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Edition 39

May 2022

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Welcome to the May edition of the LGMS eNews.

In this edition we look at the second defence of an alleged breach of duty under the *Civil Liability Act 2003* (Qld) - contributory negligence - as well as introduce a new WHS team member, discuss a new safety management system on the horizon, give a wrap up of a recent Local Government Risk Management Focus Group session, plus much more. We also share details of our upcoming events and member engagement opportunities.

Knowledge is power and mitigating our risks by effective and ongoing risk management practices impacts all Queensland councils. We encourage you to empower your council by sharing this newsletter with your colleagues and asking them to [subscribe](#).

We welcome your [feedback](#), suggestions and stories for future editions of the LGMS eNews.



When does contributory negligence apply?

Author: *Kevin Johnson, LGM Liability & Assets Claims Manager*

In our first article, we raised a number of defences to alleged breach of duty under the *Civil Liability Act 2003* (Qld) explaining that the right evidence is key to relying on those defences. In this second part in the five-part series, we explore the second defence of contributory negligence and what actions councils can take to provide the best defence to such a claim. [Read more.](#)



Introducing new WHS team member

LGMS is pleased to introduce the LGW Workplace Health and Safety (WHS) team's new Safety Consultant Julian Soler. Julian joined the team in April and has been allocated 15 councils from the South Burnett up to Hinchinbrook Shire and out west to Flinders Shire Council. [Read more.](#)



How to decide where to focus your efforts

When it comes to managing liability risks, it can be difficult to decide where to focus your efforts. The liability claims benchmarking tool enables you to easily review your council's trends, and compare your claims triggers and costs to other councils in Australia. [Read more.](#)



How to get the new LGW People Risk tools to work for you

The LGW WHS Support Unit has been working with member councils to develop a list of 165 business activities that councils do. Councils can now benchmark against these and develop a simple business activity risk profile. [Read more.](#)



Local Government Risk Management Focus Group - Scenic Rim wrap

LGMS was pleased to support the recent Local Government Risk Management Focus Group meeting hosted by Scenic Rim Regional Council. 33 councils represented by 25 people attended in person and 60 joined online. [Read more.](#)



New Safety Management System prepares for launch

After months of collaboration, consultation and coordination by LGW Workcare and its project contractor Kitney OHS, the new system Local Government Safety Management System (LG-SMS) is getting ready for launch in July. Masterclasses will be run for member council officers on LG-SMS to coincide with the launch. [Read more.](#)



The value of valuations when it comes to property cover

LGMS recently had the opportunity to address the Local Government Finance professionals as part of their webinar series. LGM Assets Divisional Manager - Member Services & Assets, Nathan Turner, in conjunction with Nick Franks and Nick Fein from AssetVal, spoke to the role valuations play in council financial and insurance processes. [Read more.](#)

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Events and Member Engagement Opportunities

Our LGMS representatives will be attending the upcoming events below and we look forward to assisting our members as required.

- Bush Councils Conference (Barcaldine) - 26-27 July 2022
- Local Government Risk Management Focus Group (Townsville City Council) - 11-12 August 2022
- LGMA Annual Conference (Gladstone) - 6-8 September 2022
- LGAQ Annual Conference (Cairns) - 17-19 October 2022
- Local Government Risk Management Focus Group (Livingstone Shire Council) - 18 November 2022
- LGFP Annual Conference (Cairns) - 22-25 November 2022

Access to LGMS Member Centre

Some links in this newsletter require an LGMS Member Centre login - to arrange access please complete this [online application](#) and if you have any queries please contact [Member Services](#).



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