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Advertising enquiries:
Ben Hutchison
Ph: (03) 8534 5025
benh@halledit.com.au

Welcome to LG News

May 25th, 2012

LG News is a weekly newsletter service for senior management of local governments providing news briefs, best practice and innovation ideas, diary dates and senior job vacancies relevant to councils across Australia. Distribution of the email newsletter is permitted and encouraged within subscribing organisations.

Local Government News is edited by Ben Hutchison, email benh@halledit.com.au.

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General News

1. ACELG paper assesses the importance of shared services

A range of legal and governance models is needed to provide the most suitable platforms for collaboration between councils, according to a paper prepared for the Australian Centre of Excellence for Local Government.

The interim report – [Legal and Governance Models for Shared Services in Local Government](#) – emphasised that, as always, one size did not fit all.

The report, which is now available for comment – said it was clear that shared services would continue to be an option for councils to consider into the future, even if those councils were amalgamated. It said senior managers within participating councils would need to be skilled in aligning the interests of their council with the interests of the group of councils involved.

ACELG said the paper builds on earlier work and investigates models of shared services delivery. It said available legal options and models in use varied greatly across Australia and the report provided a summary of those options, illustrated by five case studies.

The report contains a number of sections. *Section 2* sets out the context and rationale for shared services, while *Section 3* discusses alternative models for shared services, together with associated legislative and governance issues.

Section 4 provides five examples of existing local government groups in Australia and New Zealand which have used different organisational models to carry out shared services and other collaborative arrangements. *Section 5* presents some interim conclusions based on research to date.

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2. Liveable Cities Program funding details released

The City of Sydney and Parramatta City Council have each secured more than \$3.5 million funding to implement projects under the Federal Government's \$20 million *Liveable Cities Program*.

The government has announced the successful projects under the program, designed to help make Australia's 18 major cities more productive, sustainable and liveable.

The City of Sydney has been allocated \$3,750,000 for its *Green Square Town Centre Trigeneration* - Australia's first large scale low carbon trigeneration energy network that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions by around 40,000 tonnes a year.

Parramatta City Council has also been allocated \$3,750,000 for the *Parramatta River City Renewal* - a separate cycling and walking link that will be built between the University of Western Sydney, housing developments in the area and key employment precincts of Parramatta city centre.

[Lepp City Council's Lepp Central Affordable Housing Demonstration Project has](#)

Logan City Council's *Logan Central Affordable Housing Demonstration Project* has been awarded \$689,038; the project focuses on a new apartment complex catering for the area's growing number of low-income retirees and local hospital staff, and is part of council's longer term plans to rejuvenate Logan Central by attracting a wider-range of affordable housing options.

Sunshine Coast Regional Council has been allocated \$500,000 for the Sunshine Coast Light Rail Project – a feasibility study and business case into a light rail link between Caloundra and Maroochydore.

Wyndham City Council in Melbourne has secured \$448,500 for The Greenfield-Tarnait West initiative – a plan for sustainable development on the Regional Rail Link with good urban design, which aims to reduce car dependence and maximise the number of local jobs so that people moving to the region do not face long daily commutes.

At a national level, a study involving the National Growth Areas Alliance, five councils and the Green Building Council of Australia has won \$355, 300 under the program.

The *Practical Design for Resilient Outer Suburbs* study will be headed by Whittlesea City Council in Melbourne and will look at ensuring well-designed, people-friendly development, reducing car dependence, improving job opportunities in outer areas and encouraging greater economic and environmental sustainability.

Other councils in the project are Penrith City Council (NSW), Town of Kwinana (WA), Mount Barker District Council (SA), and Ipswich City Council (QLD). To find out more about these and other successful projects click [here](#).

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3. Canberra reaffirms most councils will not have carbon price liability

The Federal Government has moved to reassure local government that most councils will not have any carbon price liability from landfills.

Mark Dreyfus – Parliamentary Secretary for Climate Change and Energy Efficiency – said in recent weeks, a number of councils had asked about how the carbon price would apply to pollution from local landfill sites and the potential impact this might have on rates for communities.

