



## GREEN ADELAIDE BOARD

### MINUTES OF MEETING NO 29

held from 10.00 am to 1.05 pm  
on Thursday, 23 February 2023  
Goodman Lecture Room, Adelaide Botanic Gardens  
Hackney

**PRESENT:** Presiding Member: Chris Daniels  
Members: Trixie Smith  
Felicity-ann Lewis  
Greg Ingleton  
Adrian Skull  
Kelvin Trimper  
Louka Parry  
Tobias Turner

**APOLOGIES:** Claire Boan  
Dena Vassallo

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Brenton Grear, Director, Green Adelaide  
Joyce Osborne, Executive Officer  
Louisa Halliday, Manager Strategy and Performance  
Marguerite Swart, Manager Governance  
Stuart Collard, Manager Landscape Operations  
Melinda Clarke, Manager Resilient Communities

#### GUESTS:

#### 230223-29-1 MEETING PROCEDURE

##### 230223-29-1.1 Welcome

The Presiding Member welcomed everyone to the meeting and acknowledged that we were meeting on Kaurna land.

##### 230223-29-1.2 Apologies

Apologies received from Claire Boan and Dena Vassallo.

230223-29-1.3

**Declarations of Interest**

No conflict of interest declared.

230223-29-1.4

**Consent Schedule**

*The Board **confirmed** the items within the consent schedule be adopted.*

230223-29-1.5

**Minutes of Previous Meeting**

*The Board **confirmed** the minutes of meeting number 28 held on 8 December 2022 as a true and accurate record.*

**CARRIED**

230223-29-1.6

**Matters Arising from Previous Meetings**

*The Board **noted** the matters arising.*

**CARRIED**

230223-29-3

**STRATEGIC BOARD MATTERS**

230223-29-3.1

**Chair's Report**

The Presiding Member provided the Board with a verbal report on recent meetings with the Minister, SA Water, Councils and the presentation to the ERDC.

The Legislative Review was discussed and the Board were advised that it is a statutory review of the Landscape SA Act. The approach is not to open up the objects of the Act but to review what is not working. The Chair has invited the Minister to attend a Board meeting to discuss the Board's views on the Act. Green Adelaide staff are working on an issues register. The Director has recommended a Board workshop to develop its position for influencing the legislative reform prior to the Minister attending a meeting be scheduled out of session. The Risk and Performance Committee are to be included in this workshop

The Chair advised that the Minister is looking for big, bright, new projects that will be across all of metropolitan Adelaide which can be included in the next Landscape Plan and election commitments.

A meeting has been scheduled to discuss the Platypus review with interstate attendees from the Australian Platypus Conservancy. Current work is looking at the condition of the Torrens Catchment system in terms of low flows which is the main concern for this time of year. The Board agreed we will need to have good Comms including imagery and involve the Minister, with the suggestion that she open the meeting.

The Board appointment process was explained to the Board members. Expressions of Interest will open on 27 February for a period of 4 weeks. A skills matrix has been developed to which all applications will be assessed against. A panel comprised of the Presiding

Member, Director and an external DEW staff member will assess the applications and provide recommendations to the Minister who has the final decision.

Freedom of Information was discussed and the Chair reminded the Board of what types of information can be requested under FOI.

*The Board:*

3.3.1 **Acknowledged** the verbal report.

**CARRIED**

**230223-29-3.2**

**Director's Report**

The Director spoke to his report and highlighted the research done by Kristian Peters.

There has been some interest from the mid-tier of local government in relation to the Cooler, Greener, Wilder Grants. There is a request for a Board member to join the grant assessment panel for these grants. Greg Ingleton has agreed to sit on the panel.

The Director and Manager Landscape Operations met with SA Water senior management staff which was encouraging and there may be some good outcomes as a result.

Budgets are critical and complex at the moment. Currently juggling whether we get pull-forwards and carryovers coming back into budget next year.

Confirmation has been received from the Commonwealth that Green Adelaide is not eligible as a service provider under NLP3.

