



**National Minutes  
and  
Information from  
National Leadership Team**

**October 2024**

## MINUTES AND INFORMATION FROM NATIONAL LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING

Wednesday 23 October 2024

Microsoft Teams

- Attendees:** **National Executive:** National President Elizabeth Birch, National Vice Presidents Sandra Jankovskis and Lorraine Thomson
- National Councillors:**
- Lyall Aldridge** Brisbane and Surrounds ; **Angela Carroll** Hunter/Central Coast Region; **Pam Evans** Sydney North Shore & Northern Beaches; **Dianne Fiddes** Lower Mid North Coast of NSW and Inland; **Jean Jennings** The Sunshine and Fraser Coast; **Jill Mason** NSW Northern Rivers; **Pat McRae** NSW South Coast Berry to Eden; **Bernie McSwain** Metropolitan Adelaide and Surrounds including Sunraysia; **Janet Park** North and Western Metropolitan Melbourne & North and Western Country; **Elizabeth Terry** Central and Southern Sydney;
- VIEW Office National** National Manager Maryanne Maher, Operations Coordinator Christine Costello and Office Coordinator Linda Custer
- Apology:** **Hazel Austin** Central & Eastern Metropolitan Melbourne; **Rosemary Coleman** South Eastern Metropolitan Melbourne to the Mornington Peninsula & Gippsland; **Aletia Norman** New England and North Central NSW
- The Smith Family:** **Leonie Green**, Head of State and Territory Operations, The Smith Family  
**Jo Booth**, Partnership Manager, Corporate Partnerships, The Smith Family  
**Kristina Warne**, Marketing Project Manager The Smith Family

1	WELCOME
	<p>National President Elizabeth Birch welcomed all present and began the online meeting by acknowledging the traditional owners and custodians of the lands on which she was speaking from in Yamba NSW, the Yaegl people and paid her respects to their Elders, past, present, and emerging and acknowledged the traditional owners of the lands on which all National Councillors were located.</p> <p>Elizabeth began with a brief overview of activities and events since the June NLT meeting.</p> <p>VIEW Facebook presence continues to grow with 2570 followers. Elizabeth thanked all members who have been posting on Facebook and liking content, which helps to grow VIEW Social Media presence and promote VIEW to others in the community.</p> <p>In July, Elizabeth attended the inauguration, of Busselton VIEW Club, WA in the South West Region which is the 8<sup>th</sup> VIEW Club in WA and congratulated Zone Councillor Mary Deakin and WA development team.</p> <p>The next VIEW Club to open will be in SA - Adelaide East VIEW Inaugural will be held on 14 November 2024.</p> <p>Elizabeth spoke about the Geographical Boundaries Project, and thanked the Area Geographical Boundaries Project Teams who have/and are completing their research by the November 2024 deadline. As part of the project Elizabeth mentioned that she and Maryanne had travelled to the NSW Central West and NSW Central tablelands, Central and Western Slopes and Plains and Canberra and Surrounds, to meet up with as many members as possible and attend any previously planned events. These visits provided the Clubs and members with an opportunity to hear the latest information about VIEW, and if possible see</p>

	<p>The Smith Family videos, discuss their Geographic Boundaries project and receive VIEW promotional materials for distribution throughout their communities.</p> <p>Elizabeth commented that she enjoyed meeting VIEW members in these regional and rural communities.</p>																																								
2	MINUTES AND BUSINESS ARISING																																								
	<p><b>Minutes</b> - National Council <b>ratified</b> the minutes of the June 2024 meeting.</p> <p><b>Moved</b> Lorraine Thomson                      <b>Seconded</b> Dianne Fiddes</p> <p><b>Accepted</b> Unanimously</p>																																								
3	GENERAL BUSINESS																																								
<b>3.1</b> <b>Club Name Change</b>	<p>National Vice President Lorraine Thomson advised that requests had been received (accompanied by a copy of Club Minutes evidencing agreement of majority of members) for the following VIEW Club name changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Batemans Bay Evening to <b>Batemans Bay</b></li> <li>• Berowra Waters to <b>Berowra</b></li> <li>• Eugowra Evening to <b>Eugowra</b></li> <li>• Lighthouse Evening to <b>Port Macquarie Lighthouse</b></li> <li>• Macquarie-Ryde Evening to <b>Macquarie-Ryde</b></li> </ul> <p>Carried Unanimously</p>																																								
<b>3.2</b> <b>2025 National Schedule of Dates</b>	<p>Councillors and Clubs are asked to ensure they add these 2025 dates to their calendar for easy reference.</p> <p>(Subject to change)</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>WHEN</th> <th>WHAT</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td colspan="2"><b>January</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Week beginning 6 January</td> <td>Nominations <b>open</b> for National/Zone Councillor 2026-27</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Thurs 23 January</td> <td>Monthly Mailout</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Week beginning 13 January</td> <td>Agenda items to Executive Mentor</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"><b>February</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wed 12 February</td> <td>Agenda sent to National Councillors</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tues 18 February</td> <td>Executive Meeting (F2F)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wed/Thurs 19/20 February</td> <td>National Leadership Meeting (F2F)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fri 28 February</td> <td>National Minutes Distributed via email</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Fri 28 February</b></td> <td><b>Audit 2024 Due</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Fri 28 February</b></td> <td><b>Committee List for 2025 Due</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"><b>March</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Week beginning 3 March</td> <td>Zone Councillor Meet (F2F) w/- National Councillor</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sat 8 March</td> <td>International Women's Day</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Week beginning 10 March</td> <td>Delegates meet (F2F) with Zone Councillor</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Mon 31 March</b></td> <td><b>Membership List Due</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Mon 31 March</b></td> <td><b>Annual Subscriptions Due</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"><b>April</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Week beginning 28 April</td> <td>Agenda items to Executive Mentor</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	WHEN	WHAT	<b>January</b>		Week beginning 6 January	Nominations <b>open</b> for National/Zone Councillor 2026-27	Thurs 23 January	Monthly Mailout	Week beginning 13 January	Agenda items to Executive Mentor	<b>February</b>		Wed 12 February	Agenda sent to National Councillors	Tues 18 February	Executive Meeting (F2F)	Wed/Thurs 19/20 February	National Leadership Meeting (F2F)	Fri 28 February	National Minutes Distributed via email	<b>Fri 28 February</b>	<b>Audit 2024 Due</b>	<b>Fri 28 February</b>	<b>Committee List for 2025 Due</b>	<b>March</b>		Week beginning 3 March	Zone Councillor Meet (F2F) w/- National Councillor	Sat 8 March	International Women's Day	Week beginning 10 March	Delegates meet (F2F) with Zone Councillor	<b>Mon 31 March</b>	<b>Membership List Due</b>	<b>Mon 31 March</b>	<b>Annual Subscriptions Due</b>	<b>April</b>		Week beginning 28 April	Agenda items to Executive Mentor
WHEN	WHAT																																								
<b>January</b>																																									
Week beginning 6 January	Nominations <b>open</b> for National/Zone Councillor 2026-27																																								
Thurs 23 January	Monthly Mailout																																								
Week beginning 13 January	Agenda items to Executive Mentor																																								
<b>February</b>																																									
Wed 12 February	Agenda sent to National Councillors																																								
Tues 18 February	Executive Meeting (F2F)																																								
Wed/Thurs 19/20 February	National Leadership Meeting (F2F)																																								
Fri 28 February	National Minutes Distributed via email																																								
<b>Fri 28 February</b>	<b>Audit 2024 Due</b>																																								
<b>Fri 28 February</b>	<b>Committee List for 2025 Due</b>																																								
<b>March</b>																																									
Week beginning 3 March	Zone Councillor Meet (F2F) w/- National Councillor																																								
Sat 8 March	International Women's Day																																								
Week beginning 10 March	Delegates meet (F2F) with Zone Councillor																																								
<b>Mon 31 March</b>	<b>Membership List Due</b>																																								
<b>Mon 31 March</b>	<b>Annual Subscriptions Due</b>																																								
<b>April</b>																																									
Week beginning 28 April	Agenda items to Executive Mentor																																								

