



## Avon Regional Organisation of Councils

AROC Governance Group Meeting

4 September 2023

## MINUTES

To: AROC Members

Here within are the Minutes of the AROC Governance Group (President's & CEO's) meeting, held on the abovementioned date at Create298, Second Floor, 298 Fitzgerald St, Northam.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that appears to read "Suzie Haslehurst".

Suzie Haslehurst  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**  
*AROC Secretariat*

6 September 2023

## Preface

These Minutes will remain "Unconfirmed" until the next AROC Meeting, where the Minutes will be tabled and confirmed subject to any amendments.

The "Confirmed" Minutes are then signed off by the Chairperson.

Attachments that formed part of the Agenda, in addition to those tabled at the Meeting are incorporated into a separate attachment to these Minutes

## Distribution

These minutes were approved for distribution on ..... 2023.

  
Suzie Haslehurst  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

## Confirmation

These minutes of meeting were confirmed at a meeting held on

  
13/11/2023 2023.

Signed: .....

*Note: The Presiding Member at the meeting at which the minutes were confirmed is the person who signs above.*

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**ATTACHMENTS with separate index follows item 5.**

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## 1. DECLARATION OF OPENING

*The AROC in-person meeting commenced at 1.09 pm.*

### 1.1. Announcement of Visitors

Ms Rebecca Brown	Manager Waste and Environment, WALGA
Cr Julie Williams	Shire of Northam
Cr Attila Mencshelyi	Shire of Northam

### 1.2. Record of Attendance and Apologies

Cr R Madacs	Chair, Shire of Toodyay
Cr P Bantock	Shire of Victoria Plains
Mr S Fletcher	CEO, Shire of Victoria Plains
Mr Chadd Hunt	Acting CEO, Shire of Northam
Cr C Antonio	Shire of Northam
Mr P Bentley	CEO, Shire of Goomalling
Cr B Haywood	Shire of Goomalling
Cr D Smythe	Shire of York
Mr C Linnell	CEO, Shire of York
Mrs K Murray	Executive Officer, AROC

#### Apologies

Ms S Haslehurst	CEO, Shire of Toodyay
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## 2. MINUTES AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### 2.1 Confirmation of Minutes

#### RECOMMENDATION/AROC RES. NO.01/09/23

MOVED Cr Antonio

SECONDED Cr Smythe

That the Unconfirmed Minutes of the Avon Regional Organisation of Councils meeting held on 17 July 2023 be accepted as a true and correct record.

**MOTION CARRIED**

### 2.2 Review of Status Report

Review of actions and progress arising from previous meetings and decisions.

Points raised as follows:

Climate change initiatives

- K Murray advised that a draft policy will be circulated to members for consideration at the November Governance Group meeting.

#### Corella Management

- K Murray confirmed that a Corella Project Coordinator has been appointed and agreed to contact Karl O'Callaghan to request an update on the project plan/timeline and introduction to the coordinator.

#### Avon River Health

- No action to report.

#### Clearing Permits

- Rebecca Brown advised that the motion from the Avon Midland Zone meeting requesting referral to State Council, was considered by the Environment and Waste Policy Team in July; and confirmed that WALGA will continue to advocate, and develop solutions, regarding these issues.
- WALGA continues to meet with DWER regarding the native vegetation clearing policy; and will develop an issues paper within the next six months to outline issues and potential solutions to the impacts on local governments of the clearing permit process.
- Rebecca's attendance at the AROC GG meeting enabled her to hear directly from members about their concerns, issues and proposed solutions to the native vegetation clearing permit system. These included, significant costs imposed by clearing permit conditions; delays to road projects as a result of appeals; jeopardised road funding due to delays; adverse impacts on Shire budgets and functionality from road project delays including difficulty fulfilling roads program, keeping staff adequately employed and reputational damage.

#### Housing Shortage

- K Murray advised of plans to meet with Alex MacKenzie, WDC, following availability of a draft housing project scope currently being prepared by consultants. Proposal is to have a collaborative approach with funding from interested members and WDC.