*The Board:*

3.2.1 **Noted** the report.

**CARRIED**

**230223-29-3.3**

**Breakout Creek Update**

The Manager, Landscape Operations provided an update on the Breakout Creek development.

The meetings with the City of Charles Sturt and City of West Torrens which he attended with the Presiding Member and Director were successful, with each Board agreeing to commit \$500k subject to the approval of the Cabinet Submission allowing Green Adelaide to draw down on its retained earnings. The general council sentiment was very positive and supportive of the project.

The Department of Treasury and Finance have been advised of the risks to the project if approval is not gained. Green Adelaide staff have been working through what it will mean for current projects in this current year, what will be funded and what will be stopped if drawing down on the retained earnings is not given.

*The Board:*

3.3.1 **Acknowledged** the verbal update.

**CARRIED**

230223-29-3.4

**Greater Adelaide Environment Network Funding**

The Director outlined the paper and provided the Board with a history of the environment centres and their funding.

The Premiers Delivery Unit which oversees election commitments sees Green Adelaide funding for the term of this government, the minimum amount to meet the election commitment.

The Board acknowledged that the environment centres do great work but expressed a number of concerns with the governance structure of GAEN and the governance structure of the individual environment centres. Questions were raised such as the type of body that GAEN is, what financial controls it has in place, what is the administrative burden and how will it report back. The Board was also concerned with the risk level in providing foundation funding and how will it know if the funds are distributed fairly. The Board were advised that GAEN is an incorporated body but Green Adelaide has grant contracts individually with the environment centres and that Green Adelaide distributes the funds.

The Board discussed the request for a three year funding agreement when the Business Plan is annual. Concerns were raised regarding equity issues and the forward strategy in the future for new environment centres. The idea of catalytic funding was raised to make the environment centres self-sufficient.

There is a concern regarding accountability which the Board believes is not measurable. In terms of reporting, to avoid duplication it was suggested that representatives from management level or Board level be involved in the process to close the loop.

The Board also discussed and were concerned with the overlap and branding between the Environment Centres and Green Adelaide and believe this could be confusing for the public.

*The Board:*

- 3.4.1 **Noted** the 2023 Greater Adelaide Environment Network (GAEN) Investment Proposal and supporting documents (including strategic alignment details) attached and summarised in briefing paper.

**CARRIED**

- 3.4.2 **Approved** a one year funding agreement for the Greater Adelaide Environment Network (GAEN) for 2023-2024 and build a strategy to use as catalytic funding that involves other landscape boards, partners and funders. Need to establish and develop governance while continuing to deliver Green Adelaide programs and iconic projects. Strategy to be brought back to the Board by November 2023.

**CARRIED**

230223-29-3.5

**Annual Business Plan 2023-24**

Hard copies of the Plan were distributed to Board members. The Manager, Strategy and Performance advised that the reason the Plan was finished earlier than ever before is because of the Parliamentary process for the prescribed levy approval. Due to the boundaries of the prescribed water resources spanning across regions, the Northern & Yorke and Hills & Fleurieu Landscape Boards have also prepared their Plans consistent with the timeline. A cover letter that will accompany all three plans has been drafted to the Minister so that she can commence the Parliamentary process.

Budget adjustment processes are in place in case of the need to manage changes in the new financial year.

The Board congratulated the staff on the plan which is not only aesthetically beautiful but well-written and easy to read.

*The Board:*

3.5.1 **Approved** the Green Adelaide Board Business Plan 2023-24 in its entirety (pending any required minor editorial changes as determined by staff), noting in particular:

- The levy income proposal
- The levy expenditure proposal
- Staffing arrangements
- Requirements to provide for the Landscape Priorities Fund
- Requirements to provide for Grassroots Grants
- Requirements to provide for various Ministerial Directives

**CARRIED**

3.5.2 **Noted** the required steps in the Annual Business Plan process, being Ministerial approval and parliamentary processes owing to the inclusion of the prescribed levy proposal (introduction of new water levy for the Central Adelaide Prescribed Wells Area).

