



# Joint Organisations: Emerging Directions



LG NSW Workshop: Emerging Directions for Regional Collaboration - Sept 2015

# Fit for the Future

Joint Organisations  
Emerging Directions Paper

SEPTEMBER 2015



## Emerging Directions

- Design Principles
- Purpose
  - Core
  - Regionally Defined
- Functions
- Entity Structure
- Governance

# What are the proposed **design principles** for the policy framework?

- have legal status
- be enabled through the Local Government Act and recognised in other relevant legislation
- not be a fourth tier of government
- not impose significant red tape or cost - and ensure benefits outweigh the costs
- embed collaborative relationships between local government and NSW Government, as well as a wide range of other stakeholders and partners
- have a consistent core with flexible elements
- protect entitlements for council staff
- enable significant projects and initiatives, and associated funding and assets, to be managed regionally
- ensure good governance
- serve the best interest of the region while being accountable to member councils

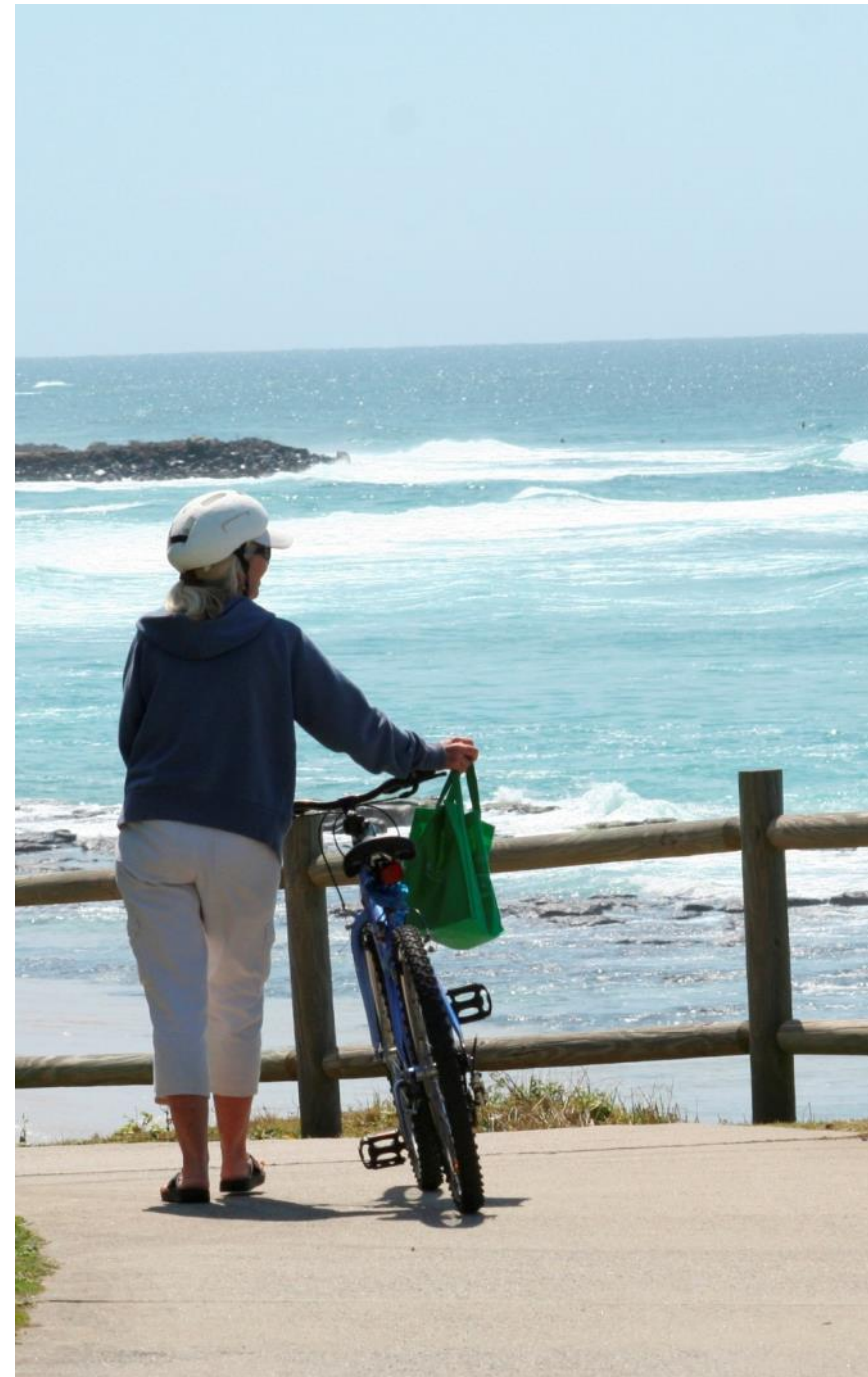


# What are the proposed **core functions** of joint organisations?

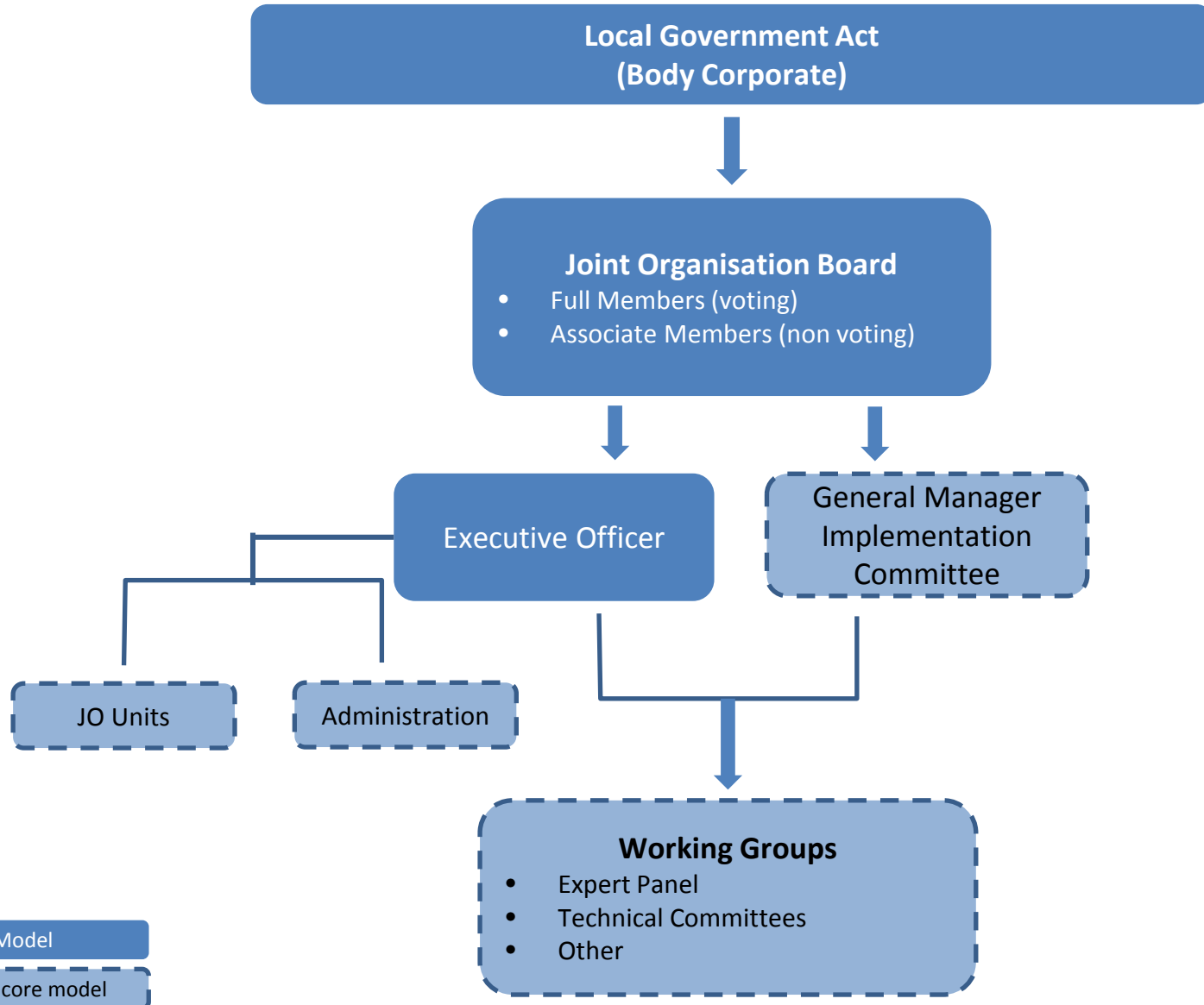
- Regional Strategic Planning and Priority Setting
- Intergovernmental Collaboration
- Regional Leadership and Advocacy

