
Sent on behalf of WALGA CEO Nick Sloan

19 February 2020

Our Ref: NS/RM

Mr Neil Hartley

Dear Mr Hartley,

Re: Local Government House Trust – Deed of Variation

I am writing to seek your Council's consent by formal resolution to a variation to the Trust Deed for the Local Government House Trust (The Trust).

Town of Cottesloe is a unit holder and beneficiary to the Local Government House Trust, holding 6 unit/s as advised in WALGA's recent Quarterly Report Q4 2019.

The Trust's Board of Management is seeking to vary the Trust Deed in order to assist the Trust's income tax exempt status. As stipulated by the Deed, the Trust requires consent of at least 75 per cent of all beneficiaries in order to execute this variation.

As a beneficiary, the Town of Cottesloe is requested to consent to the enclosed Deed of Variation supported by a resolution of Council; and to communicate this consent to us in writing. Please note, we are requesting consent for the Trustee to formally execute the attached Deed of Variation – your Local Government is not required to sign the enclosed document.

Further details on the particular Deed Variations and objectives to be achieved by this variation are outlined below.

Background on the Local Government House Trust

The Local Government House Trust ("The Trust") exists primarily to provide building accommodation for the Western Australian Local Government Association. Since January 2014, the Trust has provided WALGA with accommodation at 170 Railway Parade West Leederville.

The current trust deed commenced in 1993 and was amended in 2002 to reflect the merger of the metropolitan and country associations into WALGA. The current Trust Deed pronounces WALGA as Trustee and unit holders as Beneficiaries, with the Trustee holding property and associated monies "upon Trust" and in proportion to the units provided.

Commencement date of the current deed is 17 February 1993, with a vesting date 79 years from commencement - which means that the Trust ends in 2072.

The Trust is exempt from income tax on the basis of being a State / Territory Body (STB) pursuant to *Division 1AB of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1936*.

Trust Deed Variation

Trust Deed amendments set out in the Deed of Variation are based on legal advice and are intended to assist the Trust's income tax exempt status by strengthening the position that the Trust is a State / Territory Body (STB).

Legal advice identified that the Trustee's ability to retire and appoint a new Trustee might affect the Trust's classification as a State or Territory Body (STB). This view, while based upon highly technical grounds, is a risk nonetheless.

Subsequently the Deed of Variation aims to strengthen the position that the Trust is a STB through the following amendments:

1. removing the existing Trustee's power to retire and appoint a new Trustee (Clause 2.1 and 2.2 (22.3) of the Deed of Variation)
2. enabling the beneficiaries to appoint and remove a Trustee (Clause 2.2 (22.4) of the Deed of Variation), and
3. ensuring that the Board of Management is the 'governing body' of the Trust (Clause 2.3 of the Deed of Variation)

The three proposed amendments when applied to the relevant clauses inserted by the Deed of Variation dated 5 June 2002 will subsequently read as follows (proposed amendments shown in red

text):

1. Variation 2.1 amends clause 22.1 to point to additional clause:

22.1 Any Trustee of the Trust may retire as Trustee of the Trust. ~~The Subject to clause 22.3, the~~ right to appoint any new or additional trustee or trustees of the Trust is hereby vested in the retiring or continuing trustee. A corporation or incorporated association may be appointed as Trustee of the Trust.

2. Variation 2.2 inserts two new clauses:

22.3 The retiring or continuing trustee shall only be entitled to appoint any new or additional trustee of the Trust with the consent of not less than 75% of the Beneficiaries.

22.4 The Beneficiaries may at any time by Special Resolution:

(a) remove a Trustee from the office as Trustee of the Trust;

and

(b) appoint such new or additional Trustee.

3. Variation 2.3 insert a new clause 13A

13A Delegation to the Board of Management

Unless the Beneficiaries otherwise direct (such direction to be given by not less than 75% of the Beneficiaries), the Trustees shall delegate all of the powers authorities

and discretions contained in subclauses (a) to (x) of clause 12 to the Board of Management. The Trustees shall, at the direction of the Board of Management, do

such things as may be necessary to give effect to the exercise of a power, authority

or discretion by the Board of Management.

