

2. Presentation & Briefing

Priority Link: KI-1

Presentation by Chris Adams from Pilbara Cities.

Pilbara Cities announced in 2009.

\$1.1bn allocation over four years.

Pilbara Cities offices established by August 2010.

Royalties for Regions

At the beginning 25% of Royalties was equal to \$695m/year, now it is \$1.2bn/year due to growth in royalties.

Future Directions

Growing rate of Regional Development Trust, headed by Andrew Murray
Also Regional Development Council, headed by Ian Fletcher.

Need to refer to State Planning Strategy and Regional blue print. Bigger and fewer projects based around transformation.

Seeking alliance and opportunities for PPP's.

3. Review Status of Actions from Previous Minutes

Action List – see Attachment 1

4. Review of WARCA Strategic Planning Workshop

Priority link: KI-1

In February, members of WARCA undertook a workshop process in conjunction with Barrington Consulting Group. The report identified core areas:-

- Agree priorities
- Key milestone
- Summary of key decisions.

These main points have been listed below and a copy of the report is attached.

6. Prioritisation of 2012 Initiatives

The priorities of the current initiatives were reviewed. The common brand and web page initiative have been completed and therefore should be excluded from the list of priorities.

The Alliance also agreed to self-fund the establishment of the Secretariat and therefore the initiative should be excluded from the list of priorities.

The agreed priorities of the 2012 initiatives are tabled below.

Initiative	Priority
1. Establish common platform to seek support from the State Government. This initiative is already progressing and should continue to build on the momentum by seeking agreement from the State government.	1
2. Drive results from the UWA Partnership. The Cooperation Agreement with UWA was executed in December 2011 and should be driven to deliver results in the immediate future.	2
3. Develop regional growth plans for each member. To ensure consistency across the regional cities, a framework for the development of regional growth plans needs to be established.	3

Whilst "Working with other Alliances in the other States to progress the development of Regional Capitals Australia to become the leading voice in representing and promoting the interests of Australia's second tier cities" is not accorded top priority, it remains an ongoing activity of the Alliance. Building relationship with interstate Alliances is seen to be valuable in terms of sharing key learnings and providing networking opportunities. It is also seen to be an effective avenue for lobbying support for representing the interests of regional cities.

Each of these Key Initiatives will be referred to in future agenda items and reports as a means of identifying decisions and consideration processes reflect current approved priorities. (e.g. KI-1, KI-2, KI-3)

8. Summary of Key Decisions

Key decisions reached:

1. Agreed objective: WARCA will enable the 7 member regional capital communities to evolve into fully-fledged alternatives to the Perth metropolitan area with populations of at least 50,000 by 2026.
2. Agreed priority on 2012 initiatives as follows:
 - i. Establish common platform to seek support from the State Government;
 - ii. Drive results from the UWA Partnership; and,
 - iii. Develop regional growth plans for each member.
3. The UWA Partnership Agreement should begin delivering results by way of publishing policy papers in the immediate future.
4. The Alliance agreed to self-fund the establishment of the Secretariat with immediate effect. This initiative should be excluded from the list of priorities.
5. Work on common brand and web page has been completed and should be excluded from the list of priorities.
6. Establish a forward calendar of strategic issues to be addressed by the Alliance at its regular meetings. This is to ensure focus on strategic matters and avoid operational issues.
7. Perth is nominated as the venue of the Alliance meetings, with one meeting per annum held in a regional city on a rotation basis. This is to ensure personal experience of the 'local' environment of the regional cities which is important for understanding the issues 'on the ground'.

The office of Local Government in Perth offers suitable meeting facilities. Alliance meetings should coincide with the CEO meetings to maximise availability and attendance of Alliance members. The agenda of the Alliance meeting should include a 10 minute update from each City on key issues and/or advocacy programs.
8. Reconsider the strategic value of the Alliance dealing with the IT and shared services matter. All members are to bring back recommendations at the next Alliance meeting.
9. All Alliance members to consider the role of the CEO group and their contribution to the Alliance. Recommendations and suggestions are to be tabled for discussion at the next Alliance meeting.
10. Continue to seek support for Federal funding through relationship building and connections with relevant stakeholders. The Alliance is unclear on which Minister is responsible for such funding. CEO of Shire of Broome will obtain information to clarify this.
11. Deputy is required to attend Alliance meeting in the absence of the Mayor/President. Each Council should determine the appropriate Deputy to attend meetings on behalf of the Mayor/President. However, to ensure effective representation the Deputy attending will need to be well prepared and informed.

