



Charter 2016



local councils working together to protect the health of the community

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1. EASTERN HEALTH AUTHORITY

1.1. Regional subsidiary

Eastern Health Authority (**EHA**) is a regional subsidiary established under section 43 of the Act.

1.2. Constituent Councils

The Constituent Councils of EHA are:

- a) City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters;
- b) City of Burnside;
- c) Campbelltown City Council;
- d) City of Prospect; and
- e) The Corporation of the Town of Walkerville,

(Constituent Councils).

1.3. Preamble

The field of Environmental health continues to increase in complexity and diversity, making it difficult for small to medium size councils to attract and retain staff who are experienced and fully skilled across the legislative demands placed on Local Government.

EHA's size, structure and sole focus on environmental health puts it in an ideal position to provide high quality, specialist services to the community on behalf of its Constituent Councils. This in turn ensures Constituent Councils are meeting their broad environmental health legislative responsibilities.

1.4. Purpose

EHA is established by the Constituent Councils for the purpose of providing public and environmental health services primarily to and within the areas of the Constituent Councils.

1.5. Functions

For, or in connection with its purpose, EHA may undertake the following functions:

- a) take action to preserve, protect and promote public and environmental health within the area of the Constituent Councils;
- b) cooperate with other authorities involved in the administration of public and environmental health;

- c) promote and monitor public and environmental health whether in or, so far as the Act and the charter allows, outside the area of the Constituent Councils;
- d) assist the Constituent Councils to meet their legislative responsibilities in accordance with the SA Public Health Act, the *Food Act 2001* (SA), the *Supported Residential Facilities Act 1992* (SA), the *Expiation of Offences Act 1996* (SA), the *Housing Improvement Act 1940* (SA) (or any successor legislation to these Acts) and any other legislation regulating similar matters that the Constituent Councils determine is appropriate within the purposes of EHA;
- e) establish objectives and policy priorities for the promotion and protection of public and environmental health within the areas of the Constituent Councils;
- f) provide immunisation programs for the protection of public health within the areas of the Constituent Councils or to ensure that such programs are provided;
- g) promote and monitor standards of hygiene and sanitation;
- h) promote and monitor food safety standards;
- i) identify risks to public and environmental health within the areas of the Constituent Councils;
- j) monitor and regulate communicable and infectious disease control;
- k) licence and monitor standards in Supported Residential Facilities;
- l) ensure that remedial action is taken to reduce or eliminate adverse impacts or risks to public and environmental health;
- m) provide, or support the provision of, educational information about public and environmental health and provide or support activities within the areas of the Constituent Councils to preserve, protect or promote public health;
- n) keep the Constituent Councils abreast of any emerging opportunities, trends and issues in public and environmental health; and
- o) any other functions described in the Charter or assigned by the Constituent Councils to EHA consistent with EHA's purpose.

1.6. Powers

EHA has the powers necessary for the carrying out of its functions, and may:

- a) enter into contracts or arrangements with any government agency or authority, or councils, including the Constituent Councils;
- b) appoint, employ, remunerate, remove or suspend officers, managers, employees and agents;
- c) enter into contracts with any person for the acquisition or provision of goods and services;
- d) receive financial contributions from the Constituent Councils;
- e) publish information;
- f) acquire, hold, deal with and dispose of any real or personal property, subject to the requirements of the Constituent Councils;
- g) open and operate bank accounts;
- h) acquire funds for the purpose of its functions or operations by entering into loan agreements;
- i) invest any of the funds of EHA in any investment with the LGA Finance Authority, provided that in exercising this power of investment EHA must:
 - (a) exercise the care, diligence and skill that a prudent person of business would exercise in managing the affairs of other persons; and
 - (b) avoid investments that are speculative or hazardous in nature;
- j) raise revenue by applying for grants and other funding from the State of South Australia or the Commonwealth of Australia and their respective agencies or instrumentalities on behalf of the Constituent Councils or on its own behalf.

1.7. Area of activity

EHA may only undertake an activity outside the area of the Constituent Councils where that activity has been approved by unanimous decision of the Constituent Councils as being necessary or expedient to the performance by EHA of its functions and is an activity included in the EHA business plan.

1.8. Common seal

- a) EHA shall have a common seal upon which its corporate name shall appear in legible characters.
- b) The common seal shall not be used without the authorisation of a resolution of EHA and every use of the common seal shall be recorded in a register.
- c) The affixing of the common seal shall be witnessed by the Chair or Deputy Chair or such other Board member as the Board may appoint for the purpose.
- d) The common seal shall be kept in the custody of the Chief Executive Officer or such other person as EHA may from time to time decide.

2. BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

2.1. Functions

The Board is responsible for managing all activities of EHA and ensuring that EHA acts in accordance with the Charter. The Board will:

- a) formulate plans and strategies aimed at improving the activities of EHA;
- b) provide input and policy direction to EHA;
- c) monitor, oversee and evaluate the performance of the Chief Executive Officer.
- d) ensure that ethical behaviour and integrity is maintained in all activities undertaken by EHA;
- e) subject to clause 3.10, ensure that the activities of EHA are undertaken in an open and transparent manner;
- f) assist with the development of the Public Health Plan and Business Plan; and

- g) exercise the care, diligence and skill that a prudent person of business would exercise in managing the affairs of other persons.

