

# Board Members

Your Board until the conclusion of the 2022 AGM is:



Michael Sedgman, Rural City of Murray Bridge

President



Dylan Strong, District Council of Orroroo Carrieton

Board Member



Mark Withers, City of Port Adelaide Enfield

Board Member



Thuyen Vi-Alternetti, City of Marion

Board Member



Debra Larwood, District Council of Kimba

Board Member



Nat Traeger, Kingston District Council

Board Member



Kristie Johnson, City of Charles Sturt

Board Member



Kate Grigg, City of Unley

Board Member



Stacey Bateson, City of Adelaide

Board Member



Kate O'Neill, City of Mitcham

Board Member



Justin Commons, City of Whyalla

Board Member

## President

### **Michael Sedgman**

**Chief Executive Officer, Rural City of Murray Bridge**

**Length of service in Local Government: 22 years**

**Reason for nominating:**

As a Local Government Professional in both Victoria and South Australia over the past 20 years I have been an active supporter of Local Government Professionals and regard LG Professionals SA as an important professional development and networking forum.

As President and a member of the Local Government Professionals Australia, SA Board I believe I can bring a significant and rich leadership experience in Local Government to enhance the benefits of membership of LG Professionals SA.



## Board Member

### **Dylan Strong**

**Chief Executive Officer, District Council of Orroroo Carrieton**

**Length of service in Local Government: 2.5 years**

**Reason for nominating:**

Local government is integral to our social fabric. I feel privileged to work within a sector which has a hands-on role in ensuring our communities meet the challenges we face and optimise the opportunities ahead of us. The Local Government Professionals Australia, SA network provides us with a vehicle to connect and share experiences, and also offer our people innovative and practical development opportunities.

Having worked across the tiers of government over the past ten years, I am keen to share my experience in business, engagement, economic development, leadership and personal development. I also welcome the opportunity to work with LG Professionals SA to strengthen the relationship with our regions to ensure the sector supports our people across the State in achieving their goals.



## Board Member

### Mark Withers

**Chief Executive Officer, City of Port Adelaide Enfield**

**Length of service in Local Government: 37 years**

**Reason for nominating:**

I have 37 years LG experience, tertiary qualifications in Management and Social Science. I have worked in 9 different Adelaide Metropolitan Councils and held CEO positions at Port Adelaide Enfield, Charles Sturt and Unley Councils. I am a current Board Member of LG Professional SA and a past National President of LG Professional Australia. I am also a current member of the LGA CEO Advisory Group and Board Member of Environmental Protection Authority SA.

I believe to be successful in your professional life you must commit to your own development, share knowledge, encourage growth in others and take opportunities to lead whenever they present themselves. I am fundamentally committed to delivering public good and improving the quality of life for communities I serve. This is my commitment as a member of the LG Professionals SA Board.



## Board Member

### Thuyen Vi-Alternetti

**Manager City Property, City of Marion**

**Length of service in Local Government: 9 years**

**Reason for nominating:**

I am currently Manager City Property at the City of Marion and have previously worked at the City of Salisbury and City of Mitcham.

I am extremely passionate about our sector, gender equity and developing and empowering people and teams. I am the chair of the LG Professional SA Women's Network Committee, a member of the LG National Women's Advisory Group, Chiefs for Gender Equity Implementation Leader and an alumni of the Emerging Leaders Program (2016).

Working in LG has given me the opportunity to meet many intelligent, motivating and inspiring leaders who have challenged and supported me to grow and further my career in the sector, this I will forever be grateful for.

It is my time to give back to the sector and support those who are trying to navigate their way through Local Government, I want to also bring gender balance back onto the Board, represent women in the sector and that is why I nominated to be on the LGP SA Board.



## Board Member

### Debra Larwood

**Chief Executive Officer, District Council of Kimba**

**Length of service in Local Government: 14.5 years**

**Reason for nominating:**

I have worked in Local Government for in excess of 13 years at the District Council of Kimba, four as CEO, served on a number of boards and am a current member of the LGA CEO Advisory Committee and EPLGA Executive Committee. I love my job and am a passionate advocate for the sector with a strong belief in what we can achieve collaboratively.

As an Alumna of last year's Executive Leaders Program and previous programs such as the Professional Leaders Program I am committed to the importance of ongoing professional development and would like to use my experiences to explore opportunities to build capacity within local Government through LG Professionals SA. As the CEO of a small regional council I believe I can bring a different perspective to the Board as well as provide a depth of geographical diversity and see it as an opportunity to expand my networks and to work closely with a dedicated group of professionals to not only challenge myself but the sector as a whole.



