



**Annual Report** 

2022 - 2023





# **Contents**

Stormwater Victoria Committee Members 2022 - 2023	3
Sub Committee Members 2022 - 2023	4
President's Report	5-6
Treasurer's Report	7
Policy and Advocacy Annual Report 2023 - 2024	8-10
Conference and Awards Sub Committee Report	11-12
Events Sub Committee Report	13-16
Corporate and Sustaining Members 2022 - 2023	17
2022 Annual General Meeting Minutes	18-24
2022 - 2023 Audit Report	25-30

## Committee Members 2022 - 2023

Sarah Watkins President Melbourne Water





Alice Lisitsa Vice President WSP

Jessica Ward Treasurer Spiire





Charlotte Beresford Secretary Melbourne Water

Name	Organisation	Position
Aaron Dowling	E2Designlab	Committee Member
Damien Egan	Ocean Protect	Committee Member
Sarah Hollis	Rain Consulting	Committee Member
Zubin Irani	E2DesignLab	Committee Member
Bresson Li	Aurecon	Committee Member
Nathan Linder	GHD	Committee Member
Celine Marchenay	Water Technology	Committee Member
Maria Matamala	Engeny Water Management	Committee Member
Nausheen Obaid	City of Casey	Committee Member
John Phillips	Mornington Peninsula Shire Council	Committee Member
Alexander Raven	WGA	Committee Member
Alison Rickard	Melbourne Water	Committee Member
Sumari Smith	Stantec	Committee Member
Tania Struzina	Clearwater	Committee Member
Karl Velasco	SMEC	Committee Member
Jessica Ward	Spiire	Committee Member

### Sub Committee Members 2022 - 2023

#### Conference and Awards Sub Committee

Celine Marchenay (Conference Chair)

Maria Matamala (Program Chair)

Sarah Watkins (Executive)

Damien Egan

Alison Rickard

Sumari Smith

Jessica Ward (Executive)

#### Policy and Advocacy Sub Committee

Aaron Dowling (Chair)

Alice Lisitsa (Executive)

Nathan Lindner

Nausheen Obaid

Tom Stephanou

Karl Velasco

#### Technical Events and Communication Sub Committee

Bresson Li (Chair)

Charlotte Beresford (Executive)

Alan Davidson

Sarah Hollis (to April 2023)

Zubin Irani

John Phillips

Alexander Raven

Tania Struzina (to January 2023)

#### Executive

Sarah Watkins - President

Alice Lisitsa – Vice President

Jessica Ward – Treasurer

Charlotte Beresford – Secretary



# 2023 President's Report

Sarah Watkins - President Stormwater Victoria

Welcome to the 2023 Annual Report.

As you read through this year's Annual Report, the dedication, passion and power of our committee is evident. Across all aspects, Stormwater Victoria is continuing to mature, adapt and rise to the challenges of our time.

Normally the President's report would open with reflections of the achievements of the year – of which there are many – but I think it should first and foremost recognise the people that have worked to deliver those achievements. I am not only incredibly proud of the effort of the Committee, and in particular, the Executive, but immensely grateful for their volunteer time which they dedicate to bettering our industry. Our committee has developed a culture of respect, openness and positivity, which has enabled us to try new things, leverage each-other's strengths and ultimately deliver one of most significant years in the organisation's history.

The successes of this year are detailed within the Annual Report, and while I won't steal the thunder of those more deserving, it cannot go without mention that we held our largest State Conference this year, beating our record numbers of the previous year. There was incredible quality in presentations shared, and the panel session on the Stormwater Ministerial Advisory Committee was indispensable – highlighting that we have in fact made quite a lot of progress since the release of this important document 5 years ago. We hope to continue the transformation it seeks, and will be developing a White Paper from the session as part of our advocacy work.

Additionally, this month we held our largest webinar event ever, with over 600 participants attending the session on erosion and sediment controls. This shows not only the interest from the industry for guidance on such an important, and often forgotten issue, but also the incredible reach Stormwater Victoria is able to achieve through these webinars.

It has been a continued commitment of Stormwater Victoria to support providing free webinars, as a way of sharing important knowledge and building the capacity of not only our industry, but others as well. These sessions are available to not only you, our members, but others that we work with, and need to work with to succeed. Your membership enables us to influence further afield.

We've taken this ethos and strengthen our partnerships with adjacent organisations, such as the Association of Land Development Engineers (ALDE), Department of Energy, Climate Change and Action (DEECA), Melbourne Water, as well as our interstate Stormwater partners. We have been meeting regularly to create new opportunities for networking, so stay tuned for some of these over the next 12 months.

Our events team has continued to work closely with the Policy and Advocacy subcommittee, taking on board feedback from our membership and aligning it with key policy initiatives and issues to create a forward program of events. This level coordination and breadth (considering both policy all the way down to construction) demonstrates how we have grown as an organisation and continue to get the better and more efficient each year.



# 2023 President's Report

This, coupled with the (long-overdue) end to the pandemic enabled us to deliver a face-to-face breakfast seminar earlier in the year, as part of our hugely successful stormwater Flow Targets series. This sell-out event was a highlight, and is something we hope to offer again and build off in future.

Reflecting on my time as President over the past couple of years I have encouraged two big shifts in what Stormwater Victoria offers to its members: an ear, and a voice. Back in 2017 we first initiated a "members session" at the conference, as a way of hearing feedback from the membership base on topics they wanted for events, policy issues they wanted us to focus on and more. This approach has flourished over the last two years: we have offered a number of members-only sessions to inform key policy submissions for SQIDEP, EPA guidance, the Sustainable Water Strategy and the 2022 Flood Inquiry. We will continue to be a voice for our members on these important issues. Your membership both supports and strengthens our platform, and we hope you see the value this provides.

