

Resolutions of the 2014 National General Assembly of Local Government

Special Urgent Resolution 1

ALGA

Resolution

Delegates of the 2014 National General Assembly, in recognition of the vital importance of the Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs) to local government for the provision of equitable levels of local government services to all Australian communities, unanimously call on the Commonwealth Government to:

- restore indexation of Financial Assistance Grants in line with CPI and population growth immediately,
- reject Recommendation 22 of the National Commission of Audit in which the Commission recommends that tied grants to local government cease, and to the extent that programs are identified as priorities, local and state government provide them to the communities they serve'.

Further Delegates resolve that:

- It is imperative that the Commonwealth consult with local government, the states and territories and local communities in the development of the White Paper on Reform of the Federation and the White Paper on Taxation; that the Government's White Papers must genuinely reflect the wishes of the Australian people; and that future Federal-state and local Financial relationship arrangements must ensure long term sustainable distribution of taxation revenues between the levels of government that are commensurate with the roles and responsibilities of each level government in our modern Federation. Carried

Special Urgent Resolution 2

Tweed Shire Council

Resolution

That Delegates of the National General Assembly call on the Federal Government to reverse its decision to cease payments under the National Partnership Agreement on Certain Concessions for Pensioner Concession Cards and Senior Card Holders that will negatively impact on council budgets. Carried

Resolution 1

Tenterfield Shire Council, NSW

Resolution

That the NGA calls on the Federal Government to consider the roles and responsibility of Local Government in delivering services and ensure that it is sufficiently resourced for this; recognising that Local Government's strength is in providing those services that are community and place based. Carried

Strategic Resolution 2

Byron Shire Council, NSW

Resolution

That this National General Assembly call for the Federal Government to reallocate as an interim measure, a minimum of 1 per cent of Commonwealth taxation revenue, to the Financial Assistance Grants distributed to Local Government. Carried

Associated Resolution 2.1

Barkly Regional Council

Resolution

That this NGA a)note the fiscal imbalances between the Commonwealth and States, and by default the Territories, in contributions to local government in order for LG to meet their responsibilities to support community needs and services. b) That local government be supported by a share in taxation revenue from:- taxes on income; employment payroll tax, taxes on property and provision of goods and services, taxes on use of goods and performance activities.

Associated Resolution 2.2

Moreton Bay Regional Council, QLD

Resolution

That the Australian Local Government Association call on the Australian Government to reallocate Commonwealth taxes to achieve at least a 1% share for local government throughout Australia.

Associated Resolution 2.3

Willoughby City Council, NSW

Resolution

That this National Assembly call on the Australian Government to consider changing the method of distributing commonwealth taxes with local government throughout Australia so that a more direct funding model is adopted.

Associated Resolution 2.4

Manningham City Council, VIC

Resolution

That this National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government, in any review of the Goods and Services Tax (GST), to consider allocating an annual set percentage of GST to a Local Government Infrastructure Fund.

Associated Resolution 2.5

Whitehorse, VIC

Resolution

That the National Assembly, strongly advocate to the Federal Government for a share of the GST, to be distributed to Local Government to ensure that local communities benefit from much needed services and infrastructure, should the Commonwealth seek to increase the rate of GST.

Associated Resolution 2.6

Lockyer Valley Regional Council, QLD

Resolution

That the Australian Government consider a direct linkage for local government funding to the GST (Goods and Services Tax) at a fixed percentage (eg 1%) and allocate the funding direct to Councils rather than through the State Governments.

Associated Resolution 2.7

Maroondah City Council, VIC

Resolution

That this National General Assembly calls on Governments to provide a more equitable and reliable source of revenue, specifically a fixed percentage of GST, which will provide a consistent source of income for Local Government and enable it to reduce the infrastructure backlog as well as enhance current infrastructure and expenditure programs to keep pace with depreciation and community safety.

Resolution 3

Tenterfield Shire Council, NSW

Resolution

That the National General Assembly endorses the Federal Government's commitment to reducing red tape and seeks the Government's engagement with councils in order to contribute to this important initiative. Carried

Resolution 4

Narrabri Shire Council, NSW

Resolution

That the assembly support the federal/state government initiative for single desk approval environmental processes in regard to state and federal significant developments. Carried

Strategic Resolution 5

Etheridge Shire Council, QLD

Resolution

That the NGA, seek to have the basis of allocation for the Financial Assistance Grant, amended to remove the Minimum Grant Principle included in the National Principles under the Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995. Lost

Associated Resolution 5.1

Wyong Shire Council, NSW

Resolution

That this NGA calls upon the Commonwealth Government to remove the minimum payment within Financial Assistance Grants (FAG) methodology and replace it with a methodology which gives greater recognition to population growth and the associated infrastructure requirements and secondly to Councils that have infrastructure backlogs. This would support Councils that have Communities with the greatest growth pressure/need and with the focus placed on infrastructure backlogs and infrastructure for future growth will ensure that our existing and new communities are planned and established with an adequate standard of service.