Comment

The first two amendments outlined above remove powers granted to the Trustee in the 2002 Deed Variation resulting from the merger to a single Association representing WA Local Governments. These amendments which previously facilitated the transfer of trusteeship to the then new Western Australian Local Government Association are removed, but with the clarification that any appointment must be with the consent of the beneficiaries.

The final amendment intends to confirm that power rests with the Board of Management. As the Board of Management comprises Local Governments, this satisfies the requirements of a STB for tax purposes. This amendment reflects the actual operation of the Trustee in implementing the decisions of the Board of Management whilst retaining sufficient operational discretion to place and renew investments and pay suppliers.

These amendments provide greater power to beneficiaries through the Board of Management, and as such it is anticipated they will be considered acceptable.

Thank you for your consideration of the above amendments we look forward to receiving formal consent to execute these changes via resolution of Council.

If you have any questions regarding the variations, please email Financial Controller Rick Murray at rmurray@walga.asn.au.

Yours sincerely,
Nick

Nick Sloan | Chief Executive Officer | WALGA

(p) (08) 9213 2025 | (m) 0408 941 792 | (e) nsloan@walga.asn.au

Our work regularly takes us across the State and as such WALGA would like to acknowledge the many traditional owners of the land on which we work throughout Western Australia. We pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

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Attachments

1. Deed of Variation – Copy for information only, this document does not require signing.
2. Clause 12 of Trust Deed 1994. (Excerpt)

DEED OF VARIATION

LOCAL GOVERNMENT HOUSE TRUST



LAW

PERTH

11 Mounts Bay Road, Perth WA 6000

Telephone (08) 9429 2222 Facsimile: (08) 9429 2434

eylawperth@au.ey.com www.ey.com

Our Ref: 4WAL / 2004 7043

THIS DEED dated the _____ day of _____ 2019

BY

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION of Level 1, 170 Railway Parade, West Leederville in the State of Western Australia (the 'Trustee')

RECITALS

- A. By Deed of Trust undated but stamped 12 February 1980 ('Original Trust Deed') made between CHARLES WILSON TUCKEY, LYAL GORDON RICHARDSON, GORDON LAWRENCE KILPATRICK, HARRY STICKLAND and MAXWELL RAY FINLAYSON (the 'Original Trustees') and THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA and the COUNTRY SHIRE COUNCILS ASSOCIATION (the 'Retired Trustees') the Original Trustees declared that they would hold the property therein referred to as the Headquarters and the monies therein referred to as the Trust Fund upon trust for the beneficiaries specified in the second schedule to the Original Deed upon the terms and conditions therein contained (the 'Original Trust').
- B. By Deed dated 2 October 1981 made between the Original Trustees and the Retired Trustees the Original Trustees retired and appointed the Retired Trustees as the trustees of the Original Trust in their place.
- C. By Deed dated 4 May 1994 (the 'New Deed') the Retired Trustees (in the New Deed referred to as THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA (INC) and THE COUNTRY SHIRE COUNCILS' ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA (INC)) agreed that the proceeds from the sale of the Headquarters and the Trust Fund and the income thereof should be from 17 February 1993 held upon the terms and conditions set out in the New Deed (the 'Trust').
- D. By Deed of Variation dated 5 June 2002 the Retired Trustees varied the New Deed (collectively, the 'Trust Deed') to provide for a new Clause 22 which provides that any trustee of the Trust may retire as trustee of the Trust and appoint a new trustee to act as trustee of the Trust and that notwithstanding that the original number of trustees of the Trust was five where a corporation or incorporated association is appointed as trustee of the Trust then it shall not be obligatory to appoint more than one new trustee.
- E. By Deed dated 6 June 2002 made between the Retired Trustees and the Trustee, the Retired Trustees retired and appointed the Trustee as the trustee of the Trust.
- F. Clause 21.1 of the Trust Deed provides that the Trustees may at any time and from time to time (with the consent of not less than 75% of the Beneficiaries) by deed revoke add to or vary the trusts of the Trust Deed or declare (inter alia) any new or other powers, authorities or discretions concerning the management, control or investment of the Trust Fund upon the terms contained therein.
- G. The Trustee wishes to add to and vary the Trust Deed and declare (inter alia) new or other powers, authorities and discretions concerning the management, control or investment of the Trust Fund in accordance with the terms of this Deed.
- H. More than 75% of the Beneficiaries have consented in writing to the variations to the New Deed and the records relating to this consent will be placed with the original of this Deed.