	<b>May</b>	
	Wed 21 May	Agenda sent to National Councillors
	Tues 27 May	Executive Meeting (Teams)
	Wed 28 May	National Leadership Meeting (Teams)
	Week 19-25 May	National Volunteer Week
	Week 27 May - 3 June	National Reconciliation Week
	<b>June</b>	
	Fri 6 June	National Minutes Distributed via email
	Week beginning 9 June	Zone Councillor Meet (Teams) w/- National Councillor
	Week beginning 16 June	Delegates meet (Teams) w/- Zone Councillor
	<b>July</b>	
	<b>Wed 9 July</b>	<b>Submit Club Bank Statement as at 30/6/2025</b>
	Week beginning 28 July	Agenda items to Executive Mentor
	<b>August</b>	
	<b>Fri 22 August</b>	<b>Nominations close for National/Zone Councillor 2026-27</b>
	Wed 27 August	Agenda sent to National Councillors
	<b>September</b>	
	Wed 3 September	Executive Meeting (F2F)
	Thurs 4 September	National Leadership Meeting (F2F)
	Fri-Sun 5-7 September	National Convention Brisbane
	Fri 19 Sept	National Minutes Distributed via email
	Week beginning 22 Sept	Zone Councillor Meet w/- National Councillor
	Week beginning 29 Sept	Delegates meet with Zone Councillor
	<b>October</b>	
	Week beginning 6 October	Agenda items to Executive Mentor
	Week 12-18 October (TBC)	Anti-Poverty Week
	<b>November</b>	
	Wed 5 November	Agenda sent to National Councillors
	Thurs/Fri 6-7 November	Workstudy – Incoming National/Zone Councillors (Teams)
	Tues 11 November	Executive Meeting
	Wed 12 November	National Leadership Meeting (Teams)
	Fri 21 November	National Minutes Distributed via email
	Fri 21 November	Last postal mailout (if needed) from National Office
	Week beginning 24 November	Zone Councillor Meeting w/- National Councillor
	<b>December</b>	
	Week beginning 1 December	Delegates meeting with Zone Councillor
<b>3.3 Club Closures</b>	<p>National Vice President Sandra Jankovskis informed the National Leadership Team with regret that the following Club had closed since the June 2024 National Leadership Team meeting:</p> <p>Sydney Eastern Suburbs VIEW Club closed 21 August 2024</p>	

<b>3.4</b> <b>VIEW</b> <b>Anniversary</b>	<b>65<sup>th</sup></b> National Manager VIEW Maryanne Maher showcased the VIEW 65 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Logo and related artwork which would be in use during 2025.
<b>3.5</b> <b>2024-25</b> <b>National</b> <b>Councillor</b> <b>Update</b>	National President Elizabeth Birch advised that National Councillor Frances Turner (Canberra and Surrounds) resigned from her position on Thursday 26 September 2024. She thanked Frances for her contribution as National Councillor for Area AA during 2024. Elizabeth will continue to be the Executive Mentor for Area AA.
<b>4</b>	<b>SUB-COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS - REPORTS</b>
<b>4.1</b> <b>External</b> <b>Relations</b>	<p>National Manager VIEW Maryanne Maher spoke to a paper circulated prior the meeting.</p> <p><b>Equal Rights Alliance (ERA)</b></p> <p>On 3-5 July Maryanne attended the ERA Gender Equality Symposium - Working Together for Women and the ERA member meeting which were held in Melbourne.</p> <p>The first day and a half was a Gender Equality Symposium - Working Together for Women.</p> <p>Keynote speakers Minister for Women Senator the Hon Katy Gallagher and Sex Discrimination Commissioner Dr Anna Cody both addressed the ERA members online in pre-recorded speeches.</p> <p>Executive Director Office for Women, Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet - Padman Raman - Working for Women a national Strategy for Gender Equality.</p> <p>There were a range of speakers on panels discussing a broad range of topics.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Gender Responsive Climate Action -</li> <li>- Models for sustainable Feminist Advocacy</li> <li>- Intergenerational Advocacy</li> <li>- Gender Responsiveness Government Systems and Budgeting</li> <li>- Future of Human Rights in Australia</li> <li>- Women's Leadership and Public Participation</li> </ul> <p><b>ERA members meeting -</b></p> <p>The seventy five attending member organisations provided a brief update on organisation activities. As this was Helen Dalley-Fisher's, final meeting as Convenor - Equality Rights Alliance (ERA) (she stepped down on 2 August 2024), with ERA winding down operations later this year and the last get together of many women's groups many who had been part of ERA for the last 23 years, the mood was a reflective one.</p> <p>The June NLT External Relations Report (6.1) refers to the National Women's Alliances – tender process which opened in May.</p> <p>The tender identifies 6 priority areas which are identical to the current alliance areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Women's Safety Alliance</li> <li>• Equality Rights Alliance</li> <li>• Harmony Alliance</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women's Alliance</li> <li>• The National Rural Women's Coalition</li> <li>• Women With Disabilities Australia.</li> </ul> <p>including continuing to combine women's leadership and women's economic security as a single priority area.</p> <p>Funding arrangements for the current 6 National Women's Alliances were extended until the new arrangements commence in December 2024.</p> <p>We await to see what emerges.</p>
<p><b>4.2</b></p> <p><b>Resolutions</b></p>	<p>Office Coordinator Linda Custer spoke to a paper circulated prior to the meeting.</p> <p><b>Resolutions 2024-25</b></p> <p>The sub-committee has received a number of resolution submissions. Clubs/Members are reminded that Submissions close on the <b>27 November 2024</b>.</p> <p>Guidelines to assist in preparing motions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limit the number of issues canvassed in the motion to reduce the risk of the motion being lost on one of its parts.</li> <li>• Restrict the Rationale to matters explaining and supporting the motion.</li> <li>• Ensure that the content of your motion/s explains and supports your arguments.</li> </ul> <p>For template letters and wording of VIEW's current resolutions see <a href="http://view.org.au/who-we-are/resolutions/">http://view.org.au/who-we-are/resolutions/</a>.</p> <p>The full list of Resolutions debated at Convention since 1965 are also located on this same webpage page.</p> <p><b>Gambling Advertising Bans – Submission</b></p> <p>Since 2011 there have been 16 submissions from VIEW Clubs in relation to banning Online Gambling advertisements and advertisements during sporting shows in between TV programs, etc.</p> <p>In 2022-23 VIEW received several submissions on this topic from a number of VIEW Clubs. It became one of our resolutions and was debated last year at National Convention in Hobart.</p> <p>In August the VIEW National Executive sent a letter to Minister of Communications the Hon Michelle Rowlands and Prime Minister The Hon. Mr Anthony Albanese in support of the reduction and banning of Gambling Advertising.</p>
<p><b>4.3</b></p> <p><b>Community Grants</b></p>	<p>National President Elizabeth Birch spoke to a paper circulated prior to the meeting.</p> <p>VIEW Clubs are reminded that Community Grants are available, and applications can be made for various reasons including;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• promotional events encouraging local women to join VIEW</li> <li>• venue hire</li> <li>• purchasing equipment for use at your Club e.g. microphones, laptop computers, banners, etc.</li> </ul>

