



PEEL REGIONAL
LEADERS FORUM

Peel Regional Leaders Forum (Inc)

53rd General Meeting held at Shire of Murray

Thursday 24 November 2022

MINUTES

Mayor Rhys Williams (Chair) welcomed attendees and declared the meeting open at 10.20am.

1. ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND CONFIRMATION OF PROXIES

Attendance:

Mayor Rhys Williams	Mayor, City of Mandurah (Chair) (Proxy)
Cr Mike Walmsley	President, Shire of Waroona (Deputy Chair) (Proxy)
Dean Unsworth	CEO, Shire of Murray (Secretary)
Mark Newman	CEO, City of Mandurah (Treasurer)
Cr David Bolt	President, Shire of Murray (Proxy)
Cr Michelle Rich	President, Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale (Proxy)
Cr Eugene Smalberger	Deputy President, Shire of Boddington (Proxy)
Caroline Knight	Chair, Peel-Harvey Catchment Council (Proxy)
Nicci Lambert	Deputy Chair, Peel Community Development Group (Proxy)
Mark Goodlet	CEO, Shire of Waroona
Paul Martin	CEO, Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale
Julie Burton	CEO, Shire of Boddington
Andrew Ward	CEO, Peel Development Commission (Observer)
Anika Serer	Executive Director

Apologies:

John Erren	Chair, Regional Development Australia Peel
John Lambrecht	Director, Regional Development Australia Peel
Cr Garry Ventris	President, Shire of Boddington
Liz Prescott	Chair, Peel Community Development Group
Jane O'Malley	CEO, Peel-Harvey Catchment Council
David Doepel	Chair, Peel Development Commission (Observer)

2. PRESENTATION: PEEL REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY INITIATIVE

Shelley Shepherd of Urbaqua, and Giles Tuffin of FARlane, presented an update on the progress of the *Peel Regional Water Supply Initiative*.

Peel Alliance engaged Urbaqua and FARlane in May 2022 to articulate the water supply and demand challenges facing the Peel region across the following investigation areas:

1. Timing and magnitude of community needs to 2050
2. Timing and magnitude of agricultural needs to 2050
3. Timing and magnitude of industrial needs to 2050
4. Timing and magnitude of environmental water needs to 2050
5. Range, timing and magnitude of available water source options

The resulting report, supporting evidence and spatial mapping layers will be utilised to inform Peel Alliance's advocacy and support for initiatives that address identified challenges.

Action:

A copy of the presentation will be distributed to members for their information; and a further update will be arranged for February/March 2023 and extended to include member organisation staff and representatives.

**3. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES / BUSINESS ARISING –
25 August 2022 [Appendix 1]**

Motion:

Moved: Caroline Knight
Seconded: Cr Mike Walmsley

**That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 25 August 2022 be confirmed.
Carried Unanimously**

4. PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF 2023 MEETINGS

Author and Title: Anika Serer, Executive Director
Date of Report: 14 November 2022

Background:

The following schedule is proposed for the General Meetings and Annual General Meeting in 2023:

Thursday 16 February 2023	10am	Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale
Thursday 20 April 2023	10am	Shire of Waroona
Thursday 15 June 2023	10am	Shire of Boddington
Thursday 17 August 2023	10am	City of Mandurah
Thursday 23 November 2023	10am	Shire of Murray (AGM followed by GM)

Please note, at the time of preparing this schedule the 2023 dates for WALGA Peel Zone meetings were not known – a further update and proposed changes (if necessary) will be provided when this comes to hand.

Action:

It was noted that the WALGA Zone Meetings are proposed for the same dates with the following exceptions:

WALGA: Thursday 22nd June 2023

WALGA: Thursday 24th August 2023

Caroline Knight advised that the first four dates (February, April, June, August) clashed with the Peel-Harvey Catchment Council general meetings; June and August can be resolved by aligning with the WALGA schedule.

The February and April proposed dates to be discussed offline over the next two weeks and agreed.