7. Key Milestones

The key activities for each initiative and milestones have been agreed as follows:

Key Activities	Milestone
1. Establish common platform to seek support from the State Government: a. Agreed position on funding for regional cultural centre; and, b. Obtain funding commitment.	Within 6 months Within 12 months
2. Drive results from the UWA Partnership: a. UWA to publish regular policy papers in the short term;and, b. In the longer term, UWA should deliver its research outcomes.	Immediate Longer term
3. Develop regional growth plans for each member: a. Identify building blocks to reach the goal of 50,000 population (to deliver over 3 horizons); b. Source funding; c. Develop growth plans; and, d. Agreed statutory framework.	Within 6 months Within 6 months Within 18 months Within 3 years

9. Next Steps

WARCA will now need to:

1. Focus on the revised Objective of the Alliance;
2. Focus on the top three agreed initiatives:
 - Establish common platform to seek support from the State government;
 - Drive results from the UWA Partnership; and,
 - Develop regional growth plans for each member.
3. Implement 'quick wins';
4. Prepare the summary plan for submission to the Hon Brendon Grylls MLA - Minister of Regional Development:
 - The draft plan is to be circulated to Alliance members outside of meeting times.

RECOMMENDATION

For noting.

5. UWA Progress Report
Priority Link: KS- 2

Information below with provided BY Prof Matthew Tonts on UWA:-

One of the major priorities for the WARCA-UWA Partnership was the appointment of the Chair of Regional Cities to direct the research program. In late 2011 and early 2012 UWA embarked on an international recruitment campaign to identify a suitable candidate.

Interviews for the position were held in March, and the successful candidate accepted the post in May. The successful candidate is Professor Paul Plummer, who currently holds a Chair in economic geography and regional development at the University of Calgary in Canada. Professor Plummer has an international standing for his research in the following areas:

- Regional economic and social modelling and statistical analysis
- Economic competitiveness of firms and industries
- Labour markets
- Regional demography
- Regional policy

He has completed research in Australia, mainly on the performance of resource economies, and has also worked extensively on regional enterprise. In Canada his work has been on resource towns, particularly their economic and demographic performance.

He will take up his position in November.

In other developments, UWA has been negotiating involvement with a consortium of east coast universities regarding the establishment of a CRC in Regional Resilience, and has recently agreed to participate. The proposed areas of activities that UWA would lead relate to regional planning. The success of the CRC bid will not be known until later in the year.

Additional information provided by Andrew Brien:-

Given the recent release of the State Budget and also announcements by BHP about putting projects on hold, the impacts on the local and regional economies needs to be considered. Decisions not to fund State Infrastructure projects such as the Bunbury Outer Ring Road and Port Expansion potentially have major flow on impacts for industry and the broader regional economy. With some of these key projects not even being highlighted in forward estimates it may be appropriate to undertake specific research into this issue, either through the UWA arrangements or as a special project commissioned by the Alliance.

RECOMMENDATION

For noting

6. Regional Planning Framework
Priority Link: KS-2

WARCA has sought funding for the following 3 grants from Royalties for Regions based on matching funding (effectively doubling the available pool) over the 4 year period:-

PROJECT	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	Total
Strategic Research & Planning Alliance with UWA	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	1,200,000
Performance Based Planning	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	4,000,000
Secretariat and project management/support	62,500	62,500	62,500	62,500	250,000
	1,362,500	1,362,500	1,362,500	1,362,500	5,450,000

**Note the figures above are the funding sought. They are based on an equivalent 'matching' component from the WARCA members.*

With regards to the planning one this project has evolved a little since its first inception.

Essentially at this stage it considers the following:-

- Using the Pilbara Cities “Growth Plans” as a template to expand and turn them into a Local Planning Strategy which can be adopted by the respective Councils and WAPC as statutory plans;
- Identifying the opportunity to have the Growth Plans also double up as the new Community Strategic Plans (required by DLG);
- There is also the opportunity to link the capital works requirements of the Long Term Financial Plan (also required by DLG) and providing the opportunity to apply a ‘development charge’ on all new lots and stratas to help fund part of the capital works plan for each local government (this would see each project listed over 10 years and identified funding sources from muni revenue, grants funds and developer charges);
- The final element is Implementing a common (alternate) “*model scheme text*” for regional cities which is (a simplified) performance based and allows a greater level of flexibility.