Associated Resolution 5.2

Tenterfield Shire Council, NSW

Resolution

That in the distribution of Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs), the Federal Government consider the option of progressively distributing a more significant proportion of funds to those councils and shires with the greatest identified need for assistance.

Associated Resolution 5.3

Gilgandra Shire Council, NSW

Resolution

That the formula for distribution of Financial Assistance Grants be amended with a view to a more equitable distribution based more on factors such as disadvantage and remoteness and less emphasis on population.

Associated Resolution 5.4

Shoalhaven City Council, NSW

Resolution

That the Australian Local Government Association mounts a very strong case to the Federal Government for the distribution formulas for the Federal Financial Assistance Grants to be varied to give greater weighting to disadvantaged areas

Associated Resolution 5.5

North Burnett Regional Council, QLD

Resolution

That this National Assembly calls for the Australian Government to review the Financial Assistance Grant and local government Tax Sharing arrangements criteria to maintain agreed minimum Local Government funding levels. Carried

Strategic Resolution 6

WITHDRAWN

Associated Resolution 6.1

Southern Downs Regional Council, QLD

Resolution

That a regions transient population is taken into consideration when formulating the calculations for the Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs).Carried

Associated Resolution 6.2

Byron Shire Council, NSW

Resolution

That this National General Assembly call for the Federal Government a)to further its partnership with the Local Government by working with Local Government to identify constructive general purpose funding reform options that more adequately meet community needs and fulfil the Commonwealth's objectives as set out in the Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995.; and b)to as part of this process reform the 'National Principles' (Section 6, Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995) and or to make other amendments to the Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995 to better acknowledge communities with exceptionally high visitor numbers and the need for infrastructure support due to visitor impacts.

Resolution 7

Liverpool City Council, NSW

Resolution

That the National General Assembly call on the federal government to work in partnership with local and regional growth councils and provide additional resources to support the delivery of critical employment, infrastructure and services that meet the demands of a growing population. Carried

Resolution 8

Wyndham City Council, VIC

Resolution

In order to realise the potential of population growth to boost jobs and national productivity, this National Assembly of Local Governments calls on the Australian Government to: - Ensure that population growth is front and centre in its policymaking and investment decisions; - Ensure that Infrastructure Australia has a focus on population growth and the projects required to unlock its potential; - Provide incentives to investors to develop the businesses and infrastructure that will drive the productivity gains. Carried

Resolution 9

Melbourne City Council, VIC

Resolution

That, in light of the rapid growth of Australian Capital Cities, the National General Assembly calls on the Federal and State Governments to investigate implementation of a financial framework that captures in a realistic and fair manner the uplift in property values as a result of changing planning controls and returns this money for use in providing the necessary infrastructure for these new communities. Lost

Strategic Resolution 10

Town of Gawler, SA

Resolution

The National General Assembly of Local Government call upon the Federal Government, through the Australian Taxation Office to establish a federal heritage building restoration tax credit (\$1.30 for every \$1 spent on restoration) for commercial buildings listed as National, State and Local Heritage and for all residential heritage buildings being restored, materials used and other contract costs for restoration are deemed to be exempt (or provided with a refund or other mechanism) from Goods and Services Tax (GST). Carried

Associated Resolution 10.1

Strathfield Municipal Council, NSW

Resolution

That the National General Assembly of Local Government coordinates a national program to combat 'demolition by neglect' of locally listed heritage items and other buildings left in a derelict state. A national program would particularly assist Councils in maintaining the integrity of heritage buildings without the costly exercise of litigation and the burden of those costs on the community.

Resolution 11

Narrabri Shire Council, NSW

Resolution

That the NGA investigate and recommend to government for betterment funding under the National Disaster Recovery Act. Carried

Resolution 12

Central Highlands Regional Council, QLD

Resolution

That the National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to review the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA), current and future Betterment Funds and reinstate the ability for local governments to use their own day labour in disaster recovery, so that communities can recover quicker, at less cost to local government, while also boosting local economies. Carried

Strategic Resolution 13

North Burnett Regional Council, QLD

Resolution

That this National Congress call on the Australian Government to maintain the value for money criteria for the use of day labour and amend the NDRRA guidelines so that this criteria may be used for Natural Disaster event. Carried

Associated Resolution 13.1

Etheridge Shire Council, QLD

Resolution

That NGA lobby the Federal Government to allow the reimbursement of Council day labour for repair of flood and disaster damage under the NDRRA guidelines.

