



A Co-operative venture of the municipalities of:  
Cockburn, East Fremantle, Fremantle, Kwinana, Melville & Rockingham

Friday, 7 August 2020

Hon. Mark McGowan MLA  
Premier  
5th Floor, Dumas House  
2 Havelock Street  
WEST PERTH WA 6005

Dear Premier,

**RE: ONGOING INTEREST IN DISCUSSING A CITY DEAL FOR SOUTH-WEST METROPOLITAN PERTH**

I refer to three letters sent to the State Government by the South West Group on 6 July 2018 (*'City Deals - registration of interest from the South West Group'*), 14 August 2018 (*'Perth City Deals Update'*), and 5 July 2019 (*'Proposal for Government investment and partnerships'*).

The purpose of this letter is to request clarity from the State Government regarding its process and criteria for determining how City Deals are developed in Western Australia. We noted the announcement of a City Deal for Perth City earlier this year and we are requesting clarity on how this decision was made. There appears to be an absence of a transparent, clear and competitive process whereby Local Governments openly compete for the allocation of public funds.

In other States, City Deals have involved groupings of several Local Governments, such as the Western Sydney City Deal - a 20-year partnership between the Australian Government, NSW Government, and several Local Governments. They are, after all, City Deals and not 'Capital City Deals'.

As outlined in the aforementioned letters sent to the State Government, the South West Group has been eager to hold discussions with the State Government to explore the potential of a City Deal for the South West Metropolitan Region. To prompt such a discussion we developed a proposal titled *'Proposal for Government Investment and Partnerships'* that was provided to the State Government more than one year ago. As explained at the time, that document was intended as a starting point for collaboration and not a definitive proposal.

We believe that other grouping of Local Governments such as the East Metropolitan Regional Council have made similar efforts but have not received clarity on the process or criteria.

We would appreciate clarity on this matter.

Yours sincerely

*Logan Howlett.*

His Worship the Mayor

Logan K Howlett JP

Chair of the South West Group in 2020, and representing the following Local Governments:



Encs: City Deals - registration of interest from the South West Group Letter dated 6 July 2018  
Perth City Deals Update Letter dated 14 August 2018  
Proposal for Government investment and partnerships Letter dated 5 July 2019



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**6 July 2018**

Enquiries: Tom Griffiths – 0406 420 854

Mr Lance Glare  
Director Infrastructure Policy  
Department of Premier and Cabinet  
Dumas House, 2 Havelock Street  
West Perth, WA 6005

Dear Lance,

**Perth City Deals – registration of interest from the South West Group**

Thank you for your time on the 26<sup>th</sup> June to discuss the 'Perth City Deal' and the opportunities that it may present for the South West metropolitan region. As you know, the South West Group was established in 1983 as a co-operative venture of six Local Governments in the South West region: it includes Cockburn, East Fremantle, Fremantle, Kwinana, Melville, and Rockingham.

One of my roles as Director of the South West Group is to attract a greater level of public and private investment to the region. I understand from our conversation that the Perth City Deal is a 'live opportunity' and that the DPC are currently exploring delivery options and potential partnerships. I would like to formally register the South West Group's interest in engaging with the DPC on the project, with the goal of developing a high level document that outlines the intended outcomes, principles and indicative contributions from member Local Governments in the South West metropolitan region.

I would like to highlight the benefits for the DPC in working with the South West Group as a long-standing and respected organisation that works to progress the common interests of its member Local Governments. Furthermore, as exploring this opportunity is a priority for me as Director, I can offer South West Group resources by way of my time and potentially a budget for consultants to explore the opportunity in more detail if required.

I am expecting to meet with the member Council CEOs by the end of this month - the purpose of that meeting is to explore the different scenarios for a City Deal that includes the South West metropolitan region. I will report back to you with the outcomes of that meeting.

Yours sincerely,

**Tom Griffiths**  
**Director South West Group**



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**14 August 2018**

Enquiries: Tom Griffiths – 0406 420 854

Mr Lance Glare  
Director Infrastructure Policy  
Department of Premier and Cabinet  
Dumas House, 2 Havelock Street  
West Perth, WA 6005

Hello Lance,

**Perth City Deals – update on imminent proposal from the South West Group**

Thank you for your time recently to discuss the 'Perth City Deal' and the opportunities that it presents for the South West metropolitan region. The purpose of this letter is to provide a short update on the South West Group's progress towards a proposal for Government's consideration.

We have engaged PricewaterhouseCoopers to work with the South West Group to prepare a draft proposal by mid-late September 2018. Following feedback from key stakeholders, I intend to refine the draft proposal into its final form by the middle of October 2018.

Once the proposal is finalised, I will be in contact to arrange a time to present it to Department of Premier and Cabinet.

Again, I would like to highlight the benefits for the DPC in working with the South West Group as a long-standing and respected organisation that has worked to progress the common interests of its member Local Governments since 1983.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call me on 0406 420 854.

Yours sincerely,

**Tom Griffiths**  
Director South West Group  
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Friday, 5 July 2019

Hon. Mark McGowan MLA  
Member for Rockingham  
PO Box 5324  
ROCKINGHAM BEACH WA 6969

## RE: PROPOSAL FOR GOVERNMENT INVESTMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS

The South West Group is a voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils (VROC) comprising the Cities of Cockburn, Fremantle, Kwinana, Melville, Rockingham, and the Town of East Fremantle.

With major industry, strategic assets, and a population expected to grow to almost 625,000 by 2036, the region is ideally positioned to develop as the economic, cultural and environmental powerhouse of Western Australia.

However, the region requires fresh public investment and renewed coordination to realise its full potential. To support the region achieve this potential, the Group has developed a proposal titled '*Proposal for Government Investment and Partnerships*'.

The proposal serves as an open invitation to State and Federal Governments to work with the Group to unlock the economic and lifestyle potential of the region. It identifies economic infrastructure projects and presents a compelling opportunity for all three tiers of Government to work together to meet key objectives, create a platform for private sector investment attraction, and ensure the region realises its potential.

The proposal will form the basis for the South West Group's advocacy efforts over the coming years. We have enclosed a copy for your interest. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Tom Griffiths | Director South West Group  
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