In terms of actual works, following discussions with the Department and the Minister’s office the following might be requirements

Task Name	Duration	Start	Finish	Predecessors	2013				2014				2015				2016							
					Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	
WA Regional Capitals - Integrated Planning Framework Project	1040 days	Mon 2/07/12	Fri 24/06/16																					
Setup project steering group	2 mons	Mon 2/07/12	Fri 24/08/12																					
Define Project Scope	2 mons	Mon 27/08/12	Fri 19/10/12	2																				
Appointment of a project manager	3 mons	Mon 22/10/12	Fri 11/01/13	3																				
Appointment of an integrated project team (engineering, planning, environmental, etc.)	3 mons	Mon 14/01/13	Fri 5/04/13	4																				
Gap analysis of all member Councils in terms of where they are at with their LPS's and Planning Schemes;	12 mons	Mon 8/04/13	Fri 7/03/14	5																				
Drafting of a template for LPS/Growth Plan and Performance Based Model Scheme Text;	12 mons	Mon 8/04/13	Fri 7/03/14	5																				
Seeking WAPC approval of the new LPS and TPS template	12 mons	Mon 10/03/14	Fri 6/02/15	7																				
Undertaking the required studies identified in the Gap Analysis (done by each local government in conjunction with the project team)	12 mons	Mon 10/03/14	Fri 6/02/15	7,5																				
Drafting of each LPS/Growth Plan (done by each local government in conjunction with the project team)	6 mons	Mon 9/02/15	Fri 24/07/15	7,9																				
Submission of LPS/Growth and TPS to WAPC and Minister for Final approval	12 mons	Mon 27/07/15	Fri 24/06/16	9,10																				

Note the dates are not applicable now due to delays in securing the grants. It is expected that this process will take the 4 years – but will see us have a common performance based planning systems in place.

In terms of a management structure format it would like the following:-



The project effectively needs the research component to help put together the detail and innovation IP that comes with the UWA Alliance to deliver our Performance Based Planning Proposal and that we also need some level of secretariat and project management support to deliver these projects. Hence the need for them to fund all of them.

There is also an expectation that should funding come our way, that WARCA takes on a mentorship/leadership role with SuperTowns and some other government initiatives. This is because in reality only the major regional capitals have sufficient in-house planning and engineering capacity to deliver these initiatives. Then we can effectively create a template (and each regional capital can adopt a 'Super Town') and then roll out the framework across key regional communities. This would represent a big win-win for everybody.

RECOMMENDATION

For noting and referral to respective members for review and feedback.

ACTION

Organise a workshop for the same day as Item 7, with each of the regional development commissions to discuss opportunities and alignment.

7. State Planning framework Workshop ***Priority Link: KI-1 & KI-3***

BACKGROUND

Following discussions with the Chairman of the Regional Development Council it has become apparent that in order to establish the role and purpose of the WA Regional Cities that greater linkage need to be made with the State Planning Framework and the Royalties for Regions program.

As a final point and further to what we discussed we are in the process of setting up a workshop (likely to be around the 1-3 August in Perth) of WARCA members and seeking participation of yourself and key RDC members, Gary Pratley and also Paul Rosair, Eric Lumsden and Jenny Matthews to help plan a high level strategy, direction, role and way forward for the planning and delivery of the development of key regional centres/capital for WA. I would appreciate your support in ensuring this workshop goes ahead and is supported by RDC.

RECOMMENDATION

That WARCA Resolves to:-

1. Hold a workshop in August (in conjunction with the WA LOCAL Government Congress) in order to review opportunities and integration with State Planning Frameworks and the Royalties for Regions program
2. Invite the following people
 - a. Ian Fletcher (as Chairman of the Regional Development Council) and any other RDC members he feels should attend;
 - b. Gary Pratley (as Chairman of the WA Planning Commission) and any other members of the WAPC he feels should attend;
 - c. Following Directors General:-
 - i. Eric Lumsden – Department of Planning

- ii. Jenny Matthews – Department of Local Government
- iii. Paul Rosair – Department of Regional Development and Lands

8. Update on State Government review of Arts & Culture Facilities *Priority Link: KI- 2*

Background

Information below with provided by Ricky Arnold of the Department of Culture & Arts:-

Cultural Infrastructure Directions is a policy statement intended to guide investment decisions for cultural infrastructure across the State. It defines cultural infrastructure as the people, technology and buildings required for culture and arts services and experiences. The policy encourages consideration of service need and assessment of the infrastructure options for addressing this. This includes consideration of capital funding, ownership, maintenance and operating issues.

The draft policy is scheduled for release in the third quarter of 2012. Consultation with stakeholders occurred in late 2011 and the policy was developed in the first part of 2012. It is a guiding set of principles and priority considerations for investment planning. It is not an itemised list of current or future hard or soft infrastructure projects or programmes.