NOW THIS DEED WITNESSES**1. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION**

In this Deed, unless the context otherwise requires:

- 1.1 a word importing the singular includes the plural and vice versa, and a word of any gender includes other genders;
- 1.2 another grammatical form of a defined word or expression has a corresponding meaning;
- 1.3 a reference to a clause, paragraph, recital, schedule or annexure is to a clause, paragraph or recital of, or schedule or annexure to, this Deed, and a reference to this Deed includes any schedule or annexure;
- 1.4 a reference to a document or instrument includes the document or instrument as varied, novated, altered, supplemented or replaced from time to time;
- 1.5 a reference to a person includes a natural person, the estate of an individual, a partnership, body corporate, the trustee of a trust (in the trustee's capacity as trustee of the trust), association, governmental or local authority or agency or other entity;
- 1.6 a reference to a statute, ordinance, code or other law includes regulations and other instruments under it and consolidations, amendments, re-enactments or replacements of any of them;
- 1.7 the meaning of general words is not limited by specific examples introduced by 'including, for example' or similar expressions;
- 1.8 Recitals A to H inclusive form part of and are included in this Deed;
- 1.9 headings are for ease of reference and do not affect interpretation;
- 1.10 'Deed' means this deed;
- 1.11 unless specified otherwise, terms which are defined in the Trust Deed and used in this Deed bear the same meanings in this Deed which are ascribed to them in the Trust Deed; and
- 1.12 in the event of any inconsistency between the provisions of the Trust Deed and the provisions of this Deed, the provisions of this Deed will prevail.

2. OPERATIVE PART

The Trustee in exercise of the power given to the Trustee by clause 21.1 of the Trust Deed and with the consent of more than 75% of the Beneficiaries hereby adds to and varies the Trust Deed and declares (inter alia) the following new or other powers authorities and discretions concerning the management, control or investment of the Trust Fund as follows:

- 2.1 delete the word "The" appearing after the words "Any trustee of the Trust may retire as trustee of the Trust." in the existing clause 22.1 and replace it with the words "Subject to clause 22.3, the";

2.2 insert after clause 22.2 the following:

“22.3 The retiring or continuing trustee shall only be entitled to appoint any new or additional trustee of the Trust with the consent of not less than 75% of the Beneficiaries.

22.4 The Beneficiaries may at any time by Special Resolution:

- (a) remove a Trustee from the office as trustee of the Trust; and
- (b) appoint such new or additional Trustee.

For the purposes of this clause 22.4, “Special Resolution” means a resolution passed or decision made by not less than 75% of the Beneficiaries.”

2.3 insert a new clause 13A as follows:

“13A **DELEGATION TO THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT**

Unless the Beneficiaries otherwise direct (such direction to be given by not less than 75% of the Beneficiaries), the Trustees shall delegate all of the powers authorities and discretions contained in subclauses (a) to (x) of clause 12 to the Board of Management. The Trustees shall, at the direction of the Board of Management, do such things as may be necessary to give effect to the exercise of a power, authority or discretion by the Board of Management.”

3. SEVERABILITY

3.1 If any provision of this Deed is found by a competent authority (including without limitation a Court) to be void or unenforceable, then such finding shall not affect the other provisions of this Deed.

3.2 If making a subsequent amendment to this Deed avoids any invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of this Deed, the parties may elect to make that amendment, which shall be deemed for all purposes to be effective immediately prior to the occurrence of that invalidity or unenforceability.

4. FURTHER ASSURANCES

All parties shall make, execute and do all acts, deeds, documents and things and sign all documents which may reasonably be required to give full effect to this Deed, and the Trustee shall bear the costs of observing, performing and complying with this clause.

5. COSTS

The Trustee shall bear and pay the costs of and incidental to the preparation, execution and stamping of this Deed.

6. RATIFICATION AND CONFIRMATION

In all other respects the terms of the Trust Deed are hereby ratified and confirmed.