Looking across the country, our relationship with National and the other states is one of collaboration. We were pleased to host the Stormwater Australia and NSW presidents as guests at our state conference in June, and used the time to discuss, plan and strengthen our relationships. It's amazing what can be cooked up when you're in the same room, enjoying a cup of tea together.

Whilst the pandemic may be behind us, there are certainly challenges ahead. Consecutive La Nina events have created some of the largest floods in decades, waking us up to the vulnerability we face to extreme weather events. The prediction of a return to El Nino may swing the pendulum towards drought, and another wave of (briefly latent but not forgotten) challenges for water management. There is more work to be done, but the actions we take in this decade can and will shape what our future cities, communities, waterways and lives will look like. It is a challenge, yes, but we have some of the most passionate, intelligent and tenacious people of any industry leading the way.

Thanks again to you, the membership, for all your support of Stormwater Victoria. Your energy and attendance at our events makes them a stand-out, equally for the chance to network as much as learn. Thank you for sharing our webinars with your colleagues and on LinkedIn, for sponsoring our sessions, engaging with us and giving us your time to deep-dive on issues for working groups.

At this Annual General Meeting we will welcome new members, a new president, and a new committee. I'm incredibly honoured to have been leading this organisation as President over the last two years. The work of the leaders that have come before me, that reside in our industry, that sit on our committee has enabled the organisation to evolved so much since I first joined the committee over 10 years ago. I'm incredibly excited to see what the next chapter, and decade of Stormwater Victoria achieves.

Thank you to all for your support. Until next time, faithfully yours.

Sarah Watkins President Stormwater Victoria

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## 2023 Treasurer's Report

Comments on Stormwater Victoria's accounts for the 2022-2023 financial year as follows:

- As of the 30 June 2023, the association's total assets were \$145,974 with our total liabilities at \$2,729 leaving net assets at \$143,245.
- For reference, as of 30 June 2022, our net assets were \$122,621.
- The Association had an income of \$80,259. Our main sources of income in 2022/23 were: Memberships \$40,227;
   Conference Revenue \$17,500; and Melbourne Water sponsorship \$22,000.
- The association had expenses totalling \$59,648 which are mostly made up of our secretariat fees, Conference and Events expenses, as well as our national levy to SIA for which we paid \$11,703.
- This financial year we made a surplus of \$20,611.
- The surplus for the 2022-2023 financial year is due to the financials for the 2022 Stormwater Victoria Conference, which was held in early June 2022, not being fully reconciled by the end of the 2022, but included in this year's accounts. The profit from the 2023 Conference has not yet been finalised, however is expected to be in the order of \$30,000 to \$35,000 and will appear the income statement for the 2023-2024 financial year
- Our membership uptake continues to remain strong. We've had
  a very active year with our webinars, feedback events, the state
  conference, advocacy and special projects, and have once
  again shown value to our members. The outlook for the coming
  year is extremely positive.
- The Association will lodge the current tax return to the end of June 2023, by the end of August.

The full Stormwater Victoria Audit Report and Financial Statements are included in the Stormwater Victoria Annual Report.

Jessica Ward - Treasurer

Stormwater Victoria





# Policy and Advocacy Annual Report 2023 - 2024

#### INTRODUCTION

#### Vision

Stormwater is an invaluable resource, and it is our vision that stormwater is integrated into holistic water management creating sustainable communities, connecting built and natural environments.

#### **Principles**

As an industry association we hold ourselves responsible to act on behalf of our members in line with our core principles of:

- Leadership;
- Networking;
- Collaboration; and
- Appreciation.

#### **Purpose**

It is pivotal Stormwater Victoria is an active leader in the water and urban development industries, bringing together government, industry and practitioners to affect sustainable and holistic management of stormwater by:

- giving an independent and authoritative voice on stormwater issues which represent the views, interests and concerns of its members;
- building a cross-disciplinary, cross-sectoral community of shared interest, collaboration and responsibility in stormwater management;
- driving positive change, encourage innovative practices in stormwater service delivery to achieve improved environmental and sustainability outcomes;
- facilitating professional development, fulfilment and growth for its members;
- communication and advocacy for better regulations, policy and guidelines; and
- identifying and actively working towards new and innovative approaches in engaging and empowering the community in stormwater water management.

For the 2022-2023 committee year, the Policy and Advocacy Subcommittee had a strong focus on identifying the key areas where our membership is seeking assistance from Stormwater Victoria.

The following areas were identified as focus areas for the subcommittee to provide a voice for our membership:

- Compliance with EPA / Urban Stormwater Management Guidance Target
- 2. Expanding Stormwater reuse
- Guidance on Modelling software HPC/Classic, MUSIC, RORB

There has been a further advancement in Stormwater Victoria's position within the industry as a key advocacy organisation and we had the opportunity to provide input to various other industry bodies and organisations.

#### **BUSINESS PLANNING**

Stormwater Victoria develops yearly business plans, including actions and initiatives which provide direction and guidance on the selection, prioritisation and allocation of Committee resources for advocacy, projects and events.

#### **Focus Areas**

We are focused on the following focus areas that drive our actions:

Membership representation – Stormwater Victoria will continue to provide a voice to its members, ensuring that issues or needs relating to their work in stormwater are conveyed effectively through the right channels with the intention of affecting positive change. Where there is a new or updated policy document, a new type or version of software released or any other change or significant issue in the stormwater space that is critical to the industry, Stormwater Victoria seeks to understand the views of the membership base. This is done through engagement sessions, polling and other means of communication. Stormwater Victoria will then act as conduit, providing a voice for its members by way of position papers, meetings with relevant authorities and other forums.



