



Local Government Events Network meeting

The Local Government (LG) Events Network invites you to attend the next meeting, jointly hosted by the LGSA and Blacktown City Council.

2011-2012 LGSA Remuneration Survey

The annual LGSA Remuneration Survey conducted by the LGSA's Local Government Management Solutions (LGMS) unit has been emailed to councils for their participation.

LGSA website survey - reminder

The LGSA is currently reviewing its website, and has sent an important survey to all NSW Mayors, Councillors and General Managers to be completed by 10am on Monday 24 October.

Local Government Association of NSW and the Shires Association of NSW

tel: 02 9242 4000
fax: 02 9242 4111
email: lgsa@lgsa.org.au
website: www.lgsa.org.au
GPO Box 7003 Sydney 2001
Level 8, 28 Margaret St
Sydney NSW 2000

Email subscription

Subscribe to receive the Local Government Weekly and media releases directly by email on the LGSA website at: www.lgsa.org.au/subscribe

Conferences and Events

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View upcoming conferences and events relevant to Local Government

General Interest

Item 2: Constitutional Recognition of Local Government – call for submissions from Councils by 4 November

The independent Expert Panel has released a discussion paper and is inviting submissions on whether Local Government should be recognised in the Australian Constitution. Councils are encouraged to make a direct submission to the Expert Panel by 4 November.

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Item 4: EOI for the LGSA Tourism Conference 2012

The LGSA is inviting Expressions of Interest (EOI) from councils and industry wishing to provide speakers to present case studies relating to the program and theme - *'Check in or Check Out!' Does your service meet your customer's expectations?*

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Item 7: Survey on Woodsmoke Control Measures - Reminder

The Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) is consulting with Local Government about the effectiveness of current woodsmoke control measures.

Item 8: LHPA Review – Public Consultation Meetings

As a part of the NSW Government's review into the NSW Livestock Health and Pest Authority (LHPA) model, a series of public consultation workshops are being held around NSW.

Finance

Item 9: ATO Class Ruling Application on new GST Regime

The LGSA, on behalf of NSW councils, will apply for a class ruling by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) on the GST treatment of council taxes (i.e. rates), charges and fees following recent changes to the regime for the determination of GST applicability to Australian taxes, charges and fees.

Industrial Relations

Item 10: Elsa Dixon Aboriginal Employment Information Workshops

The Department of Education and Communities is conducting a number of regional workshops to provide councils with information on applying for funding to support increased Aboriginal employment in Local Government.

Learning

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Learning Solutions' Handling Difficult People training program aims to help staff manage behaviours from colleagues, customers and other individuals that are difficult, aggressive and both verbally and physically threatening.

Item 12: In-house Training Services – Training Workshops

Councils can gain significant savings by having training workshops customised to their needs and supplied in-house by Local Government Learning Solutions.

Item 13: Measuring Return on Investment (ROI)

This workshop will present Learning and Human Resource Professionals with a valuable opportunity to learn the concepts of ROI and will also equip participants with the practical skills needed to measure and evaluate the effectiveness of training interventions.

Planning

Item 14: NSW Planning System Review – Community Forums

Notes are now available from the consultation forums being conducted around the State as part of the review of the planning system review.

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On 12 October 2011, the Productivity Commission released the final report of its Inquiry into Australia's Urban Water Sector.

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General Interest

Item 2: Constitutional Recognition of Local Government – call for submissions from Councils by 4 November

The independent Expert Panel has released a discussion paper and is inviting submissions on whether Local Government should be recognised in the Australian Constitution. Councils are encouraged to make a direct submission to the Expert Panel by 4 November.

The Expert Panel on Constitutional Recognition of Local Government, headed by the Honourable James Spigelman AC QC, has released a discussion paper on its new website (see fact box).

Written submissions can be lodged until Friday 4 November, in time for the Panel to report to Government on its findings in December 2011.

The Expert Panel has written to each council in Australia asking them to respond to the discussion paper, and the LGSA strongly urges each NSW Council to prepare their own submission.

The Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) has also written to all councils asking them to prepare a submission.

ALGA has prepared suggested points for this submission, and should you require more detail you are encouraged to contact ALGA on <http://www.councilreferendum.com.au/>

For more information, fact sheets are available on the website along with an online survey which you are encouraged to complete.

In consulting with the community, the Expert Panel specifically wants views on:

- The level of support for Constitutional Recognition of Local Government.
- The various forms that such recognition could take, together with the advantages and disadvantages of different options.

