



Annual Activity Report 2020-21

AGM July 2021

Supported by





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1. WPN WA's Purpose

is to...

CONNECT
INSPIRE
SUPPORT

...women in the planning, allied fields and built environment sectors, and to advocate for and contribute to equitable and inclusive cities and regional communities.

The WPN provides a supportive environment for planners and the broader built environment professionals to share knowledge, experience and ideas.

WPN WA is open to all individuals who wish to connect, inspire and support women in the planning and built environment sectors.

WPN WA is a not-for-profit organisation and is supported by PIA WA Division.

To be part of WPN WA, you however don't need to be a PIA member. Your skills and interests may extend beyond urban and regional planning but still focused on making suitable and inclusive communities throughout the State and beyond.



2. Leadership Group 2020-21

The WPN WA leadership group meets on a monthly basis and oversees the network's activities and engagement with members. The group's roles and responsibilities include:

- facilitating networking opportunities;
- co-ordinating speakers and presentations and other events;
- communicating regularly with the membership; and
- providing advice and advocacy on women's interests in the built environment, including to PIA WA.

More information about the Leadership Group members and the Terms of Reference can be found at [About - WPN WA](#).

NAME	ROLE
Claire Franklin	Convenor FPIA
Vicki Lummer	Co-Convenor, Secretary MPIA
Jocelyn Baister	Treasurer/Regional Representative
Johanna Dowsett	Communications Lead
Alice Baldock	Regional Representative
Melissa Bailey	Advocacy Lead
Emmade Jager	
Kathy Bonus	
Cath Blake-Powell	
Emily Salvisberg	
Solo(miia) Kurochkina	
Vacant	Regional Representative
Ellie Anzalchi	Ex - Officio Until Jan 2021
Emma Van den Linden	Ex- Officio Until Jan 2021



3. WPN WA Convenor's Report

CONNECT, INSPIRE AND SUPPORT

It gives me great pleasure to deliver the Convenor's report as we celebrate the 1st year anniversary of the Women's Planning Network in WA. As a new professional women's network, we've grown from strength to strength **connecting** with women across the built environment professions including urban and regional planning, urban design, architecture, landscape architecture, community engagement and those undertaking academic studies.

Like all good ideas, the WPN WA started from a discussion between professional women colleagues, many of whom formed the Leadership Group, about the need **to support** women working within the built environment and allied professions. Some of you may recall a women's planners' network that was active a decade or so ago. Personally, I gained great support from this network in my early career and established many professional relationships which I've continued to this day. It should be noted that similar networks (some well-established) have also been set up in the eastern states with some affiliated with the Planning Institute of Australia (PIA) State Divisions.

So now WA has one of its own and in the year ahead we hope to liaise further with these networks. We are continuing our advocacy for gender equity with other network representatives from around Australia with PIA National preparing a draft Gender Equity Policy which recognises the need for greater equity in the planning profession and in the community we plan and design for. Opportunities for collaborations with other professional organisations will also be explored in the coming year.

An important element from the outset of WPN WA has been outreach to **support** women in the community. For this reason, Dressed for

Success has been our chosen support charity for the year and our nominated charity for our International Women's Day (IWD) event. Dress for Success Perth is a registered charity that empowers women to obtain economic independence by providing them with work-appropriate attire, job support mentoring, access to career development workshops and a supportive network to enable them to move forward and achieve self-sufficiency through gainful employment. Proceeds from our EOY raffle and speaker gifts totalled \$695.00 in donations to Dress for Success for the year.



We started the network in August 2020, just when Perth was re-engaging with the world after the initial COVID - 19 lockdown. The time was ripe to reconnect with old and new colleagues. So, with a leap of faith and with the support of PIA WA, the first networking invite was sent, and pleasingly 50 or so female professionals turned up at the Cheeky Sparrow on a wintry August evening.

With the momentum set, over the course of the year we've now delivered 9 events with over 480 attendees. Based on attendee feedback, we plan to deliver a range of events, majority being small to medium scale, at different times of day and days of the week, so that busy members can attend at least 1-2 events over the course of the year.

Our signature events, IWD, EOY and the AGM are intended to have broader appeal and provide outreach to our sponsors and partners and the wider professional community. We will continue to engage with the membership to fine tune the type of events and topics covered.