5. REGIONAL ADVOCACY PRINCIPLES AND FRAMEWORK

Author and Title: Anika Serer, Executive Director

Date of Report: 14 November 2022

Background:

At the General Meeting held on 25 August 2022 the proposed approach to the 2025 State and Federal elections was discussed, and it was noted that Peel Alliance needs to:

1. Determine its advocacy role and plan for it (establish framework) by mid-2023 for the 2025 State and Federal elections; and
2. Commence activity by the end of 2023 (ie publications/media finalised and commence communications)

As the first step, a draft framework proposing principles and the role of Peel Alliance in advocacy activities has been prepared for discussion and feedback. The Framework aims to identify:

1. The key principles that underpin the assessment of advocacy priorities (criteria)
2. The type of role the Alliance may play
3. Assess the level of resourcing, budget and effort to be allocated to the initiative based on:
 - a. Potential impact
 - b. Level of Advocacy
4. Examples of advocacy activities and general level they may apply to

A mapping tool has been developed to enable assessment of initiatives/proposals that fit the criteria to identify the allocation of resources, time and effort (or additional resources) and then development appropriate action plans. Appendix A outlines the criteria and information required for each proposal to enable assessment.

The Framework seeks to provide a foundation for the development and approval of advocacy strategies, both for individual and suites of initiatives. Key points for consideration and development of these include:

- Available resources (staff and members)
- Available budget and funding of approved activities
- Timing and opportunities – noting the 2025 State and Federal Elections as a key target
- How the opportunities are identified for assessment
- Who undertakes the assessment

Feedback on the draft framework and above considerations will inform its finalisation and next steps in undertaking assessment and planning for progression at the next General Meeting.

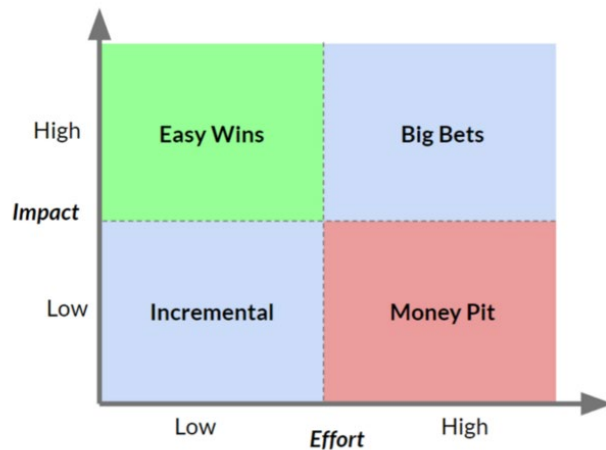
Supporting Documentation:

Appendix 2: Advocacy Framework

Action:

The overarching principles and suggested approach were agreed by members.

Julie Burton suggested an alternative matrix that could be used to assess the prioritisation of advocacy activities, which looks at the impact and effort required:



The Executive Director will investigate this further and look at how it may either replace the proposed matrix or be incorporated into the assessment process.

It was agreed that the two current Peel Alliance focus activities (Regional Water Supply Initiative and Joint Position on Mining) will be used to test the framework and develop a process, for review at the next meeting and suggestions on other proposed advocacy activities.

6. PEEL REGION DISTRICT LEADERSHIP GROUP AND PEEL HEALTH AND WELLBEING TASKFORCE

Author and Title: Anika Serer, Executive Director
Date of Report: 14 November 2022

Background:

Peel Development Commission has been in discussion for some time with the Department of Communities regarding the formation of a District Leadership Group for the Peel region. District Leadership Groups (DLG) operate across Western Australia and meet regularly to explore local issues and initiatives. The Department of Communities acts as the driver and facilitator for DLG development in WA.

The formation of a DLG in Peel provides a key opportunity to engage across government, gaining understanding of the research findings in the People of Peel Human Capital Report, Peel Away the Mask III and Transform Mandurah and gaining support for a coordinated approach to implementation of priority actions.

Draft terms of reference have been developed and invitations for the first meeting have been extended to proposed membership which includes State Government agencies, Peel Community Development Group, Peel Development Commission, Peel Alliance and the five local government authorities. This meeting is scheduled to take place on 22 November 2022.

Many of these representatives are also members of the Peel Health and Wellbeing Taskforce, which was formed in 2019 following discussions with South Metropolitan Health Services (SMHS) and Peel Alliance in response to the health challenges identified in the region, the

opportunities from the State Government Sustainable Health Review and the need for improved health care coordination.

