Future
Focused

Call for Motions
Discussion Paper 2019

National General Assembly
of Local Government **2019**

16—19 June 2019

1-16

AUSTRALIAN
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
ASSOCIATION

SUBMITTING MOTIONS

The National General Assembly of Local Government (NGA) is an important opportunity for you and your council to influence the national policy agenda.

To assist you to identify motions that address the theme of the NGA, the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) Secretariat has prepared this short discussion paper. You are encouraged to read all of the sections of the paper, but are not expected to respond to every question. Your motion/s can address one or all of the issues identified in the discussion paper.

To be eligible for inclusion in the NGA Business Papers, and subsequent debate on the floor of the NGA, motions must meet the following criteria:

1. be relevant to the work of local government nationally
2. be consistent with the themes of the NGA
3. complement or build on the policy objectives of your state and territory local government association
4. be submitted by a council which is a financial member of their state or territory local government association
5. propose a clear action and outcome
6. not be advanced on behalf of external third parties that may seek to use the NGA to apply pressure to Board members or to gain national political exposure for positions that are not directly relevant to the work of, or in the national interests of, local government.

Motions should generally be in a form that seeks the NGA's support for a particular action or policy change at the Federal level which will assist local governments to meet local community needs. For example: That this National General Assembly call on the Federal Government to restore funding for local government financial assistance grants to a level equal to at least 1% of Commonwealth taxation revenue.

Motions should be lodged electronically using the online form available on the NGA website at: www.alga.asn.au. All motions require, among other things, a contact officer, a clear national objective, a summary of the key arguments in support of the motion, and endorsement of your council. Motions should be received no later than 11:59pm on Friday 29 March 2019.

Please note that for every motion it is important to complete the background section on the form. Submitters of motions should not assume knowledge. The background section helps all delegates, including those with no previous knowledge of the issue, in their consideration of the motion.

All motions submitted will be reviewed by the ALGA Board's NGA Sub-Committee as well as by state and territory local government associations to determine their eligibility for inclusion in the NGA Business Papers. When reviewing motions, the Sub-Committee considers the importance and relevance of the issue to local government. Please note that motions should not be prescriptive in directing how the matter should be pursued. With the agreement of the relevant council, motions may be edited before inclusion in the NGA Business Papers to ensure consistency. If there are any questions about the substance or intent of a motion, ALGA will raise these with the nominated contact officer. Any motion deemed to be primarily concerned with local or state issues will be referred to the relevant state or territory local government association, and will not be included in the NGA Business Papers.

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this discussion paper is to provide guidance to councils developing Motions for Debate at the 2019 National General Assembly. This will be the 25th National General Assembly and will focus on the future of local government and local communities. It will consider what Councils can do today to get ready for the challenges, opportunities and changes that lie ahead.

Local governments across Australia already face a host of challenges including financial constraints, adapting to rapidly evolving technologies and community expectations of access to 24/7 services via websites, mobiles and call centres, changes in demographics and population size and preferred means of community engagement. It is unlikely that these challenges will disappear. In some cases, they will be compounded by climate change, the ageing population and further advances in disruptive technologies including artificial intelligences.

The challenges may also be exacerbated by increasing community expectations about the level and types of services and infrastructure provided by councils and the community's willingness to pay. The community, as council's customers, are increasingly growing accustomed to steadily falling prices for better products and services such as cars, computers, overseas travels. Exceptions to this are housing and in many cases government services such as health care and tertiary education. Another exception is council rates. While a number of states have capped rates, rates across the nation typically continue to rise.

In the case of rates, local communities can perceive that they are being asked to pay more money for the same product. The community may feel that they are paying enough and are therefore unlikely to be supportive of rate rises or swing behind the call for increased federal funding for local government (≥ 1% FAGs).

KEY QUESTIONS

This therefore raises the questions of:

1. What can local governments do differently now, and in the future, to deliver more for less?
   - Are there new business models and new partnerships, new technologies and the willingness to reduce, phase out or change existing practices, opportunities for more sophisticated service planning and more efficient procurement?

2. How can local governments collaborate, be entrepreneurial and embrace disruption and innovation?

3. How can the Commonwealth Government help local governments prepare for the future and why should they care?
   - What are the opportunities for leveraging regional, state and national partnerships?

THE PRESENT

Demographics

In 2018 the Australian population reached the 25 million mark.

73% of the population lives in stand-alone houses, while 27% of the population live in homes such as flats, apartments, semi-detached, row houses and town houses. 38% of occupied apartments are in high rise blocks with four or more storeys. That's up from 18% in 2006.

67% of Austalians live in capital cities, 23% in other urban areas and 10% live in rural Australia. In total more than 90% of our population lives within 100km of the coast making us one of the world's most urbanised coastal dwelling populations. 86% of all Aussie households have internet access at home.

Australia has an aging population and we're also living longer with almost 4,000 people over the age of 100. In 2017, 308,000 babies were born. As a population, we're made up of more than six million families and they come in all shapes and sizes[1].

Diversity and culture

Australia has one of the most multicultural populations in the world with more than 300 different ancestries and 28% of our resident population born overseas — nearly 7 million people. Across the country more than 300 languages are spoken.

At the 2016 Census 50.7% of the population was female. However, gender equality advances have stalled across the local government sector. The rates of women in senior positions are far lower than any other tier of government. At the last round of local government elections, women accounted for just 32 per cent of all candidates and were elected to 30 per cent of positions. Even fewer (24 per cent) mayoral candidates were women but almost all were elected. Women account for 46 per cent of staff positions but this falls as the management level rises. Only 11 per cent of council chief executives are women[2].

At the 2016 Census Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people made up 2.8 per cent of the Australian population (approximately 649,000 out of 23.4 million people). Only eight politicians who identify as Indigenous have served in the Federal Parliament with six of those having been elected since 2010[3]. With the exception of a small number of local governments it is expected that there are very few Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders holding elected or senior executive positions in local government (data is not available for this issue).

According to the 2016 Census, almost 50 per cent of Australians were born overseas or had a parent born overseas. Census data also indicates that almost one quarter of Australians speak languages other than English in their homes. State and federal parliaments and local governments should reflect contemporary Australia but fail to do so.

A 2016 report by the Australian Human Rights Commission revealed that 1.61 per cent of federal and state public service heads of department, and 0 per cent of federal Ministers and Assistant Ministers come from a non-European background. In the federal parliament 79 per cent of the 226 elected members in the Australian Parliament have an Anglo-Celtic background, 16 per cent have a European background and those from a non-European background make up less than four per cent of the total[4]. There are no statistics available about cultural diversity in local government.