Resolution 14

Tenterfield Shire Council, NSW

Resolution

That the National General Assembly calls on the Federal Government to become engaged in what is an urgent national issue: the prevention and mitigation of bushfire risk, and so reduce the ever increasing costs of the National Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangement (NDRRA). Carried

Resolution 15

Lockyer Valley Regional Council, QLD

Resolution

That the Australian Government consider creating a new funding program to cover the distribution of specific purpose payments to local governments, that have been extensively impacted by significant natural disaster events. Carried

Resolution 16

Mitchell Shire Council, VIC

Resolution

That the National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide continuity of funding to local government for natural disaster mitigation measures designed to result in material improvements in insurance premium affordability, by confirming that it will commit to the \$100 million National Insurance Affordability Initiative (NIAI). Carried

Resolution 17

North Burnett Regional Council, QLD

Resolution

That this National Congress call for a review of the NDRRA guidelines to request changes to the Category C and D Exceptional Circumstances to facilitate an increase in the threshold for off farm income and for eligibility of own farm labour for assistance in a Natural Disaster event. Carried

Resolution 18

Etheridge Shire Council, QLD

Resolution

That this NGA seek to have Governments take into account all businesses when declaring Drought Assistance funding. Carried

Strategic Resolution 19

Boroondara City Council, VIC

Resolution

That the NGA strongly advocate to the Federal Government for a more comprehensive package of assistance and education to those members of the community most affected by heatwaves. This is in response to the impact of recent heatwaves and the prediction that they will become more frequent and more intense into the future. Carried

Associated Resolution 19.1

Whitehorse, VIC

Resolution

That the National Assembly: Advocate to the Federal Government for the allocation of Federal government funding to identify and to assist at-risk vulnerable people in the community to make modifications to their homes to reduce their likely exposure to heat wave events. Advocate to the Federal Government for additional energy rebates for identified at-risk vulnerable people during specific hot weather spells. Advocate to the State governments that they mandate a requirement that all power companies communicate power supply security information to all clients including information about planned outages, their location and timing and any emergency events/outages impacting on power service delivery in the relevant supply area.

Resolution 20

Willoughby City Council, NSW

Resolution

That this National Assembly call upon the Australian and State Governments to remove regulatory barriers to develop local decentralised renewable energy production facilities.
Carried

Resolution 21

Albury City Council, NSW

Resolution

That the National General Assembly support the proposition that surplus revenue collected under the Clean Energy Act be retained by local government for related activities such as improving operating and energy efficiency of assets, waste education programs or waste diversion programs following repeal of the Clean Energy legislation. Carried

Resolution 22

Strathfield Municipal Council, NSW

Resolution

That, in the interests of openness and accountability regarding the use of Local Government resident taxpayer dollars by the Federal Government the National General Assembly of Local Government urges the Federal Government to disclose purchases of Kyoto Protocol emission reduction units e.g. certified emission reduction units, including commissions paid to brokers of these units, from 2009 onwards. Carried

Resolution 23

Primary: Pittwater Council, NSW

Supported by: Manly Council, NSW - Willoughby City Council, NSW - Rockdale City Council, NSW - Lake Macquarie Council, NSW

Resolution

That the NGA call on the Australian Government to develop and fund a national action plan that will deliver a consistent and co-ordinated approach, across all jurisdictions, to natural hazard management and climate change adaptation in the coastal zone. Carried

Resolution 24

Willoughby City Council, NSW - Manly Council, NSW

Resolution

That this National Assembly call upon the Australian Government to implement recommendations detailed in the House of Representatives committee report "Managing our coastal zone in a changing climate: The time to act is now". Carried

Strategic Resolution 25

Shoalhaven City Council, NSW

Resolution

That the National General Assembly calls on the Commonwealth Government to establish a "National Coastal Policy". Carried

Associated Resolution 25.1

Willoughby City Council, NSW

Resolution

That this National Assembly call upon the Australian and State Governments to establish a National Coastal Council or Commission for Australia.