# What are the proposed regionally defined functions of joint organisations?

- Regional Service Delivery
- Creating regional strategic capacity
- Other



# What does the **Body Corporate in the Local Government Act (Enabling)** model look like?



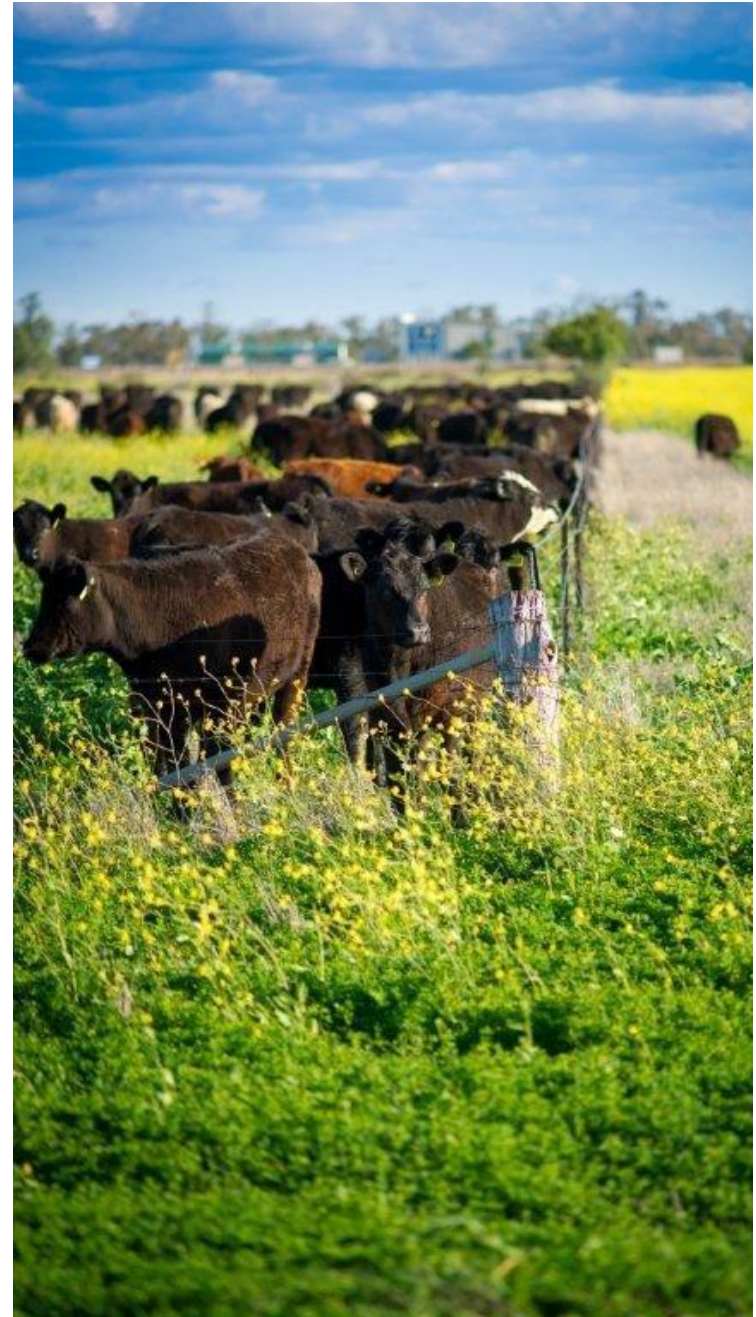
# Composition of the Board

- One representative from each full member council
- DPC regional coordinator is an associate (non-voting) member
- Representative of member councils must be an elected representative and chosen by the council based on capability and capacity
- Appointment to the JO Board is 2 years
- The Chair is to be chosen by the voting members of the Board.



# Voting and decision making

- Member councils should have equal voting rights
- The Chair should not have a casting vote
- Appropriate authority for core regional functions should be delegated to the Joint Organisation
- A majority vote on a Joint Organisation Board (75%) should be required for a decision to be made.







# Role of Board members

- The JO Board member role should be modelled on the councillor role in the Act with a requirement to act in the best interests of the region as a whole
- The role of the Chair should be modelled on the role of the Mayor (less the urgent policy making function), with a requirement to act in the best interests of the region as a whole.