Fair Work Australia statistics indicate that workers compensation claims involving alleged bullying in local government were among the second highest of all sectors in 2017, with 42.2 claims per 100 million hours worked in 2017, up from being the third highest in 2016[5].
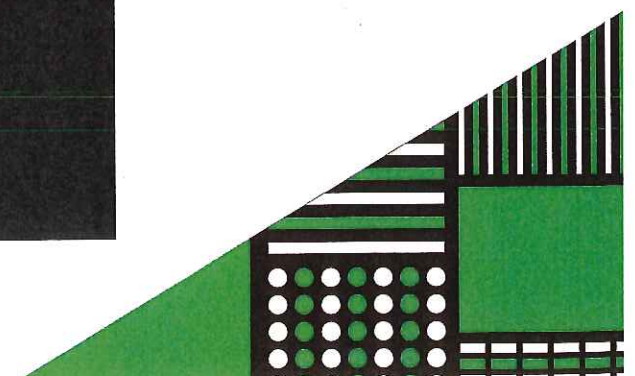
Roles and funding

The scale and functional scope of local government spending has been subject to significant change over the last two decades. According to a report by the McKell Institute there has been a fourfold increase in spending by local governments in nominal terms (7.3% p.a. compound growth rate) from total outlays of A$8.2 billion in 1994-95 to A$33.6 billion in 2014-15 and $35.9 billion in 2016-17 despite the fact that in some jurisdictions significant public service responsibilities (such as water and sewerage) have been stripped out from local government.

Causes for the increase in functions undertaken by local government[6] include cost shifting, the need to address market failure (particularly in rural areas where it is commonly not financially viable for the private sector to provide essential goods and services such as aged care or childcare) and increasing community demand which has been rising steeply over the past two decades.
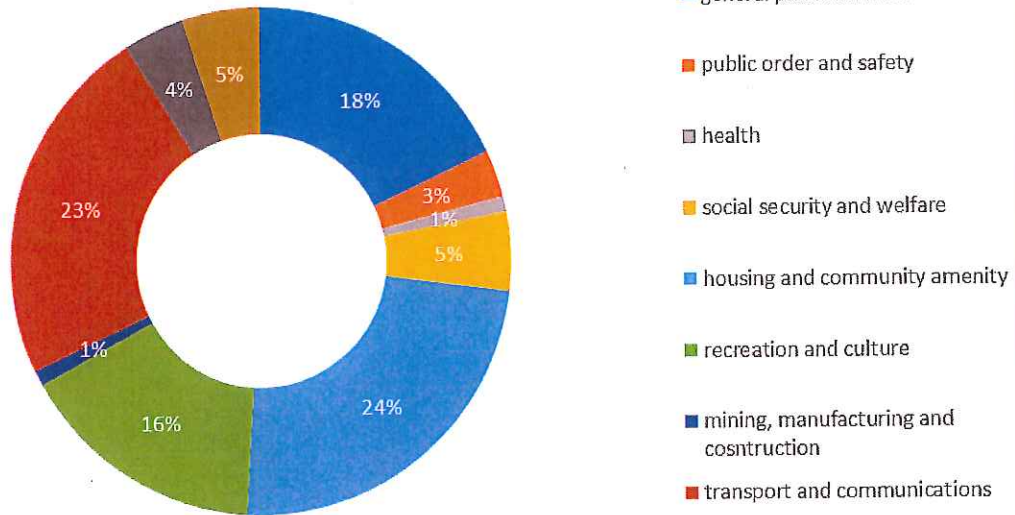
A gap has emerged between the community's propensity to pay for various amenities and the cost to council in providing those services. This has resulted in local governments under-charging and failing to effectively demonstrate the cost to consumers.

KEY QUESTION

What can local governments do differently?

AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT SPENDING BY CATERGORY
**2014-15 (total outlays $33.6billion)**

Legend:
- general public services
- public order and safety
- health
- social security and welfare
- housing and community amenity
- recreation and culture
- mining, manufacturing and cosntruction
- transport and communications

Pie chart values: 18%, 3%, 1%, 5%, 24%, 16%, 1%, 23%, 4%, 5%

The following table demonstrates some of the key changes in local government expenditure between 2011-12 to 2016-17

Expense by purpose	Proportion of total expenditure	
	2011-12	2016-17
Transport and communications	23.7%	21.5%
Housing and community services	22.3%	24.2%
General public service	18.3%	17.6%
Recreation and culture	15%	16.6%
Social security and welfare	5.3%	4.8%
Other purpose	3.9%	4.2%
Other economic affairs	3.6%	3.6%
Public order and safety	2.6%	2.5%
Public debt transaction	2.1%	1.8%
Health	1.3%	1.2%
Mining, manufacturing and construction	1.2%	1.0%
Education	0.5%	0.6%
Fuel and energy	0.1%	0%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	0.1%	0.1%
Total in $$	$30.6b	$35.9b

Between 2011-12 and 2016-17 local government revenue increased from $36 billion to $45.5 billion. Of this 88% (in 2011-12) and 89% (in 2016-17) was own source revenue[7]. Funding from the Commonwealth Government in the form of Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs) was $2.14 billion in 2011-12 and $2.29 billion (following the end on the freeze to indexation).

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVENUE BY SOURCE 2016-17

- taxation (rates)
- sales of goods and services
- interest
- other
- grants and subsides
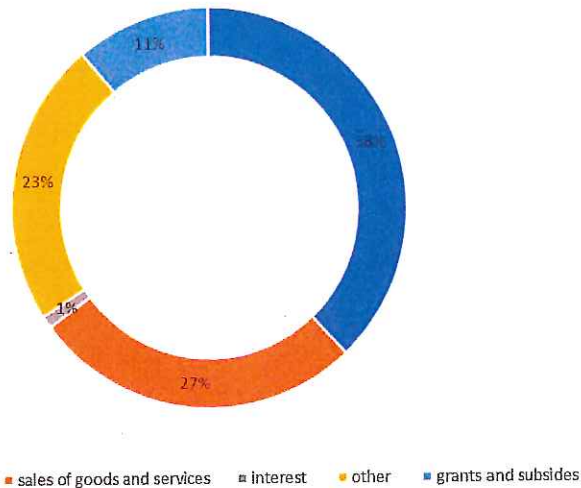
KEY QUESTIONS

*How can the Commonwealth Government help local governments?*

Why should they care?

Total assets increased from $350 billion in 2011-12 to $467 billion in 2017-18. It has been estimated that the gross replacement value of local government infrastructure for all Australian councils was $438 billion in 2014. 11% or $47 billion of assets are in poor or very poor condition and require renewal or upgrade. Seven per cent or $31 billion of the asset stock has poor function requiring upgrading to meet current or emerging local and regional service level targets for safety, compliance, social, environmental and economic performance. A further seven per cent or $31 billion of assets have poor capacity and require augmenting to support growth and meet service needs[8].

THE FUTURE

Demographics

Population projections by the Australian Bureau of Statistics illustrate the growth and change in population which would occur if certain assumptions about the future level of fertility, mortality, internal and overseas migration were to prevail over a projection period. Based on an estimated resident population of 22.7 million people at 30 June 2012 the population has been projected to increase to between 36.8 and 48.3 million people by 2061 and to between 42.4 and 70.1 million by 2101.