Resolution 26

Manly Council, NSW - Willoughby City Council, NSW

Resolution

That this National Assembly call upon the Australian Government to implement policies and programs that ensure the maintenance of public ownership of and public access along the coastal zone. Carried

Resolution 27

Willoughby City Council, NSW - Manly Council, NSW

Resolution

That this National Assembly call upon the Australian and State Governments to develop and implement an intergovernmental National Marine Management Strategy. Carried

Resolution 28

Willoughby City Council, NSW - Manly Council, NSW

Resolution

That this National Assembly call upon the Australian Government to establish an effective, integrated National Coastal Information System that provides publically accessible

information at the right scale for regional and local decision making via a consistent national application. Carried

Resolution 29

Moyne Shire Council, VIC

Resolution

That Moyne Shire Council seek the support of the National General Assembly in opposing the exploration for and extraction of Coal Seam, Tight and Shale Oil Gases in Australia and further that the N.G.A of Councils call on the leaders of all political parties to commit to a ban on these industries. Lost

Resolution 30

Gunnedah Council, NSW

Resolution

That the Federal Government retain the primary responsibility for the approval of resource projects, coal seam gas in particular and provide regulation which best preserves and protects our natural resources, including our underground water tables in primary agricultural land from contamination. Lost

Resolution 31

Griffith City Council, NSW

Resolution

That the Australian Local Government Association write to the Federal and State Governments requesting them to: (i) intervene and determine that exploration and mining of Coal Seam Gas in agriculturally productive land not be permitted, and (ii) express grave concern and object to any exploration and mining of any kind in agriculturally productive land. This is to ensure that agriculturally productive land continues to produce clean, safe food for all Australians and the world. Lost

Strategic Resolution 32

Ashfield Council, NSW

Resolution

That drawing on the experience of Ashfield Council, the National General Assembly calls on the Federal Government to increase direct grants to Councils for infrastructure needs.

Carried

Associated Resolution 32.1

North Burnett Regional Council, QLD

Resolution

That this National Congress call on the Australian Government to implement a Water and Sewerage infrastructure support programme to run parallel to the Roads to Recover programme. Carried

Resolution 32.2

Botany Bay Council, NSW

That ALGA both recognise and utilise the abilities of groups from within the local government sector with special expertise and experience in particular areas such as aviation to represent the sector's interests and participate in related policy development to the benefit of local communities. Carried

Resolution 33

City of Stirling, WA

Resolution

1. That ALGA make representations to the Prime Minister and each State Premier and Territory Chief Minister to seek a transparent and collaborative approach to Australia's infrastructure crisis to address planning, coordination and funding through a National Infrastructure framework supported by State and Territory Infrastructure Plans. 2. That ALGA advocates that a National Infrastructure framework should be established and used as the tool to determine Federal, State Government and Local Government and Private Sector funding contributions for identified priority infrastructure. Carried

Resolution 34

Yarra City Council, VIC

Resolution

That this National General Assembly call for the Federal Government: (a) to note: (i) successive ALGA resolutions in previous years highlighting problems in funding urban and regional public infrastructure (especially including public transport), by the States and Local Government infrastructure to both meet population growth and promote productivity outcomes; and (ii) fiscal imbalances between Commonwealth, State and Local Governments in meeting their responsibilities for the above; and (b) to raise through the COAG Agenda, the urgent need for re-alignment of federal funding arrangements so that levels of Government in Australia have a more efficient match between their responsibilities and their finances and importantly to address the growing infrastructure gap and productivity impact. Carried

Resolution 35

Roper Gulf Regional Council, NT

Resolution

That this meeting of the National General Assembly supports the development of major infrastructure projects in remote and regional areas in Northern Australia in support of the State, Territory and Federal Government's focus on the development of Northern Australia. Carried

Resolution 36

WITHDRAWN

Resolution 37

Alice Springs Town Council, NT

Resolution

That the Commonwealth Government introduces a special infrastructure fund through the identification of new funding to address the improvement of all weather access for roads, especially but not limited to, in Central Australian remote communities. Carried

Strategic Resolution 38

Brisbane City Council, QLD

Resolution

That the NGA calls on the Federal and State Governments to make greater investments in local infrastructure to support economic development. Carried

Associated Resolution 38.1

Maribyrnong City Council, VIC

Resolution

That the NGA calls upon the Australian Government to identify options to enable local government direct access to Australian Government funding for the development of local community infrastructure, such as roads, community buildings and sporting grounds.

Resolution 39

Moreland City Council, VIC

Resolution

The NGA in accordance with ALGA's transport strategy calls upon the Federal Government to assist State Government with funding for major public transport projects through the Infrastructure Fund. Carried

Resolution 40

Etheridge Shire council, QLD

Resolution

That this NGA seek to have the legislation around Fatigue Management (National Road Transport Heavy Vehicle Drivers' Fatigue laws) amended to exclude Local Government Councils as the legislation inhibits and impedes the short haul operations of a Council. Carried

Resolution 41

Manningham City Council, VIC

Resolution

That the National General Assembly call on to the Australian Government and all major political parties to provide accelerated funding for metropolitan public transport improvements and Nation - building freight rail construction to improve the Australian transport network and to improve safety, freight efficiency and reduce congestion across Australia. WITHDRAWN

Strategic Resolution 42

Shoalhaven City Council, NSW

Resolution

That the National General Assembly strongly advocates for continued funding for local roads to be distributed directly from the Federal Government to Local Government through either the continuance of the Roads to Recovery Program, or similar, and that the level of funding increases at a rate no less than CPI. Carried

Associated Resolution 42.1

Gilgandra Shire Council, NSW

Resolution

That the Federal Government be encouraged to significantly increase the total amount of Roads to Recovery funding for the next term of the program.