# Policy and Advocacy Annual Report 2023 - 2024

Stormwater Victoria was invited to submit a position paper on the 2022 flood event in Victoria with a key focus on Implementation and effectiveness of the 2016 Victorian Floodplain Management Strategy in relation to the Flood Event; the implications for future planning decisions including —

- a. how the Victorian planning framework can ensure climate mitigation is a consideration in future planning decisions:
- b. how corporate interests may influence decision-making at the expense of communities and climate change preparedness

A member engagement session was held in April 2023 to understand and collate the views of the membership. This was subsequently presented in the form of a position paper in response to these key questions.

The Advocacy sub-committee supported the delivery of a Stormwater Flow Target Series which was delivered by Events Sub-committee. As noted earlier in the year, SV members and broader stormwater industry finds it challenging to achieve compliance with EPA/Urban Stormwater Management Guidance targets. The Flow Target series ran by SV, allowed the industry to share challenges within current developments to achieve the challenging targets as well as showcased some industry leading opportunities to make considerable progress towards achieving the targets. This will be an area that the advocacy committee will continue to focus on and build capacity in the next FY.

• Stakeholder engagement – Stormwater Victoria's presence in the industry has grown stronger and is now established as the preeminent body in Victoria representing the stormwater industry. The committee has been involved with numerous initiatives that influence and guide industry directions, including commentary and input with respect to other industry bodies and promotion of stormwater management and stormwater as a resource to other organisations. Through this advocacy work, we have been able to influence development and review of important industry policies, strategic goal setting and other organisational pursuits. Stormwater Victoria seeks to further advance strategic relationships with other relevant organisations and associations to strengthen its position in the broader industry and better advocate in the stormwater space.

This year we have focused on developing our relationships with other associations in the industry in order to learn from one another and improve our practices and innovation within the committee. SV has undertaken its first collaborative event with Association of Land Development Engineers (ALDE), as part of SV's broader VUDM industry consultation process. Additionally, we are in the process of planning a second joint venture coming in late September. This will be a workshop session focused on the topic of Stormwater Volume Management for Greenfield Developments.

SV has recently been involved in the Melbourne Water led initiative 'Urban Planning & Development Strategic Collaboration Group', a collective of numerous organisations and associations established to facilitate collaboration, improve communication and drive positive change in the water sector. SV involvement in this group extends our industry influence and presents an opportunity to affect real change on pertinent industry issues that are affecting our members.

Over the past year SV has also strengthened its relationships with other regional Stormwater Associations including Stormwater Australia and other state bodies. We have consulted on the national SEC and have liaised with the national president and other board members on opportunities for collaboration including improvement of SQIDEP protocols and a national Stormwater resources database.

 Policy development – Stormwater Victoria remains abreast of existing industry standards and practices and proactively identifies gaps and opportunities for improvement. This includes investigating areas in the industry that are lacking clear policy guidance.



# Policy and Advocacy Annual Report 2023 - 2024

The Policy and Advocacy team have been working on building our plan for the VUDM, engaging a consultant to develop the framework based on the draft and in consultation with stakeholders, and hold consultation sessions with SV and ALDE members as well as the industry at large. The VUDM Working Group has begun liaising with industry organisations for feedback and support and a plan for funding the broader project is currently underway.

The next steps for the VUDM development are recommended as follows:

- As part of the working group, review the VUDM framework and Governance framework developed by the consultants;
- Once finalised, the document will be shared with industry for support and to negotiate with authorities and seek funding for the final document
- Develop the VUDM document once funding has been established and 'buy in' has been successfully negotiated with all relevant authorities.

The goal is to achieve the first two steps in this coming Committee year and commence the third. Once the working group arrives at this point, they will be in a better position to establish a complete timeframe and funding structure. A dedicated working group focused exclusively on the development of a drainage manual within the Stormwater Victoria committee as well has been established. An industry working group is also being considered. Their time and expertise should be utilised to advance the steps identified above.

#### Overarching focus for 2023/24:

- We are focused on further building and leveraging organisational relationships to influence important decision making and policy, giving voice to our members on important industry issues.
- We are focused on delivering value to our members through exploration and engagement of significant changes that affect our members. This includes organizing webinars, workshops, and direct targeted advocacy on specific issues.
- We will continue to learn and liaise with other industry bodies to further extending our reach and standing; thus, expanding our value proposition and ability to enact and facilitate change.

# Conference and Awards Sub Committee Report 2022 - 2023

The purpose of the Conference and Awards sub-committee is to assist with co-ordination of the Annual Conference and Awards for Excellence. The sub-committee members liaise with any seminar partner organisations and assist the Conference Chair and the secretariat (GEMS Event Management Australia) in selecting conference theme, streams, speakers, abstracts, program including technical tours and other associated conference activities. The sub-committee members assist with co-ordinating any review awards criteria, update based on feedback from entrants and in discussion with other states; and organise judges, market the program and communicate the event in liaison with the Events sub-committee and the Secretariat. The Conference and Awards sub-committee confirms budget requirements with the President and Treasurer.