7. **PROPER LAW**

This Deed shall be governed by the laws of the State of Western Australia and the parties submit to the jurisdiction of the Courts of the State of Western Australia.

EXECUTED as a Deed

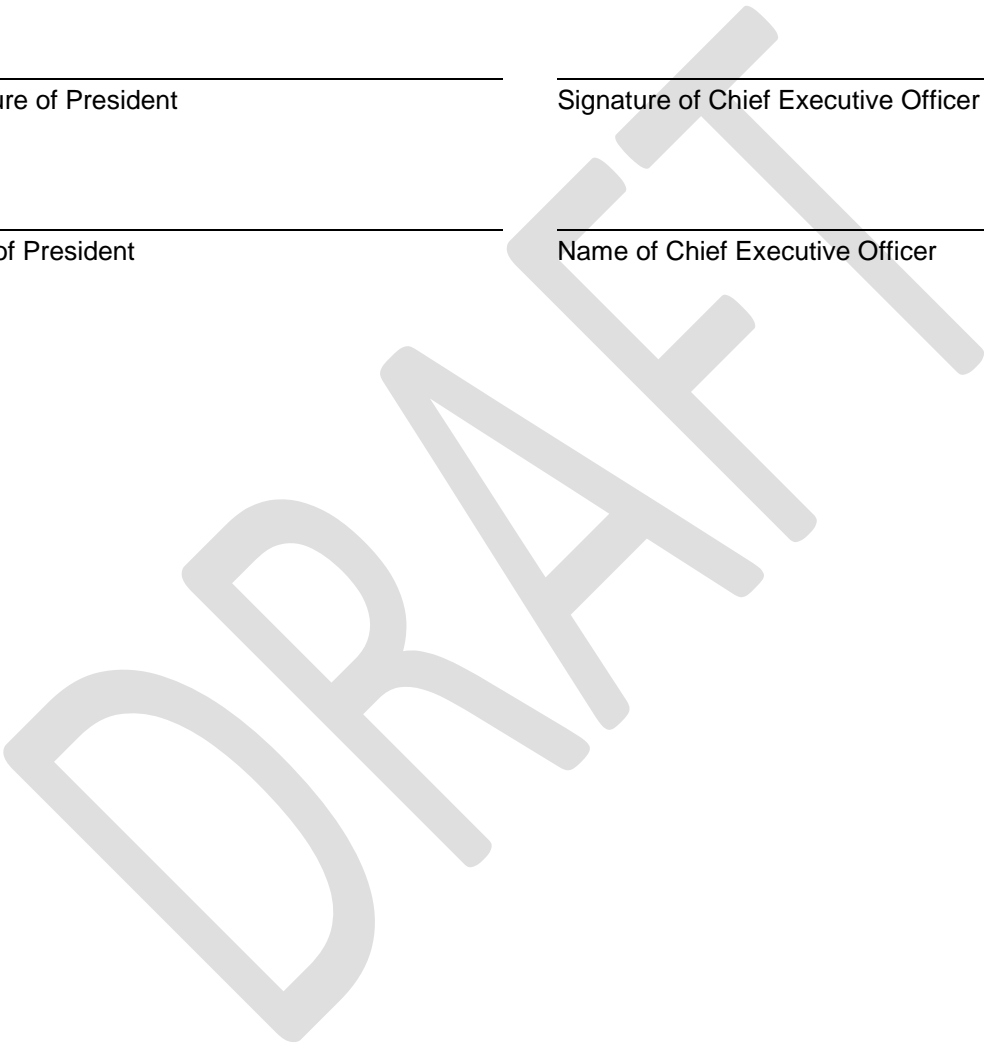
THE COMMON SEAL of **WESTERN**)
AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT)
ASSOCIATION is hereunto affixed in the)
presence of:)

Signature of President

Signature of Chief Executive Officer

Name of President

Name of Chief Executive Officer



demands outgoings debts and liabilities incurred in respect of the Trust Fund.

10.2 The Trustees may subject to any law in force at the time in relation to this Deed so permitting accumulate all or any part of the income arisen or arising during an accounting period and such accumulation shall be dealt with as an accretion to the Trust Fund but so that the Trustees may at any time or times resort to all such accumulations and pay or apply the whole or any part or parts thereof as if they were income of the Trust Fund for the then current accounting period.