As part of our program of events, Lunchbox and Learn and Networking Plus we have had a series of **inspiring** and thought-provoking speakers, including Dr Vanessa Rauland, Belinda Moharich and Marion Fulker.

We intend in the coming year, to provide further opportunities to the membership to hear from speakers, sharing their experiences, life wisdom and knowledge and posing questions on how we can do better to **support** women in the profession and in the wider community. The network has formed during a tumultuous and highly disruptive time, the COVID-19 pandemic continues to challenge and put strain on professional and personal lives and it has become apparent during the

course of the year that networking and peer support is highly valued.

We haven't confined our activities to the Perth Metropolitan Area, having a strong commitment to supporting women in the built environment professions in regional WA. To facilitate this, we have dedicated regional representatives on the Leadership Group to ensure we remain focused on programming events and initiatives to support our regional membership. In June 2021, WPN WA held our inaugural regional event in Margaret River with 25 people enjoying a networking breakfast, as a satellite event to the PIA WA Regional Conference. The attendees from the South West were excited about future networking opportunities either in person or virtually. As a result of our breakfast, we have a new regional representative, Alice Baldock from the City of Bunbury who joins Jocelyn Baister as regional representatives on the Leadership Group. One regional representative position remains vacant and we're actively seeking a regional recruit, preferably outside of South West WA.

The adage/proverb "*if you want something done, ask a busy person*" rings true with the WPN WA leadership group. All eleven group members drawn from local and state government and private practice have contributed in different ways to the successful delivery of the events program and support of WPN WA.



As the convenor it has made my role much easier to have such **inspired**, motivated and collaborative group of women assisting the event program and general administration. I must acknowledge and thank former group members Ellie Anzalchi and Emma van der Linden for their enthusiastic contributions to the formation of WPN WA but who stepped down during the course of the year due to personal commitments. I'm pleased that Emily Salvisberg and Solo(miia) Kurochkina have joined the Leadership Group this year and have contributed significantly to the communications, social media engagement and generally making sure we're attuned to the younger cohorts and those starting their professional careers.

Whilst the majority of the Leadership Group have decided to stay in the current roles for the coming year, as provided for in the Terms of Reference, our focus will be on succession planning this year ensuring that the network has the ongoing capacity and is well supported.

Members are encouraged to become more actively involved in WPNWA as the network evolves to ensure continuity.

The Leadership Group has met on a monthly basis with the Communications sub-committee headed by Johanna Dowsett providing excellent communication and promotional support. I'm pleased to report that, a comprehensive communications strategy has been prepared, a style guide and a revised set of logos has designed with associated marketing collateral including a WPN WA banner. Thank you to Element for your assistance with our branding and for

hosting the Leadership Group Workshop.

A comprehensive review and update of the WPN WA website is currently underway. Going forward, the website is considered as an important platform and 'shopfront' for the membership to be kept informed of WPN WA events and initiatives and provide a useful resource for those wanting to engage with WPN WA. Another focus is social media engagement through Instagram and LinkedIn as we increase our presence on these platforms and have the ability to cross feed to our website.

As a non-for-profit organisation we are conscious of providing a range of professional networking opportunities at low cost to members. The events held to date would not have been possible without the sponsorship and in-kind **support**.



WPN WA leadership group is very appreciative of the support of the PIA WA office in delivering our successful events this year, particularly Dean Webster, Events Manager PIA WA. Presenters have also given freely their time, the City of South Perth providing a venue/ catering for our September event, Planning Solutions generously sponsoring our very successful IWD event and more recently Brickworks Design Studio has hosted and is the event sponsor for the WPN WA AGM and Networking event.

We are also keeping an eye out for sponsorship opportunities for future events this coming year. The WPN WA events provide an exciting new platform for individuals and organisations to align their efforts to support women in planning and across the built form sector to connect, inspire and support each other. If you or your organisation is interested in sponsoring future events with us, please get in touch.

In my role as convenor I have had the pleasure of seeing the network evolve, but it is very much in the hands of the Leadership Group and the membership more broadly to shape the WPN WA agenda and program events. The issues of governance, alignment with PIA WA and a more formal membership structure will need to be addressed to ensure the sustainability and the continued successful delivery of event and initiatives well beyond this year.