**CARRIED**

3.5.3 **Approved** the Presiding Member of the Board to approve the final designed version of the Business Plan document, incorporating any minor editorial adjustments.

**CARRIED**

3.5.4 **Approved** the 2023-24 Business Plan Budget – Total Income and Expenditure Budget of \$32.522 million.

**CARRIED**

3.5.5 **Approved** the 2023-24 Operational Project Expenditure Budget of \$22.803 million.

**CARRIED**

- 3.5.6 **Approved** the 2023-24 Program Support Expenditure Budget of \$9.719 million.

**CARRIED**

- 3.5.7 **Delegated** to the Director Green Adelaide the authority to approve variations to budget of up to \$200,000 (GST exclusive) between projects, noting that these adjustments will be reported back to the Board.

**CARRIED**

**230223-29-3.6**

**Sponsorship Strategy**

The Director outlined the paper which provides more guidance for dealing with sponsorship requests an actively seeking sponsorships that further the Green Adelaide brand.

There is a connection between sponsorships, partnerships, grants and fee for service. It is hoped the strategy will provide a clearer definition.

The Board discussed the paper and a question was raised as to research and innovation could be incorporated into the strategy. The Board was advised that this strategy was not the right format and that a development of a research prospectus program would be more appropriate and will be looked at in the future.

Concerns were raised regarding the budgeted amount being too low and that this could be used early in the year, leaving the Board with little flexibility. The Board were advised that the amount was a baseline and a budget revision can be looked at if required. This is preferable to potential underspends at the end of the financial year.

It was agreed that sponsorship information needs to be added to the website and the Board asked that a communication plan for pro-active sponsorship be developed which will include clarity about the acquittal process and timeframe.

Consideration will also be given to how this strategy aligns with the general communications strategy and the future research strategy.

*The Board:*

- 3.6.1 **Approved** Green Adelaide's new Sponsorship Strategy, which includes actions to strategically plan for, and manage, proactive and reactive sponsorship opportunities.

**CARRIED**

**230223-29-3.7**

**Environmental Resources Development Committee Inquiry**

The Presiding Member provided the Board with an update on his presentation to the ERDC and that he had advised the Committee that the Board had not yet approved the final submission. As a result the discussion held was broad scale and included issues already discussed by the Board such as recommendations that there be

legislative improvements around trees, the importance of trees and the history of the urban forest in Adelaide. The presentation also highlighted looking at the Native Vegetation Act for individual trees. Different sizes, canopy and species were also discussed.

The Board agreed that the submission is well-written and congratulated staff. It was raised that a comment regarding the Tree Advisory Board needs to be added as there is no recognised mechanism in South Australia for commenting on tree issues. It was also felt that it should be highlighted that now is the time for action.

The Board discussed native vegetation which doesn't cool and the potential need for introduced hardier species when talking about an urban forest due to the large leaves and thick canopy.

It was suggested that the Minister be asked to call a meeting of all agency CEOs to determine what agencies have committed doing for the natural environment. The Presiding Member agreed to discuss this at his next meeting with the Minister.

The Manager, Strategy and Performance advised the Board that the submission also outlines the work currently happening in the development of the Urban Greening Strategy which includes the formation of a Director-level Government Leadership group.

The Board were also advised that staff are working with Warpulai Kumangka in the development of the Urban Greening Strategy.

*The Board:*

3.7.1 **Approved** the Green Adelaide submission to the ERDC Inquiry with minor additions into the Urban Forest.

**CARRIED**

## 230223-29-3.8

### **Adelaide National Park City Governance Framework Committee**

The Board were advised that the Minister has approved formation of the Committee and remuneration as determined by the Department of the Premier and Cabinet. The Committee, which is just for one year will assist the consultant with the governance framework, now needs members who can contribute to what a good governance model can look like.