The 2022/23 Conference & Awards sub-committee was made up:

- Celine Marchenay (Chair)
- Sarah Watkins (Executive, President)
- Alison Rickard (supporting the Technical Tour development)
- Maria Matamala (supporting the Program and Abstracts preparation/review)
- Jessica Ward (supporting the Program and Abstracts preparation/review)
- Sumari Smith (supporting inputs to the Newsletter and Student Scholarship)
- Damien Eagen (allocated to support the Awards for Excellence nomination, which was not held at the 2023 Stormwater Victoria Conference 'Driving Change and Embracing the Challenges' in Ballarat)

The purpose of the 2022/23 Conference and Awards sub-committee was to plan and deliver a successful and sustainable Stormwater Conference to be held in Regional Victoria in Ballarat in June 2023 with the following KPIs and outcomes:

- Maintain or increase conference attendance numbers
   The total number of delegates to the 2023 Stormwater Victoria
   Conference under the theme of 'Driving Change and Embracing the Challenges' was 219, up by 4 attendees from the 2022
   Geelong State Conference.
- Maintain financial viability of the conference
  After receiving a \$17,000 grant from Business Events Victoria, we made a surplus of approx. \$35k at the end of the Conference.
- Increase diversity of speakers

Created a panel discussion on what happens 5 years on from the recommendations adopted from the 2018 Stormwater Ministerial Advisory Committee.

We invited an interstate keynote speaker (Tony McAlister) who shared stories and the journey from 'need' to 'concept' to 'reality' on a major stormwater management land development in Queensland.

We invited the Presidents of Stormwater Australia and Stormwater NSW to attend and provided free registration. The Presidents of Stormwater Queensland and Stormwater SA were unable to attend.





# Conference and Awards Sub Committee Report 2022 - 2023

#### Improve the event quality:

- We streamlined the abstracts review process by distributing ahead of the Christmas break the abstract review tasks amongst all the committee members to lighten the load on the sub-committee members and improve on delegation.
- We fixed bugs with the conference app.
- We created a student scholarship and were successful in funding for one student to attend.
- We invited all delegates to vote for their 'Best Presentation' of the day and celebrated the best speaker.

#### The Conference

The 2023 Stormwater Victoria Conference theme was 'Driving Change and Embracing the Challenges' to acknowledge that many of the water problems require leadership development beyond finding technical solutions. We adjusted the four concurrent streams to match the theme with:

- Inspiring a shared vision
- Innovation and crossing boundaries
- Fostering collaboration and building trust
- Taking action and celebrating successes

We experimented and took small steps towards change including:

- Introducing a panel session which was highly rated. Future conferences may want to incorporate one or more panel sessions
- Having an illustrator producing visual sketches of the key topics and takeaways from the various sessions she attended. It produced great marketing materials and summary visual documents.
- Having an offsider keynote speaker thought provoking on Day 1 to kick off the 2-day conference with an open mindset.
- Inviting students to apply for a scholarship and seek funding from the delegates.
- Awarding a best presentation award with vote from the audience rather than the committee members.

#### **Technical Tour**

The Technical Tour was delivered on the day after the conference, on Thursday 8th June 2023. A total of 17 delegates registered to attend the technical tour. It included visits to Paul's Wetland in Ballarat, Yarrowee, Winter Valley and Insignia.

#### **Awards for Excellence**

It was decided not to hold any Awards for Excellence during the 2023 conference and skip a year due to low number of nominations in previous years and the risk to devaluate the Awards. In 2024, the Conference and Awards sub-committee is to decide whether the Awards for Excellence are to be held during the Stormwater Victoria Conference or as a separate event.

Below are the key takeaways from the 2023 conference evaluation report to be used when preparing the 2024 conference by the next sub-committee:

- Regional venues are preferred, rather than Melbourne metro.
- Student scholarship received good feedback and could be scaled up by developing effective funding arrangements and networks with key Universities).
- Panel session which was highly rated. Future conferences may want to incorporate one or more panel sessions.
- Increase inclusivity in building the conference program including allowing for audio/video recording for regional professionals who cannot attend.
- Increase operational and maintenance sector representatives given the future of interest from the audience being related to O&M. One suggestion being floated may be to co-host the SV O&M manual course the day before/after the conference to incentive participants to the training to attend the conference also.

#### Prepared by:

#### Celine Marchenay - Chair

Conference & Awards Sub Committee 2022/23 Stormwater Victoria

Events Subcommittee for FY22-23 is comprised of the following group members:

- Bresson Li Chair
- Charlotte Beresford Executive Representative
- Zubin Irani Member
- John Phillips Member
- Alan Davidson Member
- Alex Raven Member
- Sarah Hollis Member (resigned in April 2023)
- Tania Struzina Member (on leave since January 2023)

This year's Sub Committee kicked off with identifying the key things to focus on for the 2022-2023 term. The team agreed that the core role of the sub-committee was to:

- Keep the industry updated on significant industry developments and current/ emerging issues, to increase knowledge and engagement
- Provide a forum for discussion and progression of current industry issues
- Provide an opportunity to network to strengthen relationships within the industry
- Provide value to our members through technical events and networking
- Collaborate with other sub-committees within SV to provide relevant industry/educational events
- Oversee, coordinate and propel industry and membership engagement by coordinating and delivering a number of key committee projects and initiatives.
- Engage with SV members and the wider water industry through Social Media and Newsletter channels

Understanding our core roles to our membership helped us to drive the strategy of the events sub-committee. This year, the committee is proud to have delivered multiple events that are well received from the industry (included in table on the following page). The highlight this year is to be able to shape and deliver a series of interesting and important events on the EPA Stormwater Flow Targets topic, which attracted a significant level of interest and engagement across the industry.