10.3 Subject to Clause 10.2 the Trustees may at any time at their discretion pay the whole or part of the income of the Trust Fund for any accounting period to the beneficiaries in proportion to the number of units of which they are respectively registered as holders at the last day of such accounting period.

11.0 **ADVANCEMENT OF CAPITAL**

The Trustees may at any time and from time to time set aside from the capital of the Trust Fund or raise therefrom any sum or sums of money and pay the same to the beneficiaries in proportion to the number of units in respect of which they are respectively registered at the date of each such payment for their own use and benefit. The payment of any such sum or sums of capital may be made in the same manner and subject to the same provisions as contained in Clause 10.3 in relation to the payment application or setting aside of any income of the Trust Fund.

12.0 **POWERS OF INVESTMENT AND MANAGEMENT**

The Trustees shall apply and invest the Trust Fund in any of the investments from time to time authorised by law for the investment of trust funds by trustees and in addition to and without limiting the powers authorities and discretions vested in the Trustees by law and notwithstanding the trusts hereinbefore declared shall have the following powers authorities and discretions which may be exercised by the Trustees at any time and from time to time in the

Attachment 2 Clause 12 of Trust Deed (Excerpt)

absolute and uncontrolled discretion of the Trustees in carrying out the trusts hereof:

- (a) to invest the Trust Fund and deal with manage transpose and realise the Trust Fund or any part thereof whether real or personal property with such powers in all respects as if the Trustees were the absolute owner thereof;
- (b) to purchase or otherwise acquire any investments for cash or otherwise and upon any terms and conditions and to make any such purchase or acquisition for a sum greater than the amount of the Trust Fund for the time being and to agree to pay for any such investments wholly or in part from any future moneys which may come into the Trustees' hands including dividends profits interest or other income payable in respect of any such investments;
- (c) to sell or otherwise dispose of any real or personal property or interest therein for the time being forming the whole or part of the Trust Fund by public auction tender or private treaty at such price or prices and whether for cash or on terms and generally upon any terms and conditions and to grant options for such sale or disposition as aforesaid;
- (d) (i) to borrow and raise moneys from; or
(ii) to secure by mortgage or otherwise howsoever the payment of or obligation to pay money to,

any person (including a beneficiary) upon any terms with or without security or interest;
- (e) to vary or transpose any investments and to vary the terms of or property comprised in any security;
- (f) to hold use purchase construct demolish maintain repair renovate reconstruct develop improve sell transfer convey surrender let lease exchange take and grant options or rights in alienate mortgage charge pledge reconvey release or discharge or otherwise deal with any real or personal

property PROVIDED THAT in the improvement or development of any part of the Trust Fund the Trustees shall not be bound by the limitation contained in Section 30(1)(c) of the Trustees Act and the Trustees shall not be bound to apply to any Court to exceed such limitation;

- (g) to pay out of the Trust Fund or the income thereof all costs charges and expenses of and incidental to the management of the Trust Fund or to the exercise of any power authority or discretion hereby or by law conferred on the Trustees or in carrying out or performing the trusts hereof which the Trustees may at any time incur including all taxes of whatever kind payable in respect of the Trust Fund and costs in any way connected with the preparation and execution of these presents;
- (h) to act as manager or to employ any persons (including a Trustee hereof or a unit holder) contractors managers solicitors accountants clerks workmen employees servants or agents to transact all or any business of whatever nature including the receipt and payment of money and to decide the remuneration to be allowed and paid and to pay all charges and expenses so incurred and to create or arrange any scheme or superannuation retirement benefit or pension for the benefit of any person so employed;
- (i) to partition or agree to the partition of or to subdivide or agree to the subdivision or strata title or agree to the strata-titling of any land or other property which or any interest in which may for the time being be subject to the trusts hereof and to pay any moneys by way of equality of partition;
- (j) to determine whether any real or personal property or any increase or decrease in amount number or value of any property or holdings of property or any profit loss receipt or payments from for or in connection with any real or personal property shall be treated as and credited or debited to capital or to income and generally to determine all matters as to which any doubt difficulty or question

may arise under or in relation to the execution of the trusts and powers of this Deed and every determination of the Trustees in relation to any of the matters aforesaid whether made upon a question formally or actually raised or implied in any of the acts or proceedings of the Trustees in relation to the Trust Fund shall bind all parties interested therein and shall not be objected to or questioned on any ground whatsoever;