2.2. Membership of the Board

- a) Each Constituent Council must appoint:
 - (a) one elected member; and
 - (b) one other person who may be an officer, employee or elected member of that Constituent Council or an independent person,

to be Board members and may at any time revoke these appointments and appoint other persons on behalf of that Constituent Council.
- b) A Board Member shall be appointed for the term of office specified in the instrument of appointment, and at the expiration of the term of office will be eligible for re-appointment by the Constituent Council.
- c) Each Constituent Council must give notice in writing to EHA of the elected members it has appointed as Board Members and of any revocation of any of those appointments.
- d) Any person authorised by a Constituent Council may attend (but not participate in) a Board meeting and may have access to papers provided to Board Members for the purpose of the meeting.
- e) The provisions regarding the office of a board member becoming vacant as prescribed in the Act apply to all Board Members.
- f) Where the office of a board member becomes vacant, the relevant Constituent Council will appoint another person as a Board member.
- g) The Board may by a two thirds majority vote of the Board Members present (excluding the Board Member who is the subject of a recommendation under this clause g)) make a recommendation to the relevant Constituent Council requesting that the Constituent Council terminate the appointment of a Board Member in the event of:
 - (a) any behaviour of the Board Member which in the opinion of the Board amounts to impropriety;
 - (b) serious neglect of duty in attending to their responsibilities as a Board Member;

- (c) breach of fiduciary duty to EHA, a Constituent Council or the Constituent Councils;
 - (d) breach of the duty of confidentiality to EHA, a Constituent Council or the Constituent Councils;
 - (e) breach of the conflict of interest provisions of the Act; or
 - (f) any other behaviour that may, in the opinion of the Board, discredit EHA.
- h) The members of the Board shall not be entitled to receive any remuneration in respect of their attendance at meetings or on any other business of the Board.

2.3. **Conduct of Board Members**

- a) Subject to clauses 20(6) and 20(7), Schedule 2 to the Act, the provisions regarding conflict of interest prescribed in the Act apply to Board Members.
- b) Board Members are not required to comply with Division 2, Part 4, Chapter 5 (Register of Interests) of the Act.
- c) Board Members must at all times act in accordance with their duties under the Act.

2.4. **Board policies and codes**

- a) EHA must, in consultation with the Board Members ensure that appropriate policies, practices and procedures are implemented and maintained in order to:
 - (a) ensure compliance with any statutory requirements; and
 - (b) achieve and maintain standards of good public administration.
- b) A code of conduct currently prescribed under section 63 of the Act will apply to Board Members as if the Board Members were elected members, except insofar as the prescribed code of conduct is inconsistent with an express provision of the charter or schedule 2 of the Act. In the event of such an inconsistency, the charter or schedule 2 of the Act (as relevant) will prevail to the extent of the inconsistency.
- c) To the extent it is able, the Board must ensure that its policies are complied with in the conduct of the affairs of EHA and are periodically reviewed and, if appropriate, amended.

- d) The audit committee will develop a schedule for the periodic review of EHA policies by 30 June each year and provide this to the Board for approval.

2.5. **Chair of the Board**

- a) A Chair and Deputy Chair shall be elected at the first meeting of the Board after a Periodic Election.
- b) The Chair and Deputy Chair shall hold office for a period of one year from the date of the election by the Board.
- c) Where there is more than one nomination for the position of Chair or Deputy Chair, the election shall be decided by ballot.
- d) Both the Chair and Deputy Chair shall be eligible for re-election to their respective offices at the end of the relevant one year term.
- e) If the Chair should cease to be a Board Member, the Deputy Chair may act as the Chair until the election of a new Chair.

2.6. **Powers of the Chair and Deputy Chair**

- a) The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the Board and, in the event of the Chair being absent from a meeting, the Deputy Chair shall preside. In the event of the Chair and Deputy Chair being absent from a meeting, the Board Members present shall appoint a member from among them, who shall preside for that meeting or until the Chair or Deputy Chair is present.
- b) The Chair and the Deputy Chair individually or collectively shall have such powers as may be decided by the Board.

2.7. **Committees**

- a) The Board may establish a committee for the purpose of:
 - (a) enquiring into and reporting to the Board on any matter within EHA's functions and powers and as detailed in the terms of reference given by the Board to the committee; or
 - (b) exercising, performing or discharging delegated powers, functions or duties.
- b) A member of a committee established under this clause holds office at the pleasure of the Board.
- c) The Chair of the Board is an *ex-officio* member of any committee or advisory committee established by the Board.

