



Local Government Professionals

2007

**Corporate Planners Network
Special Interest Group
Annual Report**

Local Government Professionals Inc.

Special Interest Group Annual Report

For the Financial Year Ended 30 June 2007

Corporate Planners' Network Special Interest Group

What a year 2006/2007 has been for the Victorian Corporate Planners Network! The Corporate Planners Network (CPN) is a special interest group of LGPro, and is made up of a community of highly active and energetic individuals. The CPN takes a proactive approach to sharing information, promoting best practice and seeking partnerships with other agencies to influence change and development in the local government sector, and is committed to involving representatives from across Victoria.

Vibrant Network Meetings

The CPN met five times during the 2006/2007 financial year, to discuss a diverse range of topics and hear from a range of guest speakers from within and beyond the local government sector. The meetings were well attended by both metropolitan and rural participants. The meetings were:

- City of Greater Bendigo, 8 September 2006
- Moonee Valley City Council, 10 November 2006
- Christmas Lunch and Get Together, South Melbourne, 13 December 2006
- Glen Eira City Council, 27 April 2007
- City of Melbourne, 15 June 2007

Council and Community Planning Project

During the 2005/2006 year, the CPN was successful in securing funding through the Local Area Planning Support grants program to conduct a project in partnership with the Department for Planning and Community Development exploring integration between the parallel roles of Council and community planning. Significant work has been completed on this project during 2006/2007, and an extensive statewide consultation process has recently commenced. The project will conclude with the development of guidelines for the integration of Council and community planning, to be published early in 2008.

LGPro Conference

The CPN conducted a fully booked workshop at the LGPro state conference in February 2007. The workshop provided the opportunity for participants to consider the role of community planning within their municipalities, and how this planning can and should be integrated with planning and resource allocation within their Councils. The workshop featured challenging and thought provoking speakers including Simon Holloway, Glenys Butler, Colleen Lazenby, and Frankie McLellan who challenged participants to think differently about working with their communities to plan for the future.

Corporate Planners Network Conference

The CPN's second annual conference was organised during the 2006/2007 financial year, and conducted on 18 and 19 October 2007. The conference also included the presentation of the first ever LGPro Corporate and Community Planning Award, won by Moira Shire Council. The conference theme was "From Planning to Delivery", and focussed on the challenge of moving plans to implementation and real outcomes on the ground. The conference also featured Rob Gell as the keynote speaker, who provided an excellent presentation on global warming, and the actions Councils can take to work with their communities to meet this enormous challenge.

What's Next?

The CPN will be working on a range of exciting projects during 2007/2008, including:

- Completing the Council and Community Planning joint project with DPCD

- Continuing to contribute to the MAV's Future of Local Government project
- Supporting all Victorian Councils as they conduct elections and then develop Council Plans simultaneously for the first time, including providing support workshops and exploring opportunities for planning on a regional basis
- Developing the capacity of the network to provide online information sharing and mentoring to corporate planners across the state
- Conducting a major workshop at the LGPro Annual Conference in February 2008

In addition to these projects, the CPN will continue to hold regular network meetings. The meetings are great fun, and are open to anyone interested in corporate planning in local government. So come along, we'd love to see you there! The meetings for 2008 are:

- Hume City Council, 8 February 2008
- Bayside City Council, 23 May 2008
- Monash City Council, 15 August 2008
- City of Ballarat, 24 October 2008

Further information

The CPN has a joint panel of convenors, any of whom would be happy to hear from you if you are interested in attending a network meeting or have any queries or feedback about the network. The joint convenors are:

- Rob Pedder: 9705 5399 / rpedder@casey.vic.gov.au
- Kerry Stewart-Uden: 9599 4471 / kstewart-uden@bayside.vic.gov.au
- Chris Newman: 9243 8765 / cnewman@mvcc.vic.gov.au



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