Event/s	Month	vent Type
Water Drinks and Networking event	Oct 2022	In person
Christmas Drinks	Dec 2022	In person
Stormwater Flow Targets Technical Series Session 1: Foundations for the Next Shift in Stormwater Management	Feb 2023	Webinar 146 live attendance 152 recording views 298 in total
Stormwater Flow Targets Technical Series Session 2: Changing Stormwater Management Practices and New Approaches (Breakfast Seminar)	March 2023	Breakfast seminar 55 virtual 81 in person 136 in total
Stormwater Flow Targets Technical Series Session 3 Modelling New Assets (Webinar)	April 2023	Webinar 117 live 72 recording reviews 189 in total
Sediment and Erosion Control Webinar	August 2023	Webinar Over 600 registration

While all the events delivery were happening in the forefront, we have continued to work in the background on a number of aspects, with the aim to continue to improve the value we deliver to our membership. The committee reviews the survey results after events and identified a few key areas that SV Events committee continues to work on and shape in our next term:

- Stormwater to Potable
- Further workshops/case studies to explore ways to achieve EPA Targets
- More in person networking events

We are proud to have had another very successful year, exceeding various factors that we had set for ourselves at the beginning of this term (see table on the following page). Well done and congratulation to our team!

Success Factors identified in Business Plan FY2022-2023	Comments	Performance
Blended event to be inclusive of regional members	Event targeted:  4 x webinars (including standalone, or in series),  1 x live-event proposed,  1-2 x networking events, including 1x in person SV networking event  Events delivered:  A series of 2 x webinars + 1 x live breakfast seminar (all recordings available to paid registrations)  1 x standalone webinar  3 x in person events (includes 2 x networking & 1 x seminar)	All the events are well coordinated and delivered this year. All committee members on the team took responsibility and leadership at some point which really helped to strongly deliver a series of positive and interesting events.
Ensure gender diversity of presenters	We have worked actively to promote gender diversity in both the presenter group and audience group	<ul> <li>Diverse presenters in all our events this year</li> <li>Committee continues to ensure diversity of presenters</li> </ul>
Co-run at least one of the events with a new organisation (if possible given climate)	We have partnered with multiple external agencies to deliver events this year. This includes EPA Victoria, DEECA, Melbourne Water, Melbourne University, private consultancies, etc.	<ul> <li>Collaborated with a range of external agencies.</li> <li>Continue to work towards improvement</li> </ul>
Implement a review after each event to record reflections and lessons learned, and progressively document these into annual report FY22-23.	We have surveys sent out to our members to gather feedback after each event.	<ul> <li>Survey results reviewed</li> <li>Feedback and gaps for improvement identified</li> <li>Recommend Events Team next year to work towards some internal "lesson learned" meetings, to review and reflect as a group after each event.</li> </ul>
Communications		
Increase engagement of events by exploring the effectiveness of current promotional strategy (Outlet Newsletter & Social Media)	This year, we have integrated our Social Media and Newsletter team under the overarching umbrella of the Events and Communication team.	This approach has worked effectively, as our comms team can promote our events effectively by directly reaching out to our members through LinkedIn or E-Newsletters.

Success Factors identified in Business Plan FY2022-2023	Comments	Performance
Ensure event topics respond to survey and membership engagement.	Topics covered in events and webinars are based on feedback from previous surveys	The Events responded to the member feedback from last year's survey by delivering a series of important events. The team is working towards shaping more events that add value to our membership.
Ensure that event or webinar feedback is reviewed, with constructive feedback implemented on subsequent delivery of events	Events feedback is reviewed.	<ul> <li>Construction feedback is implemented.</li> <li>The team will continue to review member feedback and implement accordingly.</li> </ul>
Increase student-memberships and engagement through industry events	Continue to work towards this	Expand our students membership through university outreach.

We would like to thank all Events committee members for their contribution to the SV committee and to our SV membership. We could not have achieved the success without your contribution, so well done to everyone on the team!

After a successful restructure to reform the Events and Communication subcommittee in the beginning of this term, the team looks to continue to build on the success we have achieved this year. The team continues to aim to deliver excellent value and benefits to our members and the broader stormwater industry in the future.

Prepared by:

#### Bresson Li

Chair Events Sub Committee Stormwater Victoria

# Corporate and Sustaining Members 2022 - 2023

#### Sustaining Members

**AECOM** 

Alluvium Consulting Australia

Arup Australia

Atlan (formerly SPEL)

Aurecon Australasia

Australian Tanks

Bligh Tanner

Drapper Environmental Consultants

E2designlab

Enviropod

GHD

GRAF Australia

Humes

Kellogg Brown & Root (KBR)

Kingspan Water and Energy

Protector Australia

**Urban Asset Solutions** 

Water Technology

#### Corporate Members

Afflux Consulting Stormwater Managerment

Aquametro Pty Ltd

Banyule City Council

Beca Pty Ltd

Beveridge Williams

City of Casey

City of Greater Geelong

City of Melbourne

City of Monash

City of Port Phillip

City Of Whittlesea

Dalton Consulting Engineers.

DELWP

Engeny Australia Pty Ltd

Glen Eira City Council

Greater Western Water

**HARC** 

Manningham City Council

Melbourne Water

Moreland City Council

Mornington Peninsula Shire

Ocean Protect

Optimal Stormwater

PEAKURBAN VIC Pty Ltd

Rain Consulting Pty Ltd

Reeds Consulting

S.V.C. Products Pty Ltd

South East Water Limited

Spiire

Stantec Australia Pty Ltd

## 2023 Annual General Meeting Minutes

# Stormwater Victoria Annual General Meeting Minutes

Via Zoom Meeting Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2022

E-mail: office@stormwatervictoria.asn.au ABN: 13 151 464 564

The 2022 Annual General Meeting of the Stormwater Victoria was held via Zoom from 12.06 pm until 12.27 pm.