3. MEETINGS OF THE BOARD

3.1. Ordinary meetings

- a) Ordinary meetings of the Board will take place at such times and places as may be fixed by the Board or where there are no meetings fixed by the Board, by the Chief Executive Officer in consultation with the Chair from time to time, so that there are no less than five ordinary meetings per financial year.
- b) Notice of ordinary meetings of the Board must be given by the Chief Executive Officer to each Board Member and the chief executive officer of each Constituent Council at least three clear days prior to the holding of the meeting.

3.2. Special meetings

- a) Any two Board Members may by delivering a written request to the Chief Executive Officer require a special meeting of the Board to be held.
- b) The request must be accompanied by the proposed agenda for the meeting and any written reports intended to be considered at the meeting (if the proposed agenda is not provided the request is of no effect).
- c) On receipt of the request, the Chief Executive Officer must send a notice of the special meeting to all Board Members and Chief Executive Officers of the Constituent Councils at least four hours prior to the commencement of the special meeting.
- d) The Chair may convene special meetings of the Board at the Chair's discretion without complying with the notice requirements prescribed in clause 3.4 provided always that there is a minimum one hour notice given to Board members.

3.3. Telephone or video conferencing

- a) Special meetings of the Board convened under clause 3.2 may occur by telephone or video conference provided that at least a quorum is present.
- b) Where one or more Board Members attends a Board meeting by telephone or video conferencing, the meeting will be taken to be

open to the public, provided that members of the public can hear the discussion between Board members.

- c) Each of the Board Members taking part in a meeting via telephone or video conferencing must, at all times during the meeting, be able to hear and be heard by the other Board Members present.
- d) At the commencement of the meeting by telephone, each Board Member must announce their presence to all other Board Members taking part in the meeting.
- e) Board Members must not leave a meeting by disconnecting their telephone, audio-visual or other communication equipment, without notifying the Chair of the meeting.

3.4. **Notice of meetings**

- a) Except where clause 3.2 applies, notice of Board meetings must be given in accordance with this clause.
- b) Notice of any meeting of the Board must:
 - (a) be in writing;
 - (b) set out the date, time and place of the meeting;
 - (c) be signed by the Chief Executive Officer;

 - (d) contain, or be accompanied by, the agenda for the meeting; and
 - (e) be accompanied by a copy of any document or report that is to be considered at the meeting (as far as this is practicable).
- c) Notice under clause b) may be given to a Board Member:
 - (a) personally;
 - (b) by delivering the notice (whether by post or otherwise) to the usual place of residence of the Board Member or to another place authorised in writing by the Board Member;
 - (c) electronically via email to an email address approved by the Board Member;
 - (d) by leaving the notice at the principal office of the Constituent Council which appointed the Board Member; or

- (e) by a means authorised in writing by the Board Member being an available means of giving notice.
- d) A notice that is not given in accordance with clause c) will be taken to have been validly given if the Chief Executive Officer considers it impracticable to give the notice in accordance with that clause and takes action that the Chief Executive Officer considers reasonably practicable in the circumstances to bring the notice to the Board Member's attention.
- e) The Chief Executive Officer may indicate on a document or report provided to Board Members that any information or matter contained in or arising from the document or report is confidential until such time as the Board determines whether the document or report will be considered in confidence under clause 3.10.b).

3.5. Minutes

- a) The Chief Executive Officer must cause minutes to be kept of the proceedings at every meeting of the Board.
- b) Where the Chief Executive Officer is excluded from attendance at a meeting of the Board pursuant to clause 3.10.b), the person presiding at the meeting shall cause the minutes to be kept.

3.6. Quorum

- a) A quorum of Board Members is constituted by dividing the total number of Board Members for the time being in office by two, ignoring any fraction resulting from the division and adding one.
- b) No business will be transacted at a meeting unless a quorum is present and maintained during the meeting.

3.7. Meeting procedure

- a) The Board may determine its own procedures for the conduct of its meetings provided they are not inconsistent with the Act or the charter.
- b) Meeting procedures determined by the Board must be documented and be made available to the public.
- c) Where the Board has not determined a procedure to address a particular circumstance, the provisions of Part 2 of the *Local Government (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2000* (SA) shall apply.

3.8. **Voting**

- a) Board Members including the Chair, shall have a deliberative vote. The Chair shall not in the event of a tied vote, have a second or casting vote.
- b) All matters will be decided by simple majority of votes of the Board Members present. In the event of a tied vote the matter will lapse.
- c) Each Board Member present at a meeting must vote on a question arising for decision at the meeting.

3.9. **Circular resolutions**

- a) A valid decision of the Board may be obtained by a proposed resolution in writing given to all Board Members in accordance with procedures determined by the Board, where a simple majority of Board Members vote in favour of the resolution by signing and returning the resolution to the Chief Executive Officer or otherwise giving written notice of their consent and setting out the terms of the resolution to the Chief Executive Officer.
- b) A resolution consented to under clause a) is as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a meeting of the Board.

3.10. **Meetings to be held in public except in special circumstances**

- a) Subject to this clause, meetings of the Board must be conducted in a place open to the public.
- b) The Board may order that the public be excluded from attendance at any meeting in accordance with the procedure under sections 90(2) and 90(3) of the Act.
- c) An order made under clause b) must be recorded in the minutes of the meeting including describing the grounds on which the order was made.