The median age of Australia's population (37.3 years at 30 June 2012) is projected to increase to between 38.6 years and 40.5 years in 2031 (high growth and low growth respectively) and to between 41.0 years and 44.5 years in 2061.

AUSTRALIA'S PROJECTED POPULATION

Legend:
- high growth assumptions
- current trends (2012)
- low growth assumptions
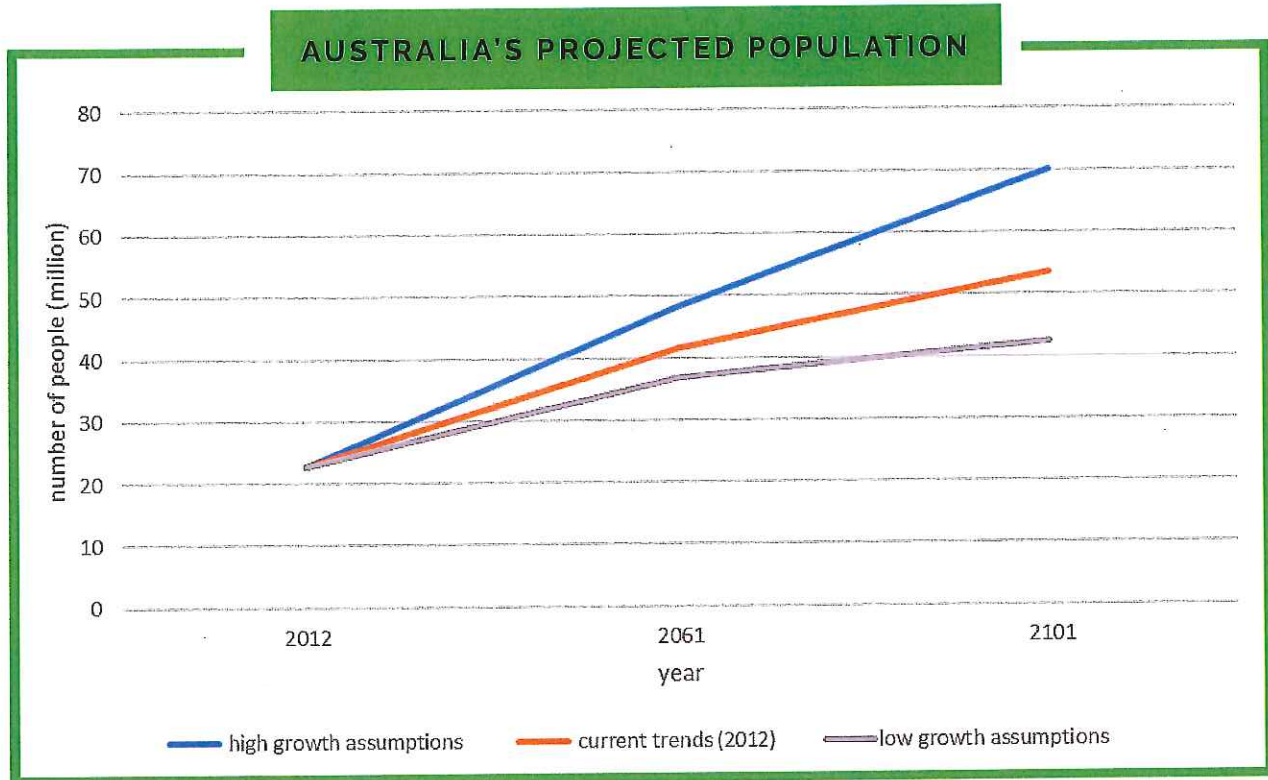
Source: ABS Population projections, Australia 2012 3222.0

Assuming the current (2012) trends continuing, the population will grow in all states and territories except Tasmania. All capital cities except Darwin are projected to experience higher percentage growth than their respective state or territory balances, resulting in a further concentration of Australia's population within the capital cities. In 2012, 66% of Australians lived in a capital city. By 2061 this proportion is projected to increase to 74%.

KEY QUESTIONS

What partnerships, business models can help local Government deliver more with less?

State	2012	2061		
		Low growth scenarios (C)	Current trend (B)	High growth scenario
NSW total	7.3 million	10.8 million	11.5 million	12.6 million
Sydney	4.7 million	8.0 million	8.5 million	8.9 million
Balance	2.6 million	2.9 million	3 million	3.7 million
Victoria Total	5.6 million	9.0 million	10.3 million	12.1 million
Melbourne	4.2 million	7.6 million	8.6 million	9.8 million
Balance	1.4 Million	1.4 million	1.7 million	2.3 million
Queensland total	4.6 million	7.9 million	9.3 million	11.1 million
Brisbane	2.2 million	3.8 million	4.8 million	5.6 million
Balance	2.4 million	4.1 million	4.5 million	5.5 million
Western Australia total	2.4 million	5.4 million	6.4 million	7.7 million
Perth	1.9 million	4.4 million	5.4 million	6.6 million
Balance	500,000	975,000	950,800	1.1 million
South Australia total	1.7 million	2.1 million	2.3 million	2.6 million
Adelaide	1.3 million	1.7 million	1.9 million	2.2 million
Balance	377,900	373,700 *	387,400	451,200
Tasmania Total	512,200	460,900 #	565,700 #	714,000
Hobart	217,000	228,700	270,600	339,300
Balance	295,400	232,200	295,100	374,700
Northern Territory total	235,200	455,700	453,000	457,800
Darwin	131,900	254,800	225,900	182,000
Balance	103,200	203,000	227,100	273,700
ACT Total	375,100	612,400	740,900	904,100

* In the low growth scenario, the population for the balance of South Australia is projected to increase marginally over the next twenty years, peaking at 398,100 in 2033, before declining to 373,700 in 2061.
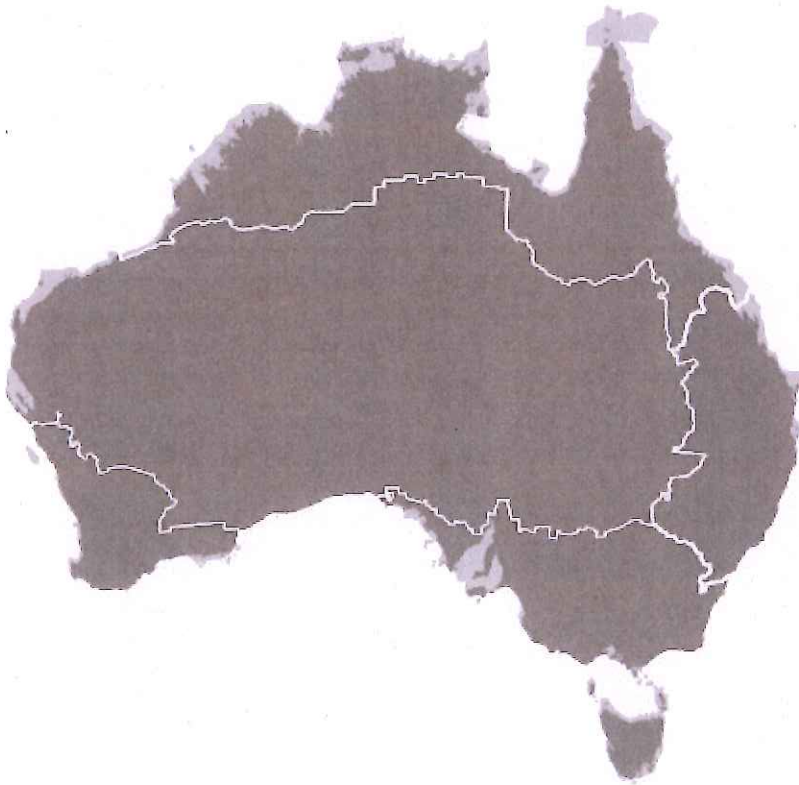
In the current trend scenario (2012) Tasmania's population increases slowly before levelling out by around 2046 and then decreasing marginally from 2047 onwards. In the low growth scenario Tasmania's population increases only slightly over the first 15 years and begins to decline from 2028 onwards'.