In 2010, the Australian Government made a commitment to hold a referendum on the recognition of Local Government in the Australian Constitution. To succeed, a referendum must attract the support of a majority of votes nationally, and a majority of votes in a majority of states.

The Government subsequently appointed the Panel in June 2011 to assess the current views and consult on the level of support for Constitutional Recognition and possible forms for that recognition.

Surveys and submissions to
www.localgovrecognition.gov.au

Or
The Secretariat, Expert Panel on
Constitutional Recognition of
Local Government, GPO Box 803,
Canberra ACT 2601

More information

ALGA
02 6122 9400
<http://www.councilreferendum.com.au/>

Ref: R09/0007 NB

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General Interest

Item 3: Local Government Events Network meeting

The Local Government (LG) Events Network invites you to attend the next meeting, jointly hosted by the LGSA and Blacktown City Council.

'Kicking Goals' is the name of the day, and it's not all about sports; it's about the successes achieved by council in a variety of areas. We have planned some topical and informative sessions including a tour of the newly built AFL Cricket precinct, with Gavin Robertson, Corporate Partnerships Executive, Greater Western Sydney Giants.

Gavin will also inform attendees on 'how to attract a sporting group to your city'. This question and more will be answered at this month's meeting.

Other program topics will include:

- **Alcohol Free Events, Australia Day Case Study, Superintendent Wayne Cox** - Mount Druitt Police.
- **Social Networking for Events** - Blacktown City Council - PR Department.
- **Sustainable Events update on working policy** – BCC Peter Filmer, Manager Communication, Events & Industry Liaison, Blacktown.
- **Australia Day Ambassadors - How to make them work for you.** Tina Baines, Principal Project Officer Community Initiatives Branch, Community Engagement and Events, Premiers Department.

This will be a great opportunity to catch up with other Events Officers in the sector, so don't miss out!

Join the network

Whether you're in events, marketing, communications, in the Mayor's office or the library - if you're involved in organising council events – then this network is for you! Visit the website and sign up to become a member.

Only Local Government employees in NSW are able to become members. You will have access to members only pages, be able to sign up to attend events, receive updates on industry news and have the opportunity to speak directly with other members in the Events Network Forum.



Event Network Meeting

Monday 7 November
AFL Function Room, Blacktown
International Sports Park,
Eastern Rd, Rooty Hill

RSVP

Thursday 3 November

Program

<http://eventsnetwork.lgsa.org.au/content/events>

Cost

Free for NSW LG staff
Includes morning tea & lunch

Events Network website

www.eventsnetwork.lgsa.org.au

Further information

Jann Hing
LGSA Events Coordinator
02 9242 4031
jann.hing@lgsa.org.au

Ref: R11/0021 JH

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General Interest

Item 4: EOI for the LGSA Tourism Conference 2012

The LGSA is inviting Expressions of Interest (EOI) from councils and industry wishing to provide speakers to present case studies relating to the program and theme - *'Check in or Check Out!' Does your service meet your customer's expectations?*

The theme of the Conference is presented in conjunction with Destination New South Wales, the Tourism Industry Council, our industry partners and sponsors.

Please note that information included in last week's LG Weekly was incorrect. The theme for this year will explore and delve into topic areas such as:

- Meeting visitor expectations.
- Measuring visitor satisfaction.
- Finding out how and what your customers actually think of your tourism/visitor offering.
- Engaging your community in tourism.
- Making visitors comfortable and converting return business.
- Building access and availability with volunteers.
- Managing the potential conflict between tourism and other industries.
- Identifying the impacts that an industry may have on your town and tourism.

The program would like to showcase examples of councils who have successfully developed the listed topic areas and who have in fact 'exceeded your visitor's expectations' or who have had problems doing so. We are also looking for great examples of 'Innovation in Tourism' for a special highlights section of the program.

E.O.I Deadline

Monday 7 November

A short outline of your proposed topic or presentation should be sent to Meg Fisher (see below).

Conference Dates

Monday 12 – Wednesday 14
March 2012

Host

Gunnedah Shire Council

Website

www.tourismconference.lgsa.org.au

Further Information

Meg Fisher

LGSA Events Manager

02 9242 4044

meg.fisher@lgsa.org.au

Ref: R10/0002 JH

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General Interest

Item 5: 2011-2012 LGSA Remuneration Survey

The annual LGSA Remuneration Survey conducted by the LGSA's Local Government Management Solutions (LGMS) unit has been emailed to councils for their participation.