3.11. **Public inspection of documents**

- a) Subject to clause c), a person is entitled to inspect, without payment of a fee:
 - (a) minutes of a Board Meeting;
 - (b) reports received by the Board Meeting; and
 - (c) recommendations presented to the Board in writing and adopted by resolution of the Board.

- b) Subject to clause c), a person is entitled, on payment to the Board of a fee fixed by the Board, to obtain a copy of any documents available for inspection under clause a).
- c) Clauses a) and b) do not apply in relation to a document or part of a document if:
 - (a) the document or part of the document relates to a matter of a kind considered by the Board in confidence under clause 3.10.b); and
 - (b) the Board orders that the document or part of the document be kept confidential (provided that in so ordering the Board must specify the duration of the order or the circumstances in which it will cease to apply or a period after which it must be reviewed).

3.12. **Saving provision**

- a) No act or proceeding of EHA is invalid by reason of:
 - (a) a vacancy or vacancies in the membership of the Board; or
 - (b) a defect in the appointment of a Board Member.

4. **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

4.1. **Appointment**

- a) The Board shall appoint a Chief Executive Officer to manage the business of EHA on a fixed term performance based employment contract, which does not exceed five years in duration.
- b) At the expiry of a Chief Executive Officer's contract, the Board may reappoint the same person as Chief Executive Officer on a new contract of no greater than five years duration.

4.2. **Responsibilities**

- a) The Chief Executive Officer is responsible to the Board for the execution of decisions taken by the Board and for the efficient and effective management of the affairs of EHA.
- b) The Chief Executive Officer shall cause records to be kept of all activities and financial affairs of EHA in accordance with the charter, in addition to other duties provided for by the charter and those specified in the terms and conditions of appointment.

4.3. Functions of the Chief Executive Officer

The functions of the Chief Executive Officer shall be specified in the terms and conditions of appointment and will include terms to the effect that the Chief Executive Officer's functions may:

- a) ensure that the policies, procedures, codes of conduct and any lawful decisions of EHA are implemented and promulgated in a timely and efficient manner;
- b) undertake responsibility for the day to day operations and affairs of EHA;
- c) provide advice, assistance and reports to EHA through the Board in the exercise and performance of its powers and functions under the charter and the Act;
- d) initiate and co-ordinate proposals for consideration by EHA for developing objectives, policies and programs for the Constituent Council areas;
- e) provide information to EHA to assist EHA to assess performance against EHA plans;
- f) ensure that timely and accurate information about EHA policies and programs is regularly provided to the communities of the Constituent Councils;
- g) ensure that appropriate and prompt responses are given to specific requests for information made to EHA and, where appropriate, the Constituent Councils;
- h) ensure that the assets and resources of EHA are properly managed and maintained;
- i) maintain records that EHA and the Constituent Councils are required to maintain under the charter, the Act or another Act in respect of EHA;
- j) ensure sound principles of human resource management, health and safety to the employment of staff by EHA, including the principles listed in section 107(2) of the Act;
- k) ensure compliance with the obligations under *Work Health and Safety Act 2012 (SA)* of both EHA and the Chief Executive Officer (as an 'officer' of EHA within the meaning of the WHS Act); and

- l) exercise, perform or discharge other powers, functions or duties conferred on the Chief Executive Officer by the charter, and to perform other functions lawfully directed by the Board.

4.4. **Acting Chief Executive Officer**

- a) Where an absence of the Chief Executive Officer is foreseen, the Chief Executive Officer may appoint a suitable person to act as Chief Executive Officer, provided that the Board may determine to revoke the Chief Executive Officer's appointment and appoint an alternative person as Acting Chief Executive Officer.
- b) If the Chief Executive Officer does not make or is incapable of making an appointment under clause a), a suitable person will be appointed by the Board.

5. **STAFF OF EHA**

EHA may employ any staff required for the fulfilment of its functions. The conditions on which staff are employed will be determined by the Chief Executive Officer.

6. **REGIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH PLAN**

6.1. **Obligation to prepare**

- a) EHA must prepare for the Constituent Councils a draft regional public health plan for the purposes of the South Australian Public Health Act.
- b) The draft Regional Public Health Plan must be:
 - (a) in the form determined or approved by the Minister; and
 - (b) consistent with the State Public Health Plan.
- c) In drafting the Regional Public Health Plan, EHA will take into account:
 - (a) any guidelines prepared or adopted by the Minister to assist councils prepare regional public health plans; and
 - (b) in so far as is reasonably practicable give due consideration to the regional public health plans of other councils where relevant to issues or activities under the Regional Public Health Plan.

