



AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Strategic Plan 2020 - 2023





VISION

The Australian Local Government Association is the strong, credible national voice of Local Government.

MISSION

To champion and strengthen Australian Local Governments by representing the agreed position of ALGA members.

OBJECTIVES

To champion a strong local government sector focussing on:

- Financial sustainability;
- Roads and Infrastructure Funding;
- Waste Reduction and Recycling;
- Stronger Community Resilience; and
- Addressing the risks of a changing climate.

ALGA will also advocate to the Australian Government and facilitate collaboration between state and territory associations in specific areas including:

- Population, Planning and Building;
- Overcoming Indigenous Disadvantage;
- Arts and Cultural Development; and
- Tourism.

Key Outcomes



FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

Outcome

Local Government's share of tax revenue increases significantly to meet increasing demands on local infrastructure and services and ultimately reaches a level of at least 1% of Commonwealth taxation revenue.

Restore Financial Assistance Grants to a level equal to 1 per cent of Commonwealth taxation revenue.

- Preserve Financial Assistance Grants as the major source of Federal Funding to Local Government.
- Strengthen the business case to support calls to restore FAGs to 1%.
- Advocate to restore the FAGs funding lost in the 2014-15 indexation freeze as the first phase in restoring FAGs funding levels.
- Encourage councils to acknowledge the value of Financial Assistance Grants.
- Support state and territory associations to engage councils in a united campaign to achieve 1% for FAGs.
- Increase the Australian Government's recognition of Local Government as a trusted partner.



ROADS AND INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING

Outcome

Achieve infrastructure capable of meeting future needs by increasing Australian Government funding to support local infrastructure provision

Advocate for increased funding to fix the infrastructure backlog

- Secure an increase in Roads to Recovery funding to \$800 million per annum and make the Bridges Renewal program permanent.
- Advocate for additional targeted funding for stormwater, water and sewerage infrastructure.

Fund road safety improvements

- Advocate for a significant expansion of the Road Safety Black Spot program.
- Advocate for a mass road safety treatment infrastructure program.
- Secure Commonwealth commitment to guide a local approach to road safety.

Stronger community infrastructure funding

- Advocate for a community infrastructure program for all councils.

Safe and reliable communications systems

- Advocate for a continued and expanded telecommunications blackspots program and regional connectivity program.
- Draw on the lessons from bushfires and advocate for disaster resilient safe and reliable communications systems.



WASTE REDUCTION AND RECYCLING

Outcome

A strong waste and recycling system and the commencement of a circular economy

Strengthen Product Stewardship to increase recycling and reduce the volume of waste

- Advocate for Commonwealth incentives/penalties for manufacturers of difficult to recycle products.
- Advocate for mandatory product stewardship for all difficult to recycle products.

Invest in resource recovery infrastructure

- Encourage the Commonwealth to leverage its funding to states and territories and industry to maximise resource recovery from kerbside collections and the associated economic benefits, including jobs and reduced costs.

Mandate Procurement Requirements

- Advocate for the creation of markets including through mandated government procurement.

Introduce Consistent Education and Standards

- Call for mandatory adoption of the Australasian Recycling Label for all consumer packaging and for the development and promotion of a standardised national label that indicates recycled content



STRONGER COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

Outcome

Australian communities that can respond to, withstand and recover from adverse situations

Support communities to prepare for, respond to and recover from worsening disasters, including drought.

- Advocate for a disaster mitigation fund of \$200 million per annum over four years.
- Advocate for funding to allow every local government to develop a resilience and emergency management plan.
- Advocate for funding for hardened infrastructure, including betterment funding, inclusion of community infrastructure in the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements, funding for coastal protection and funding for council-supported community relief and recovery centres.
- Advocate for increased, and less bureaucratic, drought funding for drought affected councils.
- Advocate for extended recovery funding to address long-term economic and social impacts



ADDRESS THE RISKS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Outcome

Action by all levels of government to mitigate climate change and adapt to unavoidable change

Advocate for a Local Government Climate Change Response Partnership Fund of \$200 million over four years to provide support for councils to help their communities reduce emissions and understand and transition to the future.