In the high growth scenario, Australia's growth rate initially increases to 1.9% per year and remains above the 20-year average (1.3%) until the middle of the century. Over the second half of the century, growth rates gradually decline, reaching 1.0% in 2071 and 0.8% in 2101. In the current (2012) trend scenario Australia's annual growth rate decreases from 1.7% in 2012 to 1.0% in 2045, and to 0.5% in 2101. In the low growth scenario Australia's annual growth rate decreases at a faster rate, reaching 1.0% in 2031 and 0.2% in 2101.

Climate Change

The CSIRO and Bureau of Meteorology have compiled different models for predicting the outcome of climate change in Australia. According to this work, droughts are predicted to increase in a large portion of southern Australia, ("medium" level of confidence). It is predicted that in the main the southern half of Australia will experience less rainfall in winter, spring or both (high or medium confidence). Every part of Australia will continue to experience increases in average temperature, and will have a higher frequency of hot days. This will also result in higher evaporation across Australia, which will continue to make drought conditions worse in the future.

People living in large cities can be more susceptible than non-urban dwellers to the effects of heatwaves as a result of the urban heat island effect. This is caused by the prevalence in cities of heat absorbing materials such as dark coloured pavements and roofs, concrete, urban canyons trapping hot air, and a lack of shade and green space in dense urban environments. It can result in substantially higher temperatures (particularly overnight) than surrounding non-urban areas.

https://www.climatechangeinaustralia.gov.au/en/climate-projections/future-climate/regional-climate-change-explorer/super-clusters/

Northern Australia

- Average temperatures will continue to increase in all seasons (very high confidence).
- More hot days and warm spells are projected with very high confidence.
- Changes to rainfall are possible but unclear.
- Increased intensity of extreme rainfall events is projected, with high confidence.
- Mean sea level will continue to rise and height of extreme sea-level events will also increase (very high confidence).
- With medium confidence, fewer but more intense tropical cyclones are projected.

The Rangelands

- Average temperatures will continue to increase in all seasons (very high confidence).
- More hot days and warm spells are projected with very high confidence. Fewer frosts are projected with high confidence.
- Changes to summer rainfall are possible but unclear. Winter rainfall is projected to decrease in the south with high confidence.
- Increased intensity of extreme rainfall events is projected, with high confidence.
- Mean sea levels will continue to rise and height of extreme sea-level events will also increase (very high confidence).

Eastern Australia

- Average temperatures will continue to increase in all seasons (very high confidence).
- More hot days and warm spells are projected with very high confidence. Fewer frosts are projected with high confidence.
- Average winter and spring rainfall is projected to decrease with medium confidence. Changes in summer and autumn are possible but unclear.
- Increased intensity of extreme rainfall events is projected, with high confidence.
- Mean sea level will continue to rise and height of extreme sea-level events will also increase (very high confidence).
- A harsher fire-weather climate in the future (high confidence).

Southern Australia

- Average temperatures will continue to increase in all seasons (very high confidence).
- More hot days and warm spells are projected with very high confidence. Fewer frosts are projected with high confidence.
- A continuation of the trend of decreasing winter rainfall is projected with high confidence. Spring rainfall decreases are also projected with high confidence. Changes to summer and autumn rainfall are possible but less clear.
- Increased intensity of extreme rainfall events is projected, with high confidence.
- Mean sea level will continue to rise and height of extreme sea-level events will also increase (very high confidence).
- A harsher fire-weather climate in the future (high confidence).
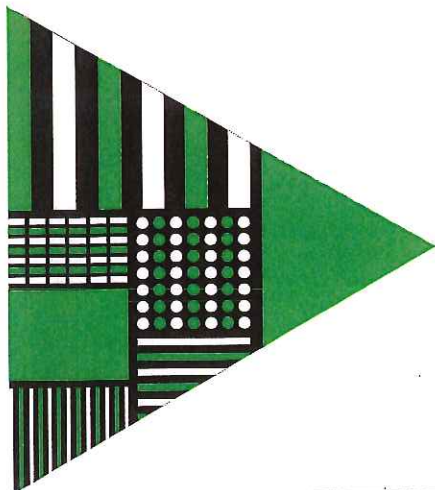
KEY QUESTIONS

How can local governments collaborate, build partnerships to address climate change?

Table 1 Climate Change Projections for selected Australian Cities

Variable	2030 (intermediate emission scenario)	2090 (intermediate emission scenario)	2090 (high emission scenario)
Adelaide			
Temperate	0.7	1.5	2.9
Rainfall (%)	-4	-7	-9
Days over 35°C (currently 20)	26	32	47
Alice Springs			
Temperate	1	2.1	4.4
Rainfall (%)	-2	-5	-4
Days over 35°C (currently 94)	113	133	168
Brisbane			
Temperate	0.9	1.8	3.7
Rainfall (%)	-4	-9	-16
Days over 35°C (currently 12)	18	27	55
Cairns			
Temperate	0.7	1.4	2.9
Rainfall (%)	0	-2	-2
Days over 35°C (currently 3)	5.5	11	48
Canberra			
Temperate	0.8	1.8	3.8
Rainfall (%)	-2	-6	-5
Days over 35°C (currently 20)	7.1	12	29
Darwin			
Temperate	0.9	1.8	3.7
Rainfall (%)	0	-1	+4
Days over 35°C (currently 11)	43	111	265
Dubbo			
Temperate	1	2.1	4.2
Rainfall (%)	-2	-4	-6
Days over 35°C (currently 22)	31	44	65
Hobart			
Temperate	0.6	1.4	2.9
Rainfall (%)	1	-1	-2
Days over 35°C (currently 1.6)	2	2.6	4.2
Melbourne			
Temperate	0.6	1.5	3
Rainfall (%)	-2	-7	-9
Days over 35°C (currently 11)	13	16	24
Perth			
Temperate	0.8	1.7	3.5
Rainfall (%)	-6	-12	-18
Days over 35°C (currently 28)	36	43	63
Sydney			
Temperate	0.9	1.8	3.7
Rainfall (%)	-3	-2	-3
Days over 35°C (currently 3.1)	4.3	6	11

Source: Webb, L.B. and Hennessy, K. 2015, Projections for selected Australian cities, CSIRO and Bureau of Meteorology, Australia.