Mr Dreyfus said the potential effect on rates had been over-estimated, misrepresented or misreported. He said several factors had to be taken into account in determining any impact of the price which applies from 1 July:

- only large landfill sites generating more than 25,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent greenhouse gas pollution a year are covered – the majority of landfills are too small to be covered;
- the carbon price does not apply to pollution from waste deposited in a landfill before 1 July 2012;
- the Government had made rules deeming landfill emissions in 2012/13 to be zero, so councils with large landfills would not have any obligation in 2012/13;
- councils could capture methane gas to earn “carbon credits” under the Carbon Farming Initiative – they could use credits to meet any carbon price liability or generate income by selling them to high-emitting polluters;
- best practice rates of gas capture could reduce methane emissions by more than 75% and reduce any carbon price liability to less than \$8 per tonne of waste deposited in 2012;
- capturing enough methane to reduce a council's liability below the 25,000 tonne threshold would mean the council would not incur the carbon price;
- councils could also use captured methane to generate electricity for the local community and generate another source of income under the Renewable Energy

Target; and

- any potential increase in council rates are factored into the government's household assistance package.

Mr Dreyfus said the government was working with councils to provide guidance and information on implementing policies to cut pollution and create clean energy and, as part of the cooperation, he had written twice to every council and provided a landfill factsheet.

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4. CAMMS Power Data - the future of BI



In today's business environment, organisations are capturing excessive amounts of data across business units for reporting purposes – often in disparate systems – but with no real way of collating it all to support real-time, informed decision making.

In 2009, Gartner predicted that more than 35 percent of the top 5,000 global companies will regularly fail to make insightful decisions about significant changes in their business and markets through 2012, due to their lack of information, processes, and tools.

It is easy therefore to see why Business Intelligence (BI) has become a necessity. BI enables us to turn raw data into meaningful information that is easily accessible, timely and accurate... to help improve the way organisations measure and manage their business.

CAMMS fully flexible "self service" BI solution - Power Data - leverages off of the Microsoft BI Platform to provide a solution that empowers staff by delivering powerful intelligence about what is impacting organisational performance... every second... of every day.

Gone are the days of having to manually collate reporting data, duplicate progress updates in different systems for different audiences, chase staff for updates and not being able to easily share or replicate this information. Power Data facilitates smarter decisions quickly and more easily by enabling you to access, analyse and act upon your corporate data – your way. And of course it fully integrates with CAMMS market leading CPM suite as well.

CAMMS Power Data really does put staff in control of their BI needs and supports more dynamic and robust decision making through easily accessible, meaningful information, presented in your way.

CAMMS Power Data – don't be satisfied with "just" a BI tool... be revolutionary. Call (08) 8212 5188 or email sales@cammanagementsolutions.com.au now to see a live presentation or for more information.

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5. Top Jobs - Lane Cove Council searching for new GM

Lane Cove Council in Sydney is searching for a new General Manager to succeed Peter Brown who is stepping down after 17 years with council - 10 of them as GM.

Mr Brown is scheduled to leave in August 2012 and he plans to take on some part time work and spend more time with his family. Applicants for the GM's role have until 4 June to apply for the position and further details can be found [here](#).

In Western Australia, the Shire of Perenjori is searching for a new Chief Executive Officer. The successful applicant will be appointed on a three year contract. Applications must be lodged by 29 May and further details can be accessed [here](#).

Other senior positions currently on offer among Australian local governments include: Manager Special Projects and Planning for Cassowary Coast Regional Council in Queensland; Manager Governance for the City of Darebin in Victoria; Manager for Sustainability and Planning for the City of Whittlesea in Victoria; and Manager Library Services for Camden Council in New South Wales.

More information about these positions is available on the website of LG Jobs, the specialist email and web-based service that assists councils to locate administrative, executive and engineering personnel, available at www.lgjobs.com.au.

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6. Promoting best practice in innovation and change

Councils across Australia can now access a better practice guide dealing with innovation and change in local government.

The guide – [*Innovation in Local Government: Defining the Challenge, Making the Change*](#) – has been published by the Australian Centre of Excellence for Local Government. The guide is accompanied by a [supplement](#) containing 12 case studies used in the research.

