

Metropolitan Area Recreation Advisory Group



27 September 2019

<Insert Name>
<Chief Executive Officer>
<City of XXX>
<Insert Address>

Dear <Insert Name>

Invitation to Join Metropolitan Area Recreation Advisory Group (MARAG)

I am writing to you as the inaugural Chairperson of the newly established Metropolitan Area Recreation Advisory Group (MARAG) to provide the opportunity for relevant officers from your local government authority to join MARAG.

As Chairperson, my goal is to ensure our key objectives are achieved, while also aiming to build stronger working relationships with State and Federal Government, State Sporting Associations and other key stakeholders.

MARAG held its first meeting at the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries on 4 July 2019, which was well attended; however, we want to extend the invitation to other local government officers who would benefit from being associated with MARAG.

Who is MARAG?

MARAG is comprised of sport and recreation employees from local government authorities situated in the Perth metropolitan area; and associated representatives from the Department of Local Government, Sport & Cultural Industries; Parks and Leisure Australia (WA Branch); Western Australia Local Government Association; Western Australian Sports Federation; and the university sector.

What is the aim of MARAG?

To provide leadership, coordination, advocacy and strategic direction relevant to the development and operation of sport and recreation facilities, programs, services and projects across the Perth metropolitan area.

What will MARAG investigate?

Some of the topics that MARAG will investigate over the next 12 months include: engagement with state sporting associations; sport and recreation facility planning; sporting competitions and season change-overs; encouraging participation of women in sport; effective governance; fees and charges; and capacity-building of sporting and recreation clubs.

Who should attend MARAG meetings?

MARAG is primarily aimed at officers who work within the following areas: sport/recreation, club development, leisure programming, community facilities and leisure planning.

Metropolitan Area Recreation Advisory Group

Who are MARAG's partners?

MARAG will be supported by WALGA who will act as the secretary; and Parks & Leisure Australia-WA Branch who will provide professional development and training opportunities relating to sport and recreation. The Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries will also be providing a venue for the meetings, advice and support. MARAG will be aiming to meet three times per year (see table below for upcoming meeting dates).

What is MARAG's Meeting Schedule for 2019/20?

Date	Time	Venue
Thursday 28 November 2019	11am-2pm	Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries 264 Vincent Street, Leederville
Thursday 19 March 2020	11am-2pm	Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries 264 Vincent Street, Leederville
Thursday 16 July 2020	11am-2pm	Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries 264 Vincent Street, Leederville

Who will fund MARAG's Operations?

The majority of MARAG's operational costs (administration, venue hire, and secretarial support) will be covered in-kind through support from our partners detailed above. In addition, a small financial contribution of \$150 will be sought in 2019/20 from each local government authority who is a member to assist with other operational costs (workshop guest speakers, catering, professional development/training opportunities etc.). Please advise me if you have any concerns with your local government authority being invoiced this proposed nominal fee.

I would also request that you provide the contact information for the relevant officers within your local government authority, so that they can be added onto our email database to receive Agendas, Minutes and associated information from MARAG. Please provide this on the attached spreadsheet and send this back to the MARAG Secretary, Marissa MacDonald via email to mmacdonald@walga.asn.au.

How can I find out more information about MARAG?

WALGA has created a webpage for MARAG which will have additional information including dates, agendas, minutes and other information. You can access this information at the following link below;

<https://walga.asn.au/Policy-Advice-and-Advocacy/People-and-Place/Sport-and-Recreation>

If you have questions or feedback about MARAG please don't hesitate to contact me via email to David.Bruce@bayswater.wa.gov.au or on 0429 350 346. In closing I look forward to MARAG's future, which is the first capital city local government sport and recreation advisory group of its kind established anywhere in Australia.

Metropolitan Area Recreation Advisory Group



Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Bruce', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

David Bruce
Metropolitan Area Recreation Advisory Group Chairperson