#### 1. MEETING CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS

Charlotte Beresford welcomed members and guests to the AGM and gave an Acknowledgement of Country.

#### 2. ATTENDANCE

Aaron Dowling

Alexander Raven

Alice Lisitsa

Alison Rickard

Bresson Li

Celine Marchenay

**Charlotte Beresford** 

Jamie Tainton

Jess Ward

John Phillips

Karl Velasco

**Katie Prout** 

Maria Matamala

Nathan Lindner

Nausheen Obaid

Rachelle Adamowicz

Sarah Hollis

Stephen D'Agata

Sumari Smith

Tania Struzina

Tom Stephanou

Zubin Irani

#### **APOLOGIES AND PROXIES**

Name	Organisation	Proxy to
Sarah Watkins	Melbourne Water	N/A

#### 3. MINUTES OF 2021 STORMWATER VICTORIA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Resolution: That the Minutes of AGM held on 31st August, 2021 to be confirmed.

MOVED: Charlotte Beresford

**SECONDED**: Alice Lisitsa

#### 4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

There was no business arising from the minutes of the 2021 AGM.

#### **5. CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence tabled at the Annual General Meeting.

#### 6. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Welcome to the 2022 Annual Report. This year, given our President – Sarah Watkins, is away until after the AGM, the report has been developed by the Vice President – Alice Lisitsa, and thus, unlike previous years, there is a Vice President report (rather than a President Report).

#### General

As our communities and professional workplaces are still deciding on how far they will open up in the end, it seems we have settled on a hybrid approach to working in the Stormwater industry which has clearly remained busy on all fronts. While the preference to maximise our time has been keeping us from commuting five days a week to work in the office, this has conflicted with our fondness for meeting face to face on occasion, and so a hybrid working arrangement has largely become the norm. Along with the industry at large, Stormwater Victoria (SV) has settled on a similar approach, ensuring maximum engagement by holding committee meetings online, while taking opportunities to connect in person when we can, as we have done recently with our Annual Committee Planning Day.

The past 12 months at SV has been a blur with the litany of activities happening across the board within all subcommittees and collaboratively across the committee at large. SV has been planning and restructuring, identifying the best approach to maximise our collective efforts and resources. We have been convening regularly to address and identify the priorities and plans for our individual subcommittees to deliver a greater service to our members going forward.

Below is a broad summary of the many initiatives that our subcommittees have been advancing over the past 12 months.

#### **Conference and Awards**

Stormwater Victoria has, along with the industry, slowly started to reconnect face to face, most notably with our first in person Stormwater Victoria Conference in many years, held in Geelong in June 2022. This was accompanied by Welcome Drinks, Conference Dinner, Awards, numerous breakfast and lunch catchups and many other opportunities to interact with our colleagues and friends and play catchup from the previous few years.

The event was a huge success, with a greater delegate registration than any other state or national conference held in person. Everyone was clearly itching to see each other and with that in mind the Conference and Awards team is already taking steps to plan the next state conference event.

#### **Events**

While the world has substantially opened up, we have continued our pandemic established tradition to deliver regular, quality webinar content, free to our members. This has included the *Urban Streamflow Impact Assessment: Informing Planning to Protect Waterway Values, Waste Tyre Permeable Pavements: From Theory and Laboratory Development to Large Scale Field Trial,* two *WSUD Operation and Maintenance Webinars* and *MUSIC Guideline updates*. They have also organised a members exclusive *Central Gippsland Region Sustainable Water Strategy Member Engagement Session* which was presented as a position paper with support from the Policy and Advocacy team as well as a session presenting the *Stormwater Victoria 2022 Award Winners*. This is just a sample of the work and the content the Events team has managed to deliver to our members. Furthermore, they have also been hard at work planning the coming year of events, which is shaping up to be jam packed full of learning and networking opportunities for our members.

#### **Policy and Advocacy**

In the policy space, SV has taken some substantial steps forward in developing the much-anticipated *Victorian Urban Drainage Manual (VUDM)*. The project was presented at this year's state conference in Geelong with collaborative polling and call out for interest in the working group with great success. The VUDM Framework Development EOI was awarded to an expert consultancy, and it is anticipated that this will be finalised in the months ahead ready for consultation with the industry.

The P&A subcommittee has been undertaking activities in the Advocacy space, working closely with Events to deliver member engagement described above in the **Events** section and delivering position papers advocating for our members.

P&A have also supported the furthering of relationship with National and other state bodies, as well as developing new and growing connections with other associations, in particular Association of Land Development Engineers (ALDE). This is only the beginning of our push to collaborate with other associations and stakeholders in the stormwater space.

#### **Communication and Special Projects**

This committee has kept our social media presence on LinkedIn active and engaging for our members. They have also managed to continue to develop quality content for our, now notorious, "The Outlet" newsletter, delivering regular publications updating members on industry news. As Stormwater National has finalised the process of updating their website and logo and developing a centralised knowledge hub, this subcommittee has been actively involved, supporting National through this process. Additionally, they have been exploring the implication of these changes for SV

and planning for a logo update, along with associated communication templates, that will align with National's new look.

This subcommittee has also put together a Sponsorship prospectus, with the support from our immediate past president Jamie Tainton and GEMS. This will allow SV to target future and ongoing sponsorship from our broader industry in the next financial year.

After engagement with our membership base, the Communication and Special Project subcommittee has gathered the industry views on the SQIDEP and has developed a position based on these which has been consolidated into a position paper for publication.