ACELG said the two publications were designed to help provide councils with the best ways to solve local problems, target scarce resources and prepare for the future.

The centre said the guide aimed to be useful to local governments embarking on processes of problem-solving in response to social change. It is mainly intended as a reference document for elected members, chief executives, and senior managers with responsibility for managing and delivering strategic community priorities.

The research findings are supported by leading international thinking on public sector governance and innovation; a survey of Australian and New Zealand local government managers; focus groups with Australian local government managers; and, 12 case studies of public value innovation. ACELG said the data was used to evaluate:

- What is the case for public value management?
- Why is public value creation central to the case for localism in an Australia of the regions?
- Why is innovation an important component of this approach to local government reform?
- What does a problem-solving local government culture look like in practice?
- What are the major barriers to public value creation in local government?
- How can these barriers be navigated? And
- Where is new thinking required?

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7. SA state and local governments sign new agreement

The productive working relationship between State and local governments in South Australia will be underpinned by a new State/Local Government Relations Agreement, according to Premier, Jay Weatherill.

Mr Weatherill and LGA President, Kym McHugh, signed the agreement, which was witnessed by State/Local Government Relations Minister, Russell Wortley.

The Premier said the State Government had identified strategic priorities for South Australia and it needed the co-operation of the state's 68 councils to deliver the best outcomes for the community.

Mayor McHugh said the LGA didn't always agree with the government, but he was convinced South Australia had a higher level of cooperation and effective communication between governments than in any other State or Territory. He said in the areas of planning and development reforms, infrastructure, regional development and investment, and in recycling and water security, it was vital that local government formed partnerships with the State.

Mr Wortley said past successes of the agreement included winning Federal funds for sewage and stormwater recycling, climate change initiatives and recycling programs. He said the two levels of government also continued to work together to ensure the viability of the River Murray and South Australian river communities.

The forerunner of the latest agreement was established in 2004. The agreement builds on earlier Memoranda of Understanding between 1991 and 1998.

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8. Qld Local Government Minister seeks improved ties with councils

Mayors and councillors throughout Queensland have the chance over the next three months to meet state Local Government Minister, David Crisafulli, who is on a tour to rebuild what he calls the "fractured relationship with Queensland councils".

Mr Crisafulli said he had pledged to reinstate many of the council powers stripped away by the former Labor Government. He said councils in Queensland should feel empowered because he didn't believe in a centralist approach – local communities should control their own destinies.

Mr Crisafulli said he wanted to find out what local governments needed to do their jobs better. He said he was seeking the views of the people who made the decisions for their communities and would build legislative reforms around those views.

Minister Crisafulli said the government would cut the red tape that had strangled decision making in the past by identifying State planning powers that could be transferred to councils. The push to restore council power would deliver more efficient services to communities and lower the cost of living.

He said the Waste Levy imposed by the former Bligh Government in 34 local government areas last year, would be abolished from July 1.

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9. Extra ratepayer costs averted by WA Ministerial decision

Households across Western Australia have been saved additional charges because of a decision by the state's Local Government Minister, according to the Local Government Association.

The WALGA said Minister, John Castrilli, should be congratulated for his decision to wind back a recent ruling on penalty interest rates.

Association President, Troy Pickard, said the WALGA had demonstrated that reducing the penalty on late payment of rates from 11 per cent to seven per cent would not support families – it would in fact cost them more.

Mayor Pickard said the vast majority of families paid their rates on time, and the change would only reduce working cash flow for Local Governments and require them to increase rates across the board. He said the WALGA estimated the decision to reduce the penalty would have created a \$6 million shortfall which would have been recovered only through rate increases which would actually result in most ratepayers having to pay more.

Mayor Pickard said something was wrong if ratepayers that had paid on time were faced with having to pay more to carry people who had paid late or not paid their rates. He said there was a balance between assisting genuine cases of hardship and penalising those who "wanted to be carried by the system".

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10. Qld council elections subject of LGAQ survey

The Local Government Association of Queensland is conducting a survey into the April 28 council elections to inform a special submission on the elections that it will present to the State Government.