The first gathering of the Taskforce was held in August 2019 with a focus on workshopping priorities for the group. An overarching theme of progressing coordinated care models emerged and two priority areas were agreed for progression:

- Aged Care – workshop held, pilot model developed but not progressed due to COVID
- Mental Health – workshop held, pilot model developed and Clinical Care Coordination model has been implemented at the Peel Health Hub. Peel Mental Health Taskforce has been since formed and is focused on increasing coordination of care for mental health services more broadly across the region with an initial focus on youth.

Since this time the Taskforce has meet regularly (2-4 times a year) and the pilot initiatives progressed via working groups involving Taskforce members and other sector representatives. Other topics of discussion and initiatives that have emerged from the Taskforce have included:

- Workshop with LGAs to assist with Public Health Plan development
- Health workforce working group
- Updates on priority community and health projects for the region including the Peel Health Campus transition and redevelopment; Peel Health Hub 2.0; Byford Health Hub; Common Ground
- Updates from the two agreed priority pilot initiatives.

In October 2022 the Taskforce reviewed the other groups that have emerged since its inception:

- Peel Mental Health Taskforce – established in mid-2021 to focus on strategies and projects that reduce mental health service duplication, increase collaboration and improve patient journeys.
- Health Workforce Working Group – established in 2022 as an initiative of the People of Peel Human Capital Roadmap
- Byford Health Hub Steering Committee – formed in 2021 to provide oversight and governance to the Byford Health Hub program
- Formation of District Leadership Group

The Taskforce noted that Peel Alliance and the emerging District Leadership Group provide avenues to continue the conversations and sharing of knowledge, without duplicating the work of the other groups which are now progressing the priority initiatives. It was agreed to disband the Taskforce, noting that its success has been the formation of the focus groups and it may be revisited as required in the future.

The meeting notes from the Taskforce meeting and discussion paper reviewing its need are attached for information.

Supporting Documentation:

Appendix 3: Peel Health and Wellbeing Taskforce Meeting Notes

Appendix 4: Peel Health and Wellbeing Taskforce Discussion Paper

Action:

PRLF noted the update regarding the formation of the Peel Regional District Leadership Group and wind up of the Peel Health and Wellbeing Taskforce, and acknowledged the Peel Development Commission's efforts and support for both initiatives.

7. PEEL TRAILS COMMITTEE UPDATE

Author and Title: Anika Serer, Executive Director

Date of Report: 14 November 2022

Background:

The following documentation is provided in relation to recent Peel Trails Meetings:

Peel Trails Committee: Minutes 13 October 2022

Peel Trails Technical Group: Minutes 29 September 2022

Supporting Documentation:

Appendix 5: Peel Trails Committee Minutes 13 October 2022

Appendix 6: Peel Trails Technical Group Minutes 29 September 2022

Action:

PRLF noted the recent minutes provided by the Peel Trails Committee and Peel Trails Technical Group.

8. FINANCE REPORT

The Financial Performance Report for the period ended 31 October 2022 was received [Appendix 7]

9. OUTSTANDING ACTIONS REPORT [Appendix 8]

The Outstanding Actions Report was received.

10. OUTCOME OF REQUEST FOR OUT-OF-SESSION APPROVAL

Rule 25 of the PRLF Constitution provides for 'resolutions without meetings'. Any ordinary resolution initiated by the Chair in writing and agreed to in writing by a majority of the members, shall have the same effect as if passed at a Committee meeting.

The following report was presented to members by email on 17 November 2022 requesting out-of-session approval. The outcome will be confirmed and documented at this meeting.

APPROVAL TO ALLOCATE \$20,000 TO APPOINTMENT OF ANNA DIXON CONSULTING FOR JOINT POSITION STATEMENT ON MINING IN THE PEEL REGION

Author: Anika Serer, Executive Director

Date: 17 November 2022

Background

At the General Meeting on 25 August 2022 concerns were raised about the expansion of mining in the Peel Region. There are a number of expansion and exploration applications underway at the moment in the forest and scarp areas, such as South32, Alcoa and Rio Tinto. Members shared their concern about the significant environmental impacts from the expansion of these industries, and cumulative effect of the various applications.

It was agreed to form a Working Group to formulate a position and response from Peel Alliance to current and future mining applications. The Working Group consists of representatives from

Shire of Murray, Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale, Shire of Waroona, City of Mandurah, Shire of Boddington and Peel-Harvey Catchment Council.