#### **National**

SV's relationship with National continues to advance allowing for a greater level of transparency as well as the ability to voice the interests of SV within the Stormwater National agenda. Many of our committee members have also put their hand up to support National projects including Website development, Administration activities and National Conference.

As a number of board positions at national have changed hands and they have welcomed in a new President, SV is taking advantage of the opportunity to continue to strengthen this relationship and get involved in national strategy planning that will advance the needs of the states and maximise the efficacy of National.

#### Acknowledgements

Congratulations to Sarah Watkins for the amazing work and dedication as she hit the ground running her first year as President of SV. As President, she has been the face of SV at our first in-person conference and has provided supportive leadership throughout the year. It has clearly been a successful year and it will be great to continue working with her and building on SV's growth. This past year, SV has added a new adjunct position to the committee for Past President that has allowed for a more seamless transition for the new president. After many years on the committee, Jamie spent two years as president of SV, in which time she has transformed the committee under the challenges of the pandemic and all the associated chaos. Thanks largely to her commitment, our committee has never been so cohesive and connected and driven. After her time as President she stayed on in the new Past President role, providing guidance and much needed direction, not only to the President but to all of us. Her time with us is now coming to an end and we are grateful for all her dedication to the Committee which would not be what it is today without her.

Thank you also to all our SV committee members, both those who are staying on and those who are leaving us. They have all been working tirelessly on all the above activities, collaborating between subcommittees and planning for the future. The SV Committee has been moving from strength to strength, all due to our committee's continued dedication to the SV cause. And yet, as confirmed after our annual SV committee planning day we have so much more we want to deliver. This year, we are directing an event series to support members navigate the EPA stormwater targets, developing the much needed and much anticipated VUDM, planning more in person networking events and online webinars and planning our next state conference, to name just a few. We have a lot of goals and ideas for the coming year, so watch this space!

Alice Lisitsa
Vice President
Stormwater Victoria

Resolution: That the Vice President's Report be accepted.

MOVED: Aaron Dowling SECONDED: Nausheen Obaid

#### 7. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE AND OFFICE BEARERS

The 2021/2022 Stormwater Victoria Management Committee were required to step down. The Executive positions of President, Vice President and Secretary are two-year terms that will not expire until 2023. The role of Treasurer was listed as vacant at this AGM due to Steve D'Agata resigning from the Committee.

The following members of the 2021/2022 Committee had advised they were stepping down from the committee or did not renominate:

Jamie Tainton, Afflux – Immediate Past President Rachelle Adamowicz Sarah Hollis Steve D'Agata Katie Prout

Based on the nominations received, and as the number of nominations did not exceed the positions available, the following nominees were elected to positions on the Stormwater Victoria Committee for 2022/2023:

Name	Organisation	Position
Sarah Watkins	Melbourne Water	President
Alice Lisitsa	Arup	Vice President
Charlotte Beresford	Melbourne Water	Secretary
Jessica Ward	Spiire	Treasurer
Aaron Dowling	E2Designlab	Committee Member
Alexander Raven	Arcadis	Committee Member
Alison Rickard	Melbourne Water	Committee Member
Bresson Li	Aurecon	Committee Member
Celine Marchenay	Water Technology	Committee Member
Damien Egan	Ocean Protect	Committee Member

John Phillips	Mornington Peninsula Shire	Committee Member
Karl Velasco	SMEC	Committee Member
Maria Matamala	Engeny	Committee Member
Nathan Lindner	GHD	Committee Member
Nausheen Obaid	City of Casey	Committee Member
Sumari Smith	Cardno	Committee Member
Tom Stephanou	Greater Western Water	Committee Member
Tom Stephanou	Greater Western Water	Committee Member
Zubin Irani	E2Designlab	Committee Member

As per the Rules of Association the following people were appointed as adjunct committee members for the 2022/2023 year

No Nomination		Student Member / Adjunct Committee Member
Not Applicable		Immediate Past President / Adjunct Committee Member
Tania Struzina	Clearwater	Adjunct Committee Member

Resolution: That the nominations for the Stormwater Victoria Committee be accepted.

MOVED: Charlotte Beresford SECONDED: Alexander Raven

Two nominees for the 2022/2023 Committee were not able to lodge their nominations by the deadline, and have subsequently volunteered to assist the committee in 2022/2023. These individuals do not have voting rights at Committee Meetings.

Sarah Hollis	Water Modelling Solutions	Committee Volunteer
Alan Davidson	Spiire	Committee Volunteer

#### **Nomination of Office Bearers**

Nominations were tabled for the available Executive Committee position.

Jessica Ward nominated for the position of Treasurer unopposed

The following Executive Members were elected at the 2021 AGM and were not required to renominate. Their term will conclude at the 2023 AGM.

- Sarah Watkins in the position of President
- Alice Lisitsa in the position of Vice President
- Charlotte Beresford in the position of Secretary

Resolution: As there was only one nomination for the position of Treasurer, it was moved that the Executive Committee of Stormwater Victoria for 2022/2023 be approved

MOVED: Aaron Dowling SECONDED: Bresson Li

#### **10. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR**

Resolution: That E H Tan be reappointed as auditors for the Stormwater Victoria for 2022/2023

MOVED: Maria Matamala SECONDED: Zubin Irani

#### 11. GENERAL BUSINESS

Alice Lisitsa thanked everyone who is leaving the committee today with a special thanks to the Treasurer, Stephen D'Agata and our previous President, Jamie Tainton.

#### 12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Annual General Meeting for Stormwater Victoria will be held in August 2023.