Associated Resolution 42.2

Maroondah City Council, VIC

Resolution

That this National General Assembly calls on all Federal political parties to acknowledge and commit to the support for the continuation of the Roads to Recovery Federal funding (R2R) facility to Local Government.

Associated Resolution 42.3

Shire of Campaspe, VIC

Resolution

That this NGA calls on the Australian Government to commit to increased and ongoing recurrent funding to Local Government, in particular a continuation of Roads to Recovery, to give Councils and communities greater certainty about financial sustainability and service levels into the future.

Associated Resolution 42.4

Glamorgan Spring Bay Council, TAS

Resolution

That this NGA calls on the Australian Federal Government to continue the Roads to Recovery grant money, along with the bridge infrastructure funding, as promised by the current Federal Government during the 2013 election campaign.

Resolution 43

Etheridge Shire Council, QLD

Resolution

That this NGA seek to have greater access for Local Councils as contractors for any planned construction work on National and State highways. Carried

Resolution 44

Parkes Shire Council, NSW

Resolution

That the National General Assembly congratulate the Australian Government for identifying the Melbourne to Brisbane Inland Railway as nationally significant infrastructure required to meet the burgeoning growth in freight, which is anticipated to triple by 2050, and for allocating \$300m for planning and acquisition to commence this project. Further that, the National General Assembly call on the Australian Government to now allocate funds to construct the Melbourne to Brisbane Inland Rail, to a modern-standard sufficient to drive modal shift from long-haul road to rail. Carried

Resolution 45

Willoughby City Council, NSW

Resolution

That this National Assembly call upon the Australian Government to fund development of high speed rail from Sydney-Canberra-Melbourne during this term of parliament as a major infrastructure project. The proposed rail would provide rapid transportation of people and goods, reducing demand on the very busy air corridors. As the high speed rail has long been proposed, it needs clear direction and funds to expedite its development. It would provide a much needed major infrastructure project, providing lean efficient transport and create jobs. Carried

Strategic Resolution 46

Albury City Council, NSW

Resolution

That the National General Assembly support the proposition that the National Stronger Regions Fund provides social and economic infrastructure support to all regional communities. Carried

Associated Resolution 46.1

Orange City Council, NSW

Resolution

That the National General Assembly support a review of the Federal regional infrastructure funding programs, with a view to increasing the level of funding available for regional Australia.

Resolution 47

Wyong Shire Council, NSW

Resolution

That the National General Assembly calls upon the Commonwealth Government to review the structure, operation and funding arrangements to Regional Development Australia to

ensure its strategies and outcomes align to the strategic directions that the Local Governments in the regions are taking on delivering essential infrastructure to support economic growth and to create local jobs. Carried

Resolution 48

Maribyrnong City Council, VIC

Resolution

That the NGA calls upon the Australian Government to reaffirm its commitment to the Regional Development Australia initiative, to enable local government authorities to work collaboratively, to develop strategies and deliver sustainable infrastructure services for Australia's regions. Carried

Resolution 49

North Burnett Regional Council, QLD

Resolution

That this National Assembly calls upon the Australian Government to review the Regional Development Australia Fund funding model and any successor programme to ensure a funding split of 50/50 between allocated and contestable funds with a focus on rural and regional inland Councils. Carried

Resolution 50

City of Wanneroo, WA

Resolution

The National General Assembly calls on the Federal Government to develop a national fund to assist local governments in developing active regional open space in outer growth areas, for the purpose of assisting the Federal Government in meeting its objective to increase the physical activity level of Australians. Carried

Resolution 51

Wyong Shire Council, NSW

Resolution

That the National General Assembly calls upon the Commonwealth Government to establish a Regional Australia Tourism program that provides funds to Regional and Rural Councils to develop and grow their tourism sectors. That the Federal Government recognises that tourism is crucial to Regional Australia and that the establishment of a Regional Australia Tourism Program will provide the leadership and incentive to attract private sector investment and will create local jobs. Carried

Resolution 52

Cabonne Shire Council, NSW

Resolution

That the NGA lobby the Federal Government for legislation to ensure Food Security and Sustainability for future generations. Although the State Government has a policy to preserve prime agricultural land there are numerous occasions when such land is alienated or the ability of farmers to continue normal farming practices as a result of urban encroachment and lifestyle type developments. Carried