6.2. Contents

The Regional Public Health Plan must:

- a) comprehensively assess the state of public health in the areas of the Constituent Councils;
- b) identify existing and potential public health risks and provide for strategies for addressing and eliminating or reducing those risks;
- c) identify opportunities and outline strategies for promoting public health in the areas of the Constituent Councils;
- d) address any public health issues specified by the Minister; and
- e) include information as to:
 - (a) the state and condition of public health within the area of the Constituent Councils and related trends;
 - (b) environmental, social, economic and practical considerations relating to public health within the area of the Constituent Councils; and
 - (c) other prescribed matters; and
- f) include such other information or material contemplated by the SA Public Health Act or regulations made under that Act.

6.3. Consultation

- a) EHA will submit the draft Regional Public Health Plan to the Constituent Councils for approval for the plan to be provided, on behalf of the Constituent Councils, to:
 - (a) the Minister;
 - (b) any incorporated hospital established under the *Health Care Act 2008* (SA) that operates a facility within the area of the Constituent Councils;
 - (c) any relevant Public Health Authority Partner; and
 - (d) any other person prescribed by regulation made under the SA Public Health Act.
- b) Once approved by the Constituent Councils, EHA will, on behalf of the Constituent Councils, submit a copy of the draft Regional Public Health Plan to the entities listed in clause a) and consult with the Chief Public Health Officer and the public on the draft Public Health Authority Partner.

- c) EHA will provide an amended copy of the Regional Public Health Plan to the Constituent Councils which takes into account comments received through consultation under clause b).

6.4. **Adoption of a Regional Public Health Plan**

Each Constituent Council will determine whether or not to adopt the draft Regional Public Health Plan submitted to it by EHA under clause 6.3.c).

6.5. **Implementation of a Regional Public Health Plan**

EHA is responsible for undertaking any strategy and for attaining any priority or goal which the Regional Public Health Plan specifies as EHA's responsibility.

6.6. **Review**

EHA will, on behalf of the Constituent Councils, review the current Regional Public Health Plan every five years or at shorter time intervals as directed by the Constituent Councils.

6.7. **Reporting**

- a) EHA will on a biennial basis, on behalf of the Constituent Councils, prepare a draft report that contains a comprehensive assessment of the extent to which, during the reporting period, EHA and the Constituent Councils have succeeded in implementing the Regional Public Health Plan.
- b) The reporting period for the purposes of clause a) is the two years ending on 30 June preceding the drafting of the report.
- c) EHA will comply with guidelines issued by the Chief Public Health Officer in respect of the preparation of reports on regional public health plans.
- d) EHA will submit the draft report to the Constituent Councils for approval for the draft report to be provided to the Chief Public Health Officer by 30 June 2014.

7. **FUNDING AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**

7.1. **Financial management**

- a) EHA shall keep proper books of account. Books of account must be available for inspection by any Board Member or authorised representative of any Constituent Council at any reasonable time on request.

- b) EHA must meet the obligations set out in the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011 (SA)*.
- c) The Chief Executive Officer must act prudently in the handling of all financial transactions for EHA and must provide financial reports to the Board at its meetings and if requested, the Constituent Councils.

7.2. **Bank account**

- a) EHA must establish and maintain a bank account with such banking facilities and at a bank to be determined by the Board.
- b) All cheques must be signed by two persons authorised by resolution of the Board.
- c) Any payments made by electronic funds transfer must be made in accordance with procedures approved by the external auditor.

7.3. **Budget**

- a) EHA must prepare a proposed budget for each financial year in accordance with clause 25, Schedule 2 to the Act.
- b) The proposed budget must be referred to the Board at its April meeting and to the Chief Executive Officers of the Constituent Councils by 30 April each year.
- c) A Constituent Council may comment in writing to EHA on the proposed budget by 31 May each year.
- d) EHA must, after 31 May but before the end of June in each financial year, finalise and adopt an annual budget for the ensuing financial year in accordance with clause 25, Schedule 2 to the Act.

7.4. **Funding contributions**

- a) Constituent Council shall be liable to contribute monies to EHA each financial year for its proper operation.
- b) The contribution to be paid by a Constituent Council for any financial year shall be determined by calculating the Constituent Council's proportion of EHA's overall activities in accordance with the Funding Contribution Calculation Formula (see Schedule 1).
- c) Constituent Council contributions shall be paid in two equal instalments due respectively on 1 July and 1 January each year.
- d) The method of determining contributions can be changed with the written approval of not less than two thirds of the Constituent

Councils. Where the method for calculating contributions is changed, the revised methodology will apply from the date determined by not less than two thirds of the Constituent Councils.

- e) If a council becomes a new Constituent Council after the first day of July in any financial year, the contribution payable by that council for that year will be calculated on the basis of the number of whole months (or part thereof) remaining in that year.

7.5. **Financial reporting**

- a) The Board shall present a balance sheet and the audited financial statements for the immediately previous financial year to the Constituent Councils by 31 August each year.
- b) The financial year for EHA is 1 July of a year to 30 June in the subsequent year.

7.6. **Audit**

- a) The Board shall appoint an external auditor in accordance with the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011 (SA)*.
- b) The audit of financial statements of EHA, together with the accompanying report from the external auditor, shall be submitted to the Chief Executive Officer and the Board.
- c) The books of account and financial statements shall be audited at least once per year.
- d) EHA will maintain an audit committee as required by, and to fulfil the functions set out in, clause 30, Schedule 2 to the Act.