An association analysis found that voter turnout at the elections was 80.3 per cent, compared with about 91 per cent at the recent state election, while the informal vote in mayoral contests was 4.15 per cent, compared with an informal vote of 2.15 per cent in the state poll.

LGAQ Advocacy General Manager, Greg Hoffman, said the results of the analysis were further evidence that councils should be given the choice as to how to conduct their elections.

Mr Hoffman said it was clear the Electoral Commission of Queensland had misunderstood the complexity and diversity of electoral arrangements across 73 councils. He said the ECQ had simply not responded with adequate resources, appropriately skilled returning officers and public education at the local level.

The LGAQ is surveying members of the public and member councils for their views on the Electoral Commission's conduct of the poll. The survey is open until 4 June and members of the community can take part by going to <http://lgaq.asn.au/electionsurvey>

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11. Brimbank City Council to remain under administration

The Victorian Government is introducing legislation to Parliament to extend the administration of Brimbank City Council in Melbourne's west until March 2015.

Local Government Minister, Jeanette Powell, said the decision to extend the period of administration was recommended by two independent reports, and would help to ensure a return to stable, effective representative government at the council.

Mrs Powell said the weight of advice provided by independent reports was such that the best course of action was to maintain administration while that work was finalised. She said they identified that the premature return to an elected council carried the "very real risk of a return to the discredited and damaging practices of the past and the derailing of numerous important projects commenced under administration".

Mrs Powell said subject to the passage of the legislation, a rotation and refocusing would occur amongst the team of administrators at Brimbank.

Jo Anderson and Meredith Sussex will step down at the end of October this year, roughly in line with the general local council elections, and Peter Lewinsky will relinquish his role as Chief Administrator, but remain a member of the administration team.

Mrs Powell said the final phase of administration would feature a comprehensive community engagement strategy to prepare for the return of an elected council. She said she had asked Mr Lewinsky to stay on to give the team important continuity. John Watson, the current Executive Director of Local Government Victoria, will retire in October and will then assume the role of Chief Administrator at Brimbank.

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12. Budget support for Tasmania's coastal protection and planning framework

Work will be advanced on a coastal protection and planning framework for Tasmania with a 2012-13 State budget allocation of \$240,000.

The funding has been allocated to support existing work to prepare a new framework that will provide certainty around planning, management and protection of the state's coastline. The framework will also give clarity to local government and the community around liability issues.

Minister for Planning, Bryan Green, said since a review of the *Draft Coastal Policy 2008*, the government had been developing a body of work that dealt with the impacts of coastal hazards, including the effects of climate change, storm surge and storm surge inundation; sea level rise, extreme weather events, and coastal erosion.

Mr Green said the additional funding would help ensure the approach was co-ordinated across government so the important work could be progressed as quickly as possible.

Minister for Climate Change, Cassy O'Connor, said the dedicated funds would build on the state's capacity to deliver on the important work already underway across agencies and the Tasmanian Planning Commission to deliver on a comprehensive coastal framework. Ms O'Connor said certainty was needed around coastal planning, management and protection to safeguard and manage the state's 6000 kilometres of coastline for current and future generations.

A Steering Committee will be formed with the Minister for Planning, Minister for Climate Change and Minister for the Environment to oversee the project.

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13. LGA contributes to latest debate on number of Adelaide councils

The Local Government Association of South Australia says a comment by Adelaide's

Lord Mayor, Stephen Yarwood, on the number of councils in Adelaide was a case of him answering questions based on "blank sheet of paper" thinking.

Mr Yarwood was quoted by the *Adelaide Advertiser* as saying there were too many councils in Adelaide and calling for an independent review of the city's 19 municipalities. He was speaking to the newspaper about his first 18 months in office, and said Australia was over-governed with the most elected representatives per head of population of any country in the world.

Mr Yarwood said any review of councils should follow the lead of similar reviews in Western Australia and Tasmania, but he would not express an opinion on how many councils there should be. He said the SA Government would not favour a review currently because a state election was approaching.

LGA President, Kym McHugh, said the association had a policy supporting voluntary amalgamations.

