

**Appointed 'Transition Board' of BirdLife Australia**  
[to be established in the event of a vote to proceed with the merger]

**Independent Chair:**

**Gerard Early** has agreed to take up this position in the event of a vote to proceed with the merger.

Previously Deputy Secretary, Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts, Gerard Early had overall responsibility for a number of important aspects of biodiversity conservation, including wildlife protection and the Australian Government's environmental impact assessment and approval regime. He has substantial biodiversity related experience as a former Deputy CEO in both the Australian Nature Conservation Agency and the Australian Heritage Commission as well as having led Divisions in the Department responsible for various aspects of natural resource management. Gerard was awarded the Public Service Medal in the June 2007 Queen's Birthday Honours List for outstanding public service in the protection and conservation of Australia's natural environment and cultural heritage.

**Board members:**

John Barkla – currently BOCA President  
Pat Bingham – currently BOCA vice-President  
David Reid – currently BOCA vice-President  
Dave Torr – currently BOCA Board member  
Brian Snape – currently BOCA Board member

Barry Baker – currently BA vice-President  
Rob Dunn – currently BA Board member  
Rob Davis – currently BA Board member  
Max Finlayson – currently BA Board member  
Dezmond Wells – currently BA Board member

**Staged return to elected Board members**

For continuity this 'transition Board' would operate for two years after the May 2011 AGM. At the 2013 *BirdLife Australia* AGM four members (two formerly Birds Australia and two formerly BOCA) would stand down to allow the election of four members. The members that stand down would be able to stand for election if they were nominated and so wished. This meeting would also elect a new President and Vice President of *BirdLife Australia*. At the 2014 AGM another four members would stand down and at the 2015 AGM the remaining two members would stand down, again all with the option to stand for election if they were nominated and so wished.

This arrangement would achieve a gradual turnover of members on the Board and move to elections of Board positions as quickly as is sensible and allows the Board to operate in a way that maximises the experience of those serving on it on behalf of the members. Until the elected President came in to position following the 2013 AGM, *BirdLife Australia's* independent Chair would fulfil the functions of the President role.