	<p>The Grants Subcommittee keep an updated list of available Grants and can be contacted by emailing <a href="mailto:june3@iinet.net.au">june3@iinet.net.au</a> or phoning June - 0412 617 085. Clubs are also advised to look out for any local Community Grants.</p> <p>When applying for a Grant using The Smith Family as the auspicing organisation please ensure the amount is at least \$1,000. Clubs may like to include items such as a Square Reader and mobile phone, in order to meet that amount. Consider that often smaller funding amounts can be obtained from other organisations without being auspiced e.g. local Football Clubs.</p> <p>Clubs are reminded that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initial approval for any grant needs to be sought from National Office, <b>allowing at least 10 working days for the application to be reviewed and approved.</b> Information on the process can be found in the Club Handbook 2024-25 page 21. which is located on the VIEW Website – view.org.au - <a href="https://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/-/media/files/view-clubs/resources/organisationalinformation/handbooks-and-guidelines/club-handbook-2024-25---final.pdf">https://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/-/media/files/view-clubs/resources/organisationalinformation/handbooks-and-guidelines/club-handbook-2024-25---final.pdf</a>.</li> <li>• Venue Hire can also qualify for a Grant. Therefore, if your Club is currently paying for room hire, please consider approaching the venue to waiver the cost. The Room Hire Waiver Request form is available on the VIEW website <a href="http://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/view-clubs/resources/forms">www.thesmithfamily.com.au/view-clubs/resources/forms</a>.</li> <li>• Federal Government Volunteer Grants are processed through your Area's Local Member for Parliament, please contact your Local member for more information.</li> </ul> <p>VIEW Clubs have continued to diligently apply for Grants, especially for computers, phones and Square Readers. Please let the Committee know if you have been successful. Some examples of successes are:</p> <p>Aspley VIEW Club received \$2,500 from 2023-24 Volunteer Grants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Geelong Day VIEW Club Day received \$1100 from 2023-24 Volunteer Grants</li> <li>• Murwillumbah Evening VIEW Club from 2023-2024 Australian Government Volunteer Grant.</li> <li>• Keilor VIEW Club received \$1,100 Families and Communities Program 2023-24 Volunteer Grants</li> <li>• Carindale VIEW Club Received \$448.00 from Lord Mayor's Community Fund</li> </ul>
<p><b>4.4</b> <b>History Working Group</b></p>	<p>Office Coordinator Linda Custer spoke to a paper circulated prior to the meeting.</p> <p><b>Requests for Club History</b></p> <p>The History Working Group, has received several requests for information concerning individual clubs and members over the past few months. In some cases, they were unable to provide the requested information. Unless relevant information is recorded in the History Working Group database, they are unable to assist clubs.</p> <p>It is vital for your Club, when necessary, to compile a 'Club History' record which becomes a valuable asset to the VIEW History Archives. We welcome all contributions to the Archives.</p>

	<p><b>Frequently Asked Question</b></p> <p>A frequently asked question received by the History Working Group is, “<i>Why do we need to keep our Inaugural Minutes?</i>” The answer is: <i>For archival/historical purposes and so that we have a record of the Club’s inaugural details.</i></p> <p>We thank the clubs that have responded to our request for these minutes so they can be entered into the database.</p> <p><b>Call for New Members: History Working Group</b></p> <p>Are you an archivist or historian with a passion for preserving history or a former Librarian? We invite you to join our History Working Group!</p> <p><b>Scope of Work:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compile archival information to create an enduring record for future reference.</li> <li>• Respond to enquiries about members, past events, and significant milestones in our organization’s history.</li> <li>• Contribute to the creation of a digital archive.</li> </ul> <p>Join us in preserving our history for future generations!</p> <p>Contact <a href="mailto:view.historymatters@gmail.com">view.historymatters@gmail.com</a>.</p>
<p><b>4.5</b></p> <p><b>VIEW in the Community – Raising Awareness including promoting VIEW</b></p>	<p>National Vice President Lorraine Thomson spoke to a paper circulated prior to the meeting.</p> <p><b>Clubs promoting VIEW to their communities:</b></p> <p>Congratulations to all clubs for their support with promoting VIEW to local communities during the last 4 months: Clubs, committees, members and visitors have enjoyed a range of events and fundraising social gatherings.</p> <p><b>‘Walk with VIEW’-</b> Members from 8 VIEW Clubs in Area QC Gold Coast and Darling Downs recently enjoyed their walk at the Gold Coast Botanical Gardens, dressed in purple promoting VIEW and raising funds for their sponsored students.</p> <p><b>Local Businesses</b> supporting local clubs – Many VIEW Clubs have made contact with their local Bunnings (or in some areas Mitre 10) stores holding successful ‘sausage sizzles’ or home baked goodies tables. They have also been able to promote VIEW utilising Club Banners and Posters and handed out brochures to interested members of the public.</p> <p>Clubs have also worked with local fashion boutiques holding fashion parades in private homes or clubs – receiving a percentage of sales generously donated for their <i>LfL</i> sponsorship support.</p> <p><b>Christmas Wrapping– Now’s the time to plan your Christmas Wrapping events.</b></p> <p>Several Clubs have already advised they have secured wrapping stations at their local Shopping Centres in the lead up to Christmas. Westfield Helensvale QLD (18 days leading up to Christmas), NSW Nowra Centre Plaza (18-24 December), NSW Bega Village shopping mall (13-24 December).</p> <p>Christmas Wrapping events prove to be successful promotional opportunities for VIEW and The Smith Family. Clubs and Councillors are encouraged to make enquiries with local shopping centres in their Areas.</p>



Please inform us of any other Christmas Wrapping opportunities and remember to take photos.

This year VIEW and The Smith Family have been invited to join the festive fun at the **Good Food and Wine Show (GF&WS) Christmas Markets in Sydney (22-24 Nov) and in Melbourne (6-8 Dec)**. VIEW members will wrap gifts to raise funds for *Learning for Life* program as well as have an opportunity to showcase VIEW in the community.

Over 12,000 people are expected to attend these markets during the 2.5 days.

If you would like to volunteer at the wrapping and chatting station for a 3 hour shift, please contact

- **Sydney (22-24 November) @ Carriageworks** – Sandra Jankovskis 0459 157 448 / [Sandra.jankovskis@thesmithfamily.com.au](mailto:Sandra.jankovskis@thesmithfamily.com.au)
- **Melbourne (6-8 December) @ Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (Jeff's Shed)** – Janet Park 0459 509 529 [/nationalcouncillorvc24@gmail.com](mailto:/nationalcouncillorvc24@gmail.com)

### **Decade Birthday Celebrations**

**Shepparton, Keilor and Bendigo Evening VIEW Clubs** celebrated their 30th decade birthdays together. The event was promoted as a 90th birthday celebration. Each of the three current Club Presidents shared highlights from their clubs' histories, and a display of memorabilia showcased the evolution of VIEW logos and attire over the past three decades.

Together, over the past 30 years these three VIEW Clubs have raised combined funds of close to \$300,000 for The Smith Family. Currently, they support 32 students on the *Learning for Life* program.

VIEW National President Elizabeth Birch attended the **Wodonga VIEW Club's** 40<sup>th</sup> birthday. Members attended from the following clubs Batlow, Wagga Wagga, Day and Evening, and Flowerdale. Wodonga members proudly shared their history, with Club memorabilia through the decades and celebrated the day with an inaugural member and special guest Pat Gee in attendance.