Resolution 53

Orange City Council, NSW

Resolution

Orange City Council seeks the support of the National General Assembly for the concept of a National Container Deposit Scheme (CDS) and requests that this subject matter be discussed at the National General Assembly with the intent that a campaign is commenced to support implementation of a national CDS. Carried

Strategic Resolution 54

Bega Valley Shire Council, NSW

Resolution

That the Federal Government develop a co-ordinated approach with all levels of government to the provision of affordable housing for all including those with a disability.
Carried

Associated Resolution 54.1

Marrickville Council, NSW

Resolution

a) That the NGA lobby at the Federal level for a national housing authority in recognition of the national economic and social importance of secure and adequate housing for all members of society; b) That the authority be tasked with evaluating all matters relevant to addressing the need for, and provision of, affordable housing including: the specific roles of each level of government; the impacts of taxation and subsidisation policies and incentives on housing supply and affordability; and planning and funding mechanisms to extend affordability for all and increase the supply of supported accommodation for the most disadvantaged in the community (being people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless). Carried

Associated Resolution 54.2

Ashfield Council, NSW

Resolution

The 2014 National General Assembly of Local Government will provide an opportunity to raise awareness that affordable units and houses are often returned to the market at full commercial value after approximately five years. Ashfield Council has maintained a view that affordable housing should remain affordable indefinitely and that the housing should be administered by reputable charity or not for profit organisations involved with disadvantaged people in our society.

Resolution 54.3

Macedon Ranges Shire Council, VIC

That the NGA urge ALGA to write to the Prime Minister and the Minister for Social Services to: Voice concern at the abolition of the Advisory Panel for Positive Ageing and the absence of an alternative framework that provides older members of our community with full and equal engagement in government policy direction; and Advocate for a review of the Ministerial structure with a preference to recognise the significant challenges and opportunities of an ageing population through appointing a Minister responsible for the Ageing in this current government. Carried

Resolution 55

Melbourne City Council, VIC

Resolution

That the National General Assembly requests the ALGA Board to: 1. develop a revised strategy aimed at increasing the level of participation by women in council elections throughout Australia; and 2. work with local government peak bodies in each Australian state and territory to implement a renewed campaign, aimed at increasing the level of participation by women, in advance of the next local government elections. Carried

Resolution 56

Maribyrnong City Council, VIC

Resolution

That the National General Assembly calls upon the Australian Government to work collaboratively with the local government sector, employers and employer groups, to identify employment opportunities and training initiatives that recognise the economic structural adjustment from the manufacturing industry. Carried

Resolution 57

City of Wanneroo, WA

Resolution

That this NGA requests the Federal/State Governments to consider an annual reimbursement to Local governments across Australia for all associated citizenship costs expended during the calendar year. Carried

Resolution 58

Wyndham City Council, VIC

Resolution

That this National Assembly express its concern about the removal of Australian Electoral Commission officers from Citizenship Ceremonies, leaving Council staff with the responsibility for dealing with voter queries and enrolments, a cost shift onto Local Government. That the ALGA writes to the Minister responsible for the AEC seeking a reinstatement of these resources. Carried

Resolution 59

Town of Gawler, SA

Resolution

The National General Assembly of Local Government call upon the Federal Government, through the Department of Immigration and Border Protection and Prime Minister's Office to issue an invitation to all: People still living and were born in Australia before 20 August 1986 (unless one parent was entitled to diplomatic privileges or was a consular officer of another country) People born after that date (and still alive) with at least one parent who was an Australian citizen or permanent resident at the time of their birth Children born in Australia to parents who are not Australian citizens or permanent residents, but at age 10 automatically acquire Australian citizenship on their 10th birthday, if they have lived most of their life in Australia, to nominate to receive a copy of their own Australian Citizenship Certificate. Further all Children born in Australia from 2014, who qualify to be an Australian Citizen at the time of their birth, be issued with an Australian Citizenship Certificate. That all

Australian school Children in Year Seven of school, who hold an Australian Citizenship Certificate participate in an Australian Citizenship Affirmation Ceremony at their school.
Carried

Resolution 60

Willoughby City Council, NSW

Resolution

That this National Assembly call on the Australian Government to increase funding with local government throughout Australia for community exercise programs to assist with health proresolution and health prevention measures. Carried

Resolution 61

Maribyrnong City Council, VIC

Resolution

That the Australian Local Government Association calls upon the Communications Minister and authorities for the rollout of the National Broadband Network, to consult more closely with Local Government on the basis that Local Government is best placed to represent and prioritise for adjustments, with the context of the national program rollout. Carried