- (k) to open accounts with any bank or building society and to operate by and in all usual ways any such accounts;
- (l) to give effectual receipts and discharges for any moneys received by or on behalf of the Trustees or otherwise relating to any of the acts matters and things provided for in these presents;
- (m) to provide and set aside out of the Trust Fund or the income thereof such sum of money as the Trustees shall consider is available or necessary for and to pay or apply the same in or towards the discharge or reduction of any encumbrance debt or other liability for the time being affecting the Trust Fund or any part thereof;
- (n) to let sub-let lease or sub-lease for any period (and including to any beneficiary) and at any rental any real or personal property comprised in the Trust Fund upon any terms conditions or covenants;
- (o) to purchase take on lease sub-lease assignment hire or otherwise acquire any estate or interest in any real or personal property for any price premium rental charge payment fee or other consideration and subject to any terms conditions and covenants;
- (p) to take such action as the Trustees shall think fit for the adequate protection of any part of the Trust Fund and to do all such other things as may be incidental to the exercise of any of the powers authorities and discretions hereby or by law conferred on the Trustees;

- (q) to take and act upon the opinion (given in writing) of a solicitor an attorney at law or counsel practising in any country where the Trust Fund or any part thereof may for the time being be or be proposed to be invested in relation to the interpretation or effect of these presents or any other document or statute or as to the administration of the trusts hereof without being liable to any of the beneficiaries in respect of any act done by the Trustees in accordance with such opinion PROVIDED THAT nothing in this provision shall prohibit or impede the Trustees from applying to any Court if it shall think fit or prohibit any unit holder from so doing;
- (r) to allow any beneficiary to occupy have custody of or use any part of the Trust Fund on any terms or conditions as to inventories repair replacement insurance outgoings or otherwise but the Trustees shall not be liable for any loss or damage which may occur to any such part of the Trust Fund during or by reason of any such occupation custody or use except insofar as such loss or damage shall be occasioned by the conscious and wilful default or neglect of the Trustees;
- (s) to permit any part of the Trust Fund to be held or registered in the name of any nominee of the Trustees and to deposit securities deeds and other documents belonging or related to the Trust Fund with any bank or solicitor;
- (t) in the event of any gift stamp or other duties fees or taxes becoming payable in any part of the world in respect of these presents or the Trust Fund or any part thereof in any circumstances to pay all or any part of such duties fees and taxes out of the Trust Fund notwithstanding that such duties fees or taxes or some part thereof are not or may not be recoverable from the Trust Fund by legal process;
- (u) to receive and accept any real or personal property by gift inter vivos or by Will or under the provisions of any other trust or otherwise from any other person as additions to the Trust Fund and to hold the same upon the trusts herein

set forth and to administer such additions under the provisions hereof;

- (v) at any time and from time to time to ascertain and fix the value of the Trust Fund in accordance with the provisions herein contained and for that purpose to engage such competent valuers or experts as the Trustees may select and the Trustees may cause the value so ascertained and fixed to be entered from time to time in a book kept for that purpose;
- (w) to appoint any date earlier than the Vesting Date to be the Vesting Date;
- (x) during an accounting period to nominate any date not more than 18 months after the date of commencement of the then current accounting period as the last day of that accounting period and thereafter the accounting period shall mean each succeeding 12 month period commencing on the day following such nominated date until the anniversary of such nominated date immediately preceding the Vesting Date and the period thereafter until the Vesting Date.

13.0 DELEGATION OF TRUSTEE POWERS

The Trustees if at any time they are more than one shall act jointly and may delegate the exercise of all or any of the powers authorities or discretions hereby or by law conferred on the Trustees:-

- (a) to the Board of Management constituted by clause 14.0 of this Deed, or
- (b) to any other person or persons,

and execute any power of attorney or other instrument necessary to effectuate such purpose.