## 2.3 Inward / Outward Correspondence

### 2.3.1 Financial Report

**RECOMMENDATION/AROC RES. NO.02/09/23**

**MOVED** Cr Antonio      **SECONDED** Cr Smythe

That the financial report, as forwarded, be received.

**MOTION CARRIED**

## 3. OTHER BUSINESS / NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE

### 3.1 Submissions, presentations or representations from third parties;

#### 3.1.1 Rebecca Brown, Manager Waste and Environment, WALGA

'Waste - future directions and regional waste collaboration'.

##### Future Directions

- New Waste Strategy in 2024 is likely to maintain a focus on FOGO in Perth/Peel only, not in regional areas.
- Waste avoidance and resource recovery Levy (WARR Levy) is expected to increase and potentially expand to the Peel region, not to regional areas.
- Export Bans on plastic, tyres, paper & cardboard in 2024.
- Product Stewardship in packaging, tyres, electronic waste.
- DWER Compliance & Regulatory Reform

##### Regional collaboration on waste

- Identify reasons for collaboration and what AROC members want to gain from the arrangement.
- Consider governance structures e.g., regional councils, regional subsidiaries, ROCs and collaborations / alliances.
- Consider making it difficult for organisations to leave.
- Key shared services include regional waste / recycling / reuse site; collective tenders (ACCC consideration); waste education and behaviour change; and data collection and reporting.

##### Discussion identified:

- AROC awareness of the limited life of the Northam landfill site and the need to plan and prepare in advance for future waste solutions.
- An interest in responsible stewardship and in technological solutions to current and future waste management.
- A need to be clear on member waste issues/needs and appropriate solutions.
- A need to collect adequate data.

**3.2 Matters referred by the Officer's Group for consideration or decision;**

**3.3 Matters raised by individual member local governments for consideration;**

#### **4. CONFIRMATION OF NEXT MEETING**

The 2023 meeting schedule is provided:

2023	<b>Officer's Group (CEO) Meetings</b>	<b>Governance Group (President's) Meetings</b>
	<b>11.00 am</b>	<b>11.00 am</b>
	<b>Zoom Meetings</b>	<b>Council Chambers</b>
<b>JAN</b>	No meeting	No meeting
<b>FEB</b>	6/02/2023	
<b>MAR</b>		13/03/2023
<b>APR</b>	3/04/2023	
<b>MAY</b>		8/05/2023
<b>JUNE</b>	19/06/2023	
<b>JULY</b>		17/07/2023
<b>AUG</b>	14/08/2023	
<b>SEPT</b>		4/09/2023
<b>OCT</b>	16/10/2023	
<b>NOV</b>		13/11/2023
<b>DEC</b>	No meeting	No meeting

#### **5. CLOSURE OF MEETING**

The meeting closed at 2.37 pm.



# AROC Governance Group Meeting

Attachments to Minutes – Monday 4 September 2023

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## **Minutes and additional information**

- 2.2 Status report
- 2.3 Inward / outward correspondence
  - 2.3.1 Financial report to 30 June 2023

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## **Other business / new business of an urgent nature**

- 3.3.1 Rebecca Brown, Manager Waste & Environment, WALGA  
'Regional Collaboration' presentation slides