Resolution 62

Central Highlands Regional Council, QLD

Resolution

That, in light of the documented delays in the roll-out of the National Broadband Network (NBN), the National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government and the Minister for Communications to identify priority NBN construction areas in rural Australia to ensure rural communities have access to the kind of efficient, high-speed telecommunication services available in urban centres, and outline what assistance will be available to those

areas where NBN roll-out is not logistically and commercially feasible at this point in time.
Carried

Resolution 63

Town of Gawler, SA

Resolution

The National General Assembly of Local Government call upon the Federal Government, through the Department for Communications to commit to completing the roll out of the National Broadband Network across Australia by 2025 which is predominantly a fibre optic network and in parallel work with the telecommunications industry to significantly increase the capacity and speed of the network whilst at the same time drive down significantly, the cost of broadband services to residential, business, community sector and government consumers. Carried

Resolution 64

Etheridge Shire Council, QLD

Resolution

That National General Assembly request the Hon Malcolm Turnbull, Minister for Communications to consider the release of funding to provide for alternative methods of communication such as retransmission and Wi Fi in mobile telecommunication black spot areas of Australia. Carried

Resolution 65

Bankstown City Council, NSW

Resolution

That this NGA calls on the Federal Government to ensure that councils are not made financially worse-off due to work related to the removal of asbestos in Telstra pits, an issue which is very relevant considering the work of rolling out the NBN. Carried

Strategic Resolution 66

Barkly Regional Council, NT

Resolution

That Local Government be supported as a valid level of government closest to community and as a result be constitutionally recognised as part of the future of how Australia operates. Carried

Associated Resolution 66.1

Southern Downs Regional Council, QLD

Resolution

That the Federal Government proceeds with a referendum on the constitutional recognition for Local Governments.

Associated Resolution 66.2

Byron Shire Council, NSW

Resolution

That this National General Assembly call for the Federal Government to hold a referendum on constitutional recognition of local government.

Associated Resolution 66.3

Central Highlands Regional Council, QLD

Resolution

That the National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to hold a national referendum on the constitutional recognition of local government during the current term.

Resolution 66.4

North Burnett Regional Council, QLD

Resolution

That this National Congress continues the strong advocacy demonstrated to progress the National Referendum for constitutional recognition of Local Government.

Resolution 67

Ku-ring-gai Council, NSW

Resolution

That the Assembly support the creation of a uniform national Register of Lobbyists and Code of Conduct for Lobbyists who act on behalf of third party clients to lobby Local Government officials. Carried

Resolution 68

City of Whittlesea, VIC

Resolution

That the National General Assembly calls on the Commonwealth Government to: 1)Not implement the gambling reforms stipulated in the Social Services and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2013. This reversal of legislative requirements and commitment will have serious, regrettable impacts on the lives of Australians, particularly in vulnerable communities consisting of families, children and small business; 2)Minimise and prevent

avoidable harm from gambling by implementing all-of-States and Territories mandatory reforms to reduce detriment and increase consumer safety of electronic gaming (pokie) machines (EGMs), 3) To mandate maximum allowable bets on EGMs to \$1 per spin with a maximum \$120 losses per hour in accordance with the recommendations of the Productivity Commission's 2010 and the 2011 Parliamentary Joint Select Committee on Gambling Reform Reports. Carried

Strategic Resolution 69

Central Highlands Regional Council, QLD

Resolution

That the National General Assembly call on the Australian Government to implement therecommendations of the FIFO/DIDO report ('Cancer of the bush or salvation for our cities: fly-in, fly-out and drive-in, drive-out workforce practices in Regional Australia') as a matter of urgency to protect regional workforces, and recognise local government as a key stakeholder to be included in all relevant policy review and development. Carried

Associated Resolution 69.1

Gunnedah Shire Council, NSW

Resolution

That this NGA calls upon the Federal Government to implement the recommendations of the House Standing Committee on Regional Australia's report entitled "Cancer of the bush or salvation for our cities"(Fly-in Fly-out and drive-in drive-out workforce practices in regional Australia) as published in February 2013 and in particular recommendations: 2) relating to an even allocation of funding; 6) relating to the appropriate training of Councillors and staff in such areas; 7) relating to supply of affordable housing; 8) relating to a comprehensive health study; 12-15) relating to the application of FBT, zone tax offsets and other taxation applicable to employees working in these mining areas.

Resolution 69.2

Griffith City Council, NSW

Resolution

That the National General Assembly urge the Australian Local Government Association to write to the Commonwealth Minister for Education and Universities Australia seeking support in enhancing the formal training of future managers/administrators in the Local Government Sector.