Congratulations to all clubs and members who have celebrated significant birthdays recently.

### **VIEW Area Galas**

National Vice Presidents Sandra and Lorraine have each attended local Galas Areas NJ - NSW Northern Rivers - In August, 60 members, visitors and guests enjoyed a fun-filled Gala Celebration event at Condong in northern NSW. Members from 7 VIEW clubs provided entertainment and raffles which enhanced Area NJ's *LfL* financial support.

Area NG - NSW South Coast Berry to Eden. In September, a very successful Gala was held in Ulladulla with 158 members, guests and visitors from 15 VIEW clubs in attendance (the first gala in eight years). The day was very informative with guest speakers, Local *LfL* alumni Paul Ell and Paul West from River Cottage fame, entertainment and raffles supporting Area NG financially (raising \$3,855 (that's 3 full Digital Learning Essentials packs)).

	<p><b>Zone Conferences/Workshops</b></p> <p>A number of informative Zone Conference workshops have been held for members to exchange ideas, learn new skills, share knowledge about VIEW and The Smith Family and promote friendship amongst clubs.</p> <p>In July, Dianne Fiddes together with Desi Tomlin ZC (NSW Lower Mid Nth Coast &amp; Inland) held a Zone Conference in Taree supported by 12 local VIEW Clubs and 74 members in the Zone. NSW MP Tanya Thompson attended (and has now joined a local VIEW Club) and, members from each of the clubs were invited to share their specific Committee roles.</p> <p>Thank you to the National/Zone Councillors for completing their <b>Councillor Summary of Visit form</b>. These are shared on the website and Facebook (when photos are provided).</p> <p><b>Requests for Speakers at Events</b></p> <p><b>Executive to attend VIEW Club events</b></p> <p>VIEW National Executive try to attend VIEW Club events where possible. To request VIEW National Executive to attend your VIEW Club event, please send your invitation to <a href="mailto:view@thesmithfamily.com.au">view@thesmithfamily.com.au</a>. All invitations are reviewed and considered.</p> <p><b>Requests for The Smith Family Team Leaders/LfL Speakers</b></p> <p>Clubs are reminded to follow the new online process for requesting Smith Family Team Leaders and/or LfL Alumni.</p> <p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TSF Team members and/ LfL Students or Alumni will only be attending significant VIEW events (see your individual state for information)</li> <li>• Submitting a Request for Speakers form does not guarantee the attendance of TSF Team Members or LfL students/Alumni at the event. Requests are subject to availability and capacity of Smith Family team members and LfL students/Alumni to attend your requested event</li> <li>• TSF Team Members or LfL students may not be available for evening or weekend events</li> <li>• LfL students may not be available for early year (Jan-March events) due to school scheduling.</li> <li>• <i>Clubs are reminded that there are videos on The Smith Family Youtube channel that can be shared.</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>4.6</b></p> <p><b>VIEW in the Community promoting VIEW and The Smith Family – Speaker’s Bureau</b></p>	<p>National Vice President Sandra Jankovskis spoke to a paper circulated prior to the meeting.</p> <p>The months between July-October have been a quieter period.</p> <p>The Speaker’s Bureau kit now includes student stories, presentation tips, a report form as well as VIEW Key Messaging to equip speakers with up-to-date information and enable them to answer any questions following their presentation.</p> <p><b>Reports:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>PNC Robyn Garard, Qld</b>, presented to Kallangur Neighbourhood Centre in Brisbane North on 17 July.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>PNC Bev Orgill, and Heather Shill, Castlemaine VIEW</b> presented to Mount Alexander Probus Club on 18 September. Bev delivered the Speakers Bureau address and Heather gave the history of Castlemaine VIEW club. Bev and Heather have been approached to present to Castlemaine Rotary Club in the future.</li> <li>• <b>NC Janet Park, Area VC</b>, has been invited to present to Morongo Foundation lunch in Geelong on Saturday 26 October</li> <li>• <b>PNP Jan Roberts</b>, is currently working hard to develop a new club in Rockhampton Qld and requested an updated Speakers Bureau kit to further equip her to promote VIEW, The Smith Family and the establishment of the new club.</li> </ul> <p><b>Speakers Bureau Kits</b> have been forwarded to:</p> <p>Linda Castle, Melville City WA; NC Diane Fiddes, Area NK; PNP Lorraine Montgomery Shoalhaven Heads NG01; Michelle Legge, Rockingham Sound, WA</p> <p>Please contact PNP Gwen Wilton if there is an opportunity to promote VIEW and The Smith Family to an external audience or for advice on either a speaker in the area or an updated USB. Her contact details are PNP Gwen Wilton, <a href="mailto:gwenwilton@outlook.com">gwenwilton@outlook.com</a>. (12 Antill Street Picton NSW 2571)</p>
<p><b>4.7</b></p> <p><b>VIEW in Community - Promoting VIEW via Website and Social Media</b></p>	<p>National Manager VIEW Maryanne Maher and Office Coordinator Linda Custer spoke to a paper circulated prior the meeting.</p> <p><b>Website</b></p> <p>VIEW National Office and Website Working Group continue to update the VIEW Website.</p> <p>VIEW Club individual webpages are a great promotional tool. These pages let potential members know who you are, what you do and most importantly how to contact you.</p> <p>It is important to update your page on a regular basis. Not only does this keep members informed but can be of interest to and attract new members.</p> <p><b>Where do you submit your updates/additions?</b></p> <p>VIEW Clubs submit their photos/stories to the Website Working Group and the best way to do this is to use the online form - <a href="https://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/view-clubs/find-a-club/submit-view-club-details-or-news">https://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/view-clubs/find-a-club/submit-view-club-details-or-news</a> or email the Working Group at <a href="mailto:viewwebsite@thesmithfamily.com.au">viewwebsite@thesmithfamily.com.au</a>.</p> <p><b>Club Pages Changes and Updates</b></p> <p><i>Clubs are reminded that updates for venues, meeting dates/times, and contact details are required to be notified to VIEW National Office (<a href="mailto:view@thesmithfamily.com.au">view@thesmithfamily.com.au</a>) before advising the Website Working Group.</i></p> <p><b>Note:</b> The Website Working Group – (Carleen and Sonia) are not located in National Office, they are VIEW members who volunteer their time to keep the VIEW website updated.</p> <p><b>Photos for Website</b></p> <p>Clubs are reminded that there is limited space for photos on the website and are asked to ensure that photos are submitted in a landscape (sideways) format to show them at their best. To share a large number of photos Clubs are encouraged to post them on their Club's Facebook page.</p>

**Regional News and Events**


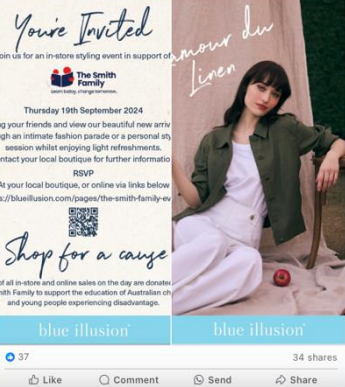
National and Zone Councillors are encouraged to complete their Event reports (<https://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/view-clubs/resources/forms>) and send this with a couple of photos of their events to their Executive Mentor and National Office, which can then be shared on the website or Social Media.

