on initiatives that Council is currently undertaking, or could be improved, which have the effect of reducing carbon emissions. The report should particularly address:
 - Adoption of a guiding principle in all Council operations to reduce carbon emissions towards the reduction targets contained in the Paris Agreement.
 - Introduction or strengthening of existing policies that make a positive contribution to reducing carbon emissions.
 - A specific budget provision for climate change initiatives linked to the Delivery Program.
 - Facilitating the roll out of car charging battery stations in the local government area (LGA).
- b) Join nearly 600 jurisdictions worldwide, including 22 Australian councils, and recognise that we are in a state of climate emergency that requires immediate action by all levels of government;
- c) Acknowledge that climate change poses a threat to the future of our cities, including the North Sydney LGA;
- d) Note the latest report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 'Global Warming of 1.5 degrees Celsius';
- e) Note the Federal Government's latest emissions data showing we are increasing, not reducing, our carbon emissions;
- f) Join with and support the City of Sydney's resolution of 24 June 2019 calling upon the State and Federal Governments to declare a climate emergency and to respond to this emergency by taking urgent action to meet the emissions reduction targets contained in the Paris Agreement;
- g) Encourage neighbouring LGAs to join us by declaring a climate emergency and advocate to State and Federal Governments in their own right;
- h) Write to the Prime Minister, Premier of NSW and relevant State and Federal Ministers providing a copy of this resolution and calling upon them to act urgently to address climate change and its impacts; and
- i) Submit this motion to LGNSW for debate at the next LGNSW conference.

Blue Mountains City Council – Climate change emergency

1. To recognise that we are facing a climate emergency with clear scientific evidence that climate change is happening and that it is caused by increasing greenhouse gas emissions from human activities.
2. To acknowledge that communities across NSW are facing the impacts of climate change through events including record-breaking heat waves, extreme drought conditions, loss of water in our river systems and increased risk and intensity of bushfires.
3. To acknowledge that to provide maximum protection for all people, economies, species, eco systems and civilisations it is necessary to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees.
4. To partner with both local and Federal governments to implement actions, frameworks and funding that support local councils to respond appropriately and rapidly to the science and policy implications in the IPCC's 2018 Special Report.
5. To play a leadership role in the transformation of the economy to zero emissions and contribute to the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions globally by 45% from 2010 levels by 2030.
6. To encourage national, regional and local governments across the world to take these same actions.
7. That all stakeholders, including local government, need to rapidly take stock of their responsibilities in delivering this collective goal, taking immediate actions to get emission reductions on schedule, including medium term action to ensure local success and ongoing inter-governmental action at all scales to ensure overall success.

Lismore City Council – Climate emergency

That Local Government NSW:

1. Publicly declares that the world is in a state of climate emergency that requires urgent action by all levels of government; that human-induced climate change represents one of the greatest threats to humanity, civilisation, other species, and the life-supporting capacity of air, water, soil, and ecosystems; and that it is possible to prevent the most harmful outcomes, if societies take sustained emergency action, including local councils, and
 - a) Notes the latest report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC);
 - b) Notes the Federal Government's latest emissions data showing we are increasing, not reducing our carbon emissions.

Bellingen Shire Council – Climate emergency

That Local Government NSW:

1. Declares that “we are in a state of climate emergency that requires urgent action by all levels of government and that Local Government NSW:
 - a) Notes the latest report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) “Global Warming of 1.5 degrees Celsius”;
 - b) Notes the Federal Government’s latest emissions data showing we are increasing, not reducing our carbon emissions;
 - c) Acknowledges that local government areas across the state are, and are likely to be further affected by climate impacts, particularly sea level rise, bushfires, severe storms, drought and floods,
 - d) Recognises we are in a state of emergency that requires urgent action by all levels of government, that human induced climate change represents one of the greatest threats to humanity, civilisation, and other species, and that it is still possible to prevent the most catastrophic outcomes if, and only if, societies take emergency action now.
 - e) Reviews its strategic priorities and corporate planning documents to identify how it can also respond to and address the climate emergency, and develop an outline of options available to operationalise this emergency declaration.
2. Calls upon the State and Federal governments to:
 - a) Declare a climate emergency, and
 - b) To back this up with legislated programs to drive emergency action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and meet the lower of the Paris Agreements at 1.5°C.
 - c) To support local government authorities (including financial support) to drive emergency action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and meet the lower of the Paris Agreements at 1.5°C.

