

MEMBERS

- City of Boroondara
- Knox City Council
- Maroondah City Council
- Monash City Council
- City of Stonnington
- Whitehorse City Council
- Yarra Ranges Council



EASTERN ALLIANCE
FOR GREENHOUSE ACTION



2016–2017 ANNUAL REPORT

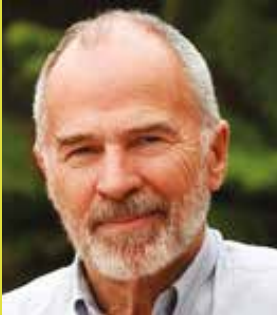


ABOUT EAGA

The Eastern Alliance for Greenhouse Action (EAGA) is a formal collaboration of seven Councils in Melbourne's east, working together on regional programs that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and facilitate regional adaptation. The Alliance implements joint initiatives that provide economies of scale and enable projects typically beyond the reach of individual Councils. EAGA's project work is complemented by advocacy, capacity building and regional partnerships.



CHAIR PERSON'S STATEMENT



Cr. John Mortimore
Knox City Council,
EAGA Executive Chair

EAGA has gone from strength to strength in 2016/17 and has emerge as one of the most significant and influential networks in the local government sector, with regional programs expanding and rolling out across the State. EAGA's ongoing steady growth has seen the appointment of two additional staff members to lead its flagship programs – Solar Savers and the Energy Performance Contract (EPC) program. EAGA's leadership on climate change was formally recognised for the second time in late 2016 through a Premier's Sustainability Award, following a United Nations Award earlier in the year.

In preparing for its next formal commitment period in 2017-21, EAGA has conducted an independent evaluation of the Alliance's impact since its inception. The evaluation demonstrated that EAGA continues to deliver significant financial returns to its members, with \$2.35M in savings to councils and a return on investment of \$3.38 for every dollar invested on membership fees between 2012-17. Over this period, EAGA's projects have saved over 13,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions, and these savings are projected to increase in coming years. These achievements come at an exciting period of growth for the Alliance, and I am delighted to welcome Glen Eira City Council as full member in the coming 2017-21 period. Please join me in congratulating EAGA, its member councils, team and staff on another outstanding year.

Cr. John Mortimore
Knox City Council, EAGA Executive Chair



Winner
**Premier's
Sustainability
Awards 2016**

SUMMARY OF 2016/17 OUTCOMES AGAINST STRATEGIC PLAN

Strategic Direction	Initiative	Outcomes
Mitigation and adaptation projects	Energy Performance Contract (EPC)	Four EAGA members have initiated the first joint EPC program in Australia's local government sector. The project aims to reduce energy consumption and operational costs by ~30% in council owned buildings and facilities. The initiative is led by EAGA's Technical Officer, John Richardson.
	Solar Savers	EAGA is leading a consortium of three Greenhouse Alliances and 22 council partners to deliver Australia's largest residential solar program for low income and vulnerable households. The program is supported by a \$0.76M State Government grant and is overseen EAGA's Program Leader, Karl Barratt.
	Eastern Sporting Savers	A customised engagement program to assist the region's sports clubs save on their energy bills. It is estimated that the 37 clubs will save approximately \$22,400 per year on their energy bills, an average of \$607 per club. The expected greenhouse gas savings are estimated at 104 tonnes per year. The program is supported by a \$30,000 State Government grant.
	Biodiversity Monitoring in Melbourne' East	Winner of the 2016 Premier's Sustainability Award Local Government Category. The project successfully trialled a framework for monitoring indicators of biodiversity health in the context of a changing climate.
Capacity building and information exchange	Victorian Greenhouse Alliance Conference	In May 2017, EAGA partnered with the Victorian Greenhouse Alliances to deliver conference attended by over 230 local government (and other) representatives from across Victoria. The event featured a number of high profile key note addresses and showcased the depth a sophistication of local government projects from across the country.
	Future Energy Planning	EAGA partnered with the Northern Alliance for Greenhouse Action (NAGA) to deliver a cross sector engagement project to establish ongoing collaboration between electricity networks and local government planners in Victoria. The project aimed to build the capacity of planners in both sectors to harmonise land use and network planning and facilitate integrated planning outcomes.
	Electricity Procurement in the Local Government Sector	Through a collaboration between the Victorian Greenhouse Alliances, a comprehensive discussion paper and series of workshops were delivered to assist councils critically assess their current procurement options and capture new opportunities to collectively procure best value electricity whilst meeting multiple policy commitments and objectives, particularly with respect to emissions reduction.
Advocacy	Submissions	Five formal advocacy submissions were developed over the course of the year covering key federal and state issues including energy market reform and climate change policy. Importantly, the Finkel Review adopted EAGA recommendation to revise the National Electricity Objective to include environmental and social outcomes.
	Engagement	In mid 2016, EAGA's Executive Officer was appointed on Ausnet Services Customer Consultative Committee where issues of importance to councils can be directly raised with the distribution business' CEO and Directorate. EAGA's Technical Officer has also been appointed to the State Government's stakeholder engagement panel for the Victoria Energy Efficiency Target and its scheme that will provide subsidies to the EPC program.



OUR REGION

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