What we have demonstrated this year is that there is certainly a need and overwhelming desire for a women's planning network in this State. WPN WA Leadership Group looks forward to offering an exciting program of events for the coming year and to support women in the built environment professions and the community generally.

Claire Franklin FPIA - Convenor WPN WA, July 2021



4. Advocacy & Outreach

Advocacy and outreach activities include:

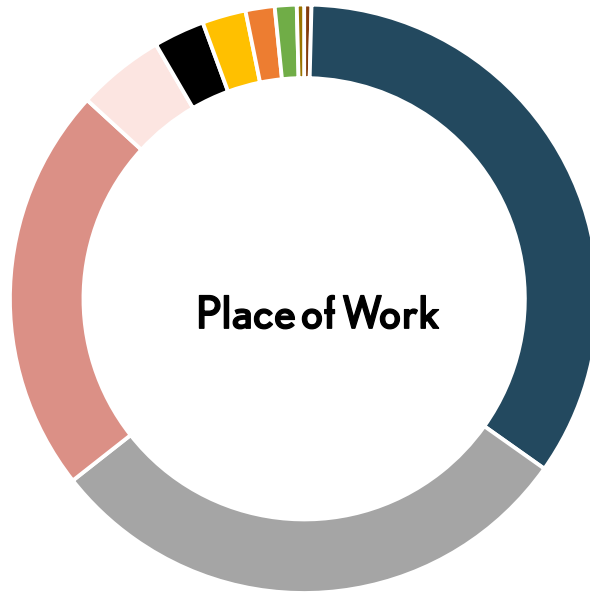
- PIA National Gender Equity survey promotion;
- Contribution to the PIA National Gender Equity Policy;
- Supported the Women in Planning Virtual Booth at the PIA National Congress;
- National Panel Discussion – WPN WA Leadership Group (Melissa Bailey) hosted a panel discussion at the PIA National Rural and Regional Planning Virtual Conference last year. WPN representatives from WA, Victoria, NSW and QLD discussed how to support gender equality through rural and regional town planning
- Convening the International Women’s Day event, with guests and speakers nominating how they will “Choose to Challenge” in 2021. A student ticket was also sponsored for this event.



Word cloud from audience engagement IWDEvent 2021

5. Members & Event Attendees

WPN WA events attract a broad range of professionals in the built environment industry and allied professions.



- Advocacy
- Local Government
- Consultancy
- State Government
- Student / University
- Legal
- Not stated
- Developer
- Professional Institute
- Political



6. Our 1st Year in Review



AUGUST 2020

WPN WA'S INAUGURAL EVENT
WELCOMED ITS FIRST **60**
NETWORK MEMBERS

SEPTEMBER 2020

LUNCHBOX & LEARN
WITH **BELINDA MOHARICH**
ATTENDED BY **57**
PARTICIPANTS



OCTOBER 2020

NETWORKING PLUS
WITH **DR VANESSA RAULAND**
ATTENDED BY **47** PARTICIPANTS



MARCH 2021

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY BREAKFAST
WITH **REBECCA MOORE, VICKI LUMMER, PAUL
KOTSOGLO AND ANNA KELDERMAN**

DRAWS A RECORD **122** PARTICIPANTS



\$300 DONATED TO **DRESS FOR SUCCESS**
WPN WA SPONSORED A YOUNG PLANNER
ALEXANDRA HOROCH TO ATTEND



END OF YEAR NETWORKING DRINKS

CELEBRATED BY **80**
PARTICIPANTS



\$300 DONATED TO
DRESS FOR SUCCESS



WOMEN IN
PLANNING
NETWORK
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

APRIL 2021

WPN WA'S BRAND
GUIDELINES,
COMMUNICATIONS
STRATEGY AND LOGO
ARE FINALISED



MAY 2021

LUNCHBOX & LEARN
WITH **MARION FULKER**
ATTENDED BY **43** PARTICIPANTS



\$50 DONATED TO **DRESS
FOR SUCCESS**

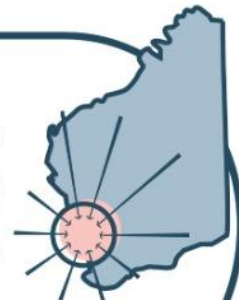
JULY 2021

WPN WA'S FIRST BIRTHDAY



JUNE 2021 REGIONAL NETWORKING BREAKFAST

ATTENDED BY **24** PARTICIPANTS



7. Member's Feedback

This is what member said, when asked about future events....

event numbers?