7.7. **Liability**

The liabilities incurred and assumed by EHA are guaranteed by all Constituent Councils in the proportions specified in the Funding Contribution Calculation Formula.

7.8. **Insolvency**

In the event of EHA becoming insolvent, the Constituent Councils will be responsible for all liabilities of EHA in proportion to the percentage contribution calculated for each Constituent Council for the financial year prior to the year of the insolvency.

7.9. Insurance and superannuation requirements

- a) EHA shall register with the LGA Mutual Liability Scheme and comply with the rules of that scheme.
- b) EHA shall register with the LGA Asset Mutual Fund or otherwise advise the Local Government Risk Services of its insurance requirements relating to local government special risks in respect of buildings, structures, vehicles and equipment under the management, care and control of EHA.
- c) If EHA employs any person it shall register with Statewide Super and the LGA Workers Compensation Scheme and comply with the rules of those schemes.

8. BUSINESS PLAN

8.1. Contents of the Business Plan

- a) EHA must each year develop in accordance with this clause a business plan which supports and informs its annual budget.
- b) In addition to the requirements for the Business Plan set out in clause 24(6) of Schedule 2 to the Act, the Business Plan will include:
 - (a) a description of how EHA's functions relate to the delivery of the Regional Public Health Plan and the Business Plan;
 - (b) financial estimates of revenue and expenditure necessary for the delivery of the Regional Public Health Plan;
 - (c) performance targets which EHA is to pursue in respect of the Regional Public Health Plan.
- c) A draft of the Business Plan will be provided to the Constituent Councils on a date to be determined for the endorsement of the majority of those councils.
- d) The Board must provide a copy of the adopted annual Business Plan and budget to the Chief Executive Officers of each Constituent Council within five business days of its adoption.

8.2. Review and assessment against the Business Plan

- a) The Board must:
 - (a) compare the achievement of the Business Plan against performance targets for EHA at least once every financial year;

- (b) in consultation with the Constituent Councils review the contents of the Business Plan on an annual basis; and
 - (c) consult with the Constituent Councils prior to amending the Business Plan.
- b) EHA must submit to the Constituent Councils, by 30 September each year in respect of the immediately preceding financial year, an annual report on the work and operations of EHA detailing achievement of the aims and objectives of its Business Plan and incorporating any other information or report as required by the Constituent Councils.

9. MEMBERSHIP

9.1. New Members

The charter may be amended by the unanimous agreement of the Constituent Councils and the approval of the Minister to provide for the admission of a new Constituent Council or Councils, with or without conditions of membership.

9.2. Withdrawal of a member

- a) Subject to any legislative requirements, including but not limited to ministerial approval, a Constituent Council may resign from EHA at any time by giving a minimum 12 months notice to take effect from 30 June in the financial year after which the notice period has expired, unless otherwise agreed by unanimous resolution of the other Constituent Councils.
- b) Valid notice for the purposes of clause a) is notice in writing given to the Chief Executive Officer and each of the Constituent Councils.
- c) The withdrawal of any Constituent Council does not extinguish the liability of that Constituent Council to contribute to any loss or liability incurred by EHA at any time before or after such withdrawal in respect of any act or omission by EHA prior to such withdrawal.
- d) Payment of monies outstanding under the charter, by or to the withdrawing Constituent Council must be fully paid by 30 June of the financial year following 30 June of the year in which the withdrawal occurs unless there is a unanimous agreement as to alternative payment arrangements by the Constituent Councils.

10. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- a) The procedure in this clause must be applied to any dispute that arises between EHA and a Constituent Council concerning the affairs of EHA, or between the Constituent Councils concerning the affairs of EHA, including a dispute as to the meaning or effect of the charter and whether the dispute concerns a claim in common law, equity or under statute.
- b) EHA and a Constituent Council must continue to observe the charter and perform its respective functions despite a dispute.
- c) This clause does not prejudice the right of a party:
 - (a) to require the continuing observance and performance of the charter by all parties: or
 - (b) to institute proceedings to enforce payment due under the charter or to seek injunctive relief to prevent immediate and irreparable harm.
- d) Subject to clause c), pending completion of the procedure set out in clauses e) to i), a dispute must not be the subject of legal proceedings between any of the parties in dispute. If legal proceedings are initiated or continued in breach of this clause, a party to the dispute is entitled to apply for and be granted an order of the court adjourning those proceedings pending completion of the procedure set out in this clause 10.
- e) **Step 1: Notice of dispute:** A party to the dispute must promptly notify each other party to the dispute of:
 - (a) the nature of the dispute, giving reasonable details;
 - (b) what action (if any) the party giving notice seeks to resolve the dispute.

A failure to give notice under this clause e) does not entitle any other party to damages.
- f) **Step 2: Request for a meeting of the parties:** A party providing notice of a dispute under clause e) may at the same or a later time notify each other party to the dispute that the notifying party requires a meeting within 14 business days.
- g) **Step 3: Meeting of senior managers:** Where a meeting is requested under clause f), a senior manager of each party must

attend a meeting with the Board in good faith to attempt to resolve the dispute.