Mayor McHugh said he thought the 1996/97 amalgamations in SA were the largest set of voluntary amalgamations in Australia's history. He said those amalgamations produced more strategic councils with greater capacities, but they did not deliver the rate reductions which were touted by some politicians.

"So you need to be very clear why people are looking for amalgamations if that is the case – and what our communities think about them."

Mayor McHugh said the LGA was aligned with the Lord Mayor in believing the timing was not right for the sort of large scale state-level review of the 1990s. He said the LGA had commissioned and co-funded with Local Government New Zealand, a significant report in 2011 which looked at amalgamations and shared service arrangements – a report produced by the Australian Centre of Excellence for Local Government.

Mayor McHugh said that report raised some significant questions about state government motives in mass approaches to amalgamations. Essentially it found that amalgamations needed to be understood and supported by communities. He said the LGA would continue to work in the area of consolidation, either supporting councils which wanted to look at mergers or to deliver shared service savings for councils.

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14. Strategies to maximise benefit of NBN rollout

Seven Regional Development Australia committees have received funding to help develop strategies for the rollout of the National Broadband Network (NBN) in their communities.

A total of \$200,000 has been awarded to seven RDA committees in Stage One and Stage Two of the NBN rollout areas to conduct development and implementation strategy studies, with the outcomes to be shared across the entire RDA network. The committees to be awarded funding are:

- RDA Northern Melbourne (VIC) - \$33,500 to conduct a project on the present use of ICT by small-to-medium sized businesses;
- RDA Northern Inland (NSW) - \$33,000 to conduct regional information sessions and develop stakeholder implementation strategies, and an integrated digital regional plan;
- RDA Darling Downs and South West (QLD) - \$31,000 to establish a local NBN demonstration booth and develop a local government NBN awareness and preparedness project;
- RDA Mid West Gascoyne (WA) - \$30,000 to develop a regional digital plan and connected implementation strategies and projects;
- RDA Ipswich and West Moreton (QLD) - \$30,000 to support a regional digital economy forum and the development of a 10-year digital economy strategy;
- RDA Brisbane City (QLD) - \$25,000 to conduct a survey of not-for-profit organisations, organise a digital expo and publish findings; and
- RDA Sydney (NSW) - \$17,500 to conduct a Community e-Care Workshop.

Regional Australia Minister, Simon Crean, also announced a new round of funding worth \$400,000 to support on-the-ground community and business awareness activities, with grants of up to \$25,000 per RDA committee.

Mr Crean said RDA committees were being encouraged to work collaboratively on joint applications and build strong partnerships to support NBN awareness and readiness. Applications for the new round of funding close on 13 July 2012.

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15. MAV reaffirms its position on preventing violence against women

The Municipal Association of Victoria has launched a statement of commitment to support councils and build their capacity to address gender inequity and promote respectful relationships within communities.

The MAV said it had made public the commitment given the enormous health and social impacts of violence against women.

Statistics indicate that one in three Australian women is likely to be impacted by domestic violence over her lifetime, and in 2009, reported incidents of violence against women cost the economy \$13.6 billion.

Bill McArthur, MAV President, said local government was showing leadership in the area by providing innovative community programs to foster behavioural change.

Cr McArthur said an increasing number of Victorian councils were supporting or directly involved in preventing violence against women, which aligned with their core role in creating healthy and safe communities. He said much of the work was guided by current research that showed the key determinant of violence against women was the persisting inequities between men and women.

Cr McArthur said the MAV had pledged to support councils through advocacy, capacity building and guidance on the prevention of violence against women. He said the launch of the *Prevention of Violence Against Women Leadership Statement* formalised the commitment, and provided a range of strategy ideas that councils could implement locally.

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16. Residential areas protected from impacts of expanding ports

What are described as sensitive land uses – such as dwellings and hospitals – will be prevented from encroaching near areas designated for ports in Victoria.

A new Ministerial Direction will be introduced as part of planning controls to better protect the operation and the expansion of ports while protecting the amenity of residents and workers in areas close by the ports.

Planning Minister, Matthew Guy, has released the report of the Ports and Environs Advisory Committee, which covers new planning controls for the ports of Melbourne, Hastings, Geelong and Portland.