# Planning and Reporting

- JOs should be required to develop succinct work plans drawn from existing local and regional plans, in collaboration with the State Government and others and identify Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)
- JOs should be required to produce succinct Annual Performance Statements to show key stakeholders the extent to which they are achieving their priorities according to the KPIs identified by the Joint Organisation
- Current minimum requirements in the Local Government Act for financial reporting and accounting for councils apply to Joint Organisations.

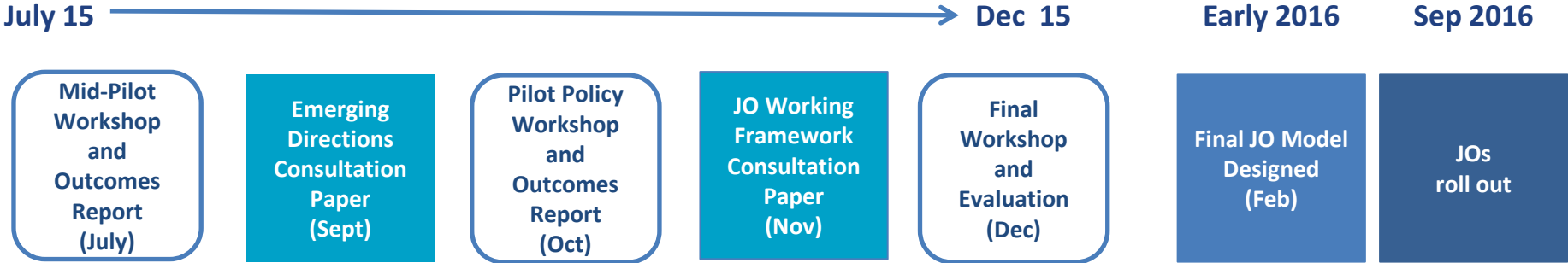


# Resourcing

- Joint Organisation members should receive a Joint Organisation Board sitting fee
- Members fund ongoing administration and regional priorities using a locally negotiated formula
- Joint Organisation staff be employed under the Local Government (State) Award
- Joint Organisations be required to employ an Executive Officer, with the equivalent capabilities and at an equivalent level to a General Manager, senior staff member in a council or a Department of Premier and Cabinet Regional Coordinator.



# What are the **next steps** in the pilot process?



# Fit for the Future



Questions?

Thank you