Parkes Shire Council – Action on climate change

That Local Government NSW seeks acknowledgement from the NSW Government and Federal Government that they have a significant obligation to recognise the scientific consensus that the climate system continues to be affected by known activity and that a Minister be appointed, and funds be allocated, to assist councils in their strategic response to the potential impacts of a changing environment.

Covered by resolution 78

Uralla Shire Council – Renewable energy development

That Local Government NSW discusses with the Minister for Planning the requirements for;

- a) The provision of regional plans that effectively integrate agricultural production and rural lifestyle with renewable power generation;
- b) The inclusion of a Statement of Economic Effects on the community in the approval process, and
- c) That provision be included in the DA consent for rehabilitation of the sites.

Leeton Shire Council – Large scale solar farms

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to:

- a) Provide greater protection to irrigation lands and other high yielding agricultural lands where local communities consider solar farms incongruous with their long-term economic wellbeing by respecting Local Environmental Plans and ensuring early engagement with affected communities and local councils.
- b) Ensure that large scale solar farms are subject to Development Contributions where they are approved and that these contributions be included as a condition of consent.
- c) Ensure that adequate provisions are made in consent conditions for the decommissioning of large scale solar farms.

Covered by resolution 85

Parkes Shire Council – Health services in regional centres

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government and the Federal Government to address the critical shortage of medical specialists such as doctors, procedural specialists and nurses in regional NSW.

Leeton Shire Council – Restoration of health services in regional NSW

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to:

- a) Investigate and implement mechanisms to attract and retain suitably qualified medical practitioners for regional hospitals.
- b) Review the Public Hospitals (Visiting Medical Officers Sessional Contracts) Determination 2014 to engage general practitioner services at hospitals not currently included in Schedule 1.
- c) Provide appropriate and adequate drug and alcohol rehabilitation facilities and counselling services in regional NSW.

Lachlan Shire Council – Medical services in rural communities

That Local Government NSW lobbies the Federal and NSW Governments to take immediate action to address the shortage of doctors and medical service providers in rural communities.

Snowy Valleys Council – Rural regional hospitals

That Local Government NSW calls for the NSW Minister for Health to advocate to the Federal Minister the critical situation at the Tumut hospital and lack of availability of procedural doctors and practitioners which exists across other LGAs in regional NSW.

Covered by resolution 93

City of Parramatta Council – Dowry abuse as family and domestic violence

That Local Government NSW:

- a) Lobbies the NSW Government to amend the *Crimes (Domestic and Personal Violence) Act 2007* to include economic abuse; and that within this inclusion, dowry abuse is recognised as a form of economic abuse.
- b) Lobbies the NSW Government to amend existing legislation relating to Apprehended Violence Orders to explicitly recognise dowry abuse as an example of economic abuse.
- c) Advocates for the participation of local government in efforts with stakeholders to develop ongoing education and awareness raising campaigns about economic abuse, including dowry abuse.

Cumberland Council – Dowry abuse

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to amend the *Crimes (Domestic and Personal Violence) Act 2007* to include economic abuse and that within this inclusion, dowry abuse is recognised as a form of economic abuse.

Covered by resolution 95

Forbes Shire Council – Funding for regional sporting and recreation facilities

The NSW Government must provide all local government areas a sufficient and separate funding stream for sporting facilities.