Employment

Into the future, some of the most significant factors influencing employment will include change in industry structure, technological advances and globalisation. The trend towards employment requiring skills and training is also set to continue. The CSIRO estimates that while 44 per cent of Australian jobs are potentially at high risk of automation, this technology will also be responsible for the creation of new jobs. A projected growth area for regional economies is in the human services-related industries, particularly health care and social assistance for an ageing population. This will have significant implications for regional populations as service industries are more likely to cluster in regional centres than in smaller towns and rural areas. Tourism and related industries such as accommodation, food services and retail trade are also expected to continue to deliver economic growth in regional areas with help from the low Australian dollar. The knowledge economy, science, technology and finance will drive employment growth in urban areas.

Technology

The pace of technological change at present is increasing and almost daily we hear of new technologies that will disrupt existing markets and change the way our communities live, work, play and travel. It is difficult to predict which of these new technologies will come to fruition, let alone the full impact that they will have. It is also difficult to predict what is likely to occur in the future in terms of the type of technological changes and the speed of change. Forward planning is therefore problematic but it is reasonably safe to assume that drones and electric vehicles and semi-or fully autonomous vehicles (self-driving cars) will be part of our future. These will have dramatic impact on the look and feel of our communities and the services and infrastructure needed to support them.

Local government services that utilise Artificial Intelligence (AI) are already emerging. AI has the ability to tap into social media to learn about problems in real time. When people post or tweet about issues in the local area AI powered systems can improve council response times and reduce costs. Predictive elements in AI help councils analyse infrastructure issues and fix small problems before they grow larger. Modern systems can track water pressure and alert workers to fix pipes before they burst. The application of blockchain should allow local councils to reduce a great amount of transaction costs in the delivery of local services, while also providing greater transparency and participation for citizens.

Contact centre chat bots (virtual customer service assistants) can help the public to pay parking fines and rates, or apply for a permit at any time Customer service AI can help community members find the information they need. Website AI can help individuals navigate online services. Some AI can even help residents with applications, guiding them through the process and suggesting additional services.

KEY QUESTIONS

How can local government embrace disruption and innovation?

AI technology is an opportunity to reimagine how future services can be delivered as well as gain value in:

- Reducing demand on services
- Improving efficiencies
- Enhancing the customer experience
- Driving better decision making from data insights

AI technology will not displace a team or service but complement it to truly be user-centric. It can reduce the burden of administrative tasks enabling staff to put their skills to more strategic and creative tasks and gain faster access to valuable insights. In doing so, the council is empowered to make better decisions for citizens.

AI has benefits for the workplace and citizens alike helping solve a problem and improving the lives of citizens. AI can have an enabling role in achieving this for local government today and for the 'council of the future.'

REFERENCES

PAGE FIVE - THE PRESENT:

[1] Interesting Facts about Australia's 25,000,000 population http://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/D3310114.nsf/home/Interesting+Facts+about+Australia%E2%80%99s+population

[2] Evans, M and Haussegger, V (2017) why are women so poorly represented in local government administrative leadership and what can be done about it? http://www.5050foundation.edu.au/assets/reports/documents/online-gender-diversity-co-design-workshop-1-.pdf

[3] Joint select committee on constitutional recognition relating to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples (2018) Interim report. The Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia.

[4] Australian Human Rights Commission (2016) The 'Leading for Change' blueprint

[5] Clark, G (2018) Bullying endemic in councils, Fair Work turns staff away. Government News https://www.governmentnews.com.au/bullying-endemic-in-councils-fair-work-turns-staff-away/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Newsletter%20-%2011th%20September%202018&utm_content=Newsletter%20-%2011th%20September%202018+Version+B+CID_250d36654e64011424c76af2e32234e8&utm_source=Campaign%20Monitor&utm_term=Bullying%20endemic%20in%20councils%20Fair%20Work%20turns%20staff%20away

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[6] The McKell Institute (2016) Giving local governments the reboot: improving the financial sustainability of local governments.

[7] Australian Bureau of Staistics (2018) Government Finance Statistics, Australia, 2016-17 Catalogue No: 55120 http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/5512.0

[8] Australian Local Government Association (2015) National State of the Assets Report

PAGE SEVEN - POPULATION

[9] Source: ABS Catalogue 3222.0 - Population Projections, Australia, 2012 (base) to 2101 (LATEST ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 26/11/2013) http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/Products/3222.0Main%20Features52012%20(base)%20to%202101?opendocument&tabname=Summary&prodno=3222.0&issue=2012%20(base)%20to%202101&num=&view= (downloaded 4 September 2018)

AUSTRALIAN
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
ASSOCIATION

General Registration

GENERAL ASSEMBLY REGISTRATION FEES

		INCLUSIONS
Registration Fees — Early Bird Payment received by Friday 10 May 2019	$989.00	— Attendance at all General Assembly sessions — Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea as per the General Assembly program — 1 Ticket to the Welcome Reception: Sunday 16 June — General Assembly satchel and materials
Registration Fees — Standard Payment received on or before Friday 7 June 2019	$1,099.00	
Registration Fees — Late Payment received after Friday 7 June 2019	$1,199.00	

GENERAL ASSEMBLY REGISTRATION FEES

		INCLUSIONS
Monday 17 June 2019	$529.00	— Attendance at all General Assembly sessions on the day of registration — Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea as per the General Assembly program on that day — General Assembly satchel and materials
Tuesday 18 June 2019	$529.00	
Wednesday 19 June 2019	$280.00	
NGA Delegate Delegates attending the Regional Forum and the NGA are entitled to this discount.		

SUNDAY REGIONAL FORUM REGISTRATION FEES

		INCLUSIONS
Forum Only — Sunday 16 June 2019	$445.00	— 1 Ticket to the Welcome Reception — Sunday 16 June — Day Tour 'Lake Cruise to Monet' — Monday 17 June
	$245.00	

ACCOMPANYING PARTNERS REGISTRATION FEES

		INCLUSIONS
Accompanying Partners Registration Fee	$280.00	— Day Tour 'Pottery and Wine Experience' — Tuesday 18 June — Lunch with General Assembly Delegates — Wednesday 19 June

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General Information

Payment Procedures:
Payment can be made by:

Credit card
MasterCard and Visa

Cheque
Made payable to ALGA

Electronic Funds Transfer
Bank: Commonwealth Bank
Branch: Curtin
BSB No: 062905
Account No: 10097760

NOTE! If paying via EFT you must quote your transaction reference number on the registration form.