**AROC STATUS REPORT**  
**Avon Regional Organisation of Councils**

*Secretariat*  
**CEO - Shire of Toodyay**

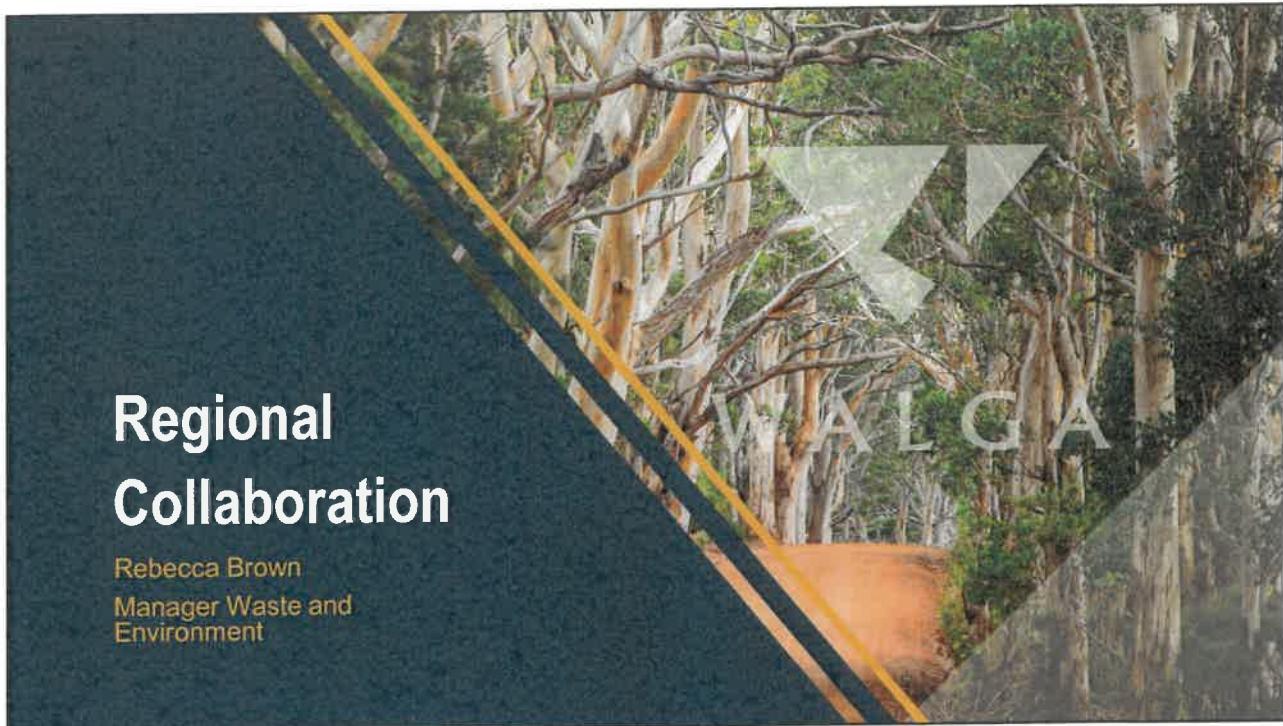
Purpose	Meeting Date	Resolution	Target date for completion	Actioned by	Completion Date	Meeting Commentary
2.1 Confirmation of Minutes	17/07/2023	That the Unconfirmed Minutes of the Avon Regional Organisation of Councils Governance Group meeting held on 17 July 2023 be accepted as a true and correct record.	4 September 2023	EO	4 September 2023	30.8.23: Minutes to be confirmed and signed at the September 2023 meeting.
Climate Change Initiative	12/07/2021	AROC CEOs to work together to identify a project we could apply for funding on a regional level.	Ongoing	ALL	November 2023	<p>14.8.23: EO provided an overview of WALGA's LG Climate Risk Assessment training to the Officers Group meeting; discussed the merits of AROC adopting a climate change declaration/policy that could be presented to member LGs for endorsement.</p> <p><i>Action - EO to draft a climate change declaration/policy for consideration by the Governance Group at the November meeting.</i></p>
Corella Management	13/03/2023	AROC RES. NO.02/03/23: That AROC members individually commit \$5,000 per annum in 2023, 2024 and 2025, and commit \$25,000 pa from AROC funds for three years, towards corella management activities.	Ongoing	ALL	2025	<p>14.8.23: A Corella Project Coordinator has been appointed and is reportedly working on an engagement plan.</p> <p><i>Action – EO to contact Wheatbelt NRM to request an update from Karl on the project roll out.</i></p>