Covered by resolution 98

Albury City Council – NSW Government support for development of NSW museum strategy

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to devise a Museum Strategy for NSW with sufficient resources to ensure cultural heritage led vibrancy, collection care and local storytelling initiatives are supported, developed and maintained for communities throughout the State.

Broken Hill City Council – Museum strategy

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to devise a Museum Strategy for NSW with sufficient resources to ensure cultural heritage led vibrancy, collection care and local storytelling initiatives are supported, developed and maintained for communities throughout the State.

Covered by resolution 101

Kyogle Council – Social housing stock deficits in regional NSW

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to provide funding to address social housing stock deficits in the regions, to raise regional housing stock levels up to the state average.

Forbes Shire Council – Further awareness of homelessness in rural areas

That the NSW Government recognises that homelessness is not just an urban issue, and increase funding for homelessness support in rural areas.

Covered by resolution 108

Albury City Council – NSW Government support for NSW Joint Organisations

That Local Government NSW requests NSW Government base-funding support for the newly established Joint Organisations in order to ensure their future ability to operate as required under NSW Government legislation.

Federation Council – Joint Organisation funding

That the NSW Government commits to further funding to assist in the ongoing operational costs of Joint Organisations to reflect that they will be undertaking work on behalf of the NSW Government, and assisting the NSW Government in their ability to achieve State outcomes.

Shoalhaven City Council – Joint Organisation funding

That the NSW Government provides ongoing funding of \$300K per annum for each Joint Organisation commencing in 2019/2020, indexed with the rate peg or CPI, and a 4-year funding agreement be developed with agreed performance measures between the NSW Government and each Joint Organisation.

Covered by resolution 115

City of Canterbury Bankstown Council – Local government election costs

That Local Government NSW:

1. Opposes the recommendation of IPART to increase election costs for the 2020 election for NSW councils who choose to utilise the services of the NSW Electoral Commission.
2. Writes to the Premier of NSW urging her to not accept IPART's recommendation to increase councils election costs as it would be yet another example of the NSW Government seeking to shift costs onto local government.

Lane Cove Council – Increase in elections costs

That Local Government NSW requests the NSW Government review the IPART Determination which recommends that councils meet 97% of the NSW Electoral Commission's costs in administering local government elections. The determination will result in an average increase of 62% on the cost of the 2016/2017 elections and is a further cost shift to the sector.

Albury City Council – Limitations of cost increases for local government elections

That Local Government NSW develops a policy which opposes the massive increases in election costs currently being experienced and lobbies the NSW Government to ensure any cost increases are kept to a minimum.

Hawkesbury City Council – Opposition to the proposed increase in local government election charges

That:

- a) The stages of implementation for IPART's recommendations in its report regarding review of local government election costs be reversed, and the previously advised NSW Electoral Commission pricing regime for the 2020 elections be retained.
- b) The introduction of the major changes to NSW Electoral Commission's service delivery model be brought forward to reduce costs to councils for future local government elections.

Shoalhaven City Council – Local government election costs

That in the face of the proposed increases to NSW local government election costs, the NSW Government reviews the electoral framework of local government in NSW and commits to funding the local government elections required to be conducted under that regime.

Armidale Regional Council – Increases in election charges by the NSW Electoral Commission

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to cover any increases in election charges by the NSW Electoral Commission.

Covered by resolution 123

Hornsby Shire Council – Written returns of councillors and designated persons on council websites

That Local Government NSW makes representation to the Information and Privacy Commission (IPC) objecting to the IPC's proposed amendment to its Guideline 1 which will require councils to disclose the Written Returns of Designated Persons on their websites and proposes that the current practice of Returns being available upon request be maintained.

Bayside Council – Publishing returns of interests of councillors and designated persons

That Local Government NSW lobbies the Information and Privacy Commissioner to retain the current practice of not placing on a council's website 'Returns of the Interests of Councillors, Designated Persons and Delegates' by administrative guideline or legislative amendment.