Cancellation Policy:
All alterations or cancellations to your registration must be made in writing and will be acknowledged by email. Notification should be sent to:

Conference Co-ordinators
PO Box 4994
Chisholm ACT 2905

Facsimile: 02 6292 9002
E-mail: conference@confco.com.au

An administration charge of $110.00 will be made to any participant cancelling before Friday 10 May 2019.

Cancellations received after Friday 10 May 2019 will be required to pay full registration fees. However, if you are unable to attend, substitutes are welcome at no additional cost.

By submitting your registration you agree to the terms of the cancellation policy.

Photographs:
During the National General Assembly there will be a contracted photographer; the photographer will take images during the sessions and social functions.

If you have your picture taken it is assumed that you are giving consent for ALGA to use the image.

Images may be used for print and electronic publications.

Privacy Disclosure:
ALGA collects your personal contact information in its role as a peak body for local government. ALGA may disclose your personal contact information to the sponsors of the event for the purposes of commercial business opportunities. If you consent to ALGA using and disclosing your personal contact information in this way, please tick the appropriate box on the registration form.

Importantly, your name may also be included in the General Assembly List of Participants. You must tick the appropriate box on the registration form if you wish your name to appear in this list.

Canberra Weather in June:
Winter days in Canberra are characterised by clear sunny skies but the days are cool at around 12-15C and temperatures do drop to 1c on average in the evenings, so be sure to bring a warm jacket. Mornings can be foggy so keep this in mind when booking flights. It is best to avoid early arrivals or departures in case of delays due to fog.

Coach Transfers:
Welcome Reception and Exhibition Opening — Sunday 16 June 2019
Coaches will collect delegates from all General Assembly hotels (except Crowne Plaza Canberra) at approximately 4:45pm. The return coaches will depart at 7:00pm.

Daily Shuttles to and from the National Convention Centre
A shuttle service between all General Assembly hotels (except Crowne Plaza Canberra) and the National Convention Centre will operate between 8:00am and 8:30am. Return shuttles will depart the National Convention Centre at 5:30pm.

Networking Dinner: Australian War Memorial — Monday 17 June
Coaches will collect delegates from all General Assembly hotels at approximately 6:45pm. A return shuttle service will commence at 10:15pm.

General Assembly Annual Dinner:
To be announced — Tuesday 18 June
Coaches will collect delegates from all General Assembly hotels at approximately 6:45pm. A return shuttle service will operate between 10:30pm and 11:45pm.

Car Parking:
Parking for delegates is available underneath the National Convention Centre for a cost of approximately $19.00 per day. Alternatively, voucher public parking is available 300m from the Centre at a cost of approximately $15.70 per day. The voucher machines accept either coins or credit cards (Visa or MasterCard).

Future
Focused

NGA19

16—19 June 2019, Canberra
National Convention Centre
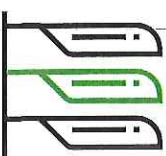
AUSTRALIAN
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
ASSOCIATION

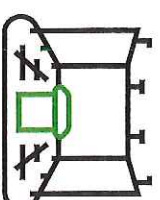Celebrating 25 Years of NGA

NGA 19
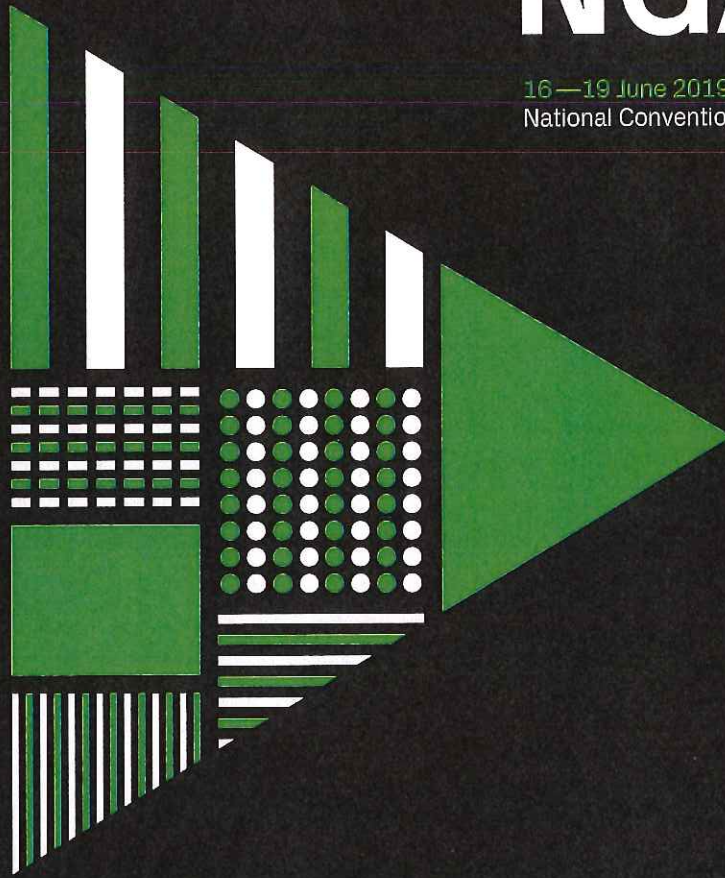
Great Benefits of NGA

Experts and influencers
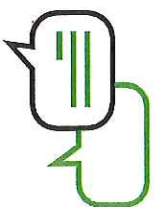— Meet experts and influencers face to face.

60+ exhibitors
— Encounter over 60 exhibitors with innovative and new solutions specifically to address Local Government issues.
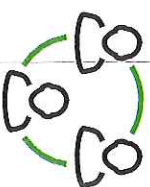
Largest national conference
— for Local Government held in Australia with over 870 delegates.

140+ motions debated
— Over 140 motions debated and used to engage with 24 Ministers and Federal portfolios.

15+ networking hours
— Over 15 hours available to network with other local Government leaders.

President Welcome

Dear Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to invite you to the 2019 **National General Assembly of Local Government** at the National Convention Centre in Canberra on **16 to 19 June.**

This year we are Future Focused as we mark the NGA's 25th anniversary, celebrating past achievements whilst firmly focused on the future.

Our theme this year acknowledges that change is constant - and we know you want your council to be positioned to seize the opportunities and reap the rewards for your communities.

Change is everywhere be it digital transformation, community activism, ageing demographics, population policies, planning overlays, voice recognition, artificial intelligence and even self-driving cars are just around the corner. Layers of complexity are added by attitudes to climate change, energy generation, cost shifting and tax distributions. Not to mention increasing community expectations about the level and types of services and infrastructure provided by councils.

It is up to each and every council to understand these developments, work through the challenges, and find the best way to shape their response to their communities. The NGA this year will consider what councils can do today to get ready for the challenges, opportunities and changes that pave the path ahead.

As part of our exciting program, delegates can look forward to hearing from leading politicians; receiving deep insights from nation-leading experts; being inspired by keynote speakers at the forefront of community engagement and crowd-powered communities; and concurrent sessions exploring housing affordability and density pressures; community harm and waste. Together we will ignite thought-provoking discussions about what can be expected as we look to the future.