June 2012

- DCA will present the draft policy to key stakeholders to establish in-principle support and identify any high level strategic alignment issues.
- Key stakeholders for this stage are limited to the Minister, the Culture and Arts portfolio (library, museum, art gallery etc. Government).
- As of last week we have met with the Minister's office and our Portfolio and presented them with the draft policy. This now clears the way to brief Departments outside our portfolio including Departments of Planning, Regional Development, Treasury and Local Government and Regional Development Commissions.

July 2012

- Briefing to other Primary Government stakeholders as identified in the approved Release Strategy (listed above).
- Briefing to Primary Non-Government stakeholders as identified in the approved Release Strategy (half a dozen key arts orgs, Lotterywest and WALGA)
- Finalisation of the policy text following discussion with these key stakeholders and design prep for the DCA website.

August 2012

- DG and DDG scheduled to present on the policy to the Regional Development Council.
- Present the policy to any remaining stakeholders as per the Release Strategy approved by the Minister or others as needed/directed.
- Release for general public and make live on website subject to final Ministerial approval.

Beyond

- Application of the policy and continuous improvement as part of DCA rolling strategic planning framework and business.

RECOMMENDATION

For noting

ACTION

DCA and DRDL to present an update in person to the August meeting.

9. **Update by Kalgoorlie-Boulder on Regional Art Centre , State Strategy (raised by D Burnett)**
Priority Link: KI- 2
10. **Development of an overarching governance framework / MOU**
Priority Link: KI-1

BACKGROUND

At the November meeting of WARCA an action was assigned to Kenn Donohue to review membership arrangement and a framework for the organisation.

Subsequent to that a draft MOU based on the formalisation of the group as a voluntary regional organisation of councils (VROC) has been developed. Whilst this structure is more formal than the original intent, given the current arrangement under the Country Local Government Fund it does better met those guidelines as a basis to access common funding.

RECOMMENDATION

That WARCA Resolves to:-

1. Endorse 'in-principle' :-
 - a. The transition of WARCA AS Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils (VROC);
 - b. The Memorandum of understanding as attached.
2. Subject to review of the issue relating to the body corporate to host the VROC.
3. Refer the draft memorandum of Understanding to all member councils for the review, consideration and endorsement.
4. Update the agreement to reflect WARCA responsibilities in relationship to Regional Capitals Australia.

CARRIED

11. **Additional members (Mandurah & Busselton)**
Priority Link: KI-1

There have been continued request from both the City of Mandurah and the City of Busselton to join WARCA.

Copies of their letters of request and the responses have been attached.

RECOMMENDATION

For noting

MOTION

That WARCA has considered the matter and will retain the existing 7 regional capital members for the time being.

CARRIED

**12. Report on Dinner with RAC of WA, State Opposition Leader Mark McGowan MLA
(raised by I Carpenter)
Priority Link: KI- 1**

RECOMMENDATION

Noted

**13. Progress of Regional Capitals Australia
Priority Link: KI-1**

Regional Capitals Australia as a group has been progressing since multi-state discussions occurred during last year. These discussions have led to the formal group coming into place.

A launch for Regional capitals Australia will be held at 7:00am on Wednesday 20th June, 2012 at the national Convention Centre in Canberra.

The current interim members of RCA have moved to establish an interim direction and framework in order to be in a position to effectively inform and participate in the electoral process nationally (and within respective States) in 2013.

The following has been adopted as an interim position.

<p style="text-align: center;">VISION</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>A well planned network of sustainable regional capitals across Australia</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">MISSION</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Partnering with and influencing the Australian Government's decisions, policies, strategies and investments</i></p>

OBJECTIVES

- Provide high level strategic advice on issues, trends and other developments affecting Regional Capitals Australia (RCA) to inform the Australian Government response.
- Inform the Australian Government on policy, planning and investment decisions as they relate to regional capitals.
- Plan for future growth and sustainable development of regional capitals as a critical element of the national framework.
- Identify opportunities and impediments to the sustainable development of regional capitals and develop innovative solutions to manage them.
- Advocate and bring a strategic focus to Australian Government that have policies and associated strategies to develop regional capitals.
- Advocate for appropriate federal funding for investment in the services and infrastructure in regional capitals.

As part of the interim process RCA is seeking up to 2 voting members from each State. At present Mayor Carpenter as Chairman of WARCA is nominated in this role.