The Working Group met on 25 October 2022 to share the perspective of their respective organisations, with a number of mutual areas of concern identified including:

- The cumulative impact of mining exploration and expansion does not appear to be considered when approvals are given, particularly with a number of ‘big players’ operating in the same region – in particular the protection of significant ecological assets;
- The cost, time and resources required to respond to Public Environmental Review (PER) documents for proposed expansions in a meaningful way is a significant burden on organisations, and requires the engagement of expert consultants and legal advice
- The process to respond to exploration licence applications is very difficult to navigate and laborious, sometimes impossible and also expensive/time consuming
- Consultation by the mining companies and meaningful engagement on planned activities is poor, and there is no confidence in the protection of communities and sensitive environmental assets
- Poor response from mining companies to concerns raised about dust, pollution and hazards to communities
- The substantial investment in trails (both completed and planned), supporting infrastructure/services and ecotourism is not protected from mining activities and at risk
- State agreements do not provide a mechanism for these controls/engagement, and are largely out-of-date (there does not appear to be any another mechanism)
- There is a need to be address these concerns strategically and with impact

It was agreed that Peel Alliance should develop a formal position regarding mining in the Peel region based on mutual ESG values (Environment, Social, Governance) to enable meaningful advocacy at all levels of government and industry. The intended timeline for the completion of this work is early February 2023, to enable opportunities for advocacy with State and Federal members as well as raise awareness during expected PER submission periods for proposed expansions.

Anna Dixon Consulting has been identified as an appropriate consultant to undertake the development and production of the formal position statement. The firm specialises in support for government, industry and not-for-profit bodies and is experienced in strategy, research, sustainability and development of ESG policies and assessments.

The proposal allows for an 11-week program, including:

- Desktop research and review by the consultants to ensure current context, evidence and community sentiment is captured; documentation and input will be required from members such as relevant local policies, existing engagement structures, etc)
- Workshop with Peel Alliance members (around Week 4) to present research findings and evidence, undertake collaborative development of the statement including agreeing on definitions (eg meaningful engagement) and key asks
- Ensure documentation is evidence-based and defensible, and demonstrates community sentiment
- Further online workshop to present draft statement and seek feedback prior to finalising (early February)

The completed position statement will inform the development of an engagement and communications plan, and associated advocacy efforts for the agreed 'asks'.

The total proposal cost is \$19,500 plus GST. Peel Alliance will be required to provide a venue and any catering for the workshop.

The Working Group met again on 17 November 2022 to review the proposal. It was agreed that the suggested approach, deliverables and cost is acceptable, and to be recommended to PRLF for approval to allocate from its budget.

The 2022/23 operational budget has \$50,000 allocated for projects. \$10,000 has been reserved as contingency for the water supply initiative, with \$40,000 available. Out-of-session approval is sought for the cost of the consultancy plus small contingency, totalling \$20,000 to be approved for expenditure from this allocation.

In accordance with the Constitution, this item will also be included in the next General Meeting agenda for confirmation and recording purposes.

Supporting Documentation:

Appendix 9: Anna Dixon Consulting Proposal – November 2022

Recommendation:

That PRLF approves the allocation of \$20,000 from the Projects budget in the 2023/23 operational plan for the engagement of Anna Dixon Consulting for the development of a formal position on mining in the region.

Response:

Out of session approval was received from all members via email or online survey response, to approve the allocation as outlined above. The motion was carried unanimously on Friday 18 November 2022.

11. GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Michelle Rich advised that she recently had the opportunity to meet with the Director General of DMIRS and share the concerns from the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale community about companies seeking exploration licences which don't need to inform landowners of the Local Government where it covers State Forest or National Park.

The Director General advised that Kristian Dawson, Executive Director Resource Tenure, could organise a Local Government web seminar to explain the process companies go through to apply for an exploration licence as it relates to private landowners or national parks.

Cr Rich will pass on the contact information to the Executive Director to arrange the webinar for Peel Alliance members.

12. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The 54th General Meeting of the Peel Regional Leaders Forum is proposed to be held at the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale on **Thursday, 16 February 2023** commencing at 10am (date to be confirmed following review of 2023 meeting schedule)