Previous NGAs have provided participants with experiences, inspiration, information and an abundance of tools and techniques to take back and apply in their councils. This year will be no exception.

This year's NGA will also be held just after the next federal election. Before the dust settles, join us to make sure the incoming government is focussed on the future of our sector, and the future prosperity and wellbeing of our communities. When we come together, the power of our collective voices working to sustain vital funding and programs for local government cannot be denied - it is an unmissable opportunity for your council's voice to be heard.

The NGA is the only event on the local government calendar that truly brings councils, staff and industry together nationwide to advocate, network, celebrate, learn and build strategic relationships that, collectively, will position participants at the forefront of local governance in Australia.

Are you Future Focused?

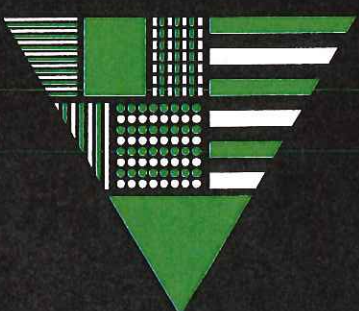Mayor David O'Loughlin
ALGA President

Key Dates:

Submissions of Motions for Debate
By 11:55pm Friday 29 March 2019

Early Bird Registration
On or before Friday 10 May 2019

Standard Registration
On or before Friday 7 June 2019

Late Registration
After Friday 7 June 2019

2019 Speakers

1–34

KAREN MIDDLETON

Political Commentator

The ins-and-outs for Local Government post-election.

KURT FEARNLEY

Paralympic Champion

An incredible story of drive and courage who will also provide insights into the opportunities to improve services for the disabled.

KYLIE COCHRAN

Community Engagement Specialist

A fantastic presenter that makes understanding community engagement a pleasure through practical examples and humour.

STEVE SAMMARTINO

Australian Futurist, Author, Technologist and Speaker

Futurist, whose energy and passion will challenge current thinking and what to anticipate in the future.

GRETEL KILLEEN

TV Personality

Gretel's knack for humorous story telling draws on her family farming background and varied TV hosting experiences.

NATALIE EGLETON

CEO — Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal

Natalie works with philanthropists, business and government to strengthen rural, regional and remote communities.

DR JÓN SIGFÚSSON

Drug Prevention in Iceland

An international perspective on how to tackle youth drug use.

DR ERIN LALOR .

CEO — Alcohol and Drug Foundation

Providing insights on how councils are achieving great outcomes in reducing drug and alcohol use in their communities.

Provisional Program

2019 National General Assembly
16—19 June

National Convention Centre
Canberra

Future Focused
25 Years of NGA

SUNDAY 16 JUNE

08:00am	Registration Opens
05:00pm — 07:00pm	Welcome Reception

MONDAY 17 JUNE

09:00am	**Opening Ceremony** Wally Bell — Welcome to Country
09:20am	ALGA President Opens the Assembly
09:30am	Prime Minister Address
11:00am	ALGA President Address
10:30am	**MORNING TEA**
11:00am	**Keynote Address** Karen Middleton — How did Local Government Fair Post Election
11:45am	**Panel of Mayors** Opportunities for Local Government Post Election
12:30pm	**LUNCH**
01:30pm	**Keynote Address** Steve Sammartino — Dirwid Powered Communities *Exploring a future where the way forward is about morning over the technology tools or design and production to those who populate our communities.*
02:30pm	Councils Using Technology to Excel
03:00pm	**AFTERNOON TEA**
03:30pm	Debate on Motions
04:30pm	Federal Minister for Local Government
04:55pm	ALGA President Close
07:00pm	**Networking Dinner** Australian War Memorial

TUESDAY 18 JUNE

09:00am	**Keynote Address** Andrew Beer, Dean of Resear ch and Innovation UniSA — The Role of Local Government in Housing Australians in the 21st Century
10:30am	**Keynote Address** Kylie Cochrane Global Leader in Community Engagement — Engaging with your Community into the Future
11:00am	**MORNING TEA**
11:30am	Debate on Motions
12:30pm	**LUNCH**
01:30pm	**Concurrent Sessions** Housing your Community TBC Restoring Community Health TBC Dr Jon Sigursson — Working with local government in alcohol and drug misuse in youth – a preventative approach from Iceland Dr Erin Lalor — Local Drug Action Teams – an Australian community led approach to alcohol and drug misuse Built Environment in Your Community TBC Your Community Your Environment TBC
03:00pm	**AFTERNOON TEA**
03:30pm	Debate on Motions
04:00pm	Leader of the Opposition Address
07:00pm — 11:00pm	**National General Assembly Dinner** To be announced

WENESDAY 19 JUNE

09:00am	**The Great Debate** Revenue, Cost Shifting, Rate Capping
10:00am	David Picn CEO Institute of Managers and Leaders — Leadership Matters
10:30am	**MORNING TEA**
11:00am	**Keynote Address** Kurt Fearnley — Overcoming the Odds
12:00pm	ALGA President's Close — ALGA National Lobbying Priorities
12:30pm	**LUNCH**
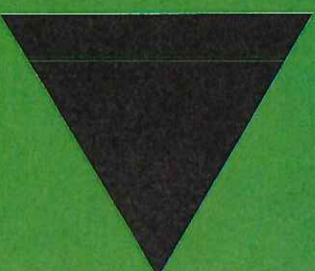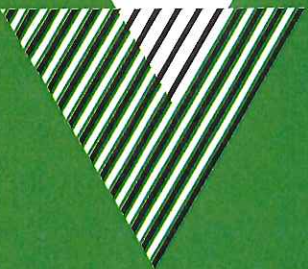
PROVISIONAL PROGRAM

2019 REGIONAL COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT FORUM

SUNDAY 16 JUNE

NATIONAL CONVENTION CENTRE
CANBERRA

REGIONS ARE DYNAMIC, MOVING THROUGH BOOM AND BUST CYCLES AND TIMES OF GROWTH AND DECLINE. WITH CASE STUDIES AND FACILITATED HYPOTHETICAL SESSIONS AND Q&A PANELS OF INDUSTRY EXPERTS, THIS YEAR'S FORUM FOCUSES ON 2 MAIN THEMES:

BOOM OR BUST: THE REGIONAL YO-YO DIET

The rising pressures of rapidly growing regions, and those in decline, who are the winners and losers and how it relates to housing, youth, immigration and social cohesion, the impact of drought, funding and resilience.

CONNECTED COMMUNITIES

Digital readiness, the importance of social connectivity in a digital world, transport linkages and the challenges of digital demography with large, geographically-dispersed communities.

