

LHAAC promotes and protects public health through the operation of an effective and efficient analytical scheme providing information and trustworthy reports.

A FULL COMMITTEE FOR LHAAC

For the first time in several years LHAAC has a full Committee of ten members. Seven Metropolitan members and three Non-Metropolitan members are appointed and 'on board' which is great to see. The full membership, including photos of our new members, is shown below.

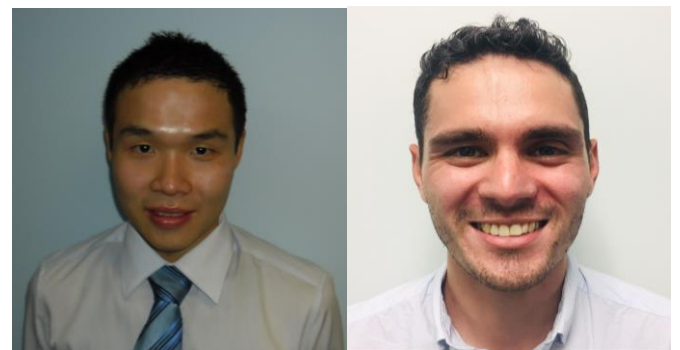
NAME	TERM COMMENCE S	TERM ENDS	REPRESENTING
Freya Ayliffe	25 March 2018	24 March 2021	METRO
Tsyrr Chiat Chew	10 February 2020	9 February 2023	METRO (NEW)
Emily Dunn	9 October 2018	8 October 2021	METRO
Kim Frost	25 March 2018	24 March 2021	NON METRO
Ryan Quinn	10 February 2020	9 February 2023	METRO (NEW)
Ellie Robinson	10 February 2020	9 February 2023	METRO (NEW)
Hannah Robinson	10 February 2020	9 February 2023	METRO(NEW)
Sarah Upton	25 March 2018	24 March 2021	NON METRO
David Wilson	24 January 2020	23 January 2023	METRO (Chair 050818)
Andrew Campbell	10 February 2020	9 February 2023	NON-METRO (NEW)
Vic Andrich	N/A	N/A	Department of Health (Ex Officio)
Trevor Chapman	N/A	N/A	LHAAC COORDINATOR

LHAAC now have six female members and four male members after responding positively to the State Government promotion of gender balance on boards and committees. It is also great to see relatively young industry professionals nominating for board/committee positions and being successful in their applications.



Andrew Campbell

Ellen Robinson



Tsyrr Chiat Chew

Ryan Quinn

Hannah Robinson



The new Committee has an exciting and challenging time ahead of them as we continue to address the unique challenges of COVID-19 and look to implement some of the actions emanating from the Business Plan and Strategic Plan developed in 19/20.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM LHAAC

In recognition of the financial challenges generated by the COVID-19 pandemic, LHAAC sought ways to assist Local Governments in 2020/21.



At the June 2020 meeting of LHAAC, when members had a much clearer understanding of the impact of Covid-19, LHAAC determined that the most effective way it could assist was by offering some financial relief to Local Governments by reducing its fee for the 2020/21 operating year.

Accordingly, LHAAC issued Fee Invoices incorporating a 50% discount on the 2020/21 fee for service (based on the 2019/20 level of charges and budgeted expenditure). Furthermore, the level of funding allocated to sampling will remain the same for the 2020/21 year, with LHAAC reserve funds meeting the 50% shortfall in fee income.

At this stage, this is a special concession for 2020/21 only and the fee structure will be reviewed again for 2021/22.

COORDINATED SAMPLING PROJECTS



LHAAC would like to apologise for the delays in the completion and distribution of several

Coordinated Sampling Project (CSP) reports. This includes CSP 22 Stage II, CSP 25, 27, 28 and 29.

Once again, this project has been affected by the disruption to staff work practices due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the undertaking of special projects (as outlined above).

These should start to appear on the LHAAC website in the next four weeks or so. LHAAC have continued to use Andrew Romeo in a casual one day per week Research Assistant role to complete the data analysis for each of these outstanding projects and help draft the final reports in an improved academic format.

EXTENSION OF ANALYSTS CONTRACT

The current contract with analysts ARL and Agrifood is a fixed three-year contract with two one-year options.

The three-year term ended on 31 July 2020 and LHAAC exercised the first of two one-year extension options, to extend through to 31 July 2021. Unless anything untoward occurs, it is likely the final one-year option will also be activated. LHAAC would then go to tender again during the 2021/22 operating year.

STRATEGIC PLAN AND BUSINESS PLAN 2020-2024



The LHAAC members and Coordinator, Trevor Chapman, have been working with a consultant to develop a five-year Strategic Plan and a five-year Business Plan to direct LHAAC over this upcoming period. Like many projects across all agencies, this project was held up a little in the post COVID outbreak period. The Strategic and Business Plan will be available for viewing on the LHAAC website shortly.

RECORDS MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

LHAAC have also put considerable effort into the development of a Record Management Plan and a Recordkeeping Strategy for the organisation over the last six months or so. After discussions with officers from the State Records Office LHAAC was advised that it should have a formal Record Keeping Plan, which should be submitted to, and approved by, the State Records Office. This is a significant task for an agency the size of LHAAC, particularly with only one full-time staff member.



Consequently, LHAAC engaged the services of Information Enterprises Australia Pty Ltd (IEA Pty Ltd). IEA are experts in the Records Management field and guided LHAAC through the development of a Recordkeeping Strategy. LHAAC have just submitted their draft Recordkeeping Strategy, including a Functional Disposal Authority, to the State Records Office for approval in the coming weeks.

LHAAC BASE CAMP

LHAAC have recently renewed their three-year Rental Agreement with ECU University and have secured accommodation with them until September 2022.

LHAAC have also entered into a formal agreement with ECU University addressing the long-term storage of archive records on site. This is an excellent outcome for LHAAC, meaning all records they are required to keep can be stored at the ECU campus, where they will be easily accessible.

Thank you all for your ongoing support of LHAAC.

Trevor Chapman

LHAAC Coordinator