**Social Media**

**Social media update – June-September 2024**

Our social media engagement has continued to grow. We now have 2,571 followers on Facebook, which continues to be the main online community where VIEW members like to engage with each other and the organisation. Instagram is also growing but at a slower rate – there are now 337 followers on our Instagram account.

Best Facebook posts	Busselton VIEW Club inaugural
<p><b>VIEW Clubs of Australia - Voice, Interests and Education of Women</b> Published by Luisa Bustos July 18</p> <p>Congratulations to the inaugural committee of the new Busselton VIEW Club - the 8th VIEW Club in Western Australia (WA). 70 women from VIEW clubs across WA attended a wonderful celebration today.</p> <p>Leonie Green and Julie Walker from The Smith Family spoke and thanked all WA VIEW members for their support. The event's guest speaker was Squadron Leader Sue Freeman, who spoke of her career as a fighter pilot.</p> <p>Maryanne Maher, VIEW National Manager, gave a tribute to WA VIEW member and pioneer of VIEW in WA, Barb Colson. Barb was the inaugural President of First WAVE VIEW Club in 2001 and led the development of other WA VIEW Clubs.</p> <p>Unfortunately, Barb was unable to attend today's event, however, her daughter Peta is an inaugural member of Busselton VIEW (see the final photo! What a lovely VIEW story!</p> <p>A big congratulations to new President Pauline Rockley, her committee and all the new VIEW members. We wish the new club all the very best!</p>  <p>123 51 comments 7 shares</p> <p>Like Comment Send Share</p>	<p>18 JULY 2024</p> <p>181 reactions 51 comments 7 shares</p> <p>1,626 reach - accounts 1,797 impressions – time content was on screen</p> <p><i>Yet again, the best performing post (excluding an anomaly – see below) was about a new club opening.</i></p> <p><i>Posts about new clubs opening or in formation are always popular – thanks to the welcoming and encouraging nature of VIEW Club members.</i></p>

	<p><b>VIEW Clubs of Australia - Voice, Interests and Education of Women</b> Published by Luisa Bustos July 24</p> <p>The Paris Olympics are almost here! How wonderful is this story about Emmanouela, the youngest member of the Australian Gymnastics Olympic team and a Learning for Life student!</p> <p><b>The Smith Family</b> July 22</p> <p>Congratulations to Learning for Life student Emmanouela! We're thrilled to share that Emmanouela is heading to the Paris Olympics as the youngest member of the A... <a href="#">See more</a></p>  <p>SMH.COM.AU <b>Her Brisbane family had to struggle for everything, but at 16, this 'lion' is now an Olympian</b></p> <p>78 42 comments 29 shares</p> <p>Like Comment Send Share</p>	<p><b>Smith Family post – reshare about an LFL student going to the Paris Olympics</b></p> <p>24 JULY 2024</p> <p>78 reactions 42 comments 29 shares</p> <p>773 reactions 853 impressions</p> <p><i>Usually, posts reshared from The Smith Family do not perform so well but this one about a Learning for Life student competing in the Paris Olympics did extremely well.</i></p> <p><i>We think this is because VIEW members enjoyed commenting and wishing Emmanouela good luck!</i></p>
	<p><b>VIEW Clubs of Australia - Voice, Interests and Education of Women</b> Published by Luisa Bustos August 16</p> <p>It's on again! <b>The Blue Illusion</b> National Shopping Day in support of The Smith Family and VIEW! Thursday 19th September 2024 - across Australia! 7% of Blue Illusion sales (in store and online) on the day will be donated to The Smith Family!</p> <p>Attendees will receive a \$50 voucher for use on the day with any purchase and there will be Lucky Door prizes if you are in the store between 12.30pm to 1.30pm.</p> <p>How to get involved:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Put Thursday 19th September 2024 in your calendar ✓</li> <li>2. Find your local participating Blue Illusion boutique ✓</li> <li>3. Invite a group of friends to join you ✓</li> <li>4. RSVP using the link below ✓</li> <li>5. Get ready for a great day of shopping for a cause and being with friends! ✓</li> </ol> <p><a href="https://blueillusion.com/pages/the-smith-family-event">https://blueillusion.com/pages/the-smith-family-event</a> Thank you Blue Illusion for supporting the education of Australian children and young people experiencing disadvantage!</p>  <p>37 34 shares</p> <p>Like Comment Send Share</p>	<p><b>Blue Illusion National Shopping Day first announcement</b></p> <p>16 AUGUST 2024</p> <p>37 reactions 0 comments 34 shares</p> <p>2,107 reach 2,779 impressions</p> <p><i>It was fantastic to see 34 shares on this post because it meant it reached a higher number of accounts than our posts usually do – which was good for promoting this fundraising activity.</i></p> <p><i>We also tagged Blue Illusion, which helped with growing the reach and impressions to an audience outside of VIEW.</i></p> <p><i>Another post a week out from the event, did very well as well – with 34 shares again and reaching more than 1,900 accounts.</i></p>



		<p><b>National Convention first announcement</b></p> <p>2 AUGUST 2024</p> <p>51 reactions 1 comments 37 shares 24 link clicks – to Registration page</p> <p>2,014 reach 2,562 impressions</p> <p><i>This was our first registration post about the Brisbane National Convention in 2025.</i></p> <p><i>It was great to see the 37 shares and 24 link clicks.</i></p> <p><i>Another post about Convention on Sept 5, also did very well, reaching more than 1,900 accounts, 63 reactions, 25 shares and 10 link clicks. This was posted exactly 1 year out from the 2025 Convention.</i></p>
		<p><b>Zone/Area stats.</b></p> <p>31 JULY 2024</p> <p>63 reactions 15 comments 20 shares</p> <p>1,251 reach 1,432 impressions</p> <p><i>This is a new style of post which quickly shows the impact of a VIEW Area or Zone.</i></p> <p><i>These have been performing quite well.</i></p>
<p><b>How you can help</b></p> <p>We are always looking for members to profile in our popular "Meet a Member" series. If you know a member with an interesting VIEW story, please send her details (email and phone) to Luisa or <a href="mailto:view@thesmithfamily.com.au">view@thesmithfamily.com.au</a>. Luisa will contact the member and see if she is happy to participate.</p>		