## Board Member

### Nat Traeger

**Chief Executive Officer, Kingston District Council**

**Length of service in Local Government: 34 years**

**Reason for nominating:**

I am an allrounder, with some 33-year local government experience and was appointed as Chief Executive Officer of Kingston District Council in mid-2019, after a long-term role with the Coorong District Council.

I am well renowned for my passion and commitment to regional renewal and resilience as well as being an ambassador for mental health, community well-being the arts and breast cancer. I share the same commitment to the local government sector, having been a member and supporter of LG Professionals SA, particularly the Rural Management Challenge and Leadership Excellence Awards for many years.

This nomination is intended to bring my enthusiasm and experience to the LG Professionals SA Board and to give back to the sector that has been my life's work for over three decades.



## Board Member

### **Kristie Johnson**

**Manager, Media Marketing and Communications, City of Charles Sturt**

**Length of service in Local Government: 11 years**

**Reason for nominating:**

I am a member of the City of Charles Sturt Leadership Team and with over 10 years' experience in local government, I'm leading implementation of Charles Sturt's new brand, and co-leading implementation of their Customer Experience Strategy, new internal values and the future of Flexible Working.

I have been involved with LG Professionals SA since joining local government, where I was a member of the 2009 and 2010 Australasian winning Management Challenge Teams for Charles Sturt. I completed the Emerging Leaders Program in 2010, mentored the Challenge Team in 2012, and successfully completed the Professional Leadership Program in 2017. These opportunities led to being awarded the Emerging Leader of the Year Award at the 2018 LG Professionals SA Leadership Excellence Awards.

I am passionate about developing high performing teams and has skills in political communication, strategic communications, change and influence management with a Master's Degree in Journalism and many stories of her time as a Media Advisor in the Senate in Canberra. I am dedicated to leading and empowering local government professionals to deliver exceptional services to local SA communities in a way that is efficient, effective and responsible. Learning from experienced and talented members on the Board of LG Professionals SA is an incredible opportunity and way to contribute to the sector.



## Board Member

### **Kate Grigg**

**Team Member Open Space, City of Unley**

**Length of Service in Local Government: 20 years**

**Reason for nominating:**

As an outdoor worker I would love to be a positive representative. I am very passionate about my role and the people around me and want to encourage more outdoor interaction with LG Professionals SA. I am currently a member of the Women's Network Committee and I feel I have a positive input.



## Board Member

### Stacey Bateson

**Manager, Customer & Marketing, City of Adelaide**

**Length of Service in Local Government: 16 years**

**Reason for nominating:**

I'd love to give back and contribute to an organisation that is striving to make a difference in our sector, who is innovative and invested in raising the capabilities of our collective teams.

I believe being a Board Member is an incredible opportunity to leverage my knowledge and experience to create meaningful outcomes for those who strive to further develop their potential and career in local government. To also have a positive influence on the amazing programs and initiatives I have been honoured to be a part of, is so exciting.

I have worked in Local Government with City of Adelaide for 16 years in Commercial Business, Information Management, Customer Experience, Marketing and Media Relations, I believe my diverse experience and inclusive leadership style will be valuable, and a wonderful opportunity to gain new strategic insights and networks, and instil these back into our sector and community.



## Board Member

### Kate O'Neill

**General Manager, Organisational & Community Development,  
City of Mitcham**

**Length of Service in Local Government: 19 years**

**Reason for nominating:**

Having worked in Councils across SA and NSW over 19 years, starting as a Business Analyst and progressing through a diversity of roles to my current position as General Manager at the City of Mitcham, I am well positioned to add value to the direction setting and decision making that shapes the professionalism, profile, and collaborative potential of SA Local Government.

My love of coaching and mentoring emerging leaders is driven by a passion for progressing workplace diversity and inclusion, attracting and retaining outstanding people to Local Government, and delivering outcomes that meet the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of communities.

I am excited about the opportunity to give back to the sector that has provided me with so many opportunities, working with a network of equally passionate peers, and discovering the future role I can play in developing the sector.



## Board Member

### **Justin Commons**

**Chief Executive Officer, City of Whyalla**

**Length of Service in Local Government: 20 years**

**Reason for nominating:**

My 20-year career in local government has been served well by both LG Professionals SA and LGMA Qld, with my growth and personal/professional development being enriched by the varied programs and services provided by both entities.

My nomination is motivated by a strong desire to return the investment I have received back to the sector I love and have passionately served for years; to share my experiences gained both in SA and Qld; to empower and grow the professionals within our sector; and to make our sector the best it can be.

I have a passion for local government; diversity and inclusion; leadership and organisational development; community capacity building; intergovernmental relationships and change management.

My experience includes Board Member experience with LGMA Qld (advocacy and members services); former President, SALGFMG during the financial sustainability reform period; local government service delivery in both metro and regional councils; and local government reform.

