

## EA Special Interest Group Meeting

Thursday, 24 July 2025

10.00am – 1.00pm

Online via MS Teams



Convenor: Julie Douglas (Greater Western Water)

Deputy Convenor: Roslyn Shipton (Yarra Valley Water)

## AGENDA

### SIG Purpose:

The Executive Assistants' SIG exists to provide a forum for sharing information, networking and professional development in the Victorian water industry.

9.00-9.45am	<p><b><u>IWA Plenary Session</u></b></p> <p><b>Navigating Adaptive Leadership: Challenges, Insights and Future Directions</b> and will include plenary speakers – Stuart Wilson, WSAA and Therese Tierney, East Gippsland Water.</p> <p>Description: As the water sector faces growing uncertainty and disruption from climate change, infrastructure challenges, technology developments and evolving community needs, adaptive leadership — leadership that is agile, inclusive, and responsive to emerging realities, has become essential to navigate growth.</p> <p>This theme explores how leaders are shifting their styles, embracing uncertainty, and developing key attributes like empathy, resilience, and collaboration to guide teams through uncertain times. By reflecting on real-world challenges and lessons learned, we'll uncover how adaptive leadership not only helps navigate change but also creates opportunities for fostering innovation and collaboration for building a more resilient, community focused water sector.</p> <p>Whether you're leading a team, a project, or a conversation, this plenary session will offer practical insights and perspectives on how leadership in the water sector must continue to evolve. The future belongs to those who can adapt—and lead others through that adaptation with purpose and clarity.</p>
10.00am	<p><b><u>IWA EAs SIG Session</u></b></p> <p>Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country</p> <p>Attendee introductions and Check-in question</p> <p>Confirmation of Minutes of previous meeting</p> <p>IWA EAs SIG Charter for review</p>
10.30am	<p><b>Barwon Water, Greater Western Water, Melbourne Water, South East Water and Yarra Valley Water MDs Accord</b> – Paul Mulley, Senior Manager, Office of the Accord</p> <p>This session will provide EAs with an overview of the Accord, the key priorities and governance structure. We will also discuss if there are opportunities for the Accord to support the work of IWA and the EAs.</p>
11.15am	<p><b>Water Industry Response to the Victorian Data Centre Sector</b> – Andrew Hickey, Head of Infrastructure and Resource Planning, Greater Western Water</p> <p>To provide EAs with a summary of the risks and opportunities presented by data centre development in Melbourne, Geelong and surrounding areas, the current state of knowledge and proposed approach to responding to data centres in the short and long term.</p>

<b>11.45am</b>	<b>BREAK – 5mins</b>
<b>11.50am</b>	<b>Group Discussion – all EAs to contribute and share</b>  Topic 1: a theme of change/adapting to new ways of working, styles and the impact that a new MD (or GM) can have on culture and the business (or team) more broadly and what that can stir up for all.  Topic 2: to understand across the water corps how Boards/Secretariat roles are run and how they cross over with our own roles?
<b>12.25pm</b>	<b>General Business</b>  Next meeting any agenda items for November meeting in person?  Tbc SEW Board of Inquiry or future 2026 meeting
<b>12.30pm</b>	<b>Close</b>

**Next meeting:** Thursday, 20 November 2025  
Location: The Novotel, Geelong