5	PROJECTS AND REGULAR UPDATES
<b>5.1</b> <i>Learning for Life Student Update</i>	National Councillor Dianne Fiddes shared the latest correspondence received, from Jessica the <i>Learning for Life</i> student supported by the National Leadership Team.
<b>5.2</b>	<b>National Office Update</b>
<b>Blue Illusion National Shopping Day in support of The Smith Family</b>	Blue Illusion held a National Shopping Day in support of The Smith Family on Thursday 19 September 2024 and donated \$33,051.00 (7% of gross sale proceeds for all products sold instore and online on the campaign date). Thank you to all VIEW Club members who supported this event. Blue Illusion commented that it was an incredible effort and one of the highest fundraising days they had seen.
<b>Anti-Poverty Week 13–19 October</b>	VIEW Clubs supported Anti-Poverty Week once again this year by placing the Anti-Poverty Media Release in local media referencing VIEW Clubs and the support they give to The Smith Family in local communities.  Thank you to all who participated. VIEW Club placed over a dozen articles in their community media with a potential audience reach of over 500,000.  Club Publicity Officers are reminded to use Media Releases which were provided to Clubs. This media release can be accessed on the VIEW web site <a href="https://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/view-clubs/resources/media-releases">https://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/view-clubs/resources/media-releases</a> . A Media Release will be provided to VIEW Clubs in relation to The Smith Family Christmas Appeal.
<b>VIEW Matters Magazine - November Edition</b>	The November edition of the VIEW Matters magazine will be available shortly on the VIEW Website in e-version and is due to arrive in clubs by the week beginning 11 November.  VIEW Matters Magazine April 2025 edition – will be open for submissions on 1 January 2025.  Please send your article with complimentary high-resolution photos to <a href="mailto:view@thesmithfamily.com.au">view@thesmithfamily.com.au</a> .
<b>Final Expense Claims end of Calendar Year</b>	National and Zone Councillors are reminded that they need to send their expense claim forms for reimbursement together with all receipts into National Office for Oct – Dec 2024 by 13 December 2024.
<b>The Smith Family Winter Appeal</b>	During May and June The Smith Family were able to exceed their target of \$7.2m and raised \$7.5m to deliver life-changing learning and mentoring programs to students experiencing disadvantage.  Thank you to VIEW Clubs who supported this appeal and those that were able to post the VIEW media release about Winter Appeal in their local papers.
<b>Making a Difference Awards 2024-25</b>	VIEW Clubs are encouraged to nominate deserving members for a “Making a Difference Award”. Relevant information and details are available on the website ( <a href="http://view.org.au/resources/forms/">http://view.org.au/resources/forms/</a> ). The current quarter closes on 31 December. Clubs are reminded that high resolution photos (file size over 1mb) are part of the nomination.  Winners will be part of the Honour Roll at National Convention 2025 in Brisbane.
<b>2026-27 Zone and National</b>	Nominations for Zone and National Councillor open from 6 January 2025 for the term of 2026-27. Interested eligible members are encouraged to speak to their Zone/National Councillors to find out more.

<b>Councillor nominations</b>	Nomination forms will be available at <a href="https://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/view-clubs/resources/forms">https://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/view-clubs/resources/forms</a> .
<b>VIEW Clubs Celebrates 65<sup>th</sup>– Blue Sapphire Anniversary in 2025</b>	In 2025 VIEW Clubs will celebrate its 65 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Clubs, Zones and Areas are encouraged to celebrate this significant milestone at Club, Zone or Area or by hosting a combined celebratory event.
<b>Blue Sapphire Awards</b>	<p>As part of VIEW's <b>65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary</b> we would like to <i>Shine A Light On Your Brilliance!</i> We want you to share the <b>most impactful contribution</b> to VIEW and The Smith Family during 2023 or 2024, or 2025.</p> <p>To enter, choose one of the categories below and follow the instructions on the Website.</p> <p>Awarded to an Area, Zone, Club or Member who has demonstrated...</p> <p><b>VOICE:</b> key advocacy raised awareness about VIEW and advocated for Australian children experiencing disadvantage.</p> <p><b>INTERESTS:</b> the most innovative, clever or creative way to attract women to their Club through a local or national initiative.</p> <p><b>EDUCATION:</b> an impactful way of connecting with students on the <i>Learning for Life</i> program or The Smith Family staff in their local area.</p> <p><b>WOMEN:</b> an <b>impactful</b> and or <b>innovative</b> volunteering or fundraising activity that supports The Smith Family providing educational outcomes for Australian students experiencing disadvantage</p> <p>For more details on how to enter please visit <a href="http://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/view-clubs">www.thesmithfamily.com.au/view-clubs</a>.</p> <p>Competition Opens: 1 September 2024 Competition Closes: 1 August 2025</p>
<b>VIEW National Convention 5-7 September 2025</b>	<p>Registration is now open. Clubs have received two hard copies of the registration pack and these can also be accessed on the VIEW website at <a href="https://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/view-clubs/events/national/convention-2025">https://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/view-clubs/events/national/convention-2025</a>.</p> <p>National Convention is a terrific event to introduce new and potential members and friends to VIEW.</p> <p>We know that VIEW National Convention Brisbane 5-7 September 2025 will be popular - loads of fun and full of surprises. So far 170 women have booked. Members are encouraged to Book tickets early, so they don't miss out.</p> <p><u><i>VIEW's approach to booking conference events</i></u></p> <p><i>VIEW National Convention does not seek to run at a profit and is operated on a tight budget. It is based around conducting break-even events and keeping prices as low as possible so all members can attend.</i></p> <p><i>The viability of National Convention now and into the future relies on members and friends exercising their goodwill and booking for the two Convention Day events (or at least one Convention Day event) and not just attending the social events.</i></p> <p><i>This has been our practice for many years and is a shared understanding for VIEW members and regular VIEW National Convention attendees.</i></p>



	<i>If all members booked to attend the social events only we would not be able to run a National Convention.</i>
<b>Club Development – Help us build new VIEW Clubs</b>	<p><b>Queensland - Rockhampton</b></p> <p>PNP Jan Roberts is working with TSF Team Leader Elizabeth Shaw to open a VIEW Club in Rockhampton. Promotion has commenced with a number of new members already signed up. The QLD Development Team have been busy promoting this new club including suburbs close to Rockhampton eg Yeppoon.</p> <p>Contact: Jan Roberts 0438 405 986 / <a href="mailto:DevelopmentQLDVIEW@gmail.com">DevelopmentQLDVIEW@gmail.com</a></p> <p><b>South Australia – Adelaide East</b></p> <p>Adelaide East VIEW Club will hold its inaugural on 14 November 2024.</p> <p>Contact: Bernie McSwain 0401 984 776 / <a href="mailto:bernicherry@yahoo.com.au">bernicherry@yahoo.com.au</a></p> <p><b>Victoria - Kyneton</b></p> <p>The Vic Development Team have held a series of interest meetings at the Kyneton Bowls Club. They are aiming to open this club in the first half of 2025.</p> <p>Contact: Lyn Geer 0409 145 073 / <a href="mailto:lyngeer@bigpond.com">lyngeer@bigpond.com</a></p> <p><b>Western Australia - Bunbury</b></p> <p>The WA Development team have trialled several events. This is still a work in progress, and they will continue to promote a VIEW Club in Bunbury.</p> <p>Contact: Mary Deakin 0427 335 158 / <a href="mailto:zonec.wa@gmail.com">zonec.wa@gmail.com</a></p> <p>If members have friends or relatives living in the above mentioned areas, please encourage them to consider joining VIEW. Alternatively, if any members know of an area that would benefit from a VIEW Club, please contact your local Development Team or National Councillor.</p>
<b>Encouraging Diversity and informing others about VIEW</b>	<p><b>113<sup>th</sup> R.O.C (Taiwan) National Day Dinner Evening in Sydney -5 October 2024</b></p> <p>General Convenor 113th R.O.C (Taiwan) National Day Sophia Huang invited The Smith Family to attend their celebratory dinner and collect a donation from the Taiwanese community in support of the education of disadvantaged Australian children. National Manager VIEW Maryanne Maher and Sydney Western Suburbs Zone Councillor Sandra Fong accepted the invitation.</p> <p>With 400 attendees, including the Director General David Cheng-Wei Wu, Taipei Economic &amp; Cultural Office in Sydney, Member for Ryde Jordan Lane MP and City of Ryde Mayor Trenton Brown, members from the Australian Taiwan Women's Association and many other special guests, business people and families associated with the Taiwanese community, this was a great opportunity to promote the work of both The Smith Family and VIEW to a diverse group in our community.</p> <p>If there are culturally diverse groups of women in your area, consider making contact with them and encourage them to come along and find out about VIEW and The Smith Family.</p>
<b>Music at Midday – ACT – 2 Dec 2024</b>	The Canberra Theatre Centre and the Royal Military College Band have offered VIEW in ACT an opportunity, to raise funds through their <i>Music at Midday</i> program on Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December at 12 noon. VIEW have been allocated the