Mr Guy accepted a key recommendation of the committee to implement a Port Zone which will specifically recognise the interests of the port and the port's significance to the State.

The minister said the ports made a significant contribution to Victoria's economic growth and prosperity, and it was important that there was "a robust planning framework to support their growth". The Ports and Environs Advisory Committee Report and Ministerial Direction 14 will be available [here](#).

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17. LG Jobs now the leading local government employment website in Australia



- **LG Jobs is the #1 Google search for “Local Government Jobs” & “Local Council Jobs”**

LGJobs is now the largest online employment site for local government, with over 500 positions listed each week.

It is published by Commstrat, who also produces Councillor Manager Magazine and LG News.

LGJobs is an excellent way to maximise the exposure of your positions vacant whilst minimising your advertising outlay. For a cost of only \$250 plus GST (discounts available for advertising packages) your position will be listed on the LGJobs website www.lgjobs.com.au, which receives an average of 34,000 hits per day, and the weekly LG Jobs e-newsletter (23,000 subscribers) until the specified closing date, or for a six week period.

All relevant positions are also listed on our associated boards and mail outs - EnviroJobs, EngineeringJobs, PlanJobs, WaterJobs and RoadJobs FREE of additional charge.

To advertise with LGJobs simply email your ad copy to blake@commstrat.com.au or telephone (03) 8534 5012. Your ad will be loaded and live on the website with a confirmation email and link sent to you before the close of business on the day received.

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Conferences & Events

18. 2012 Benchmarking Best Practice in Local Government Conference



- **Melbourne, July 18 & 19**
- **PROGRAM NOW AVAILABLE AT www.lgbestpractice.com.au**
- **Two days of leading knowledge and practical advice**

Leading case studies and advice for local governments on how to improve organisational performance and efficiency, cut costs and pursue continuous improvement will be detailed at the 2012 Benchmarking Best Practice in Local Government Conference.

This Conference will provide attendees with information they can immediately use to improve organisational performance, drive continuous improvement and achieve a culture of excellence within their own local government.

To be staged in Melbourne, this annual national conference will be held at Etihad Stadium on July 18 & 19.

This event follows on from the highly successful 2011 Benchmarking Best Practice in Local Government Conference, which attracted more than 150 local government professionals from across Australia.

Presentations will include the latest case studies and advice on innovative and best practice in local government organisational development and management practices, as well as interactive workshops.

The Local Government Business Excellence Network and the Australian Centre of Excellence for Local Government are again Official Endorsing Organisations for this event.

Confirmed Speakers include:

- **Nick Heath**, General Manager, Hobart City Council
- **Dr Michael Kennedy**, CEO, Mornington Peninsula Shire
- **Mark Brady**, General Manager Corporate Services, City of Port Phillip
- **Ian Mackinlay**, Manager Organisational Development, Woollahra Council
- **Melissa Gibbs**, Assistant Director, Australian Centre of Excellence for Local Government
- **Denise Bennett**, Lean Program Manager, City of Melbourne
- **Marg Burge**, Executive Manager Organisational Development, Bayside City Council
- **Kerryn Ellis**, Manager Corporate Planning and Performance, Knox City Council
- **Joel Edmondson**, Executive Officer Strategic Change, City of Whittlesea
- **Damian West**, Group Manager Client Engagement, Australian Public Service Commission
- **Stephanie Sheehan**, Principal Corporate Planner, Moreton Bay Regional Council
- **Ben Dornier**, Director of Corporate and Community Services, City of Palmerston
- **Gregor Ptok**, HR Consultant, Local Government and Shires Associations of New South Wales
- **Dave Barry**, Director Community and Corporate Services, Towong Shire Council
- **Coralie Nichols**, Executive Director Community Services, Sunshine Coast Regional Council
- **Josh Keech**, Coordinator Employee Services, Randwick City Council
- **WORKSHOP TOPIC: Efficiency + Effectiveness = Productivity**
Achieving Excellence through Leadership & Culture
 Presenter: Human Synergistics Chairman ANZ – Shaun McCarthy