The skill set required is in the accounting, legal, business, governance fields but an understanding of the environment will be a bonus.

Board members were asked to send any comments and the names of potential members to the Chair by close of business Friday, 24 February.

*The Board*

3.8.1 **Approved** the establishment of an ANPC Co-Design Governance Framework Committee, consistent with Section 36 of the Landscape South Australia Act 2019.

**CARRIED**

- 3.8.2 **Approved** the draft ANPC Co-Design Governance Framework Committee's Terms of Reference.

**CARRIED**

- 3.8.3 **Approved** Board nominations for, and endorsement of ANPC Co-Design Governance Framework Committee membership of three Green Adelaide Board members: Chris Daniels, Kelvin Trimper and Felicity-Ann Lewis.

**CARRIED**

- 3.8.4 **Suggested and approved** the nominations of up to ten names in priority order who can be approached to participate in the Committee, noting that the first four interested and available people will be taken as appointed to the Committee.

**CARRIED**

- 3.8.5 **Approved** the Presiding Member to formally invite Warpulai Kumangka to nominate a member to participate in the ANPC Co-Design Governance Framework Committee.

**CARRIED**

**230223-29-3.9**

**2023-24 Grassroots Grants Program**

The Director outlined the paper which is seeking approval of the 2023-24 budget for Grassroots Grants and also highlights the guidelines, what has changed and the process in terms of assessment dates.

The Board discussed the paper and there were some thoughts about the eligibility of schools and whether they should be handled differently with a suggestion that perhaps there could be a separate stream of funding for schools so that some sectors don't miss out.

The Board also felt that issues addressed from previous rounds have not been addressed. It is felt that the Board needs a strategy around the big opportunities in education, who do we need as partners, who do we need to convince. Further discussion will be held following presentation in April.

The grant assessment panel was discussed and Kelvin Trimper agreed to join the panel for round4.

*The Board:*

- 3.9.1 **Approved** the proposed 2023-24 Grassroots Grants Program budget of \$1 million.

**CARRIED**

- 3.9.2 **Noted** the Green Adelaide Grassroots Grants Trend Analysis document.

**CARRIED**

- 3.9.3 **Noted** the 2023-24 Green Adelaide Grassroots Grants Program including, key proposed dates and assessment process.

**CARRIED**



- 3.9.4 **Noted** that the Minister will be formally briefed on the approach, timing and launch of the 2023-24 Green Adelaide Board's Grassroots Grants Program.

CARRIED

230223-29-3.10

**Finance Report**

The Manager, Governance advised the Board that Green Adelaide is still waiting on an answer from DTF around the carryover pull forwards that were pushed into the 2023-24 year.

The finance team is working through strategies around how the budget will be addressed if the remainder of the \$2.5M is declined.

*The Board:*

- 3.10.1 **Approved** the financial reports and statistics for the period ending 31 January 2023.

CARRIED

230223-29-4

**MATTERS FOR NOTING**

230223-29-4.1

**Communications Report**

230223-29-4.2

**WHS Report**

230223-29-4.3

**Quarterly Project Report**

230223-29-4.4

**Highlights Report**

230223-29-4.5

**HPHPSA Internal Annual Report – Jul 21-Dec 22**

230212-29-4.6

**RPC Minutes – 9 Nov 2022**

230223-29-4.7

**Correspondence**

230223-29-4.7.1

**Ltr to MCEW re Annual Business Plan 2023-24 – 7 Dec 2022**

230223-29-4.7.2

**Ltr from MCEW re Letter of Direction – 8 Dec 2022**

230223-29-4.7.3

**Ltr to Mayors re recent election – 15 Dec 2022**

230223-29-4.8

**Register of Interests**

*The Board noted papers 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6, 4.7.1, 4.7.2, 4.7.3 and 4.8*

CARRIED

230223-29-5

**OTHER BUSINESS****MEETING CLOSED at 1.05 pm**

Chris Daniels  
Presiding Member



Date: 23 / 3 / 2023

