



Soil and Land Conservation Council

In October 2019, the Government approved the re-establishment of the Soil and Land Conservation Council (SLCC) as prescribed under the Soil and Land Conservation Act 1945 (SLC Act).

The re-established Council membership between 1 October 2019 and 31 March 2021 was:

- Kevin Goss, Chair, agriculture and natural resources consultant
- Dr Hayley Norman, Deputy Chair, research scientist - ecology, livestock production, forage development and farming systems, saltbush and salinity
- Dylan Copeland, natural resource management consultant, Western Australian Local Government Association
- Dr Lynne Johnston, strategic management consultant, farmer and grazier
- Bob Nixon, farmer
- Natarsha Woods, Wheatbelt NRM, Chief Executive Officer
- Dr Richard George, Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development
- Doug Morgan, Main Roads Western Australia
- Adam Maskew, Department of Water and Environmental Regulation
- Renata Paliskis, Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage
- Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (ex officio)

Mr Kevin Goss, Chair and Western Australian Farmers Federation nominated member, retired effective 31 March 2021. Mr Chris Wilkins was appointed as the WAFF nominated member on 10 August 2021 to 30 June 2022.

Ms Renata Paliskis, Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage, resigned as a member effective 31 March. Mr Matthew Darcey was appointed as the DPLH member on 10 August 2021 to 31 March 2022.

Cec McConnell commenced as Commissioner on 14 September 2020, following Andrew Watson's retirement in March 2020.



Figure 1 Soil and Land Conservation Council in 2019 (left to right): Dr Lynne Johnston, Natarsha Woods, Bob Nixon, Andrew Watson (retired March 2020), Dylan Copeland, Dr Hayley Norman (Deputy Chair), Dr Richard George, Kevin Goss (Chair), Adam Maskew, Doug Morgan and Renata Paliskis.

Dr Hayley Norman, was appointed as chair effective in September 2021.

Council membership from 21 August 2021 to 30 June 2022 was

- Dr Hayley Norman, Chair, research scientist - ecology, livestock production, forage development and farming systems, saltbush and salinity
- Dylan Copeland, natural resource management consultant, Western Australian Local Government Association.
- Dr Lynne Johnston, strategic management consultant, farmer and grazier.
- Bob Nixon, farmer.
- Chris Wilkins, agronomic and farm business management advisor.
- Natarsha Woods, Voluntary Conservation Organisation.
- Dr Richard George, water science leader, Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development.
- Doug Morgan, Main Roads Western Australia.
- Adam Maskew, Department of Water and Environmental Regulation.
- Matt Darcey, Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage.
- Cecilia McConnell, Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (ex officio).



Figure 2 Soil and Land Conservation Council in 2021 (left to right): Dr Hayley Norman (Chair), Cec McConnell (Commissioner), Bob Nixon, Dr Lynne Johnston, Natarsha Woods, Dr Richard George, Dylan Copeland, Doug Morgan. (Adam Maskew absent).

In June 2022, the *Soil and Land Conservation Amendment Bill 2021* passed through both houses of Parliament and its reforms enabled up to nine Ministerial appointments based on expertise and experience, with terms up to three years and potential reappointment.

Appointments commenced on 3 October 2022 under section 9A of the Soil and Land Conservation Act 1945.

- Dr Hayley Norman (Chair) agricultural production, environmental conservation
- Dr Richard George (Deputy Chair) land management, soil conservation
- Mr Robert Nixon, agricultural production
- Mr Rhys Turton, agricultural production,
- Ms Wendy Bradshaw, agricultural production and environmental conservation
- Mr Dwayne Mallard, Aboriginal land regeneration
- Mrs Emma Foulkes-Taylor, Management of pastoral land, local government and planning
- Dr Noel Schoknecht, soil science and land management
- Dr Renee Young, environmental conservation
- Cecilia McConnell, Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (ex officio).



Figure 3 Soil and Land Conservation Council in 2021 (left to right): Dr Richard George (Deputy Chair), Bob Nixon, Cecilia McConnell (Commissioner), Dr Hayley Norman (Chair), Dwayne Mallard, Dr Noel Schoknecht, Wendy Bradshaw, Dr Renee Young,

On the 4 August 2023, Dr Melanie Strawbridge commenced as Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation.

Dr Hayley Norman chaired the council from September 2020 to May 2026.

- Dr Hayley Norman, Chair, agricultural production; environmental conservation
- Dr Richard George, Deputy Chair, land management; soil conservation
- Mr Robert Nixon, agricultural production
- Mr Rhys Turton, agricultural production,
- Ms Wendy Bradshaw, agricultural production and environmental conservation
- Mr Dwayne Mallard, Aboriginal land regeneration
- Mrs Emma Foulkes-Taylor, management of pastoral land, local government and planning
- Dr Noel Schoknecht, soil science and land management
- Dr Renee Young, environmental conservation
- Dr Melanie Strawbridge, Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (ex officio).



Figure 3 Soil and Land Conservation Council in 2021 (left to right): Bob Nixon, Dr Hayley Norman (Chair), Dr Richard George (Deputy Chair), Dr Melanie Strawbridge (Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation), Emma Foulkes-Taylor, Dr Noel Schoknecht, Dwayne Mallard, Dr Renee Young, Wendy Bradshaw and Rhys Turton