#### 13. CLOSE OF MEETING

There being no further business, the Vice President, Alice Lisitsa closed the meeting at 12.27 pm.

These minutes form a true record of the business of the Stormwater Victoria Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2022

Prepared by: Julie McGraw, GEMS

Date: Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2022

# 2022 - 2023 Audit Report

#### STORMWATER INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA

#### PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

		2023
INCOME		
Conference Revenue		
Member	-	
Non Member	-	
Reimbursement of Seeding Funds	17,500	17,500
Events Income		
Member	-	
Non Member	-	-
Interest Income		515
Membership Income		
Corporate Membership	29,485	
Individual Membership	10,742	40,227
Miscellaneous Revenue		-
National Levy Rebates		-
Other income - Credit Card Processing		17
Sponsorship		22,000
Awards for Excellence Revenue	,	
		80,259
EXPENSES		
Accounting Fees		10,240
AGM Expenses		55
Bank Charges		126
Committee Meetings		461
Event Expenses		5,781
Insurance		1,655
Newsletter Expenses		1,020
Printing, Postage & Stationery		229
Secretariate Fees		25,349
SIA National Levy		11,703
Surveys		
Travel		1,229
Website Design & Maintenance		1,800
	,	59,648
NET INCOME FOR YEAR	;	\$ 20,611

#### BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 JUNE 2023

EQUITY		2023
Opening Balance Net Income for year		122,634 20,611 143,245
REPRESENTED BY:	<u> </u>	
CURRENT ASSETS Accounts Receivables Business Saver Account - CBA Commonwealth Bank Chequing - CBA Business Account NAB Operation Account Tax Refundable		40,469 61,245 1,055 40,417 2,788 145,974
TOTAL ASSETS		145,974
Less CURRENT LIABILITIES Accounts Payable Suspense Account		2,554 175 2,729
TOTAL LIABILITIES		2,729
NET ASSETS	\$	143,245

### NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with relevant Australian Accounting Standards and the disclosure requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 1981. The accounts of the Association have been prepared on an accrual basis, with the exception of membership and conference income, which are recorded as income when billed, and are in accordance with conventional historical cost principles.

The Association is not a reporting Association because, in the Committee's opinion, there is unlikely to exist users of the accounts who are dependent on general-purpose financial reports of the Association for information. These accounts are therefore a "Special Purpose Financial Report" prepared so as to comply with the requirements of the Constitution and to provide information required by the members.

The following is a summary of the significant accounting policies, adopted by the Association in the preparation of the accounts, which have been consistently applied unless otherwise stated.

#### (a) Income tax

Stormwater Industry Association of Victoria is a not for profit membership organisation and the income tax is determined by the Mutuality Principle. It is based on the proposition that an organisation cannot derive income from itself. The principle provides that where a number of persons contribute to common fund created and controlled by them for a common purpose, any surplus arising from the use of that fund for the common purpose is not income. This principle does not extend to include income that is derived from sources outside that group. Therefore the income from sources outside the group and the associated expenses are used to determine the tax liability.

#### (b) Property, Plant & Equipment (PPE)

Plant and equipment are carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation. The depreciable amount of all PPE is depreciated over the useful lives of the assets to the association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

#### (c) Cash and cash equivalent

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of six months or less.

#### (d) Revenue

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received. All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

#### (e) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the balance sheet.

#### 2. LEVY PAYABLE TO NATIONAL STORMWATER INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

In accordance with Clause 23 of the "Protocol for the linking of the SIA Associations", SIA (VIC) must forward an annual subsidy levy per membership to the National SIA Association based on the number of financial members registered each quarter.

#### 3. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

There were no contracts entered into for future capital expenditure in the current financial year.

#### 4. CONTINGENT LIABILITY

No contingent liabilities existed as at 30 June 2023.

#### 5. MORTGAGES, CHARGES AND SECURITIES

At 30 June 2023, there were no mortgages, charges, or securities of any description affecting any of the property.

#### 6. EVENTS SUBSEQUENT TO BALANCE DATE

There are no items or events of a material or unusual nature that have occurred since 30 June 2023 which should be disclosed.

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

#### TO THE MEMBERS OF THE STORMWATER INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of Stormwater Industry Association of Victoria (the "Association"), which comprises the balance sheet as at 30 June 2023, the income and expenditure statement for the year then ended and notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

#### Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The committee of the association is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report, and has determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 is appropriate to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (VIC) and is appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The committee's responsibility also includes such internal control as the committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion of the financial report based on our audit. We have conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Association's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Association's internal control. An audit also includes evaluation the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the committee, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

The financial report has been prepared for the distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the committee's financial reporting under the Associations Incorporation Act 2009. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

#### Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of the Corporations Act 2001.

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

#### TO THE MEMBERS OF THE STORMWATER INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA

#### Basis for Qualified Auditor's Opinion

The nature of the activities of the incorporated entity is such that income received from membership, sponsorship and public events conducted during the year, representing a significant source of revenue for the Association, is recorded on a cash basis. The committee has determined that it is impracticable to establish control over the collection of cash sponsorships and public event receipts prior to their initial entry in the accounting records. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on whether all receipts have been properly recognised.

#### Qualified Auditor's Opinion

Subject to the above reservation, in our opinion, the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Stormwater Industry Association of VIC as at 30 June 2023 and the results of its operations for the year then ended in accordance with the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (VIC).

#### Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist Stormwater Industry Association of VIC to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 2009. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.

18 August 2023

ENG HWA TAN

PARTNER

E H TAN & CO

**CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS** 



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