



LINKAGES, Fourth Edition

Online Services Vendor Selection

Evaluation of the tenders received for the provision of the web services infrastructure and tools is finalised and a recommendation is going to the Association's Financial Services Committee next week for endorsement. Details of the selected vendor will be sent to Councils next week.

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) – Stage 1

A total of 65 Councils have now signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the WA Local Government Association to participate in the Linking Councils and Communities (LCC) Program.

A full list of Councils who have signed the Stage One MOU can be viewed on the *Good News* page of the Linking Councils and Communities website at www.linkingcouncils.com.

Training Program update

In liaising with Councils and from feedback gathered during the initial training sessions, it has been recognised that the training approach and schedule that was initially proposed needed to be enhanced to take closer account of current Council business activities and to be more flexible to suit differing objectives.

Each Council has a different profile, and thus has slightly different desired outcomes from the training program. Consequently the training program has been modified to take this into account and enable the trainers to provide the most value to Councils.

It has been decided that it would be most beneficial to separate the training into two "streams" to provide greater flexibility and choice to match the needs of Councils.

These two streams are non exclusive, and we will work with Councils to determine which stream would best suit the needs of the individual Council.

Stream one of the training will focus on Website Development, providing training for Councils on how to better plan and manage their initial online services and how to use the LCC provided web tools to design new websites or transition existing websites.

This stream will initially involve two training sessions of approximately four hours each. Where possible training will

be run separately (one or two weeks apart) in order to allow participants to take the information back to their Council and gather further information for the next session. In some areas where training involves extensive travel for Councils, these two sessions can be held concurrently.

Stream two of the training program is still based on the initial program approach and will provide strategic planning support for Councils who are seeking to develop a more strategic viewpoint.

Also, the budget cycle is upon us all, and people's time is at a premium. The LCC team understands the implications of this for Councils and is revising the training program commencement dates to take into account the pressures currently on Council resources. It is intended to postpone the training program slightly, to avoid the "busy" period leading up to the end of the financial year and enable all relevant staff to participate in training. This is of course, unless a Council indicates it would like to proceed earlier.

The dates and venues for stream one of the training are in the process of being finalised and stream two arrangements will be made with the regional groups participating.

The LCC team is currently confirming details of the 20 Councils who will host the training sessions across the State. There will be more than one training date and location in each regional Zone and Councils will be able to nominate which training sessions they would like to attend within their region.

The final dates and locations for stream one training will be sent to Councils within the next two weeks. From there, Councils will be requested to faxback their preferred training time/location so that the LCC team can finalise the logistics of the training (formal letters of confirmation will also be issued to those registered to attend each of the training sessions).

If you would like any additional information about the enhanced LCC Training Schedule please call the LCC helpdesk on (08) 213 2016 or email info@linkingcouncils.com.



WESTERN AUSTRALIAN
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