Survey forms have been updated based on industry feedback to ensure a wider range of positions are covered and more detailed information on salary packaging is available.

In addition to conducting the annual remuneration survey, LGMS will prepare a *NSW Local Government General Manager Remuneration Report* based on data published in councils' annual reports. As the Report will be based on data from all councils in NSW, it will provide clear, reliable guidance on total remuneration packages for 'general manager' positions as defined under the *NSW Local Government Act 1993*.

Councils responding by close of business on Friday, 18 November will be eligible for discounts on their Remuneration Report orders, and will receive a complimentary copy of the *NSW Local Government General Manager Remuneration Report*.

If you have not received your LGSA Remuneration Survey Pack, please contact Debra Law (see fact box). Councils' participation in this project will be greatly appreciated.

Due Date

COB Friday 18 November to qualify for discounts and a free report

Further information

<http://www.lgms.org.au/our-services/remuneration-report/>

Contact

Debra Law
02 9242 4142
debra.law@lgms.org.au

Ref: I09/0016 GP

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General Interest

Item 6: LGSA website survey - reminder

The LGSA is currently reviewing its website, and has sent an important survey to all NSW Mayors, Councillors and General Managers to be completed by 10am on Monday 24 October.

Your input is valuable to us, and we would be grateful if you could please spend ten minutes completing the survey.

If you are a Mayor, Councillor or General Manager and did not receive an email about the survey, please click on the link below and complete it.

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/LGSAWebSurvey>

Thank you for your time in advance.

Survey Due

10am, Monday 24 October

Survey

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/LGSAWebSurvey>

Contact

Loren Plummer

LGSA Communications Team

02 9242 4061

loren.plummer@lgsa.org.au

Ref: R90/1050-01 LP

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Environment

Item 7: Survey on Woodsmoke Control Measures - Reminder

The Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) is consulting with Local Government about the effectiveness of current woodsmoke control measures.

NSW councils play a key role in regulating the installation and operation of wood heaters. OEH wishes to explore with councils, the effectiveness of current woodsmoke control measures and whether new measures for reducing woodsmoke are needed.

OEH is emailing a survey which explores a range of issues relating to the management of woodsmoke to all councils in NSW. OEH encourages council officers responsible for managing air quality issues including woodsmoke, agricultural and backyard burning, and emissions from non-scheduled premises to respond to the survey.

If you are interested in completing this survey on behalf of your council and have not received the survey directly, please email the above address (see fact box).

Survey Due

Tuesday 1 November

Surveys to

CleanAirRegulationMailbox@environment.nsw.gov.au (preferred)
or faxed to 02 9995 5938

Contact

OEH: Dilini Hevathirana
02 9995 5851
dilini.hevathirana@environment.nsw.gov.au

File R96/0003 RV

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Environment

Item 8: LHPA Review – Public Consultation Meetings

As a part of the NSW Government's review into the NSW Livestock Health and Pest Authority (LHPA) model, a series of public consultation workshops are being held around NSW.

Terry Ryan, the independent consultant tasked with undertaking the LHPA Review has released the schedule of his community consultation meetings that will take place across the State from Monday 24 October. Mr Ryan said 16 public meetings will be held across regional NSW to provide him with the opportunity to hear community views on the State's LHPAs first hand.

"The high number of submissions already received show there is considerable interest among farmers and other key stakeholders in the LHPA review," Mr Ryan said. "These regional consultation meetings will provide a further opportunity for stakeholders to express their views directly to me to inform the review process."

Submissions due
Saturday 5 November

Submissions to
secretary@lhpareview.com.au
or via post:
Secretariat Livestock Health and
Pest Authority Review
PO Box 8731
Gundaroo NSW 2620

Website
www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/lhpareview

Ref: R94/0105-03 GH

Meeting details:

Date	Time	Location
Monday 24 October	9.00am	Tenterfield Memorial Hall
	6.00pm	Tamworth Research Centre, Calala
Tuesday 25 October	6.00pm	Dubbo RSL Club Resort
Wednesday 26 October	9.00am	Forbes Sports & Recreation Club
	6.00pm	Yass Soldiers Club
Thursday 27 October	9.00am	Wagga Wagga Agricultural Institute
	6.00pm	Deniliquin RSL Club
Friday 28 October	12.30pm	Wilcannia Shire Hall
Monday 31 October	9.00am	Club Bega
	6.00pm	Cooma Ex Services Club
Tuesday 1 November	9.00am	Moss Vale Golf Club
Wednesday 2 November	9.00am	Singleton Diggers Club
	6.00pm	Kempsey Macleay RSL Club
Thursday 3 November	6.00pm	Grafton TAFE
Friday 4 November	9.00am	St Marks Anglican Hall, Casino
Monday 7 November	10.00am	Orange Agricultural Institute

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Finance

Item 9: ATO Class Ruling Application on new GST Regime

The LGSA, on behalf of NSW councils, will apply for a class ruling by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) on the GST treatment of council taxes (i.e. rates), charges and fees following recent changes to the regime for the determination of GST applicability to Australian taxes, charges and fees.

Further Information

Sascha Moege
Senior Policy Officer
02 9242 4045
sascha.moege@lgsa.org.au

Ref: R11/0013 SM

The ATO class ruling, once made, will be applicable to all NSW councils. It may therefore be unnecessary for any council to take this issue up with the ATO individually. Furthermore, to avoid conflicting rulings, it may be prudent for individual councils not to submit any private ruling applications to the ATO.

Genesis Accounting Pty Ltd has been engaged to prepare the ruling application. Genesis has already entered into service for fee agreements with now over 100 NSW councils to categorise council taxes, charges and fees, on this basis, prepare an ATO ruling application, and provide comprehensive feedback to councils and assist with the implementation of the ruling once available.

The application for a class ruling is expected to be submitted in three to four parts with the first part to be lodged by the end of October. The first part will contain several contentious items and items with significant financial impact.

Background

The Commonwealth, with the *Tax Laws Amendment (2011 Measures No.2) Bill (Cwth) 2011*, made changes to the regime for the determination of GST applicability to Australian taxes, charges and fees, including Local Government taxes (i.e. rates), charges and fees, as provided for in division 81 of the *A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act (Cwth) 1999*.

The new regime changes the past model where exempt council rates, charges and fees were listed in a Treasury determination (*A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) (Exempt Taxes, Fees and Charges) Determination 2011 (no. 2)*) and thus easily identifiable, to a model where each council is required to undertake a self assessment as to whether their rates, charges and fees are subject to GST based on broad legislative principles. The legislation took effect from 1 July 2011. The existing Treasury determination (and the taxes, fees and charges covered by it) is grandfathered until 30 June 2012.

There are a number of potential issues for Local Government with this new regime including:

- Resources for implementing a council-internal GST self assessment process and level of guidance provided by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).
- Uncertainty as to the treatment of certain charges and fees under the new regime; in particular domestic waste and trade waste charges and development contributions (which are currently exempt from GST under the determination).
- Implication of potential inconsistencies among councils of the treatment of certain rates, charges or fees.
- Liability associated with incorrect determinations of GST applicability.

A class ruling would provide certainty for, and avoid inconsistencies among councils in, the GST treatment of taxes, charges and fees. It would also alleviate legal and resourcing concerns associated with GST self assessment by individual councils. In simple terms, a class ruling would provide a similar mechanism to the old Treasury determination with GST treatment of all taxes, charges and fees being readily identifiable.

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Industrial Relations

Item 10: Elsa Dixon Aboriginal Employment Information Workshops

The Department of Education and Communities is conducting a number of regional workshops to provide councils with information on applying for funding to support increased Aboriginal employment in Local Government.

The Information Workshops will be taking place in various locations across regional and metropolitan NSW from Wednesday 2 November to Wednesday 30 November. These Information Workshops are free.

The various dates and locations of the Information Workshops are available on the registration form, which can be accessed online (see fact box).

Councils can register for an Information Workshop online at the above web link or email their registration form by Wednesday 19 October.

Registrations close
Wednesday 19 October

Registrations
https://www.training.nsw.gov.au/programs_services/funded_other/acp/index.html or email
stsas@det.nsw.edu.au

Contact
Nearest Aboriginal Training
Coordinator on 13 28 11

Ref: R01/0045 NS

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Learning

Item 11: Handling Difficult People workshop in Narrandera, Coffs Harbour and Sydney

Learning Solutions' Handling Difficult People training program aims to help staff manage behaviours from colleagues, customers and other individuals that are difficult, aggressive and both verbally and physically threatening.