(i) This enhanced training module should include the development of an accredited stand-alone Bachelor Degree designated (say) as a Bachelor of Business Local Government or Bachelor of Business Local Government Administration.

(ii) The degree referred to in (i) above shall include a Local Government Administration major and shall be supported by such subjects as (but not limited to); Local Government Finance, Local Government Accounting, Local Government Organisation, Local Government Internal Auditing, Local Government Services, Local Government Management. Carried

RESERVE RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 70

Darebin City Council, VIC

Resolution

That the NGA request that ALGA consider the establishment of a (Culturally and Linguistically Diverse) CALD advisory committee in 2014 to develop policy on CALD issues to inform their advocacy in this area at the federal level and to support state branches. Carried

Resolution 71

Wyndham City Council, VIC

Resolution

That the National General Assembly invites all Councils to sign up to the 'Racism. It stops with me' campaign and calls on the Federal Government to fund a national program through Local Government to deliver local social cohesion projects to prevent racism in local communities. Carried

Strategic Resolution 72

Yarra City Council, VIC

Resolution

That this National General Assembly calls on the Federal Government to request that: a. the visa applications of asylum seekers, currently living in our respective communities on bridging visas, be processed as soon as possible; and b. if the process in (a) above legitimises their status as refugees, that they be afforded the opportunity of permanent residency.

Carried

Associated Resolution 72.1

Colac Otway Shire Council, VIC

Resolution

That the National General Assembly of Local Government notes that there are significant numbers of asylum seekers living in Australian communities. 1.This meeting calls on the Federal Government to: a) Process the visa applications of asylum seekers living on bridging visas as soon as possible. b).Afford applicants, who are accepted as refugees, the opportunity of permanent residency. c).Allow refugees who have been granted permanent residency and who arrived by boat, the same rights as those refugees, who arrived by other means, in applying to bring their families to Australia. 2.In pursuit of number one above, ALGA should lobby the Prime Minister, the Immigration and Border Protection Minister, their opposition counterparts, the leaders of the National Party, Australian Greens and Palmer United Party and independents in the Federal Parliament.

Resolution 73

Willoughby City Council, NSW

Resolution

That this National Assembly call upon the Australian Government to commit to funding universal health care for all Australians. Medicare provides equitable, accessible, advanced, high quality care to all Australians to ensure that all Australians have access to essential health care which ensures a healthy population essential for its economic and social development. Carried

Resolution 74

Narrabri Shire Council, NSW

Resolution

That the assembly support the improved coordination and distribution of mental and aged health funding to remove duplication. Carried

Resolution 75

Tenterfield Shire Council, NSW

Resolution

That the NGA calls on the Federal Government to abandon the proposed paid parental leave (PPL) scheme and instead transfer funds to increase the affordability, accessibility and flexibility of Early Childhood Services. Carried

Resolution 76

Willoughby City Council, NSW

Resolution

That this National Assembly call upon the Federal Government to ensure that the National Quality Framework requirements for Out of School Hours (OOSH) care are revised and that appropriate OOSH-specific requirements are developed that still maintain a high standard of care, but also enable communities to meet current and future OOSH demand. Carried

Resolution 77

Central Desert Regional Council, NT

Resolution

That the National General Assembly explore in principle pilot work to establish Australian local government minimum standards in key agreed areas determined by ALGA in consultation with Councils and state and territory associations. Carried

Resolution 78

Narrabri Shire Council, NSW

Resolution

That where there is Country wide service provision to Government departments, for example IT network provision, that these services be extended to provide equivalent services to Local Government Councils. Carried

Resolution 79

Break O'Day Council, TAS

Resolution

That the National General Assembly call on the Australian Government to legislate a permanent ban on ALL super trawlers operating in Australian waters before November 2014. Carried

Resolution 80

Central Highlands Regional Council, QLD

Resolution

That the National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to review the National Competition Policy (NCP) and provide a productivity report on the impact of the NCP for local governments in Australia. Carried

Resolution 81

Town of Gawler, SA

Resolution

The National General Assembly of Local Government call upon the Federal Government, through the National Transport Commission (NTC) to established an Inter-Governmental Agreement in conjunction with States and Territories, to develop legislation and administrative guidelines (including compatible software) for the establishment of a National Motor Vehicle Registration Scheme covering all motor vehicle types, subject to registration fees not being paid to the Commonwealth. Carried

Resolution 82

Gunnedah Shire Council, NSW

Resolution

That the National General Assembly of Local Government calls upon the Federal Government to support the improved relations with the Chinese Government by providing additional funding in order to encourage greater Chinese tourism to regional Australia. Such tourist proresolution should be via Tourism Australia, the Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism (DRET) and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT). Carried