40-80

people
(depending on type)

be charitable

dress for success

event cost?

average
\$50

when?

lunch time or afterwork



types:

**lunchbox and learn;
panel breakfast discussion;
behind the scenes study tour;
roundtable hosted lunch.**

decision to attend?



Communication Methods?



friend or colleague



8. Treasurer's Report

WPN WA is a not-for-profit group, which receives administration support from PIA WA.

In FY 2020/21 we had a total:

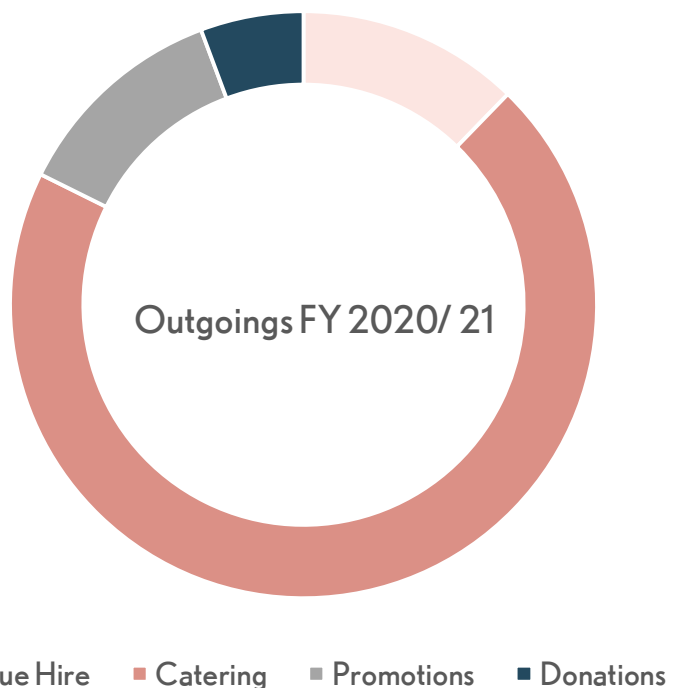
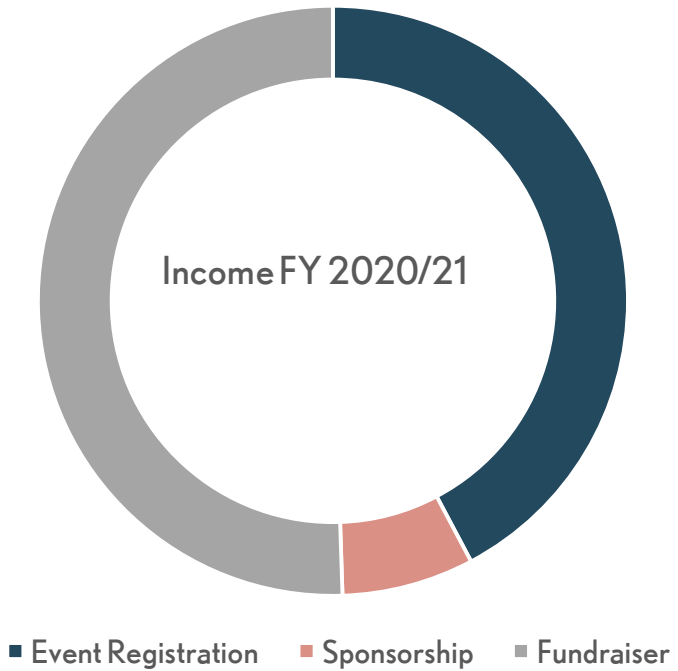
- Income of \$13,949
- Outgoings of \$12,189

Events and administration are self-funded, using a combination of event registrations and sponsorship.

We donated \$695 to Dress for Success through speaker gifts and raffle prizes.

A small portion of the registration funding will be allocated to administration in FY 2021/22 (i.e. website subscription).

Thank you to our sponsors and supporters for making WPN WA possible!



9. Thank YOU

To our sponsors and event attendees for making **WPN WA** such a success!



Women in Planning Network WA - Annual General Meeting 2021