Purpose	Meeting Date	Resolution	Target date for completion	Actioned by	Completion Date	Meeting Commentary
Water sustainability	10/05/2021	Avon River health & access to funding.		Northam, Toodyay & York		No recent action.
Road clearing permits and pre-funding for road projects.	08/05/2023	That AROC submit a motion to the WALGA Avon Zone meeting to advocate for specific changes to the native vegetation clearing permit system.	23/06/2023	C Linnell Cr Haywood Cr Smythe		<p>4.9.23: Rebecca Brown advised that the motion was considered by the Environment and Waste Policy Team in July; and confirmed that WALGA will continue to advocate, and develop solutions, regarding these issues.</p> <p>Rebecca's attendance at the AROC GG meeting enabled her to hear directly from members about their concerns, issues and proposed solutions to the native vegetation clearing permit system.</p>
Housing shortage	16/05/2022	AROC to advocate to relevant Ministers and Shadow Ministers (Housing & Local Government) to address a critical shortage of housing in the Avon Region.	Ongoing	EO		<p>14.8.23: Contact with RDA Wheatbelt resulted in offer to collate a region wide submission to the Federal Government, involving ROCs and WALGA.</p> <p>Action – EO to develop a scope and funding model for an AROC housing analysis with WDC support.</p> <p>4.9.23: Waiting on project scope via WDC &amp; planning consultants.</p>

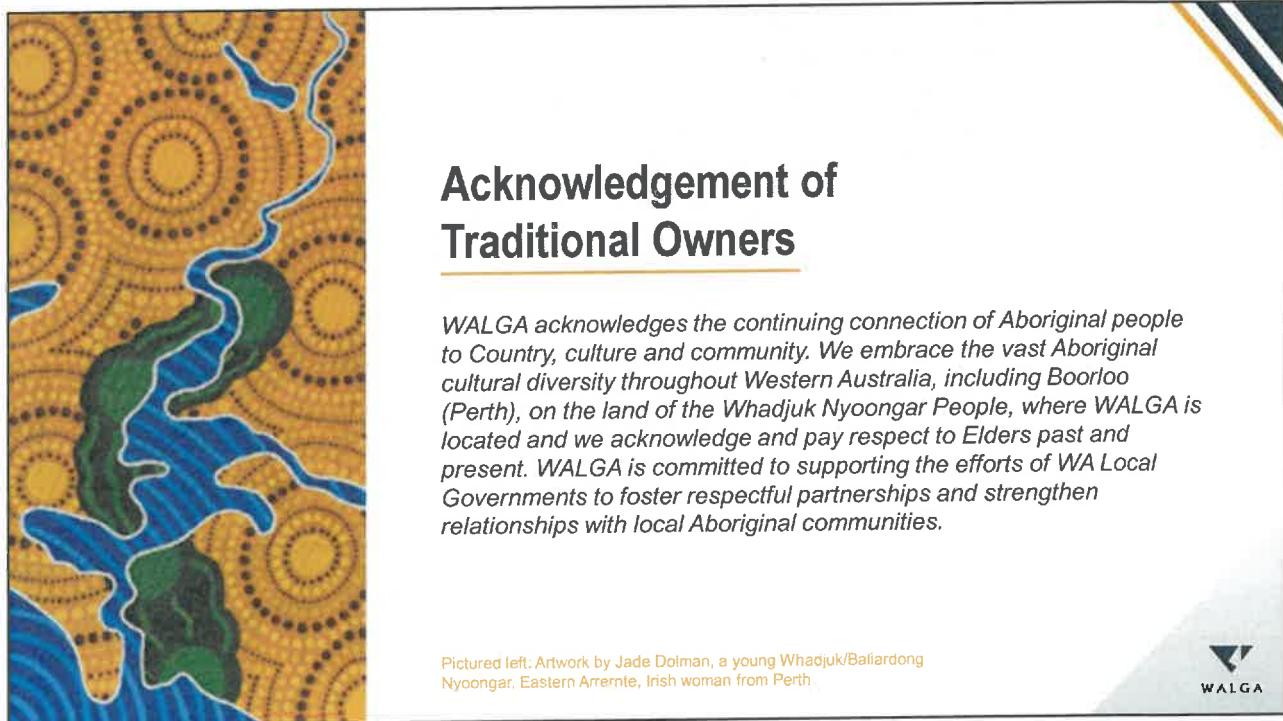
## AVON REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS

