

Nomination for Local Government Association President

**Tuesday, 25 August 2026
Council**

Strategic Alignment - Our Corporation

Program Contact:
Michael Sedgman
Chief Executive Officer

Public

Approving Officer:
Michael Sedgman
Chief Executive Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Local Government Association of South Australia (LGA) has issued a call for nominations for the position of LGA President to commence from the conclusion of the 2026 Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 4 December 2026.

The position of LGA President is for a two-year term and will conclude at the conclusion of the 2028 AGM.

The LGA Constitution specifies that the office of President must be occupied on a rotational basis between a Council Member from a council in the South Australian Regional Organisation of Councils (SAROC) and a Council Member from a council in the Greater Adelaide Regional Organisation of Councils (GAROC).

For this election, nominations are for Council Members within SAROC. To be eligible for nomination, a person must be a Council Member and be a current member of the SAROC Committee and have been in that role for at least one year. An eligible candidate needs to be nominated by a member council but does not need to be nominated by their own council.

Lord Mayor, Dr Jane Lomax-Smith has received two requests, one from Mayor Dean Johnson, District Council of Kimba and the other from Mayor Leon Stephens, Mayor Port Pirie Regional Council, to support their nomination for the LGA President.

The candidates LGA President Nomination form must be received by the LGA Chief Executive Officer no later than 5pm on Tuesday 1 September 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL

1. Approves the nomination of Mayor Leon Stephens for the position of LGA President, subject to the acceptance of the nominee.
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IMPLICATIONS AND FINANCIALS

City of Adelaide 2024-2028 Strategic Plan	Strategic Alignment – Our Corporation Participating in the election process to support a nomination to appoint the LGA President supports the objective of partnerships to meet challenges and take up new opportunities.
Policy	Not as a result of this report
Consultation	Not as a result of this report
Resource	Not as a result of this report
Risk / Legal / Legislative	Not as a result of this report
Opportunities	Participating in the election of LGA President provides an opportunity for Council to contribute to decision making on matters relevant to the Local Government sector.
26/27 Budget Allocation	Not as a result of this report
Proposed 27/28 Budget Allocation	Not as a result of this report
Life of Project, Service, Initiative or (Expectancy of) Asset	Not as a result of this report
26/27 Budget Reconsideration (if applicable)	Not as a result of this report
Ongoing Costs (eg maintenance cost)	Not as a result of this report
Other Funding Sources	Not as a result of this report

DISCUSSION

1. Correspondence has been received from the Local Government Association of South Australia (LGA) ([Link 1](#)) calling for nominations for the position of LGA President to commence from the conclusion of the 2026 Annual General Meeting for a period of two years.
2. Clause 28 of the Local Government Association of South Australia (LGA) Constitution ([Link 2](#)) specifies that the office of the President must be occupied on a rotational basis between a Council Member from a council in the South Australian Regional Organisation of Councils (SAROC) and a Council Member from a council in the Greater Adelaide Regional Organisation of Councils (GAROC).
3. The role of the LGA President is to:
 - 3.1. Preside at all General Meetings and meetings of the Board of Directors, but in his or her absence a member of the Board of Directors chosen by the Board of Directors shall preside at the meeting.
 - 3.2. Act as the principal spokesperson of the LGA.
 - 3.3. Exercise other functions of the LGA as the LGA Board of Directors determines.
 - 3.4. Represent the LGA to government, stakeholders and events.
4. Further information is outlined in the LGA President Fact Sheet and the LGA President Position Description included in the correspondence ([Link 1](#))
5. The position of LGA President is remunerated in accordance with the LGA policy – GP02 Board and Committee member Allowances and Expenses (ECM 83590).
6. To be eligible for nomination a person must be a Council member and a current member of the South Australian Regional Organisation of Councils (SAROC) who has been in that role for at least one year.
7. Correspondence seeking Council's support for the nomination of LGA President has been received from the following candidates who are standing members of SAROC and eligible for nomination:
 - 6.1 Mayor Dean JOHSON (District Council of Kimba) ([Link 3](#))
 - 6.2 Mayor Leon STEPHENS (Port Pirie Regional Council) ([Link 4](#))
8. Nominations may only be made by resolution of Council.
9. The LGA President Nomination Form must be signed by both the candidate indicating their willingness to stand for election and by the Chief Executive Officer of the nominating Member.
10. The Lord Mayor has expressed an interest in nominating Mayor Leon Stephens from the Port Pirie Regional Council. Additionally, from January 2023 to October 2024 Mayor Leon Stephens was elected as the Chair of the LGA's South Australian Regional Organisation of Councils (SAROC), and has since held his position as a Committee Member.
11. Nominations must be received by the LGA CEO no later than 5pm on Tuesday 1 September 2026.

DATA AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Link 1 - [Correspondence from the Local Government Association of South Australia](#)

Link 2 - [Clause 28 of the Local Government Association of South Australia \(LGA\) Constitution](#)

Link 3 - [Mayor Dean Johnson request for support for nomination of LGA SA President](#)

Link 4 - [Mayor Leon Stephens request for support for nomination of LGA SA President](#)

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

- END OF REPORT -