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Gawler Receives National Recognition At ALGA Conference

Town of Gawler has received unanimous support for a significant motion during a major Canberra conference aimed at providing opportunities for Local Government to engage directly with their Federal counterparts on policy and advocate for their communities.

Mayor Karen Redman and CEO Henry Inat represented Town of Gawler at this year's National General Assembly (NGA), which was held from June 19-22 at the National Convention Centre.

Convened by the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA), the conference is the peak annual event for Local Government, attracting in excess of 800 Mayors and Councillors each year.

It is also attended by key industry stakeholders, along with Federal Government decision and policy makers.

At the conference, Mayor Redman presented an important motion imploring the NGA to “*call for formal engagement with the Federal Government and Department of Industry, Science Resources and Energy to accelerate reforms for renewable electricity and carbon offsets to be established in Australia*”.

This motion was unanimously supported by Councils across Australia, with the policy reform expressing a need for clear guidance and fair pricing for consumers that are taking action on climate change.

Advocacy on behalf of our community to enable strong action on climate change is a key part of Council's Draft Climate Emergency Action Plan.

You can read the full motion [here](#) (pages 81-83).

During their time interstate, Mayor Redman and Mr Inat also met with key Government figures and industry leaders including:

- **The Hon Kristy McBain MP**, Federal Minister for Regional Development, Local Government and Territories
- **Ms Ruth Webber**, Chief of Staff to Senator Carol Brown, Assistant Federal Minister for Infrastructure and Transport
- **Mr Richard Fleming**, General Manager at Consumer and Fair Trading Division, Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC)
- **Ms Kylie Bryant** – Head of Division, AusIndustry Division, Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources

Mayor Redman and Mr Inat also had the opportunity to showcase Council's revamped Gawler Invest publication, which is a high-level strategic document highlighting 10 key Gawler projects which would benefit greatly from Federal Government support.

You can view the updated Gawler Invest document [here](#).



Quotes attributable to Gawler Mayor Karen Redman:

"It was extremely satisfying to see Council's motion adopted unanimously by our peers at this year's National General Assembly," Mayor Redman said.

"Staff and elected members have worked incredibly hard to lead the charge in the renewable energy and climate action space, evidenced by our Draft Climate Emergency Action Plan, which will soon be released for community consultation.

"Our motion being fully supported by Councils across Australia reaffirms Town of Gawler is moving in the right direction when it comes to creating a greener and more sustainable future for our community, and the Local Government sector as a whole.

"The meeting with Minister McBain also provided a fantastic opportunity to showcase Gawler, talk about regional and Local Government issues and say thank you for the Federal Government's support for our projects and initiatives."

Quotes attributable to Town of Gawler CEO Henry Inat:

"Town of Gawler received \$3,017,372 in funding from the Federal Government's Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications between July 2020 and June 2022, which was leveraged to deliver \$6,824,044 in total capital works," Mr Inat said.

"The discussions had with key Government representatives at the National General Assembly have further strengthened Town of Gawler's relationship with our Federal partners and we hope this can lead to continued investment in Gawler in future."

Mayor Redman and Mr Inat also acknowledged the importance of working collaboratively with all areas of the Federal Government and the ongoing funding support that is provided through annual Financial Assistance Grants, Local Roads Grants and Roads to Recovery funding, of which Council is to receive approximately \$936k in 2022/23.

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