The 5th Annual Benchmarking Best Practice in Local Government Conference will focus on local government best practice in areas such as:

- Organisational development and performance improvement
- Staff productivity & workforce culture
- Management structures & systems
- Best practice HR and Becoming an Employer of Choice
- Achieving financial sustainability
- Business Systems & Technology implementation

WHO SHOULD ATTEND:

This Conference will be tailored for local government officials from across Australia who are focused upon improving the performance of their organisation, including:

- CEOs / General Managers
- Directors
- Organisational Development and Performance Improvement Coordinators
- Manager Corporate Services
- Human Resources Manager
- Manager Corporate Planning
- Change Management Coordinator
- Business Excellence Manager
- Elected Members

This year's conference will again be followed by a meeting of councils participating in the Local Government Business Excellence Network.

The Conference venue is located in the heart of Melbourne and within walking distance of a variety of accommodation options.

REGISTER ONLINE at www.lgbestpractice.com.au

For Registration Enquiries please contact:

Registration Manager
Ph: (03) 8534 5050
registration@commstrat.com.au

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19. Registrations are now open for the largest irrigation event ever to be held in Australia

ICID & IRRIGATION AUSTRALIA
24 - 29 June 2012
Irrigation Australia 2012 Conference and Trade Show
Join us in Adelaide
REGISTER NOW

RESILIENCE BOUNCING FORWARD

Registrations are now open for the largest irrigation event ever to be held in Australia.

The event, hosted by Irrigation Australia Limited will be held from 24th to 29th June, at the Adelaide Convention Centre.

Running over four days the IAL Conference will offer seminars on essential irrigation topics with key speakers from government, agriculture, and horticulture, as well as environmental and landscape industries. The future trends in water supply and irrigation will also be demonstrated at this internationally recognised Conference. The Conference program has been developed with an outlook on issues that will affect businesses and the industry over the next 12 months as well as the challenges faced by a still developing industry.

Occupying more than 5000 square metres, the Trade Show will feature companies such as irrigation equipment suppliers, importers, distributors and retailers all showcasing their products and services to the irrigation industry.

Launching at the Trade Show in 2012 is the 'Wet Pit' Demonstration Area which will bring a new dimension for visitors and a real 'touch and feel' experience. Visitors can learn about new technologies from leading suppliers in the water industry and see experts demonstrating their products and skills.

Ian Atkinson, CEO of Irrigation Australia, explained why this is 'must attend' event: "For Conference delegates as well as Trade Show visitors the event is an excellent opportunity to see all the best irrigation equipment available. With presentation papers on the latest developments in technology and management as well the biggest Trade

Show in the southern hemisphere you can't afford not to be at this year's event in Adelaide."

For more information about Irrigation Australia's 2012 Conference and Trade Show and to register, visit: www.irrigation.org.au/2012

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20. 2012 Government Sustainability Conference & Public Sector Clean Energy Forum

- **Australia's peak environmental conference for the Public Sector**
- **Sept 18 & 19, Sebel Albert Park, Melbourne**
- **REGISTER YOUR ATTENDANCE at**
www.governmentsustainability.com.au
- **Early Bird Registration only \$600+GST**

UPDATE: This conference will now incorporate the one-day **Public Sector Clean Energy Forum: *leading the way to efficient, low-carbon energy use.*** This Forum will be staged on Day 2 - September 19. More information about the Forum is available [here](#)

The **2012 Government Sustainability Conference** will again provide local, state and federal government professionals and representatives of other public sector agencies with comprehensive analysis and advice about how to ingrain environmentally sustainable policies and practices within their organisations and the communities they serve.