Diffusing difficult situations is a learned technique and some employees do not have the skills to ensure their safety is not at risk when faced with these situations.

The interactive and practical Handling Difficult People workshop will take participants through negative behavioural styles and explore how to handle them while staying assertive, calm and safe.

This is a great opportunity for regional and metropolitan councils to access training which helps them manage conflict situations more effectively.

Date and location

Thursday 24 November

Narrandera

Wednesday 7 December

Sydney

Wednesday 14 December

Coffs Harbour

Cost

\$550 inc. GST

Registrations

<http://www.lgsa.org.au/www/html/152-courses-for-staff.asp>

Contact

Jennifer Fanning

Learning Solutions

02 9242 4181

learning@lgsa.org.au

Ref: I98/0012 DR

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Learning

Item 12: In-house Training Services – Training Workshops

Councils can gain significant savings by having training workshops customised to their needs and supplied in-house by Local Government Learning Solutions.

Learning Solutions offers a range of in-house training workshops.

General People Skills

- Assertiveness.
- Communicating for Success.
- Creative Problem Solving.
- Effective Investigation Processes.
- Handling Difficult People (for all levels).
- Influencing Skills for Women.
- Introduction to Internal Consulting Skills (one day, or a two day intensive programs available).
- Mentoring Skills for Managers.
- Negotiating for Results.
- Time Management.
- Verbal Judo for Contact Professionals.
- Workplace Behaviour (bullying and harassment prevention, code of conduct etc).

Leadership

- Coaching Skills for Leaders (full or half day).
- Developing High Performing Teams (can be done with a team or with leaders only).
- Leadership workshops for aspiring leaders, supervisors, outdoor leaders and middle and senior managers are available.
- Managing Diversity.
- Revisiting Leadership (a refresher for experienced leaders).

Customer Service

- Customer Care Professionalism – leader, basic and advanced courses available.
- Customer Service Skills for Parking Officers/Rangers/Librarians etc (we customise the programs to suit the individual units).
- Powerful Telephone Techniques.

Presentation Skills

- Creative Training Skills.
- Facilitation Skills.
- Presentation Skills (basic and advanced).
- Training Small Groups.

Also ask us about our Writing, Legislation, Planning and Meeting Skills programs.

Registrations

<http://www.lgsa.org.au/www/html/153-in-house-training-services.asp>

Contact

Judy Archer
Learning Solutions
02 9242 4182
learning@lgsa.org.au

Ref: I98/0012 DR

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Learning

Item 13: Measuring Return on Investment (ROI)

This workshop will present Learning and Human Resource Professionals with a valuable opportunity to learn the concepts of ROI and will also equip participants with the practical skills needed to measure and evaluate the effectiveness of training interventions.

In these days of fiscal restraint it is particularly important that Learning and Development and HR practitioners are able to discuss and demonstrate the contribution that training can make to their organisation's effectiveness. Resources are not infinite and measuring results beyond the end of a training intervention is a powerful way to demonstrate to your organisation that training can make a real difference to the bottom line.

This practical one day workshop is based on the work of the ROI Institute in the United States, a leading authority on the measurement and evaluation of learning.

This training is not readily available in Australia, so don't miss out on this unique opportunity!

Dates and Locations

Tuesday 29 November	Sydney
Thursday 1 December	Dubbo
Wednesday 7 December	Lismore
Tuesday 13 December	Wagga Wagga

Cost

1 day workshop \$550 inc. GST

Registrations

<http://www.lgsa.org.au/www/html/152-courses-for-staff.asp>

Contact

Jennifer Fanning
Learning Solutions
02 9242 4181
learning@lgsa.org.au

Ref: I98/0012 DR

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Planning

Item 14: NSW Planning System Review – Community Forums

Notes are now available from the consultation forums being conducted around the State as part of the review of the planning system review.

Council staff and councillors have been attending the Planning Review Panel's consultation meetings around NSW and providing valuable feedback on a range of matters of importance to Local Government.

The Planning Review Panel is progressively publishing notes from these forums on their website.

Some of the emerging themes include:

- Planning for and assessing cumulative impacts of development.
- Calls for consideration of a two part process for approving development, with a conceptual approval at the first stage and then a more detailed approval at the second stage.
- Flexibility in LEPs and the need to tailor planning controls for local conditions.
- The question of enabling effective community consultation early in the planning process (For example, during development of strategic plans) to minimise conflict and delays and increase certainty at development application stage.
- The need for a greater role in the LEP process of regional staff at Department of Planning and Infrastructure.
- Considering ways to push the dispute resolution process back down the development process, to avoid the court, make it cheaper, faster for people to deal with.
- Measures available to streamline concurrence processes with State agencies.