- h) **Step 4: Meeting of chief executive officers:** Where a meeting of senior managers held under clause g) fails to resolve the dispute, the chief executive officers of EHA and each of the Constituent Councils must attend a meeting in good faith to attempt to resolve the dispute.
- i) **Step 5: Mediation:** If the meeting held under clause h) fails to resolve the dispute, then the dispute may be referred to mediation by any party to the dispute.
- j) Where a dispute is referred to mediation under clause i):
 - (a) the mediator must be a person agreed by the parties in dispute or, if they cannot agree within 14 days, a mediator nominated by the President of the South Australian Bar Association (or equivalent office of any successor organisation);
 - (b) the role of the mediator is to assist in negotiating a resolution of a dispute;
 - (c) a mediator may not make a decision binding on a party unless the parties agree to be so bound either at the time the mediator is appointed or subsequently;
 - (d) the mediation will occur at EHA's principal office or any other convenient location agreed by both parties;
 - (e) a party is not required to spend more than the equivalent of one business day in mediation of a dispute;
 - (f) each party to a dispute will cooperate in arranging and expediting the mediation, including by providing information in the possession or control of the party reasonably sought by the mediator in relation to the dispute;
 - (g) each party will send a senior manager authorised to resolve the dispute to the mediation;
 - (h) the mediator may exclude lawyers acting for the parties in dispute;
 - (i) the mediator may retain persons to provide expert assistance to the mediator;

- (j) a party in dispute may withdraw from mediation if in the reasonable opinion of that party, the mediator is not acting in confidence or with good faith, or is acting for a purpose other than resolving the dispute;
- (k) unless otherwise agreed in writing:
 - (i) everything that occurs before the mediator is in confidence and in closed session;
 - (ii) discussions (including admissions and concessions) are without prejudice and may not be called into evidence in any subsequent legal proceedings by a party;
 - (iii) documents brought into existence specifically for the purpose of the mediation may not be admitted in evidence in any subsequent legal proceedings by a party; and
 - (iv) the parties in dispute must report back to the mediator within 14 days on actions taken based on the outcomes of the mediation; and
- (l) each party to the dispute must bear its own costs in respect of the mediation, plus an equal share of the costs and expenses of the mediator.

11. WINDING UP

- a) EHA may be wound up by the Minister acting upon a unanimous resolution of the Constituent Councils or by the Minister in accordance with clause 33(1)(b), Schedule 2 of the Act.
- b) In the event of EHA being wound up, any surplus assets after payment of all expenses shall be returned to the Constituent Councils in the proportions specified in the Funding Contribution Calculation Formula prior to the passing of the resolution to wind up.
- c) If there are insufficient funds to pay all expenses due by EHA on winding up, a levy shall be imposed on all Constituent Councils in the proportion determined under the Funding Contribution Calculation Formula prior to the passing of the resolution to wind up.

12. MISCELLANEOUS

12.1. Action by the Constituent Councils

The obligations of EHA under the charter do not derogate from the power of the Constituent Councils to jointly act in any manner prudent to the sound management and operation of EHA, provided that the Constituent Councils have first agreed by resolution of each Constituent Council as to the action to be taken.

12.2. Direction by the Constituent Councils

Any direction given to EHA by the Constituent Councils must be jointly given by the Constituent Councils to the Board of EHA by a notice or notices in writing.

12.3. Alteration and review of charter

- a) The charter will be reviewed by the Constituent Councils acting jointly at least once in every four years.
- b) The charter can only be amended by unanimous resolution of the Constituent Councils.
- c) Notice of a proposed alteration to the charter must be given by the Chief Executive Officer to all Constituent Councils at least four weeks prior to the Council meeting at which the alteration is proposed.
- d) The Chief Executive Officer must ensure that the amended charter is published in the *South Australian Government Gazette*, a copy of the amended charter is provided to the Minister and a copy is tabled for noting at the next Board meeting.

12.4. Access to information

A Constituent Council and a Board Member each has a right to inspect and take copies of the books and records of EHA for any proper purpose.

12.5. Circumstances not provided for

- a) If any circumstances arise about which the charter is silent or which are, incapable of taking effect or being implemented the Board or the Chief Executive Officer may decide the action to be taken to ensure achievement of the objects of EHA and its effective administration.
- b) Where the Chief Executive Officer acts in accordance with clause a) he or she shall report that decision at the next Board meeting.