## Statement of Comprehensive Income

Administered by Shire of Northam



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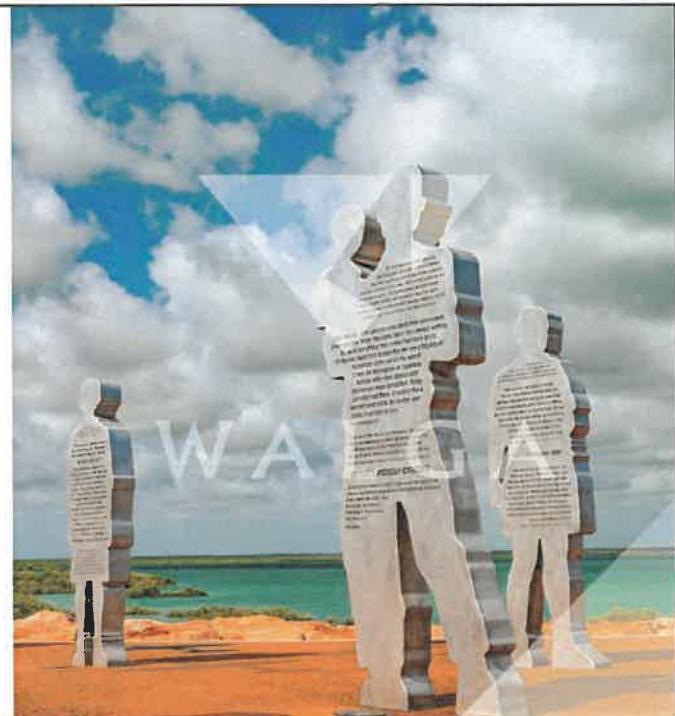


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## Future Directions for Waste

- New Waste Strategy 2024
  - Likely maintain focus on FOGO (Perth/Peel)
- Waste avoidance and resource recovery Levy (WARR Levy)
  - Definite increase
  - Potential expansion
- Export Bans
  - Plastic, Tyres, Paper & Cardboard (2024)
- Product Stewardship
  - Packaging, Tyres, Electronic waste
- DWER Compliance & Regulatory Reform



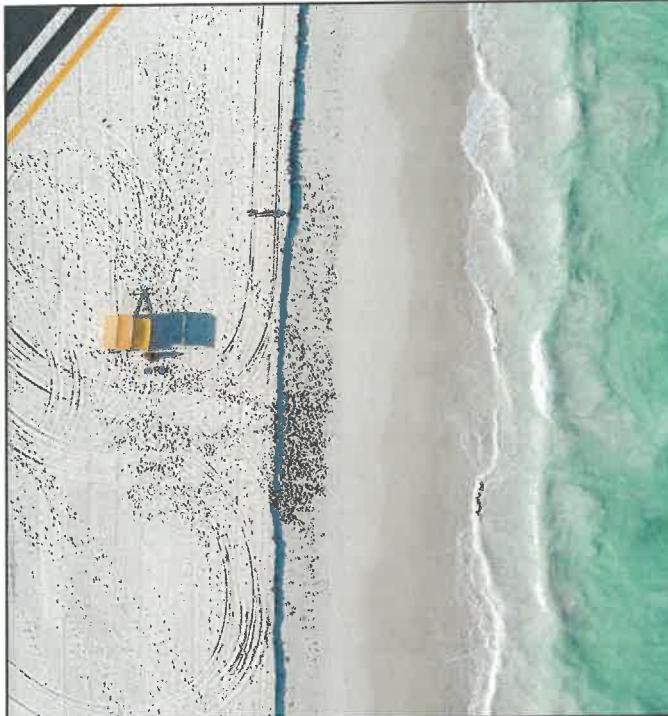
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## Why regional collaboration?

What are the reasons AROC are looking at for undertaking regional collaboration regarding waste



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## Governance Structures

- 1 Regional Councils
- 2 Regional Subsidiaries
- 3 Regional Organisations of Councils
- 4 Collaborations / Alliances - e.g. Regional Climate Alliance

### Key considerations

How difficult can you make it for an organization to leave?  
 Who holds the funds?  
 Who holds long term liability?



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## Key shared services

- 1 Regional waste / recycling / reuse site
- 2 Collective Tenders (ACCC consideration)
- 3 Waste education and behaviour change
- 4 Data collection & reporting



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