COMMONWEALTH GRANTS COMMISSION

held at the Commonwealth Grants Commission offices, Canberra

9.00 am on 19 January 2015

DRAFT AGENDA

MINUTES

1. Minutes of the State Finances meeting held on 17 December 2014.

Actions arising

- Agenda Paper 2014-100. The Commission decided at the last meeting to treat the whole of Sustainable Rural Water Use and Infrastructure (SRWUI) part of the Water for the Future program (which has components relating to agriculture, urban water supply and protection of the environment) as having an impact on relativities because the majority of the payments are for agriculture and urban water supply and needs are assessed. It agreed that a separate treatment (no impact because needs are not assessed) for projects relating to protection of environment should not be adopted, provided this was consistent with the approach the Commission adopts for all other Commonwealth payments. An examination of the Commission's treatment of Commonwealth payments, as set out in the draft report, confirms there is no precedent for splitting a program by function, although programs are split into those paid to different levels of government and non-government recipients and into rewards and other components to ensure they do not impact where needs are not assessed. Can the Commission confirm the decision it made at the last meeting?

2015 REVIEW

2. AP 2014-101 Phasing out the iron ore fines constraint
3. AP 2015-05 Iron ore – a contemporaneous assessment
4. AP 2015-04 Position paper on significant changes – State responses and staff recommendations
5. AP 2015-01 Health – Backcasting of national health reform funding
6. AP 2015-03 Location adjustment
7. AP 2015-02 Consistency in discounting
8. AP 2014-103 Final report chapter – Services to communities (from previous meeting)

9. AP 2014-100 for reference and addendum

10. AP 2015-06 External review of decision making processes

OTHER MATTERS

11. Letter to States on preliminary results

12. Further consultation with States, including on latest request from Treasurer.

FUTURE MEETINGS

13. The next Commission meeting will be held on 28 January 2015.