	<p>6th concert in the series for 2024. Entry is by a gold coin donation from patrons attending.</p> <p>The success of Music at Midday is a team effort, and VIEW Clubs are asked to promote the concert to your VIEW networks and social media.</p> <p>If you would like to attend, come along with a gold coin donation. If you would like to volunteer on the day by rattling collection buckets or as a volunteer handing out VIEW materials on the display table so patrons can understand more about VIEW and The Smith Family, please contact: PNC Marilynne Weston : <a href="mailto:westonma@bigpond.com">westonma@bigpond.com</a> / 0447 647 008.</p>
<p><b>Governor- General Meeting</b></p>	<p>VIEW National President Elizabeth Birch, National Manager VIEW Maryanne Maher and Head of State and Territory Operations The Smith Family Leonie Green were invited to meet with the Governor General, Her Excellency the Hon Ms Sam Mostyn AC at Admiralty House to discuss VIEW, what we do in communities across the country and how we could work with the Governor-General in the future.</p> <p>Her Excellency has a genuine commitment to engage with women in community. We look forward to hearing about whether her Excellency will accept VIEW's invitation to be our Patron.</p>
<p><b>5.3 Governance Project: Geographic Boundaries</b></p>	<p>National Manager VIEW Maryanne Maher spoke to a paper circulated prior the meeting.</p> <p><b>VIEW Geographical Boundaries review project</b></p> <p>Commencing in April – VIEW Geographic Boundaries Project Teams were established in all Areas. Project Team Leaders (and in some instances project team members) were briefed via Microsoft teams where they were taken through their Specific Areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Geographic Boundaries Project Plan and Project Brief</li> <li>• Statistics, and current mapping and</li> <li>• Club health survey and Development update (May 2024)</li> </ul> <p>Project Team Leaders were also provided with seven (7) project templates (Area information, local ABS statistics, contact details for local councils, setting up meeting dates/locations etc). for completion.</p> <p>Project Team leaders arranged meeting/s with the Project Team members, discussed and allocated tasks required and arranged catch up meetings.</p> <p>Project Teams engaged with Clubs and members in different ways. Some distributed a survey to clubs and then reviewed and recorded responses. Other Project Teams spoke to committee members or held meetings for members to attend.</p> <p>During May - October 2024 National Manager Maryanne Maher and VIEW Executive developed a travel schedule to connect with members in Areas where there is currently no National Council representation including Regional Areas. The Executive also took the opportunity to host "Meet and Greets" in some Areas either before or after other significant events they were attending eg Area Galas, etc.</p> <p><b>Regional Connections</b></p> <p>August</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Area NH Central West - (Dubbo, Parkes and Orange) – Meetings were hosted with VIEW members from 9 of the 11 Clubs in the Area. While in</li> </ul>

	<p>Dubbo they met with <i>Rusan Hill Community Development Officer, at Dubbo Regional Council</i>, and The Smith Family Team. Parkes, Forbes and Eugowra Club members came together in Parkes for an informative Meet and Greet. In Orange after a conversation with <i>Allan Reeder Communications Lead</i>, Orange City Council, Orange VIEW Club members received an invitation to attend the annual “Welcome to Orange Lunch”. to share information and promote VIEW with people who have moved to Orange in the last 12 months.</p> <p>September</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Victorian Overview Project Team – met with Project Team Representatives to discuss all three Victorian Areas – VA, VB and VC.</li> <li>• Area NL Wagga Wagga/Albury – A meeting was hosted with VIEW members from 9 of the 11 Clubs in the Area. They also attended and presented at Wodonga VIEW Club’s 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary luncheon.</li> <li>• South Coast NSW (Ulladulla) – Following the Area NG Gala 30 members attended a Geographic boundaries project team meeting to discuss the information gathered in relation to the region.</li> </ul> <p>October</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Canberra and Surrounds – 20 VIEW members from a number of Clubs in Area AA – representing Tuggeranong Day, Belconnen, Western Creek, Woden, Gungahlin, Yerrabi, Queanbeyan, Yass and Lake George met in The Smith Family office in Woden ACT to discuss the Geographic Boundaries for the Area.</li> </ul> <p>Completed Area templates and recommendations have been received from the following Areas: AA, NB, NJ, NK, NL, QA, QB and VA/VB/VC.</p> <p>All Area Project Teams are asked to complete templates and return them to <a href="mailto:view@thesmithfamily.com.au">view@thesmithfamily.com.au</a> by Mid November 2024.</p> <p><b>Geographic Boundaries Teams Working Group</b></p> <p>Working as separate teams the VIEW National Executive and Future of VIEW Working Group (FoVWG) are reviewing the completed Geographic Boundaries Teams information, suggestions and recommendations.</p> <p>Once all Geographic Boundaries Project teams have returned their documents the Working Group will come together to discuss recommendations and final recommendations to National Leadership Team – in 2025.</p>
<p><b>5.4</b></p> <p><b>WA Leadership Representation on NLT</b></p>	<p>National President Elizabeth Birch National Manager VIEW Maryanne Maher and presented a paper with National Leadership Team which is summarized below:</p> <p>In February 2023 Heather Barton AM, Consultant, reported to National Council and Advisors on the VIEW Governance and Leadership Project.</p> <p>The overall objective of this project is for VIEW to improve its internal governance capacity, to be most effective and enable the organisation to be more sustainable. Heather reported on the project activities to date, as well as the results from the focus groups, online member survey and provided recommendations. All recommendations were voted on and agreed by National Council. (Refer to National Minutes February 2023 Appendix – VIEW Governance and Leadership (<a href="https://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/-/media/files/view-clubs/resources/publications/national-">https://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/-/media/files/view-clubs/resources/publications/national-</a></p>

[minutes/2023/appendix-national-minutes-feb-23-view-governance-and-leadership-project.pdf](#))

### **National Representation of all States**

We all see the need to make changes to reach a more representative and strong governance structure, which is the reason VIEW is embarking on the Geographic Boundaries project and seeking input and assistance from project teams in each Area.

This comprehensive review of all geographical boundaries of individual Areas is also looking to ensure equity in the work of Zone Councillors within the individual Areas. This comprehensive review will feed into the overall recommendations and the governance structure of the future.

### **Historical context**

National Council and the National Leadership Team is made up of representatives from 20 VIEW Areas. VIEW formed in NSW 1960s, 1970's in ACT, 1980's in Victoria, & Queensland and 1990's South Australia.

The States and Territories that do not have National Council representation on National Leadership Team are:

- VIEW WA formed in 2001
- VIEW Tasmania formed in 2011
- VIEW formed in Palmerston & Darwin NT in 2009 which has since closed
- There are also 6 Areas that currently do not have National Council representation or in some circumstances a Zone Councillor either.

When discussed and debated by National Council in February 2023, the National Leadership Team agreed to hold over any decisions based on representation at National Leadership Team until after the thorough and comprehensive review of all Geographical Boundaries of all VIEW Areas was completed.

The Geographical Boundaries Project was to include a review of how best VIEW members in WA and Tasmania can be represented equitably at the national Decision-making level of VIEW

WA Geographic Boundaries Project Team (and Tasmanian members) have been briefed and included in the Geographic Boundaries project and we look forward to receiving and reviewing their completed templates and recommendations.

### **National President mentorship**

WA, Tas and several other Areas that do not have representation at National Leadership Team are mentored by VIEW National President.