SUNDAY 16 JUNE

| Time	Session
09:30am	Wally Bell — Welcome to Country
09:40am	ALGA's President Opening
09:50am	Keynote Address
	Gretel Killeen — Personal experiences in our regions, setting the scene and hypothetical introduction
10:05am	Boom or Bust: the Regional Yo-Yo Diet
	Examining regional growth and decline related to social cohesion, settlement, impacts of drought and funding
11:15am	Morning Tea
11:45am	Shadow Minister for Regional Services, Territories and Local Government Address
12:00pm	Q&A Panel
	How regional leaders are tackling real problems in our rural and regional communities
12:45pm	State of the Regions Report Launch
01:15pm	Lunch
02:15pm	Connected Communities
	Exploring digital readiness telecommunications, transport, youth projects and successful Local Government initiatives
03:30pm	Afternoon Tea
04:00pm	Minister for Regional Development, Territories and Local Government
04:15pm	Closing remarks

REGIONAL FORUM 2019
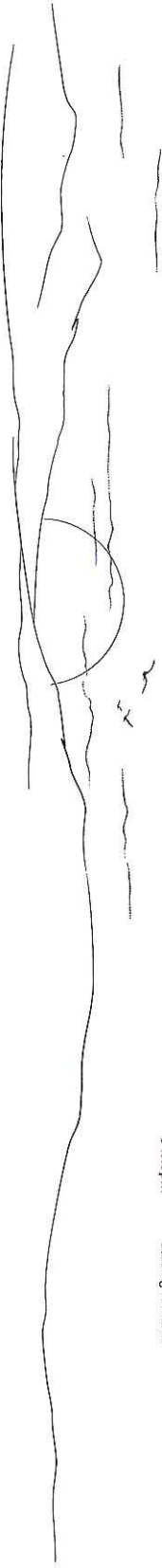
Social Functions

Welcome Reception and Exhibition Opening
Sunday 16 June 2019

Venue: National Convention Centre

The Welcome Reception will be held in the exhibition hall and foyer.

05:00pm—07:00pm

$50.00 per person for day delegates and guests. No charge to full registered delegates. No charge for registered accompanying partners.

Dress Code: Smart casual

Networking Dinner
Monday 17 June 2019

Venue: Australian War Memorial

The dinner is being held in the Anzac Hall.

07:00pm—12:00pm

$110.00 per person.

Dress Code: Smart casual.

This year we take the Networking Dinner to the Australian War Memorial, regarded as one of the most significant war memorials worldwide.

Dinner will be held in the Anzac Hall where you can see historical Military & for George in the Striking By Night exhibit, a midget submarine that was barrel items such as famous Lancaster bomber exhibit, a midget submarine cheated from sections of two full sized submarines in Sydney Under Attack and World War aircraft in the Over The Front: The Great War In The Air exhibition.

You are welcome to browse these at your leisure whilst also having the opportunity to network with delegates from other councils and organisations.

Partner Tours
Monday 17 June 2019
Lake Cruise to Monet

Enjoy the view from the recently refurbished MV Southern Cross Yacht as you cruise around Lake Burley Griffin learning about some of Canberra monuments, museums and political landmarks.

After lunch, there will be an opportunity to view the Monet: Impression, Sunrise Exhibition at the National Gallery Australia. This exclusive exhibition will feature Monet pieces on land from Paris and London along with work from artists like J.M.W. Turner inspired by the impressionist master.

Tuesday 18 June 2019
Pottery and Wine Experience

Today we will be travelling just out of Canberra to nearby town of Murrumbateman. Here we will be visiting Hillgrove Pottery where we will be treated to a history of pottery, demonstrations and a tour of the centre.

We will also be joined by local boutique winery, Lawlis Hills Wines, who will provide tastings and the opportunity for you to ask any questions you have ever had in the process of wine making.

We will then begin making our way back to Canberra with a stop for lunch along the way.

General Assembly Dinner
Tuesday 19 June 2019

Venue: To be announced.

07:00pm—11:00pm

$140.00 per person.

Dress Code:
Lounge suit/collar & tie for men
Cocktail for women.

Note: Bookings are accepted in order of receipt.

Accommodation

Crowne Plaza
1 Binara Street, Canberra

The Crowne Plaza is adjacent to the Convention Centre.

Studio Apartment $210 per night
— Single/twin/double

Twin option at the hotel consists of two double beds.

1 Bedroom Apartment $230 per night
— Single/twin/double

Superior Room $325 per night
— Single/twin/double

Deluxe Room $375 per night
— Single/twin/double

Avenue Hotel
80 Northbourne Avenue, Canberra

The Avenue Hotel is one of the newest options in Canberra and offers guests both studio and apartment style rooms. The hotel is a 15-20 minute walk from the Convention Centre.

Twin option at the hotel consists of two king singles.

Superior King Rooms: $280 per night
— Single/twin/double

1 Bedroom Apartment $280 per night
— Single/twin/double

Waldorf
2 Akuna Street, Canberra

Located in the heart of Canberra's CBD, the Waldorf is only a five minute walk from the National Convention Centre.

1 Bedroom Apartments $330 per night
— Single/double

Twin option at the hotel consists of two single beds. Additional costs will apply if more than 2 guests are within the one room.

Executive Room $325 per night
— Single/twin/double

Mantra
84 Northbourne Avenue, Canberra

Mantra on Northbourne is centrally located within the CBD and approximately a 15-20 minute walk from the National Convention Centre.

Bedding configuration in a hotel room is one king or two single beds and a 1 bedroom apartment has one queen or two singles.

Hotel Room $240 per night
— Single/twin/double

1 Bedroom Apartment $280 per night
— Single/twin/double

Novotel
65 Northbourne Avenue, Canberra

Located on Northbourne Avenue, one of Canberra's main thoroughfares, the Novotel is a 15 minute walk from the National Convention Centre.

Twin option for the Standard Room type consists of two double beds and the Executive Room type consists of one king bed and a pull out sofa bed.

Standard Room $290 per night
— Single/twin/double

Executive Room $325 per night
— Single/twin/double

Medina Apartment Hotel
74 Northbourne Avenue, Canberra

The Medina Apartments Hotel James Court is approximately a 15-20 minute walk from the National Convention Centre.

Twin option at the hotel consists of two single beds.

Note: Reception operates between the hours of 06:30am and 11:00pm

1 Bedroom Apartment $225 per night
— Single/twin/double

2 Bedroom Apartment $299 per night
— Single/double

QT Hotel
1 London Circuit, Canberra

QT Hotel is a modern hotel with boutique style furnishings, central to the city and a 10 minute walk to the National Convention Centre.

Twin option at the hotel consists of two single beds.

Standard Room $249 per night
— Single/twin/double

Future
Focused

NGA 19

16 — 19 June 2019, Canberra
National Convention Centre

▶▶ Registration:

Online: nga19.com.au

Hard copy registration
forms and PDF versions
are available by emailing:

NGA@confco.com.au

▶▶ Debate on Motions:

To assist in identifying
motions for the 2019 NGA,
a discussion paper has
been prepared and is
available at: ALGA.asn.au

Submission of motions
can also be accessed at:
ALGA.asn.au

AUSTRALIAN
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Celebrating 25 Years of NGA

nga19.com.au