This week the Panel visited Newcastle, Parramatta, Campbelltown, Bankstown and Liverpool. Next week the Panel will be heading south to Nowra, Batemans Bay, Merimbula, Cooma and Queanbeyan.

The Panel intends to publish an issues paper on Thursday 8 December 2011 and is inviting submissions from all interested parties for this first phase of the process by Friday 4 November 2011.

The closing date for submissions on the December Issues Paper will be Friday 17 February 2012. The Panel will then provide a Green Paper to the NSW Government by the end of April 2012.

The LGSA will be making an initial submission to the Panel in November, and councils are encouraged to provide input to the Panel's deliberations, by either attending a consultation forum and/or making a submission. Alternatively, councils can provide feedback to the LGSA via the *LGSA Planning network website*.

Submissions due
Friday 4 November

Submissions to
Planning System Review,
GPO Box 39, Sydney 2001

**NSW Planning Review Panel
consultation notes**

<http://www.planningreview.nsw.gov.au/Consultation/CommunityForumNotes/tabid/95/Default.aspx>

News items on planning issues
<http://planningnetwork.lgsa.org.au>

Ref: R04/0066 JP

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Water

Item 15: Productivity Commission Inquiry into Australia's Urban Water Sector – Final Report

On 12 October 2011, the Productivity Commission released the final report of its Inquiry into Australia's Urban Water Sector.

The discussion on reform in regional areas (Chapter 13, *Reform in Regional Areas*) is comprehensive, balanced and, in general, supports the views on reform among NSW councils, the LGSA and the NSW Office of Water. Where regional aggregation is efficient, the Commission's preferred organisational model appears to be a (council owned) regional water corporation.

However, the commission also acknowledges the relative appropriateness of the county council model and the regional alliance model. Importantly, the discussion does not include any references to the Infrastructure Australia/AECOM Report.

The Commission recommends that the NSW Government provides a formal response to the Armstrong and Gellatly Inquiry (LWU Inquiry) as a matter of priority (recommendation 13.1) and that the NSW Government consider the merits of aggregation of local water utilities, case-by-case, based on:

- Identification of the affected utilities.
- Preferred grouping of utilities, in consultation with Local Governments, affected communities and other interested parties.
- The relative merits of alternative organisational structures, including the county council and public corporation models. Where the expected benefits of horizontal aggregation do not outweigh the costs, governments should consider the case for establishing regional alliances (recommendation 13.2).

Significant work has already been done in NSW to address these recommendations including the LWU Inquiry and a subsequent cost benefit analysis of organisational models commissioned by the NSW Office of Water.

The report notes that full cost recovery was not achieved by a significant number of NSW local water utilities based on a detailed review of data from the NSW performance report and a strict definition of cost recovery. Accordingly, in chapter 10, the report recommends requiring all utilities to achieve full cost recovery including a return on assets (recommendation 10.4).

In relation to drinking water quality, the report recommends making compliance with the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines mandatory. This recommendation is already being addressed in NSW with the NSW Government progressively requiring the implementation of water quality frameworks complying with the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines. The new *Public Health Act (NSW) 2010* (section 25) now requires every drinking water supplier to have in place appropriate drinking water quality assurance programs and is to refer to the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines in its regulations

Finally, the report supports LGSA's position that in some areas of need where service delivery might be uneconomical, government assistance is required and appropriate.

Productivity Commission's website

www.pc.gov.au/projects/inquiry/urban-water.

LGSA's submissions to the inquiry

www.lgsa.org.au/www/html/2629-submissions.asp.

Ref: R90/1056-12 SM

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In the News

Item 16: Media from the LGSA

View the latest media releases distributed by the LGSA

Removal of 'body politic' does not affect council employees

19 October 2011

<http://www.lgsa.org.au/www/html/3947-19-october-2011-removal-of-body-politic-does-not-effect-council-employees.asp?intSiteID=1>

The Local Government and Shires Associations of NSW (LGSA) have praised the NSW Government for meeting its election promise to remove the concept of a 'body politic' from the Local Government Act (NSW) 1993.

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