



Landcare Victoria Rules review

Consultation Sessions

Monday 27th and Tuesday 28th February 2023

Welcome

- Introductions
- Purpose of session
- Overview of Review
 1. Landcare Victoria Management Committee (Board) and Members Council
 2. Unincorporated Member Groups and risk management
 3. Risk Management and Insurance
 4. Membership

Proposed changes to Board

- Current Board comprises 10 elected directors (one per catchment region); 2 elected landcare professionals; and 2 appointed skills-based appointments
- Proposal is that all Board Members will be appointed based on merit and skills
 - Majority of positions to be nominated by Landcare groups
 - Ability to appoint specialist skills
 - Balance of regional representation, gender, diversity, etc.
 - Reduction in Board members numbers from 14 to 9
 - Three-year terms (staggered to maintain continuity)
- Nomination and selection committee and policy
- Board appointments must be endorsed at AGM

Members Council

- Peak representative and advisory council for Landcare in Victoria
- Proposals aim to strengthen the Members Council
- Roles to include:
 - Advice to Board about operational policies and procedures
 - Advice about Landcare policy positions and priorities
 - Facilitate Member engagement in Landcare Victoria
- Maintain current structure
 - 5 nominees per catchment region – 4 volunteers and one professional member

Policies

- Landcare Victoria currently accepts liability for unincorporated Member Groups
- Current Rules provide very limited capacity to manage any risks
- Proposal is to provide the Board power to establish policies and procedures to better manage risk – to protect the interests of the whole association
- Policies to be adopted after consultation with the Members Council
- Policies would likely be drafted to cater for the different situation of incorporated and unincorporated Member Groups
- No agenda to unreasonably control or interfere with the operations of Member Groups

Insurance

- Insurance – major service for Member Groups
- Landcare Victoria insurance arrangements are very cost effective
- Current Rules allow Member Groups to obtain their own insurance if it meets the standard required by the Landcare Victoria Board
- Proposed to amend – participation in the Landcare Victoria insurance would be a condition of membership
- Landcare Victoria Board power to direct a Member Group to cease an activity that is outside the scope of insurance

Membership

- Rules will clarify that eligibility of full members is limited to landcare groups (or similar entities with aligned purposes)
- Board given powers to admit non-voting associate members (currently this requires a Membership resolution)
- Continue to support existing Membership of unincorporated groups – managing risk via policies
- Should new unincorporated Members be admitted?

Questions and Suggestions

- Would you be able to support the rule change proposals at the AGM?
- If you are opposed to the proposals, can you outline why? – to assist the Board to respond with an amended approach
- Do you have any suggestions you would like the Board to consider?

Next steps

- Notes from both sessions written up
- Member Group Survey – closes 12th March – please complete it!
- Consultation report for Members Council and Board
- Members Council to consider on 16 March
- Lawyer to draft updated Rules early April
- Board to approve final draft amended Rules
- Aiming to recommend amended Rules to Landcare members at Landcare Victoria Inc AGM on 19th May 2023



Landcare
Victoria Inc.

**Strengthening communities.
Restoring environments.**

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