Confirmed Speakers include:

- **Stan Krpan**, CEO, Sustainability Victoria
- **Felix MacNeill**, Environmental Management Coordinator, Federal Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations
- **Rob Murray-Leach**, CEO, Energy Efficiency Council
- **Karen Wilson**, Manager, Precincts and Sustainability in Government, Sustainability Victoria
- **Michael Oke**, Coordinator Environmental Management, City of Yarra
- **Adam Beck**, Executive Director Market Development and Sustainable Communities, Green Building Council of Australia
- **Laura Lynch**, ESD Unit Coordinator, Moreland City Council
- **Tiernan Humphrys**, Manager Environmental Sustainability, Capital Projects & Service Planning, Victorian Department of Health
- **Andrew Foran**, CEO, Centre for Sustainability Leadership
- **Leah Sertori**, Project Director, Central Victoria Solar City CEO, Sustainable Regional Australia
- **Emma Fuchs**, Sustainability Education Officer, Rural City of Wangaratta
- **Bronwyn Chapman**, Manager of Environment, Rural City of Wangaratta
- **Ed Cotter**, BioRegional Australia

WORKSHOPS will include:

- **Carbon Accounting in the Public Sector** - Workshop presented by National Centre for Sustainability, Swinburne University.
- **Barriers and Drivers to Embedding Sustainability in your Government Organisation** - Workshop presented by Local Government Association of NSW and Shires Association of NSW.

This conference will follow on from the highly successful 2011 Government Sustainability Conference, which attracted more than 200 attendees. By focusing on the issues and needs that are faced by governments and their authorities, this conference has become the peak annual environmental conference for Australia's public sector.

This national conference will provide attendees with the means to network and discuss

This national conference will provide attendees with the means to network and discuss environmental best practice with officials from the nation's public sector sustainability leaders.

High-quality information and case studies will assist attendees to address crucial environmental issues facing all levels of government, including:

- How to embed a culture of environmental sustainability within a government organisation.
- Implementation of leading-edge climate change strategies that encourage reduced emissions and prepare a government organisation for the risks posed by climate change.
- Community engagement in environmental initiatives.
- Encouraging sustainability in public sector infrastructure and the built environment.
- Efficient water management practices and waste minimisation.
- Green purchasing and procurement.
- Policy and regulation adherence.

Attendees will also be able to participate in high-quality **WORKSHOPS** that will enhance their ability to respond to environmental issues and generate sustainable outcomes for their organisation.

Public Sector Clean Energy Forum:

This year's Government Sustainability Conference will include the **Public Sector Clean Energy Forum: leading the way to efficient, low-carbon energy use**. The Forum will be staged on Day 2 of the Conference (September 19). Attendance of the Forum will be open to Conference Attendees. To specifically attend the Forum, please ensure you are registered for Day 2 of the Conference. Online registration is available [here](#)

The focus of the Public Sector Clean Energy Forum will be to:

- Examine leading examples of how public sector bodies are reducing energy consumption and emissions through the adoption of energy efficient practices and renewable energy technologies.
- How public sector organisations can lead their communities in the adoption of more sustainable energy consumption solutions.
- With the introduction of the Carbon Price to further escalate energy costs, this Forum will provide attendees with crucial advice on how to mitigate the impact of energy price rises on their organisations.

CALL FOR SPEAKERS:

If you would like to propose a presentation for the 2012 Government Sustainability Conference or the Public Sector Clean Energy Forum, please email a 300-word description of your presentation topic to Conference Coordinator Ben Hutchison at ben.hutchison@commstrat.com.au

For conference registration and attendance enquiries please contact:

Registration Manager
Ph: (03) 8534 5050
registration@commstrat.com.au

Sponsorship & Exhibition Enquiries:

Brian Rault
Sales Manager
Hallmark Conferences + Events
CommStrat
Ph: (03) 8534 5014
brian.rault@commstrat.com.au

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Diary

May 23 - 24	CBD & Town Centre Design and Development Conference To be staged in Sydney. Visit www.cbdconference.com.au
July 18 - 19	2012 Benchmarking Best Practice in Local Government Conference To be held in Melbourne. Visit www.lgbestpractice.com.au
September 18 - 19	2012 Government Sustainability Conference To be held in Melbourne. Visit www.governmentsustainability.com.au
November 19 - 20	5th Australian Small Bridges Conference To be staged at Surfers Paradise, Queensland. Visit www.smallbridgesconference.com

Customer enquiries: 03-8534-5000

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Local Government News
PO Box 6137, St Kilda Road Central VIC 8008
03-8534-5000 (telephone)

03-9530-8911 (fax)

Email: lgnews@lgcentre.com.au