To date no formal Deputy Chair has been assigned for WARCA. Given the need to identify a second member it may now be appropriate to do and assign the second voting right to that person.

RECOMMENDATION

That WARCA Resolves to:-

1. Note the interim Vision, Mission and Objectives of Regional Capitals Australia;
2. Appoint Ron Yuryevich to be the Deputy Chair of WARCA
3. Assign the 2 voting members of WARCA on the Regional Capitals Australia board to the current Chair and Deputy Chair of WARCA.

CARRIED

14. Urgent Business

15. Date of Next Meeting

Schedule of Meetings

Date	Venue
2012	
August	Perth – WALGA Conference – 1 August - AGM in the afternoon Official Opening of Exhibition 1 August – in the evening Conference Sessions run on 2 and 3 August . Wednesday 1 there will be a Political Forum which will involve Presidents and CEOs.
November	To be determined

16. CLOSURE

Appendix 1 – Action List

Date Initiated	Action	Responsible	Updates	Status (in progress; pending; complete)
05-08-10	Pilbara Cities CGG to invite Chris Adams (Director Pilbara Cities Program) to attend future meetings of WARCA.	T Brun	Reissue invite to attend meeting in Bunbury on 11/11/11 Attending the WARCA meeting in Canberra on 19 June 2012	In Progress
19-10-10	RESOLUTION: <i>The Alliance resolves to allocate unspent funds at the end of each financial year in a Trust which will be held and managed by the Secretariat Local Government.</i>	All	Updated 2/2/11 All Member CEOs to provide an estimate of their unspent allocation to Tony Brun by 20 May so that an invoice can be sent. Updated 15/06/2012 Awaiting estimates – an invoice will be sent prior to end of F/Y	In progress
02-02-11	<i>CGG to send letters to the following Ministers requesting meetings in conjunction with ACLG in Canberra:</i> Prime Minister Hon Gary Gray <i>Special Minister of State; Special Minister of State for the Public Service and Integrity</i> Hon A Albanese <i>Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Leader of the House</i> Hon S Crean <i>Minister for Regional Australia, Regional Development and Local Government Minister for the Arts,</i> Hon Tony Burke <i>Minister for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities</i>	T Brun	<i>Requests for meetings at the ACLG conference are being sent to the Prime Minister and Ministers noted</i>	Completed
17-02-12	Set up a meeting with the Chief of Staff to Minister for Arts and also Director General of Department Culture & Arts to discuss the current draft “WA Cultural Infrastructure Directions” policy framework.	Tony Brun	I Carpenter and T Brun attended a Meeting on 18 April with Allanah Lucas, Director General of the Department of Culture and the Arts, Tanya Young, Policy Officer, Office of the Hon John Day.	In progress.
17-02-12	Draft a brief to secure a project support capacity until such time external funding is secured to implement the full secretariat service.	Tony Brun	Update 15/06/2012 Initial information sourced from RCV.	Delayed

Date Initiated	Action	Responsible	Updates	Status (in progress; pending; complete)				
			Recommendation from RDC and DRDL not to commence in interim as they are seeking to resolve funding support from a State perspective.					
17-02-12	Kalgoorlie-Boulder and Pilbara Group to distribute their KPMG Report on regional service delivery.	Paul Martin & Don Burnett	Update 15/06/2012 Awaiting distribution of papers.	Delayed				
17-02-12	<p>Prof Matthew Tonts to prepare a scoping brief / proposal paper for consideration within the next month (out of session via email) detailing priority initiatives</p> <p>Agreed that Demographic analysis & modelling as an integrated proposal</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="203 630 1019 842"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="203 630 1019 671">Demographic analysis & modelling</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="203 671 1019 713">• <i>Population planning and demographic analysis</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="203 713 1019 778">• <i>Review of ABS and DoP/WAPC population modeling and estimates</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="203 778 1019 842">• <i>Population-economic-social linkages modeling to define service needs</i></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Also to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Identifying rapid growth implication and linkages to State services (ie health, education and Law/Order)</i> 	Demographic analysis & modelling	• <i>Population planning and demographic analysis</i>	• <i>Review of ABS and DoP/WAPC population modeling and estimates</i>	• <i>Population-economic-social linkages modeling to define service needs</i>	UWA	Updated 15/06/2012 Currently under investigation and referred to newly appointed Prof for review/feedback prior to his arrival/commencement.	Delayed
Demographic analysis & modelling								
• <i>Population planning and demographic analysis</i>								
• <i>Review of ABS and DoP/WAPC population modeling and estimates</i>								
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