WA VIEW Zone Councillor and members have always been provided with strong attentive mentorship from each VIEW National President who have taken a keen interest in WA leadership, members, club activities, events and issues, and provided extensive support, training and advice and continue to do so.

### **Reasons why WA doesn't have representation on NLT?**

WA does not currently meet the national criteria enabling it to have a VIEW National Councillor – *A National Councilor represents an Area. An Area consists of minimum of two Zones - A Zone consists of (7-10) VIEW Clubs.*

WA currently has 8 VIEW Clubs, one Zone and therefore does not meet the criteria for two Zones.

### **Reasons for considering WA leadership Representation on NLT**

VIEW established in WA in 2001 (the same year that The Smith Family commenced in WA) and has a strong connection with The Smith Family in WA. There has been recent development (July) of an eighth VIEW Club, and the potential for other VIEW Clubs in the near future. WA Zone Councillor Mary Deakin and WA Development Team are working on developing more clubs in Bunbury, Margaret River, Mandurah, etc.

WA VIEW has over 500 members and currently support 99 students on the *Learning for Life* program.

National Executive believe it is fair and equitable to provide the State of WA with representation on National Leadership Team in 2025 (mid-term) and have been working towards this.

### **Create mid-term WA representative to NLT**

After lengthy communications with WA members, and WA Senior Officers, the National Executive propose an equitable interim solution prior to the Geographic Boundaries review and recommendations to National Leadership Team, is to invite a WA representative to join the National Leadership Team mid-term in 2025.

Eligibility to become a National Councillor - *Any member who has had 2 years of experience as a Zone Councillor is eligible to become a National Councillor.*

WA Zone Councillor Mary Deakin has indicated that she would like to continue as Zone Councillor for 2025 and continue working to develop VIEW together with the WA development team and step up to the National Leadership Team in 2026-27 term.

Past Zone Councillor Kris Behets is the only other eligible WA VIEW leader currently prepared to take on the interim National Councillor role at National Leadership Team for 2025.

This interim National Councillor position creates another position on the WA leadership team and paves the way for a WA representation at the National Leadership Team in the future. This ultimately will be dependent on the Geographic Boundaries project recommendations and the governance structure of the future.

### **Proposal:**

The National Executive recommend that the National Council agree to create an interim mid-term WA representative position on National Leadership Team in 2025, prior to receiving the recommendations from the Geographic boundaries review, which will bring about structural change to the number of Zone and National Councillor and Leadership roles as well as devise a method to equitably represent VIEW members in all States and Territories at the national decision-making level of VIEW.

### **Recommendation:**

After discussion, the National Leadership Team agreed to the proposal that WA Past Zone Councillor Kris Behets be invited to be the interim mid-term WA National Councillor to the National Leadership Team in 2025.

Moved Elizabeth Birch

Seconded Sandra Jankovskis

	Carried Unanimously
<b>5.5 Annual Audit – Outcomes</b>	<p>Operations Coordinator Christine Costello spoke to a summary report provided by Ben Watkinson former Smith Family Company Secretary, now Consultant, who conducted the internal VIEW Audit 2023. He provided a short list of recommendations for VIEW Club's to adopt for 2024 and into the future.</p> <p>These recommendations have been shared with Clubs and Councillors together with letters on the outcome of the audit. Councillors have been provided a short presentation they can share with their clubs.</p>
<b>5.6 MP Letters</b>	<p>Office Coordinator spoke to a paper circulated prior the meeting.</p> <p><b>Contact with Local/State/Federal Representatives</b></p> <p>During 2024 National Councillors have continued to profile VIEW in their communities by making contact with the Local, State and Federal Representatives.</p> <p>Discussion has covered topics such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suggestions from representatives of ways to promote VIEW in their community;</li> <li>• Posting by Representative on Facebook/Website/Newsletter/Flyer;</li> <li>• Grants that can help VIEW Clubs and/or support The Smith Family</li> <li>• Suggested holding information tables at local shopping centre</li> </ul> <p><b>Results</b></p> <p>National Councillors have reported their current successes back to National Council. National Councillors will continue to contact their local MPs during 2025 and report back.</p> <p>There were three Statements of Support about VIEW Clubs read by MPs in Federal and State Parliaments, the most recent was 10 October 2024 in the House of Representatives, The Hon Dan Tehan Member for Wannon acknowledged <u>Hamilton VIEW Club members and thanked them for what they do on behalf of our community.</u> State Parliament Victoria - John Mullahy Member for Glen Waverley on 13 August 2024 congratulated <u>Waverley VIEW Club</u> on their upcoming 40<sup>th</sup> birthday. New South Wales Parliament - Judy Hannon Member for Wollondilly on 4 June 2024 advised she had recently met with members of the <u>Picton VIEW Club.</u></p> <p>National Councillors are reminded that if elections have been recently held in their State eg QLD, MP changes need to be notified to National Office.</p>
<b>LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT</b>	
Proposed Guidelines for VIEW Clubs requesting Officerworks support to be trialled in April 2025	<p>Jo Booth, The Smith Family Relationship Manager for Officerworks spoke to National Leadership Team. This follows on from the presentation she gave at June meeting.</p> <p>She took the National Councillors through the draft guidelines and online process in relation to VIEW, The Smith Family and Officerworks.</p> <p>It was agreed that as Officerworks are about to enter the busy Christmas period followed by their support of The Smith Family Back to School appeal in February, the VIEW and Officerworks online process will begin in April and trialled through to July 2025.</p> <p>More information will be provided to clubs early next year.</p>

	Leonie Green spoke to the National Leadership Team sharing information about the recent announcement of her retirement from The Smith Family in March 2025. She said she was looking forward to joining a VIEW club in her Area.
	Kristina Warne spoke to the National Leadership Team regarding the upcoming <i>Learning for Life</i> Sponsorship increase and VIEW's moratorium and ability to pay their sponsorship for 2025 in advance. Clubs were emailed this information in August.
8	<b>OTHER BUSINESS</b>
	National Councillors shared highlights/success stories from their area.

## Summary of Decision at National Leadership Team Meeting

October 2024

<b>Agenda Reference</b>	<b>Area of Work</b>	<b>Decision, Policy and/or Procedure</b>
3.1	General Business	Club Name Change
3.2	General Business	2025 National Schedule of Dates
3.3	General Business	Club Closures
3.4	General Business	VIEW 65th Anniversary
3.5	General Business	2024-25 National Councillor Update
4.1	Sub-Committees and Working Groups	External Relations
4.2	Sub-Committees and Working Groups	Resolutions
4.3	Sub-Committees and Working Groups	Community Grants
4.4	Sub-Committees and Working Groups	History Working Group
4.5	Sub-Committees and Working Groups	VIEW in the Community – Raising Awareness including promoting VIEW
4.6	Sub-Committees and Working Groups	VIEW in the Community promoting VIEW and The Smith Family – Speaker’s Bureau
4.7	Sub-Committees and Working Groups	VIEW in Community – Promoting VIEW via Website and Social Media
5.1	Projects and Regular Updates	National Council <i>Learning for Life</i> Student
5.2	Projects and Regular Updates	National Office Update
5.3	Projects and Regular Updates	Governance Project: Geographic Boundaries
5.4	Projects and Regular Updates	WA Leadership Representation on NLT
5.5	Projects and Regular Updates	Annual Audit – Outcomes (PPT)
5.6	Projects and Regular Updates	MP Letters - Report
5.7	Projects and Regular Updates	VIEW Convention update and accommodation
	Learning and Development	Proposed Guidelines for VIEW Clubs requesting Officeworks support to be trialled in April 2025