13. INTERPRETATION

13.1. Glossary

Term	Definition
Act	<i>Local Government Act 1999 (SA)</i>
Board	board of management of EHA
Board Member	a member of EHA board appointed for the purposes of clause 2.2 of the charter.
Business Plan	a business plan compiled in accordance with part 8 of the charter
Chief Executive Officer	The chief executive officer of EHA
Chief Public Health Officer	the officer of that name appointed under the SA Public Health Act
Constituent Council	a council listed in clause 1.2 of the charter or admitted under clause 9.1.
EHA	Eastern Health Authority
Funding Contribution Calculation Formula	the formula set out in Schedule 1 to the charter.
LGA	Local Government Association of SA
LGA Asset Mutual Fund	means the fund of that name provided by Local Government Risk Services
LGA Mutual Liability Scheme	means the scheme of that name conducted by the LGA.
LGA Workers Compensation Scheme	a business unit of the Local Government Association of South Australia.
Minister	South Australian Minister for Health and Aging
Periodic Election	has the meaning given in the <i>Local Government (Elections) Act 1999 (SA)</i> .
Public Health Authority Partner	is an entity prescribed or declared to be a public health authority partner pursuant to

	the SA Public Health Act
Regional Public Health Plan	the plan prepared under part 6 of the charter for the areas of the Constituent Councils.
SA Public Health Act	<i>South Australian Public Health Act 2011 (SA)</i>
State Public Health Plan	means the plan of that name under the SA Public Health Act
StatewideSuper	Statewide Superannuation Pty Ltd ABN 62 008 099 223
Supported Residential Facility	has the meaning given in the <i>Supported Residential Facilities Act 1992 (SA)</i> .

13.2. Interpreting the charter

- a) The charter will come into effect on the date it is published in the *South Australian Government Gazette*.
- b) The charter supersedes previous charters of the Eastern Health Authority.
- c) The charter must be read in conjunction with Schedule 2 to the Act.
- d) EHA shall conduct its affairs in accordance with Schedule 2 to the Act except as modified by the charter as permitted by Schedule 2 to the Act.
- e) Despite any other provision in the charter:
 - (a) if the Act prohibits a thing being done, the thing may not be done;
 - (b) if the Act requires a thing to be done, that thing must be done; and
 - (c) if a provision of the charter is or becomes inconsistent with the Act, that provision must be read down or failing that severed from the charter to the extent of the inconsistency.

Schedule 1 – Funding Contribution Calculation Formula

The funding contribution required from each Constituent Council is based on an estimated proportion of EHA's overall activities occurring within its respective area.

The estimated proportion is determined using the Funding Contribution Calculation Formula which is detailed on the following page.

In the formula, activities conducted by EHA on behalf of Constituent Councils have been weighted according to their estimated proportion of overall activities (see table below).

It should be noted that the weighted proportion allocated to administration is divided evenly between the Constituent Councils.

A calculation of each Constituent Councils proportion of resources used for a range of different activities is made. This occurs annually during the budget development process and is based on the best available data from the preceding year.

The formula determines the overall proportion of estimated use for each council by applying the weighting to each activity.

Activity	Weighted % of Activities
Administration	12.5%
Food Safety Activity	35.0%
Environmental Health Complaints	7.0%
Supported Residential Facilities	6.5%
Cooling Towers	6.5%
Skin Penetration	0.5%
Swimming Pools	2%
Number of Year 8 & 9 Enrolments	15.0%
Number of clients attending clinics	15.0%
Total	100%

Activity Description	Code	Activity weighting	Constituent Council -1	Constituent Council - 2	Constituent Council - 3	Constituent Council - 4	Constituent Council - 5	Total
Administration (to be shared evenly)	A	12.5%	12.5%/ CC	12.5%/ CC	12.5%/ CC	12.5%/ CC	12.5%/ CC	12.5%
Food Safety Activity.	B	35%	(N/B)x AW	(N/B)x AW	(N/B)x AW	(N/B)x AW	(N/B)x AW	28.5%
Environmental Health Complaints	C	7%	(N/C)x AW	(N/C)x AW	(N/C)x AW	(N/C)x AW	(N/C)x AW	11%
Supported Residential Facilities.	D	6.5%	(N/D)x AW	(N/D)x AW	(N/D)x AW	(N/D)x AW	(N/D)x AW	10%
High Risk Manufactured Water Systems	E	6.5%	(N/E)x AW	(N/E)x AW	(N/E)x AW	(N/E)x AW	(N/E)x AW	3%
Skin Penetration	F	0.5%	(N/F)x AW	(N/F)x AW	(N/F)x AW	(N/F)x AW	(N/F)x AW	2%
Public Access Swimming Pools.	G	2%	(N/G)x AW	(N/G)x AW	(N/G)x AW	(N/G)x AW	(N/G)x AW	3%
School enrolments vaccinated	H	15.0%	(N/H)x AW	(N/H)x AW	(N/H)x AW	(N/H)x AW	(N/H)x AW	15%
Clients attending public clinics	I	15.0%	(N/I)x AW	(N/I)x AW	(N/I)x AW	(N/I)x AW	(N/I)x AW	15%
Total Proportion of contribution			Sum A-I	Sum A-I	Sum A-I	Sum A-I	Sum A-I	100%

- N = Number in Constituent Council area.
B through to I = Total number in all Constituent Councils.
AW = Activity weighting.
CC = Number of Constituent Councils (example provided uses five (5) Constituent Councils)