



State Government Focus - Local Government Victoria

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- Local Government Victoria
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Policy, Support & Advice to the Minister

- Legislation
- Regulation
- Guidelines
- Reports



Legislation

Recent examples

- Local Government (Democratic Reform) Act 2003
- Local Government (Councillor Conduct and Other Matters) Act 2008

Current

- Local Government (Offences and Other Matters) Bill 2009
- Local Government (Brimbank City Council) Bill 2009



Regulations, Reports and Guidelines

Regulations

- General
- Finance and Reporting
- Long Service Leave
- Electoral

Guidelines

- Procurement
- Audit Committees
- Sale of Land
- Conflict of Interest
- Councillor Conduct

Report examples

- Local Government in Victoria
- Community Satisfaction Survey



Local Government Programs

- Victoria Grants Commission
- Public library programs
 - including *Living Libraries*
- Support for bushfire recovery



Sector Development - Capacity Building

- Collaborative Reform
 - Councils Reforming Business
 - Asset & Financial Management
 - Integrated Infrastructure Planning, delivery and Management



Why Collaborative Reform?

- **Drive economic development and productivity**
 - Reduced costs for business
 - Opportunities for local economic growth
- **Integrate Local Government in the National Reform Agenda – Leading Practice**
- **Address capacity issues for local government**
 - Reduce Costs for councils
 - Free up resources for meeting the infrastructure gap



Addressing Capacity Issues for Local Government

- Infrastructure management and renewal
- Limited revenue base
- Professional staff shortages
- Inefficiencies from 79 organisations - duplication, lack of cooperation, not using economies of scale
- Increasingly complex interactions with State (and Federal) Government



Councils Reforming Business – overview

- **2 year program now extended until 2011**
- **Focus:**
 - Targeted Reform Program addressing key priorities
 - Providing a vehicle to integrate and better enable collaborative reform across State and Local Government
- **Tangible benefits for Victorian communities by:**
 - reducing councils costs;
 - improving services; and
 - reducing costs for business.



Collaborative Reform – CRB

- Procurement
 - Social, sustainability, productivity
- Infrastructure
- Local Laws and Regulations
- ICT
- EasyBiz
- Strengthening vehicles for ongoing reform



Procurement Strategy – Infrastructure Projects

- **Growth Area Councils – Subdivision focus**
 - Engineering Design Guidelines and Standards
 - Construction Specifications
 - Supporting processes – ITPs, Council-Developer MOUs
- **Gippsland councils**
 - Regional approach - infrastructure design and tendering
 - Potential to connect with Central council work
- **Building and Construction Packaging Options**

Move towards State-wide approach



LGPMC Agenda

- Local Government Reform Fund
- Local Government Workforce Strategy
- Women in Local Government



Relationships with other agencies

- Local Government Investigations and Compliance Inspectorate
- Essential Services Commission
- Victorian Ombudsman
- Victorian Auditor General
- Victorian Competition & Efficiency Commission



Thank you